

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

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Fall 2000

Out Last, Outwit, Out Play!

Employees at AFI are always encouraged to balance three goals in their lives: job, family, and personal values. Each summer we have an opportunity to gather with our co-workers and families to help achieve that second goal.... FAMILY TIME! This year, we met at the Chuck Klammer farm and were immediately transformed from the expert material handlers & finishers that we are, into bold, resourceful Survivors!

In our unique rendition of the popular television show, AFI's volunteer "SURVIVORS" were randomly divided into the Blue, Yellow & Orange teams you see below. Each Team needed to use both the combined and individual talents and prowess of it's members to outwit, outlast and outplay rival teams! Spectators and challengers alike, were given the opportunity to place bets (fake funds, of course!) on the outcome of the competition, which ultimately translate into increased chances at winning the drawings for a gazillion prizes purchased by the planning committee! Our "End of Summer Festival" saw the BLUE TEAM emerge victorious!



Above: A skill every liquid painter must masters well!

Right:Retirees cheer on a favorite team.

Below: Teams must locate specific objects buried within the hay





"Tote that barge....Lift those bales!"





"Bikers? Get READY, SET, GO!" (Below)

Teams demonstrate their prowess(a), Shootin'Hoops



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NEW NAME! NEW ADDRESSS!

Two years ago, we chose a new name for our business - Associated Finishing, Inc. - which reflected the type of services we provide better than the original name, Associated Engineering of Mankato.

Recently, our community began to make address changes to comply with the ever popular GPS trend.

We thought, 'Great timing..... New name... Why not a new address, too?' (After all, nearby Mankato has a State Street which was frequently confused with our State Road address and drove our UPS and truck drivers crazy).

So, we wrote a letter to Blue Earth County suggesting our street name be changed to "Finishing Lane", pointing out that AFI owned all the property along our one block lane, so this name would be quite appropriate.

Shortly, thereafter, the 'Powers That Be' granted us our address change. We are, now, <u>320 MALLARD LANE!</u> One more example of 'Government By the People and For the People"! (We got quite a chuckle out of it.)

So, update your addresses books . We are finally Globally Positioned!



In a day of corporate mergers and acquisitions, Associated Finishing, Inc. remains a privately owned /ESOP company with a solid management team at the helm.

Chuck Klammer, (CEO) has been with us since the business began in 1965. In those days, it was, a family owned business.

Ted Schreyer, V.P Operations - (22 yrs) came to work here as a high school kid in the 70's, and remained with us through college learning every aspect of the business first hand.

John Kapsner, V.P Fiance & Administration - took charge of our business office 12 yrs ago, bringing with him management expertise from his former position in a local bank.

Joe Appelhof, VP Environmental & Plant Engineer - (12 yrs); Alan Baer ,Quality Assurance - (10 yrs); Scott Niss, Estimating (11 yrs); Bette Schweim, Silk Screening- (16 yrs); Cal Shultz, Metal Prep/Stripping - (13 yrs); Brian Christnagel, Customer Service - (5 yrs); Shari Small, Estimating / Human Relations- (3 yrs); have all been on-board long enough to help shepherd AFI, successfully through the rocky turf of our country's free enterprise system. These are the employees with whom you probably interact most frequently, but they are merely the tip of the iceberg!

We number, approximately, 60 strong here at AFI. Each of us plays an important part in serving you, our customer. Future issues will introduce you to many of these employees who work behind the scene to bring quality finishing to you. We hope you will enjoy putting faces to our AFI team.

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