



Our Family Tree

A Newsletter For The Employees and Friends Of Wright Tree Service

VOLUME 8
NUMBER 2
SUMMER, 2002

It's A Clean Sweep For Mountain States Division At Annual Banquet

Schuster's Division Captures Both "Lowest Incident Rate" And "Most Improved Incident Rate" Safety Awards

It's getting to be habit-forming for **Kirk Schuster, Mountain States Division Manager**. Two years ago, he took home both "incident rate" awards and last year Mountain States won "lowest incident rate." The awards were presented to Kirk at the Annual Awards Banquet, held in Des Moines on Friday, March 8, 2002.

Capturing one award is a singular honor but receiving both awards in the same year signifies a total divisional commitment to making safety the number one priority.

Congratulations to Kirk and all the Mountain States Division employees for their attitude on making a daily commitment to safety and for a job well done!



Chairman John Wright is flanked by Mountain States Division Manager Kirk Schuster, left, as Kirk enlists the help of Division Supervisor Mike Miller to handle the two awards their division won at the Annual Awards



Chairman John Wright congratulates Division Supervisor Mike Miller on his 40 years of service with WTS.

Miller Chalks Up 40 Years Of Service With WTS

This year's longevity honoree was **Mountain States Supervisor Mike Miller** who received a standing ovation at the Annual Awards Banquet for his 40 years of service to WTS.

Chairman John Wright presented Mike with a plaque and a \$750 gift certificate which can be redeemed at any store of his choice.

Mike joined WTS in 1961 as a groundman, working in Iowa, Kansas

and Nebraska. He moved to Colorado in 1970 and has been there ever since. Mike has two children and "one and a half" grandchildren; his son and wife are expecting their second child in June. Mike's son lives in the Denver area; his daughter is married and is a marine biologist in Maryland.

Congratulations, Mike, on achieving 40 years with WTS. It's a great accomplishment!

News from our

CENTRAL

"Nothing But Praise"

Richard Dixon, Senior Vice President, Customer Operations, of Westar Energy, Topeka, KS wrote **WTS Senior Vice President Bob Myers** to thank him for sending in extra crews after a January 30 ice storm. According to Dixon, 35 counties were affected with outages over 5,000 miles of distribution lines, plus losses of over 1,100 poles and 1,600 spans of primary. "Thanks to the efforts of your crews and others who were sent to help us," Dixon wrote, "service was finally restored to all customers on February 8. I have heard nothing but praise for your crews in terms of safety, workmanship and cooperation. We are truly fortunate to have had these fine people working on our property. Please accept my appreciation for your help and extend my thanks to the crews for a job well done." We hope all of the crews involved will read this and realize what a positive impact they had in this monumental effort.

Good Luck, Matt!

General Foreman Jim Bruner tells us that **Trimmer Matt Martin** was called up for one year of active duty to help fight in our country's war against terrorism. Jim says: "I am personally very proud of Matt. He has come a long way in this last year. All of us here in the Quad Cities have him in our prayers." And so do we, Jim.

This Will Bowl You Over!

Nathan Vondal, son of **Foreman Doug Vondal**, bowled in his first Junior League city tournament in January and came in second with his partner in doubles. But that's not all! Nathan must have been inspired by father Doug who, two days before the tournament, bowled a 299 in his Friday night league, along with a 248 and a 229 for a 776 series. Like father, like son!

NORTHEAST

"Don't Believe Everything You Hear"

A CILCO customer in Peoria had heard so many awful things about tree damage from line clearing, she was very apprehensive when a WTS crew showed up in her

neighborhood. In her letter to the utility, the customer wrote, "I was naturally surprised at the outstanding service and 'no chopping' this area received. These men were neat in appearance, professional, and cleaned up every leaf and branch. I was also surprised how quickly the work was done. We want to compliment you on selecting the *Wright* company to perform this 'very touchy' job." Making a believer out of this customer were **Foreman Chris Finch** and **Trimmer Randy Kelch**. Their **General Foreman** is **Danny McMillen**.

Praise From The Pastor

The pastor of a church in Menomonee, WI wrote **General Foreman Joe Schulz**, thanking him for allowing **Trimmer Tom Bianchi** to use some of the company's equipment to remove several trees for parking lot expansion and building renovation. "I am sure that, without this equipment, we would never have completed this phase of our building program," the pastor wrote.

Bouquets From Bognar

Michael Bognar of Wisconsin Electric Power Co. (WEPCO) received a phone call from a South Milwaukee customer, complimenting a WTS crew on its workmanship on the block where he resides. According to Michael, the customer said he was impressed with the way they kept at their work, doing it in his view, in a safe, proficient manner. Bognar expressed his appreciation for the call, adding that it is rare when customers call the utility and express their satisfaction. The crew that earned this praise was **Crew Leader Howard Robinson** and **Trimmer Brent Seibert**. Their **General Foreman** is **Barry Bestland**. Thank you, Michael, for sharing this good news with us.

Killing With Kindness!

At first this Indianapolis Power & Light customer put up a real fuss about having her trees trimmed by a WTS crew. That was before IPL representative Rick Deer and our **General Foreman Cornell Capps** assured her that the trees would be trimmed only the required distance from the lines and they would still be beautiful. Apparently the customer did a one-eighty, even donning a hard hat and safety glasses to "help out." When the crew had

completed the job, the customer rewarded them with candy. This customer-pleasing crew was made up of **Foremen Hughie Capps, Steve Denton** and **John Dailey**; **Trimmers John Cannon** and **Jose Cruz**; and **Work Planner Brian Snyder**.

Raves From Richland Center

"Your tree cutters did an excellent job cutting trees and branches away from our electric lines," wrote a pleased customer to Shannon Clark of the Richland Electric Cooperative, Richland Center, WI. "They checked with us to be sure we knew what they would be cutting and cleaned up the cuttings. It was a big job, done very well." Take a bow, **Foreman Curtis Reser** and **Trimmers Doug Smith** and **Steve Swenson**. Their **General Foreman** is **Gary Thorgerson**.

WEPCO and WTS - A Great Team!

