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## Improvement Idea Winner

By Scott Wagner, Plant Mgr.

**Congratulations Chuba Blaze**, Furnace Operator for the 500 Line, for being the Improvement Idea winner for the month of April.

Chuba's idea was to install a hose outside so parts coming out of 570 can be rinsed there, rather than taken to 380 for rinsing. The implementation of this idea may not be exactly as he envisioned, but together, we will resolve this problem.

A total of **6** improvement ideas were submitted in the month of April. Others contributing ideas were **Art Hurt, Sid Heflin, Evelyn Chmielewski, Mike Townsend, and Sarah Mansuetti**. Thank you, everyone, for letting us know your ideas for improvements here at Rex.



## Free Coffee Day!

To celebrate those employees with Birthdays in May (see Birthday Listing on page 3), there will be **free coffee** from the vending machine starting early AM on May 20th through early AM on May 21st. ENJOY!

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL!**

The next Improvement Idea spin will be held on Monday, May 20, at 3:10 PM in the Induction area. Chuba will be drawing the name of one lucky employee for the "Employee Appreciation" spin. Could be you!

Write your ideas down on a slip of paper and drop them into the box outside of the Production office. Your idea could win you a spin on the Rex Wheel of Chance!

## Monthly Winners

By Scott Wagner, Plant Mgr.

Our Improvement Idea winner for the month of March was **Sarah Mansuetti**, Director of Quality Assurance. Nancy Gardner, Michael Townsend, Tom Felder, James Forbes, Yao Kangni Soukpe, Bob Feldman, and Chuba Blaze, who also put in improvement ideas in March, received a "Thank You" pin and a \$5 lottery ticket.



Sarah Mansuetti (right), the Improvement Idea winner, is congratulated by Scott Wagner, Plant Manager.

Before she took her spin, we had Sarah draw a name for the "Monthly Employee Appreciation" reward. That lucky winner was **Kris Hunsicker**, Shift Supervisor. When Kris took his spin, he won a reward of **\$100**.

Out of all the correct guesses submitted for **The Rex Riddle**, one name was drawn to receive a \$5 instant lottery ticket. That winner was **Nancy Gardner**.

Sarah drew 5 names from a bucket that contained the names of all Rex employees, and the winners each received a \$5 instant lottery ticket. Those 5 lucky winners of lottery tickets were **Paul Moss, Mike Davis, Jim Forbes, Chris Constable, and Jim Brough**. Then when **Sarah** took her spin, she won a reward of **\$200**.



Kris Hunsicker (left), the Employee Appreciation winner, is congratulated by Scott Wagner, Plant Mgr.



To those on hand, Scott Wagner, Plant Mgr., hands out "Thank You" pins and lottery tickets to Jim Forbes, Nancy Gardner, Chuba Blaze, and Bob Feldman, who submitted improvement ideas in March.

For refreshments everyone enjoyed an assortment of cookies and free hot beverages from the vending machine.

Come to the spin next month. You may be the lucky employee who is chosen as the Employee Appreciation winner. It could be your turn to take a spin on the Rex Wheel of Chance!



Brandon Reynolds (15 yrs.) and Greg Smith (6 yrs.) received their anniversary gifts from Scott Wagner.

Not present was Mike Jackson (13 yrs)



Paul Moss, Jim Forbes, and Mike Davis were 3 of the 5 lottery ticket winners seen here receiving their ticket from Scott Wagner.

## IT'S TICK SEASON AGAIN!

By Nancy Gardner, HR Administrator

In the coming months, here in Pennsylvania especially, we are forced to deal with that nagging pest called a "Tick". If you've ever been bitten by one, you know that most times, it is generally painless. You are more apt to see the red mark it leaves behind long after the Tick has fallen off your body. But for those ticks that like to hang on, here are some ways to successfully remove the little pest.

With tweezers or an instrument called *Sawyer Tick Pliers*, put the tip of the tweezers or pliers on your skin around the tick. Squeeze the tips together under its head and gently pull UP. You want to get rid of the head of the tick. If you grab the body of the tick or attempt to twist the tick, this may cause its head to break away, where it continues to bite and insert its venom.



