Associated Express «



Customer Newsletter for Associated Finishing, Inc., formerly Associated Engineering of Mankato, Inc.

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Fall 1998

Christmas in July



This year on July 2nd, the employees and their families met at the Klammer residence for the annual Christmas party. Sure, maybe July is a strange time to have it, but as you can see, it's a lot more fun than the traditional party. Some activities, like "Dunk Your Favorite Supervisor," just wouldn't work in the winter-

The trout pond provided entertainment as well as food throughout the party. Brent Schnittger saw to it that the fish were cleaned and ready to join the pork chops and brats on the grill, under the close supervision of Al Baer and Mark Klammer. Later on, some employees played in a band to provide evening entertainment and an opportunity for dancing.

The goal of the event is to give employees a chance to get together with their families for food, fun and a day they'll remember. Once again, it was a success!

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Fall 1998

20 Years With Associated



Ted Schreyer Raiph Leonard



This summer, two of our employees reached the milestone of twenty years with the company. Ted Schreyer started in June of 1978, working in all areas of the plant while attending school. In 1985 he set up hazardous waste and safety programs as part of an MSU internship. After graduation, he managed several different areas of the company until 1989 when he moved on to his current position as Production Manager.

Ralph Leonard started in the metal prep department in August of 1978, then quickly moved up to a painting position. After being a painter for several years, he became the Paint Supervisor, serving in that capacity for a year and a half. When a position in shipping and receiving opened up, Ralph was ready for a change, and has been in that department for the last ten years.

Both Ralph and Ted have seen many changes over the years. In the time that they've been here, Associated has progressed from moving parts through the oven with a stick to processing parts on our brand new line. Everyone at Associated Finishing would like to thank Ralph and Ted for their faithful service.

Joe Appelhof and Karin Bauer traveled to Owatanna on October 1st to give a presentation at the Phosphorus Reduction Workshop sponsored by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and the Minnesota Technical Assistance Program. They took the opportunity to share how our 5-stage washer has been beneficial not only financially but also environmentally.

The purpose of the workshop was to educate industries on current and up-coming phosphorus limits. When phosphorus enters rivers and lakes it stimulates plant growth, thus reducing water transparency as well as endangering fish populations.

The cities of Mankato and Rochester currently have limits on phosphorus, and some Rochester industries are monitored five days a week for phosphorus and other pollutants. This is a good start, but it will take more than just the efforts of a few companies to keep our waters suitable for our favorite recreation activities.

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