Tom Barnes, Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry for Whitewater, WI recently wrote Jeff Treu of WEPCO, expressing his appreciation for the vision and cooperation of the utility working with the city in a utility line upgrade and improvement in Whitewater's urban forestry program. The program included selected tree removals, replacement selection, purchasing and planting. Tom also recognized the work of the WTS crews and especially **Foreman Ken Weber**. Our thanks to Jeff for sharing this letter with us. Ken's **General Foreman** is **Herb Coy**.

Baker's Crew Gets The Checkered Flag!

An Indianapolis resident phoned IPL to have some tree limbs removed from her wires. After the work was done, she wrote the utility how impressed she was with the work of a WTS crew. "Today they came and removed the limbs and did a beautiful job," the letter read. "I was very pleased." She also identified **Charlie Baker** as the **Foreman**. Charlie's crew is made up of **Trimmers Charlie Cook** and **Ralph Turner**. We, too, are always pleased with commendations like this!

No Chipper Needed!

WTS recently volunteered to work with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources and Indiana's First Lady, Judy O'Bannon, to re-locate some native timber

Branches

logs from the Governor's Residence to the state hospital where the logs were milled for the state's "Trees To Furniture" program. The milled lumber is used by schools for projects which are judged by Mrs. O'Bannon on Arbor Day weekend. Our thanks to **WTS Line Clearance Coordinator, General Foreman Dave Miller**, along with **Foremen Charlie Baker and Chad Berlin** and **Trimmers Charles Cook and Ralph Turner** who were involved in this excellent public relations effort. According to Dave, he saw a jewelry box made from cherry that looked as good as any you would find in a fine gift shop.

Happy New Year!

Foreman Richard Martin celebrated New Year's Day by getting married. Our congratulations to Richard and his wife Tina.

Also on January 1, **Foreman Troy Williams** celebrated his birthday – but topped that event by getting married on Valentine's Day, February 14th. Troy and his wife Jamie exchanged vows on a traffic circle in downtown Indianapolis where a radio station broadcast the ceremony. Troy's four-year-old son Gunner also attended the festivities. Best wishes to the Williams' family!

Congratulations, Cornell!

General Foreman Cornell Capps and his wife Betty marked their 31st wedding anniversary in early February. Their four children and four grandchildren were with them to join in the celebration. Another grandchild is due in May. Two of the Capps' sons also work for Wright Tree Service, **Foreman Hughie** and **Trimmer Adam**.

Time For Hugs And Huggies!

Trimmer Bret Chocholous and his wife Joanie are the proud parents of a new baby boy, Cole Dylan, born in December. Cole has a two-year-old "big sister," Ashley Briana. Our heartiest congratulations!

SOUTHWEST

Doing The Impossible!

Jim Rhodes, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor, Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department, wrote to

express his thanks for work done by a WTS crew. Rhodes needed to remove three trees damaged in the ice storm a year ago.

"These trees were on our right of way, with electrical and telephone lines entangled in them," wrote Rhodes, "making it virtually impossible for our crews to remove with the equipment available to us. WTS to the rescue! **Work Planner Curt Cline** was contacted and he sent **Foremen Richard Allen and Jeremy Pearce**, along with **Trimmers Tom Green, Rod Short and Kenneth Tucker**, to handle the problem. "They did an excellent job," Rhodes' letter concludes. Thanks, crew members, for coming through again! Their **General Foreman** is **Arthur Colbert**.

Proud? Indeed We Are!

"I wanted to express my gratitude to your crew who cut down our trees," wrote a Fayetteville, AR customer. The letter continued: "Even though we didn't want our trees cut down, I do realize the importance of removing trees in the electrical lines. It looked as if safety was their greatest concern. They worked very hard and got the job done. I was concerned about all the messy limbs and branches until I looked outside again and they had cleaned it all up. You would be proud of your employees." One of **General Foreman Ronnie Elmore's** crews can take credit for this commendation. They are **Foreman Roy Jackson** and **Trimmers Kelvin Bertschy, James Elmore and Dawn Pohl**.

Another Elmore Crew Comes Through!

More praise from a second Fayetteville, AR customer who took the time to write and thank us for work performed by another **General Foreman Ronnie Elmore** crew. The letter read: "Before they began to work, their leader was kind enough to explain in detail what they planned to accomplish. He answered all my questions to alleviate any concerns I might have. The workers were efficient, courteous and cooperative in all ways. It certainly was a joy to experience their thoroughness in cleaning up all of the trimmed limbs. Also it is a tremendous relief to have the lines in our neighborhood cleared to prevent outages in the event of more ice storms." High fives to this superb crew:

Foreman Rick Robles and **Trimmers Delores Archer, Jose Barroso and Nathaniel Walters**.

Best Kept Secret?

"Your wife?" That was the reaction of **Will Nutter, Vice President, Division Operations**, when **General Foreman Pete Burkett** mentioned something about being married. Yes, it is official! Pete and his wife Jill were married and honeymooned last August in Jamaica. Sorry we didn't acknowledge this sooner, but Pete didn't tell us, either.

MT. STATES

Ready And Abel

Division Manager Kirk Schuster shares this good news with us about **Foreman Abel Flores** who was named WTS/Xcel Energy South "**Foreman Of The Year**" for 2001. According to Kirk, Abel was chosen for this distinct honor for



his consistent production, while maintaining the highest level of safety and quality of completed work...he has had no accidents and constantly scores "outstanding" on his crew audits...he's a true professional and has done an outstanding job of representing both WTS and Xcel Energy. We couldn't have said it better, Kirk. Our heartiest congratulations to Abel and his **General Foreman, Tom Wipf**, for this exceptional honor!