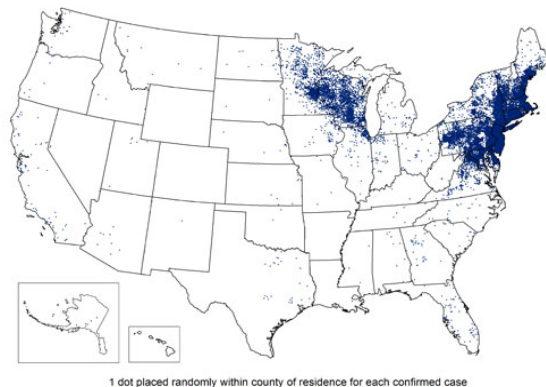
**Deer Ticks**, (which, by the way, are carried by mice and **not** deer), are so small that they are hard to see with the naked eye. However, despite their micro size, these little guys are known to carry *Lyme disease*. Their bites often times look like a bullseye on the affected area. Because they can bite anywhere they land, many times their painless bites go undetected. And so, if you get any of these symptoms after being outdoors you should contact your doctor and ask for an appointment to be tested for Lyme disease.



### Lyme disease Symptoms are:

- Feeling Flu-like
- Fever
- Numbness
- Rash
- Confusion
- Weakness
- Pain and Swelling in the joints
- Heart Palpitations
- Paralysis
- Shortness of Breath
- Nausea and Vomiting.

Reported Cases of Lyme Disease -- United States, 2011



### Remember, early detection means quick recovery.

Your best defense against these little disease carrying critters is to wear more clothing while outdoors. When practical, wear a hat, a long sleeve shirt or a coat, thick pair of pants, boots and socks. For the areas that cannot be covered by clothing, lather on a fragrant oil such as baby oil, Olive oil, Vegetable oil, or Lavender oil. Other effective 'natural' repellants are herbs and spices such as Thyme and Cyan Peppers. The idea is to not smell 'human' to the tick's sensors.

If you choose to use a chemical repellant, the CDC website (The Center for Disease Control and Prevention) recommends one that contain 20% or more DEET (N, N-diethyl-m-toluamide) on the exposed skin.

To keep your house, pets, and family safe from further infestations, as soon as you get home from being outdoors, removed all of your clothing and toss them into your dryer (**not** the washer) on the highest temperature for at least one hour. The heat will kill any Ticks that might have attached themselves to your clothing. And don't forget to inspect your shoes for any hitchhikers before putting them away. Examine your children's body and especially their hair. And don't forget to check the dog for ticks!



For more information on this topic, go to [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) and in the search box type in the word "Ticks".

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Employees celebrating a birthday in **May** are listed below. Let's wish them a happy day.

- |    |               |
|----|---------------|
| 9  | Michael Evans |
| 18 | Sid Heflin    |
| 20 | Fred Cherezov |
| 22 | Bill Attieh   |

## Welcome Aboard!

*Trevor Levonski*

**100 Group**



**Mother's Day  
is May 12**

## Did You Know?



**Toe the Line** - *To do what you are ordered or expected to do.* One meaning of "to toe the line" (or a mark, scratch, crack or trig [a line or small trench]) was to position one's toes next to a marked line in order to be ready to start a race, or some other undertaking. Other early examples of "toe the line" have a nautical connection. In the 19th century, sailors were expected to prepare themselves for group punishment by standing in formation on deck and 'toeing the line' between boards—also called "toeing the crack". Another possible source is prize-fighting. The scratch was the line marked across the ring in early "toe-to-toe" boxing bouts. Anyone man enough to enter into such a contest was "up to scratch".

**True Blue** - *Loyal and unwavering in one's opinions or support for a cause.* "True blue" is supposed to derive from the blue cloth that was made at Coventry, England in the late middle ages. The town's dyers had a reputation for producing material that didn't fade with washing, i.e. it remained "fast" or "true". The phrase "as true as Coventry blue" originated then and is still used—in Coventry at least. The blue dye was created from sloe berries and other ingredients, that gave a rich, fast color. The recipe was a closely guarded secret, passed from master to apprentice by word of mouth. They were so successful in keeping it secret that today nobody knows how it was made, or even what color it was exactly. It is believed to have been a sky blue color.



## Yearly Work Anniversaries

The following employees are celebrating their Work Anniversaries in **May**

### 6 to 10 Years

Ron Makos

### Over 10 Years

Tim Plaucher (23)

You will receive your annual gift at the monthly spin.