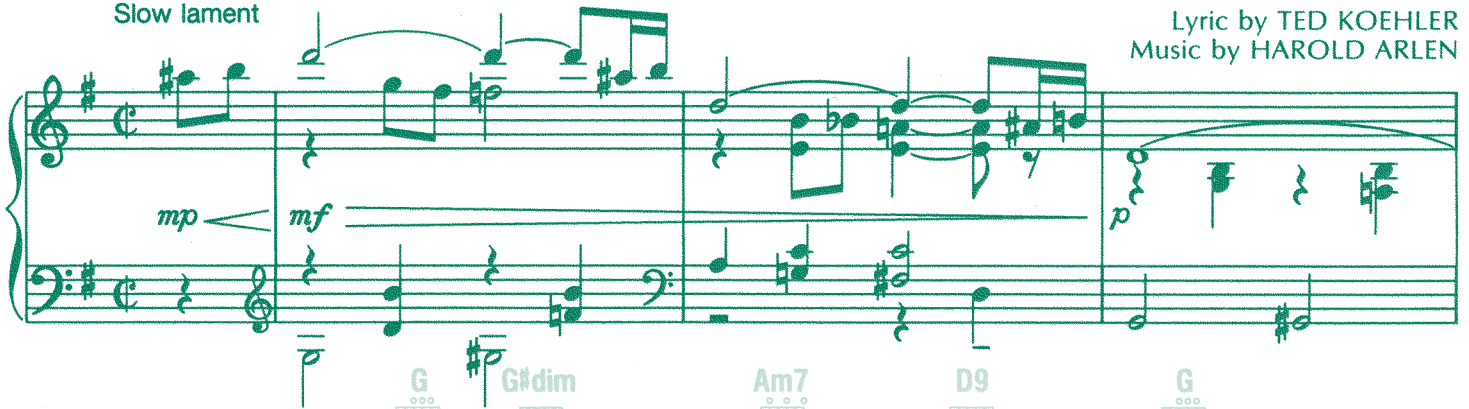
A Lot Going On!

In January **Foreman Darnell King** and his wife Renate celebrated their 21st wedding anniversary. In June they're expecting their third child and, also in June, Darnell will be 46 years old.

STORMY WEATHER

Slow lament

Lyric by TED KOEHLER
Music by HAROLD ARLEN



Our thanks to General Foremen Jim Bruner, Mike Sanford and Doug Hansen from our Central Division and Cody Magruder from our Southwest Division for providing us with these pictures in conjunction with the January ice storm that caused so many outages

in areas of Oklahoma and Kansas. Jim and Cody summed up all of the GFs feelings: "Everyone did a great job. The utility was very impressed with the amount of line we cleared. The crews worked safely and represented WTS to the highest standards."

Don't know why there's no sun up in the sky, Storm-y Weath-er,

They Came From Davenport, IA...



Left to right, Mike Raygor, Chad Behnke, Mike Hasse, Alex Morrison, Scott Dundee, Randy Hake and Fabian Gonzales.

Left to right, James Martin, Dan Roberson and Jon Hunter.



Left to right, Pat Lannen and Jason Martin.

Left to right, Mike Serpa and Steve Richey

Left to right, Tim Kisner and Sam Russell

Am7

D11

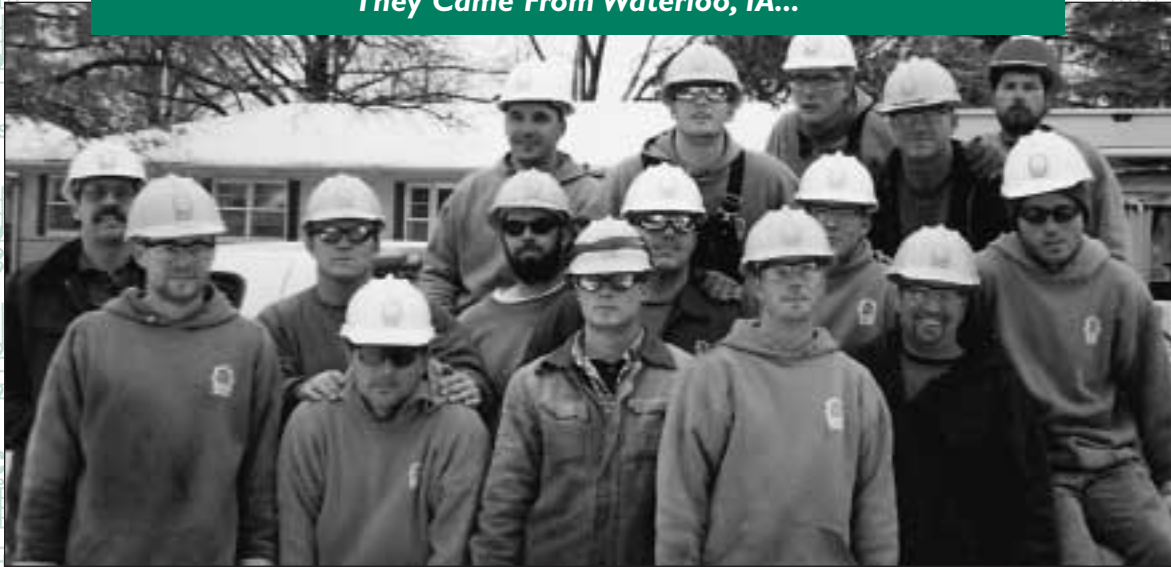
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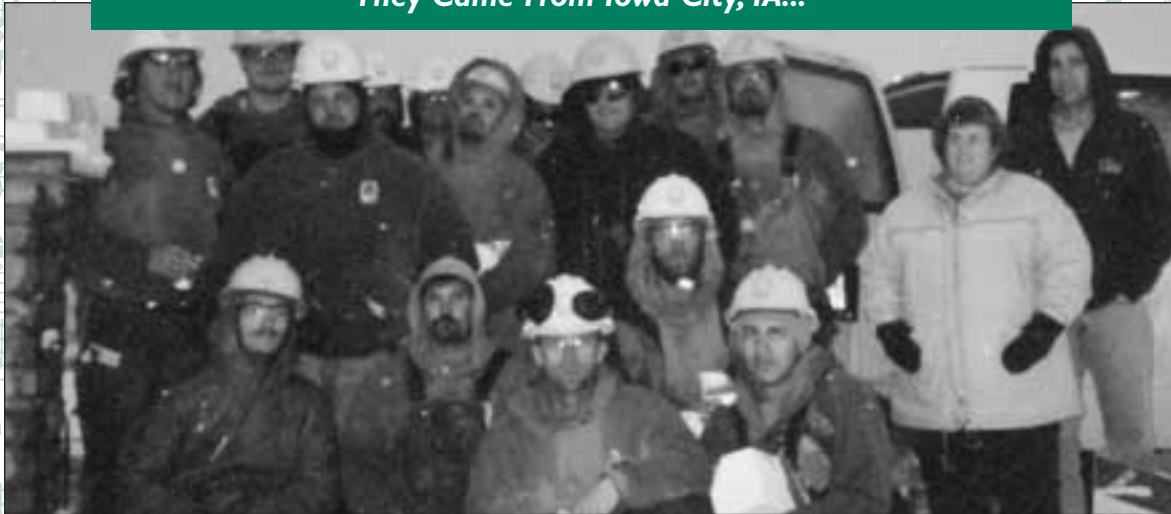
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They Came From Waterloo, IA...



Top row, left to right, Pat Giesler, Nate Pexa, Lance Even, Pat McDonald and Kevin Becker; middle row, left to right, Mike Sanford, Mark Jaquith, Ben Jacobs, Ken Einfelt, Wes Bagby and Dave Maurer; bottom row, left to right, Matt Mangel, Bobby Bailey, Crager Cook, Josh Fencil and Mark Peterson. Not Pictured: Richard Crane.

They Came From Iowa City, IA...



Back row, left to right, Jim Campbell, Mike Long, Nathan Smart, Tom Cady, Dennis Rubitsky, Ed Caras, Gusy Grass, Tim Edwards, Ryan Johnson and Kurt Schneckloth; front row, Mike Foulks, Rick Gaunt, Chuck Boesenberg, Phil Boesenberg and Sal Orona. Not pictured, Doug Vondal and Tom Shaw. The two people on the right from Westar Energy were bringing food.

They Came From Abilene, TX...



Left to right, Sie Camacho, Curtis Barrow, Leonard Ponce, Guillermo "Willie" Baez, Rocky Soliz, Noel Lopez, Lucko Self and Robert Self.

THERE'S SAFETY IN

*592 Employees Achieve
Accident FREEdom For Up
To Seven Straight Years!*



258 Employees

CENTRAL DIVISION

Justin Bennett
John C. Bigham
Charles Boesenberg
Edward E. Caras
Jeremy J. Cason
Cragger J. Cook
Jason R. Dale
Nichole R. Davis
Kenneth G. Einfelt
Michel E. Foulks
Rick J. Gilbraith
Eric S. Gustafson
Jason M. Hasse
Shawn L. Hirt
Jerry D. Holder
Darin E. House
Jess R. Hout
Kyle H. Hout
Ben L. Jacobs
Brad Keen
Timothy S. Kisner
Donald D. Kraft, Jr.
Patrick J. Lannen
Eric D. Lavino
Frank W. Lorenzo
David J. Maurer
Jeremy McColley
Issac McNow
Geoff Miller
Paul A. Mitchell
Rodney L. Nichols
Mark I. Owens
Travis Patterson
Nathan J. Pexa
Steve M. Richey
David Scott Rodman
Michael C. Serpa
David E. Stapleford
Siosua Tupou
Larry J. Vanwinkle
David Weatherhead
Frank A. Weeks
Robert W. Wilson
Ray L. Wolken
James L. Woodling
Richard Wright

NORTHEAST DIVISION

Tim D. Alexander
George A. Anderson
Kevin J. Bednarski
Ronald P. Blecha
John S. Bodamer
Marty A. Buchanan
Ken R. Carlson
John A. Carne
Tim L. Cart
Mauro A. Castillo
Jeremey C. Cobbs
Jason C. Collins
Scott V. Deleskiewicz
Dan Epkins
Justin M. Ferguson
Scott D. Fosdyck
Jeffrey A. Gilmore
Kelly M. Graham
Valerian Gruna
Christian L. Hall
Mike L. Hebert
Larry M. Hoskins
Samuel K. Hott
Trevor G. Jacob
Ivan L. Keller
James C. Lane
Daniel F. Luebke
John M. Luebke
Jakeb A. Meyer
Daren J. Mindham
Brian J. Morin
Ryan J. Mumm
Lawrence H. Nickel
Michael J. Orzel
Michael J. Ostendorf
Larry A. Phillips
Loren M. Pruitt, Jr.
John G. Rauschenbach
Jerry A. Reed
Richard A. Reed
Duane E. Reich
Richard R. Reinell
Michael W. Richardson
Shawn P. Salmon
Dale Simek
Kevin L. Simmering
Timothy J. Skidmore
Debora I. Spoerke
David Sprinkle
Aaron L. Stacey
Toby T. Stash
Brian W. Steinke
Nate Irving Stone
Dale A. Stout
Sean A. Stumot
Brandon L. Swiggum
Ryan J. Tebo
Matthew A. Thesing
Robert J. Walker
William O. Wallen

Randy L. Walters
Jamie D. Watkins
William Weber
Troy T. Webster
Duane E. Westhafer
James R. Wetter
Jeremiah J. Yanke
Michael D. Yarnot
NORTHEAST (Indianapolis)
Michael W. Abrams
Romeo Aburto
David J. Acrey
Ricky Allen
Charles Baker
Paul Baker
Rosario Bautista
David R. Beasley
Manuel Becerra
Chad T. Berlin
Emiliano Campechano
Roger Canatsey
Hughie C. Capps
Nathan L. Carlisle
Thomas V. Clayton
Mitchell R. Cook
Charles R. Cremeens
Israel Del Carme
Hugo Del Carmen
Steven G. Denton
Hugo Diaz
Miguel A. Duarte
Rodolfo Estevez
Charles R. Gadd
Richard L. Gilbert
Floyd Groves
Lopez Abel Guerrero
Donald L. Gunderson
Ronald D. Hamilton
Matt Hendrickson
Cirilo Hernandez
Pablo M. Hernandez
Ernest L. Hunter
Travis Hurst
Samuel Jara
Terry Knight
Jesse E. Lepper
Greg Madden
Keith W. McCoy
Gregorio H. Morales
Gabriel Orozco
David A. Parker
Narciso Prieto
Brad Pulera
Javier Ramirez
Jose L. Ramos
Terry R. Rich
Fidel B. Romero
Lorenzo Sanchez
Willie J. Scott
Jason Smith
Terry White
Yancy J. Worley