**Memorial Day**  
*Never Forget  
Ever Honor  
May 27*

## A LITTLE HUMOR

A young man is trying out his new sports car on a quiet country lane. There's no traffic, so he risks taking it up to 70 mph, then 80, then 90. He turns a corner and sees two farmers standing in the middle of the road chatting.



The man wrenches the wheel sideways, the car shoots up an embankment, flies into the air, and crashes in the middle of an adjacent field.

One of the farmers turns to the other and says, "That was lucky. I reckon we got out of that field in the nick o' time."

## The Rex Riddle - #26



There are three playing cards in a row.  
Can you name them with these clues?

There is a two to the right of a king.  
A diamond will be found to the left of a spade.  
An ace is to the left of a heart.  
A heart is to the left of a spade.

Now, identify all three cards.

To submit your guess for The Rex Riddle, take a slip out of the folder in the rack in the Production Office, fill it out, and drop it in the box outside of the Production Office door. Guesses will be taken until the morning of the monthly spin.

One name will be drawn from all the correct answers to receive a \$5 instant lottery ticket.

Can you figure out the riddle?

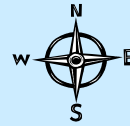
### Answer to Last Month's Riddle

Blade to blade I always win, My foe laid low and even.  
Yard by yard through thick and thin, I'm busiest in season.  
What am I?

Answer: Lawn mower



## "THE NAVIGATORS"



### 2013 COMPANY PICNIC AT DORNEY PARK ~ POSTPONED

Due to circumstances beyond our control, this year's Company Picnic at Dorney Park will have to be Postponed to a later date (To Be Announced via the Newsletter and Bulletin Board).

In the meantime... The Navigators will be planning something enjoyable for all Rex Heat Treat employees to partake in. HOWEVER.... We are in dire need of volunteers with new ideas and a willingness to put them into action! Won't you consider joining our team? Please contact Nancy Gardner for more information.

### General Safety—Attitude and Behavior

From: [ToolboxTopics.com](http://ToolboxTopics.com)

Humans instinctively seek to avoid pain and death. And yet, we may behave in a manner that is a threat to our well-being. There are a couple of reasons why this occurs. The first is lack of knowledge. What you do not know can hurt you!. The second reason we may act in a risky manner is attitude. Now might be a good time to do a quick self-analysis. What is your attitude toward safety?

When asked, some may say they are all for it. Others may complain about any safety effort being made. The difference between the two is one of attitude. Your attitude affects almost all that you do and how you do it.

Have you ever noticed that people who are successful in life, or are just happy, tend to have a positive attitude? And so it is with safety. Look at it this way. . . safety rules and procedures are written to protect you from harm. They are not written to make your work life more uncomfortable or inconvenient. After all, safety equipment and training costs your employer additional up front money.

If you cooperate in safety matters, not only is there a lesser likelihood of you getting hurt, you will not be doing battle with the boss who is just trying to do his job by enforcing the safety rules. In addition, you should feel more confident on the job knowing you have a better chance of making it through the day without injury. Less fear of injury and the boss no longer on your back has to brighten your day!

We are not perfect. Even the best of us can forget or make errors in judgment. To maximize our safety efforts, we must look out for one another. If someone tells you that you are not working in a safe manner, do not become angry or defensive. They are just looking out for your well-being. If you did not know you were doing something wrong, be thankful your errors were noted before someone got hurt. If you simply forgot or got a little careless, be grateful that someone cares enough to get you back on track. If you see someone doing something unsafe, speak up, but do so diplomatically. Treat others just as you would like to be treated in the same situation.

Remember, attitude affects behavior. If you have a positive attitude, odds are you will exhibit safe behavior. A negative attitude toward safety will only cause conflict, stress and, ultimately, an accident.

#### SAFETY SLOGANS:

IF IN DOUBT, CHECK IT OUT—SAFETY FIRST!

BE ALERT—ACCIDENTS HURT.

MACHO DOES NOT PROVE MUCHO. DO IT SAFELY.

WHY LEARN THE HARD WAY? OBEY SAFETY RULES.

SAFETY AWARENESS SAVES LIVES.