MOUNTAIN STATES DIVISION

Steven Beisker
Fangio R. Chavarria
James Dolson
Keith L. Gallegos
Jaime N. Gonzalez
Denis J. Green
Bruce C. Harold
Jay A. Jewell
James H. Melton, Jr.
Ishmael Navarro
Jose M. Palacio
Raul A. Ramirez
Jose Razo
Carlos Sanchez
Jose G. Sanchez
Scott E. Schreiter
Juan Vasquez
Victoriano P. Vasquez
Jeremy Whited

SOUTHWEST DIVISION

Richard L. Allen
Delores S. Archer
Guillermo Baez
David W. Becker
Horacio F. Benavides
Timothy A. Bingaman, Jr.
James Bushue
Pete Bustamante
Sergio Campos
Bill Childress
John W. Childress
Christopher S. Cox
Bobby Dunn
James C. Eaton
Dale A. Gibbs
Michael L. Halverson
Randy G. Harry
James T. Hicks
Joseph S. Higgins
Dale D. Holleman
Roy Jackson
Jason M. Kamalakis
Joe P. Kinyon
Noel A. Lopez
Jerrod W. Main
Sam D. Marshall
Edmond C. McBride
Rockford L. Miller
David B. Myers
Jason D. Patterson
Joseph R. Patterson
Ricardo Robles
Jose I. Sanchez
Chad A. Schardin
Gwen D. Self
Marcus L. Thomas
Jerry C. Walston
Tyron E. Ware

THESE NUMBERS!

Bradley W. Whisenhunt
David J. Whitney
Edward L. Williams
Brian C. Wood
James R. Wood II

MINNKOTA DIVISION

Scott A. Bembenek
Gregory A. Bishop
John F. Brezinsky
Jeff L. Budsberg
Jay P. Callahan
Chris T. Chesbrough
Richard L. Crowell
Gary D. Deppe
Bradley T. Despot
Alan R. Dobie
James Engelke
Anthony P. Giguere
Douglas P. Harshman
Allen J. Hedtke
Curt W. Houle
Justin K. Kobernick
Sergio Limon
Chris P. Lunde
Lucus A. Mahal
Robert J. Nelson
Jerome P. Novak
Steve C. Radel
Lawrence J. Rothbauer
John Ruppert
Jim Sieverding
Lawrence Sorensen
Richard W. Strese
Jedidiah D. Troxel
Randy G. Workman



134 Employees

CENTRAL DIVISION

Roberto Alvarez
John W. Atwood
Wesley Bagby
Kevin K. Becker
Phillip G. Boesenber
Terry L. Brown
Jeremy L. Buckholtz
Damon D. Burkhardt
Thomas F. Cady
Jonathan Cates
Aaron H. Cox
Cory M. Edwards

Craig P. Eltise
Bruce A. Fuchs
Thomas D. Gibson
Timothy L. Graham
Daryl E. Griffin
Luke Grove
Brain J. Hasse
Sean P. Hegarty
Kevin J. Hough
Joseph M. Kamp
Travis C. Leigh
Christopher Lenhardt
Terry J. Mahlstedt
John W. Mains
Paul F. Mallinger
James L. Martin
Adrian T. Oliver
Kevin E. Rhoads
Christopher Rice
Daniel L. Roberson
Thomas R. Shaw
Tom L. Snyder, Jr.
Michael W. Swisher
Darrell E. Thomas
Charles Thompson
Nick E. Thompson

NORTHEAST DIVISION

Fred A. Beck
Brian R. Bennett
Nathan J. Berge
Ross A. Boelk
Jamie R. Bradway
Bret A. Chocholous
Michael T. Collins
Joshua C. Cook
Mike B. Ellis
Christopher T. Finch
R. Scott Gietzel
Michael J. Gilbert
Brian J. Hansen
Kenneth M. Hermanson
George C. Hess
Robert E. Hutton
Mitchell A. Lillie
Aaron Lorrigan
Brett McCully
Mike D. Mibbs
Keith E. Miller
Tim Monn
Bradley E. Moreland
Jay A. O'Laughlin
Matthew R. Pawlak
Curtis E. Reser
Randy L. Reynolds
Howard Robinson, Jr.
Steve J. Swenson
Ernest E. Troxell
Rusty K. Walker
Thomas R. Winters
John T. Woythal

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Mendoza G. Bustos
Kathleen Chytka
Walter L. Derby
Joseph Laschober
Jorge Lopez
Luis Maldonado
Rodney K. Maxwell
Benedicto Moran
Manuel Rodriguez
Joe M. Valdez

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Joseph C. Alexander
Michael R. Blain
William H. Bowlds
Sie Camacho
Billy J. Chisum
Gary E. Claborn
William C. Cline
Scott A. Coates
Chris N. Dunn
Scott D. Eklofe
Daniel A. Factor
Noah A. Factor
Jason B. Frasl
Stephen A. Gilman
James R. Heikes
Jimmy W. Hicks
Bryan M. Kelsey
Michael D. Knieff
Charles E. Lafayette
Kevin B. Landers
Robert V. Mizumura
David E. Peasnell
Derrick P. Pickard
Terry Lee Ratiff
Chad M. Rose
Leisha G. Self
Robert Self
Brian M. Timmons
Pamela M. Venokur
William Warren
Christopher Wells
Christopher R. Williams

MINNKOTA DIVISION

Carl A. Braatz
Gary Cernohous
Lewis Critelli
Stephen R. Hendershot
Steven A. Janousek
Brian M. King
Clinton J. Klukas
David A. Knapp
Timothy J. Koshollek
Jeremy J. Newby
Paul Pacocha
Michael W. Papenfuss
Ronald L. Royal
William Sorensen

Roger D. Stahl
Randy J. Sterry
Ronald Stevens



67 Employees

CENTRAL DIVISION

Jeff W. Adams
Robert D. Anderson
Terry D. Berns
Jeffery W. Brown
Russell Burk
Tommy Dial
Michael J. Dorothy
Scott D. Dundee
Timothy J. Edwards
Lance P. Even
Albert Jr. Garrow
Patrick A. Giesler
Jay F. Graham
Frank Haller
Rick Heideman
Shawn M. Huff
Roy F. Huske III
Michael P. Jud
David A. Lenning
Asa Mapes
Nathan Mayeske
Danny McDonald
Travis D. Platt
Todd D. Powers
Ronald Pratt
Scott Swisher
Ronald W. Thornton III
William Villarta

NORTHEAST DIVISION

Gregory J. Arndt
Thomas L. Brumm
John Bucher
Jerry Lee Coy II
Jonathon J. Davies
Harold J. Heider
Troy John Heinz
Troy D. Jacob
Raymond J. Kane
Richard A. Lemke
Jason R. Miller
Paul A. Minnich
Dale Panas
Brent J. Seibert
Joseph W. Stevenson
James F. Witucki
Bruce W. Wuchterl

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MOUNTAIN STATES DIVISION

David L. Jenson
Gregory Luper
Amanda C. Moen
Bernal Joel Ojeda
William R. Sutherlin

SOUTHWEST DIVISION

Lonnie A. Bynum
William Frye
Michael Dwayne Hamm
Leonardo L. Ponce
Lucko L. Self
Rocky Soliz
Elliott Walker
William E. Welsh

MINNKOTA DIVISION

Ricky Anderson
Timothy L. Correll
Mark R. Flood
Keith D. Gummeringer
Adam R. Helminiak
James J. Klukas
Ronald J. Knutson
Cory M. Kobernick
Mark A. Satter



39 Employees

CENTRAL DIVISION

Earl Jr. Barlow
Patrick L. Boyd
Andrew P. Boyer
Jim Campbell
David L. Day
Howard S. Fritz
Fabian Gonzales
Wayne G. Johnson III
Rodney E. Kellar II
Juan Raul Linares
Jason L. Mohr
Larry Lee Peterson
Gary L. Randolph
John M. Rogers
Robert D. Selhauer
Richard D. Skov

NORTHEAST DIVISION

Michael R. Euteneier
Shawn C. Grant
Brian E. Marion

MOUNTAIN STATES DIVISION

Jorge Alcocer
Abel Bernal Flores
Dwight E. Jessee
Jose Alfredo Rodriguez

SOUTHWEST DIVISION

Melvin Atkins
Gregory D. Briscoe
Larry Elliott
Frank W. Elmore
David Flowers
David Freeman
Tommy J. Hinkle
Mathew Silkey
Richard L. Soweka
Juan Valle

MINNKOTA DIVISION

Todd W. Discher
David R. Hanson
Royce A. Moody
David Ness
John T. Nyberg
Scott W. Peschges



17 Employees

CENTRAL DIVISION

Terry E. Barrett
Lawrence Eisermann
Doug Vondal
Lavernon P. Wright

NORTHEAST DIVISION

Allen R. Bienemann
Stephen B. Hollister
Kevin J. Jung
David D. Thomas
Tim R. Weber

MOUNTAIN STATES DIVISION

Tim P. Jennings
William McCormick
Antonio Moreno

SOUTHWEST DIVISION

James P. Bennett
Diane K. Vasquez

MINNKOTA DIVISION

Bradley G. Bembenek
Chad M. Brinkman
Brian J. Dempsey



22 Employees

CENTRAL DIVISION

Terry Brack
Raymond C. Flick
Melvin D. Raygor
Steve A. Richey
Dennis F. Rubitsky
John Waring
Michael E. Wilkins

NORTHEAST DIVISION

Jay A. Hafemeister
Michael R. Kuhrt
Peter A. Nowicki
Dennis M. Wiese

MOUNTAIN STATES DIVISION

Steven L. Bond
Roberto Jr. Lozano
Tobin M. Wood

SOUTHWEST DIVISION

Mark Barber
Ellis Jr. Ludlow
Jeffery Rhodes
Jeffery Layne Scott

MINNKOTA DIVISION

Landon E. Poppens
Byron O. Stahl
Robert J. Tyson
Tracy E. Yahnke



55 Employees

CENTRAL DIVISION

Kevin G. Beckmann
Bobby J. Bumgardner
Brandon P. Clary

Lawrence W. Cowan
James N. Kamp
Mark W. Moomey
Jeffery V. Neis
Doug A. Sibold
Dennis Slankard
John F. Willcox
Tyson R. Young

NORTHEAST DIVISION

Jay D. Allen
Thomas S. Bianchi
John Block
David L. Cash
Chester H. Fleck
Christopher S. Goral
Mark J. Hengstenberg
William R. Johnson
Steven E. Kauffeld
Scott Laux
James A. Panure
Jeff A. Peters
Scott R. Rice
Everett W. Smith
Mike J. Suprenand
Gerald A. Vincent
Ken E. Weber
Steven N. Zach

MOUNTAIN STATES DIVISION

Mark A. Nelson

SOUTHWEST DIVISION

Larry Bear
David L. Elder
George Fields
Warren Hughes
Albert Johnson
Kenneth A. Johnson
Charles E. Love
Robin R. Soweka, Sr.

MINNKOTA DIVISION

Gaylen Ackerman
Larry Bingham
Jay F. Bult
Glen R. Crabtree
Marcus L. Doppler
Curtiss J. Filtz
Mark J. Frank
Keith R. Gugel
Robert R. Hanson
Daniel Hawker
Lester J. Imker
Dennis D. Jacobs
Patrick J. Jewison
Mike Laffey
Richard A. Nyhus
Keith Alan Smith
Robert L. Steadman

We apologize for any omissions or errors. If you did not receive your award, contact your General Foreman.

2001 Longevity Awards



**Mike Miller
Mountain States**

35 Years

Ray A. Crittenden DM Office

25 Years

Fred A. Beck North
Don Heyl North
William R. Johnson North
Mike Laffey Minnkota
Bruce W Wuchterl North

20 Years

Scott D. Bloch SW
Steven E. Kauffeld North
James Lorrigan SW
Scott E. Schreiter Mt. States

15 Years

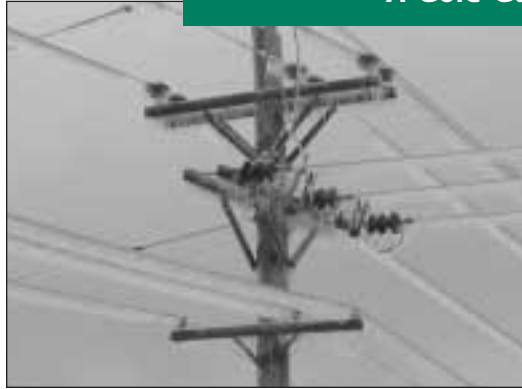
Kevin G. Beckmann Central
Robert A. Belden North
Allen Bienemann North
James N. Kamp Central
Karen Minor WTC
Linda Wright WTC
Todd L. Lyles North
Lori Ordal DM Office
Marty Pingel North
Joseph M. Schulz North

10 Years

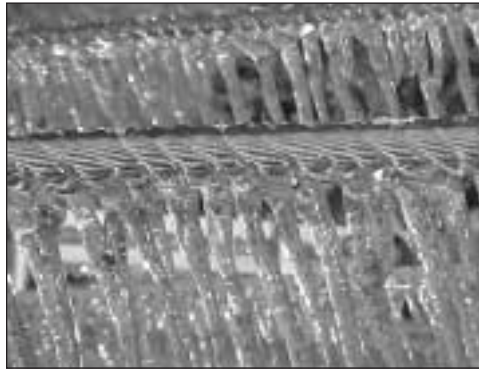
Gaylen Ackerman Minnkota
Larry Bear SW
James P. Bennett SW
Greg Bishop Minnkota
Lawrence W. Cowan Central
Jack Down SW
Michael R. Euteneier North
George Fields SW
Albert Johnson SW
Kenneth A. Johnson SW
Edgar F. Koester North
Scott Ogden SW
David L. Rader SW
Mark Rader DM Office
Jim Sieverding Minnkota
Richard Soweka SW
Robin R. Soweka SW
Mike Supernand North
William R. Sutherland Mt. States
David D. Thomas North

(continued on back page)

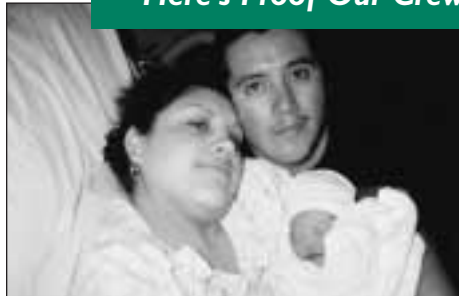
A Cold Call?



We are grateful to Jarrod Cassada, Utility Forester for AEP, who sent us these dramatic pictures following the ice storm in the Southwest Division.



Here's Proof Our Crews Don't Work All The Time



Trimmer Armando Cereceres, Mountain States Division, and his wife Georgina cuddle their new baby girl, Stephanie Giselle, who was born in early February.



This wide-eyed baby boy belongs to Foreman Blake McGrew, Mountain States Division, and his wife Beth. Forrest Bruce was born last September.



Rileigh Jane was an early Christmas present for Foreman Brandon Clary, Central Division, and his wife Erin. Rileigh was born a week before last Christmas.



Foreman Daniel Factor, Southwest Division, and his wife Ellie are proudly showing pictures of their new baby boy, Josiah Alan, who was born last November.

**Annual Awards
Banquet Highlights**



Congratulations to Ray Crittenden, right, on reaching his 35-year milestone of service to WTS. Ray, who works at the Home Office, received his award from Chairman John Wright. Ray joined Wright Tree Service in 1966 and went to work in Colorado. After a serious on-the-job accident, he moved to Des Moines and joined the Home Office. He worked in the company's supply store and also handled equipment inventory. Currently, Ray is a programmer for our IT system. He and his wife Dorothy have three grown children, all daughters.



These 20 and 25-year WTS veterans are congratulated by Chairman John Wright, middle. Left to right, Mike Laffey, Minnkota, and Don Heyel, Northeast, 25 years; and Scott Bloch, Southwest, and Jim Lorrigan, Southwest, 20 years.



Five of this year's 15-year awardees came to the Annual Banquet to receive their awards from Chairman John Wright, third from left. Left to right, Marty Pingel, Northeast, Linda Wright, Wright Tree Care, Lori Ordal, Home Office, Karen Minor, Wright Tree Care, and Joe Schulz, Northeast.

Chairman John Wright joins the eight 10-year awardees who attended the Annual Banquet. Standing, left to right, Mark Rader, Home Office, Albert Johnson, Southwest, Gaylen Ackerman, Minnkota, Jack Down, Southwest, and Edgar Koester, Northeast. Sitting, left to right, Jim Sieverding, Minnkota, James Bennet, Southwest, and George Fields, Southwest.



BENEFITS

10 Myths of Heart Disease

Don't be fooled. What you may think you know about heart disease could be false. Understand the following 10 myths of heart disease and you could be on your way to better health.

Myth #1: Young people can't get heart disease. Children as young as 2 or 3 and young adults have shown symptoms of developing heart disease. A healthy diet with physical activity can lower their chances of developing heart disease as adults.

Myth #2: Men are much more at risk of heart disease than women. Though men may experience the first battles with heart disease, a woman's risk of getting heart disease increases after menopause.

Myth #3: Heart disease works like the domino effect; once it starts, it never stops. With a healthy diet and regular exercise plan, heart disease can be controlled, sometimes with the help of medications.

Myth #4: Life after a heart attack is inevitably downhill. Most people are surprised that life after a heart attack can be fuller and healthier than before, thanks to modern rehabilitation programs.

Myth #5: Overexerting yourself during a workout is the only way to exercise properly. Strenuous exercise is not needed to lower the risk of heart disease. Simply accumulating 30 minutes of moderate activity, such as vacuuming the house, mowing the lawn or walking can be helpful in maintaining proper health.

Myth #6: Athletes will never suffer from heart disease. Though athletes may be in top physical condition, even they are not free from the risk of heart disease. If your family has a history of heart disease, you could be at risk despite your good health. Know your history, know your risk, and never ignore possible warning signs.

Myth #7: Chest pain is unavoidable; the best cure is to wait and see if it goes away. Chest pains could be possible symptoms of a heart attack. Ignoring them is the worst thing you could do. If the pain lasts for more than a few minutes, spreads to your shoulders, neck and arms, or is combined with nausea, sweating or shortness of breath, call 911.

Myth #8: Medical advice against obesity is simply a prejudice against overweight people. Obesity, next to smoking, is one of the biggest risks of heart disease. It can

be prevented and it is controllable.

Myth #9: You cannot die from a broken heart, fear or other complex emotions. The reduction of stress can lower your risk of heart disease.

Myth #10: Given enough time, everyone will die of heart disease. Heart disease is not inevitable. Good daily habits and exercise programs greatly reduce your risk of heart disease.

It's been called the "Silent Killer." You may have it and not even know it. In fact,

until it causes long-term damage to vital organs, it won't even affect you. It's high blood pressure, or more formally, hypertension. And in the United States, more than 50 million Americans are affected by it and over a third of those people are unaware of their condition. Do you know if you're at risk? Like most other cardiovascular diseases, hypertension is mostly a result of lifestyle. The only way to find out if you have high blood pressure is to have it checked. A blood pressure test is quick and painless so make an appointment and have a checkup soon.

FROM THE Kitchen

Just in time for Easter - a fun treat and one in which you can involve children as your cooking assistants. These Easter Egg Nests are easy to make and can be used in so many ways, especially as a novel treat in a child's Easter basket.

EASTER EGG NESTS

- 6 ounces milk chocolate chips
- 6 ounces butterscotch chips
- 1 5-ounce can of chow mein noodles
- 1 cup flaked coconut (*tinted green with food coloring*)
- 1 bag small jelly beans, assorted colors, to yield about 10-11 dozen

Line two cookie sheets with waxed paper and set aside.

In the top of a double boiler, place chocolate chips and butterscotch chips. Place the top of the double boiler over, but not touching, hot (not simmering) water in bottom pan. Stir continuously to expedite melting of chips and to blend.

Remove top of double boiler. Add chow mein noodles. Using spoon, stir to combine, crushing noodles into smaller pieces with edge of spoon as you mix.

Drop the mixture by rounded teaspoonfuls onto prepared cookie sheets, forming each into a little nest by making an indentation on top. Sprinkle a small amount of coconut over each "nest" to simulate grass and press three jelly beans of various colors into coconut to simulate eggs.

Place the cookie sheets in refrigerator for a few minutes to set. Then, store in airtight container. Makes about 42.

(continued from page 8)

Ken Venzke	Minnkota
Tim R. Weber	North
Michael D. Yarnot	North
5 Years	
Earl J. Barlow	Central
Bradley G. Bembenek	Minnkota
Eddie L. Briscoe	SW
Gregory D. Briscoe	SW
John W. Bucher	North
Lonnie A. Bynum	SW
Jerry L. Coy II	North
David L. Day	Central
Brian J. Dempsey	Minnkota
Kenneth D. Draper	SW
Ronnie D. Elmore	SW
Howard Fritz	Central
Jon B. Hunter	Central
Tim P. Jennings	Mt. States
Marlin D. King	Minnkota
Joseph Laschober	Mt. States
Jeremy McColley	Central
William McCormick	Mt. States
Danny McDonald	Central
Antonio Moreno	Mt. States
Bernal J. Ojeda	Mt. States
Anthony J. Vasquez	SW
Diane K. Vasquez	SW
Lavernon P. Wright	Central

Eureka! Even Third Grade Students Appreciate WTS!

Third grade students in Mrs. Janice Brown's class in Eureka, KS wrote letters of thanks to **Foreman Tyson Young** and other WTS employees for helping to restore electricity to their homes during the recent ice storms that hit this area.

One little boy was particularly honest in his letter. After expressing his appreciation, he ended by saying, "Instead of my dad getting up in the middle of the night to keep the wood fire going, my mom did." (We'd like to think that dad spent the day cutting up the firewood.)

Thanks to Tyson and all the other WTS employees who worked so diligently to restore power to thousands of homes.

The Results Are In!
941

EMPLOYEES QUALIFIED FOR THE SAFETY INCENTIVE AWARD

During First Quarter Of This Fiscal Year (10/1 - 12/30)

Family Clippings

News From The Home Office



Margeson Named New VP For Business Development

John Margeson has joined Wright Tree Service as **Vice President of Business Development**. He will concentrate on obtaining new business for the company, as well as expanding our services to current customers. His first area of activity will be visiting our five divisions, meeting employees and utility customers. John formerly worked for TCE Telecommunications and Lighthouse Communications, both here in Des Moines.

A native of Georgia, John and his wife Jennifer have three children: Matt, 21, who attends Auburn University; Meghan, 17 and Holt, 15, both students at Valley High School in West Des Moines. The family resides in West Des Moines.

Jennifer recently opened a new business called "Inches Aweigh," a weight-loss and health and nutrition business.

Mark Rader Joins Home Office

Formerly a General Foreman in the Southwest Division, **Mark Rader** joined the Home Office last April as a **System Analyst**, writing programs for payroll and accounting. Mark joined Wright Tree Service in 1991 and, up until joining the home office, has always worked in the Southwest Division.

Mark and his wife Roberta have a two-year-old son named Andrew.

We apologize, Mark, for not including this news in an earlier issue of *Our Family Tree*. "Someone" forgot to inform us on your move!



Kyra Ties The Knot!

Kyra Mountsier recently changed her name to Mrs. Ben Harrison. Kyra and Ben were married at Hope Lutheran Church, Des Moines, in a private ceremony last month. A more formal ceremony and reception is planned for next year for faraway family and friends. The Harrisons also plan on honeymooning at a later date.

Where's The Camera, Donna? Receptionist Donna White

forgot her camera on the day of the home office Valentine's Party but she attests "everyone had a good time." The Valentine Committee, which included Donna, along with **Nancy Jacobson, Denise Krause** and **Carol Saltz**, served lunch, followed by games and prizes.

Another Reason To Celebrate Washington's Birthday

Lois Ward, Executive Assistant, S. E. T. Department, celebrated her 18th anniversary with Wright Tree Service on February 22nd.

Our Sincerest Condolences!

All of us at Wright Tree Service wish to extend our deepest sympathies to **Ray Crittenden** whose son-in-law recently passed away.

If you have access to the Internet, you can visit us at: <http://www.wrighttree.com>

WRIGHT TREE SERVICE • P.O. Box 1718 • DES MOINES, IA 50306 • 515-277-6291

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