



Our Family Tree

SPRING 2005
VOLUME 11
NUMBER 1



A Newsletter for the Employees and Friends of Wright Tree Service

MOUNTAIN STATES, DIVISION 45 WIN SAFETY AWARDS FOR 2004



Top photo, President/CEO Scott Packard, right, and S.E.T. Director Keith Sheriff present Mountain States Division Manager Kirk Schuster with the "Lowest Incident Rate" trophy at the Annual Meeting Banquet on March 4 at the Marriott Hotel in West Des Moines IA. Bottom photo, Scott and Keith present Division 45 Safety Supervisor Miguel Duarte with the "Most Improved Incident Rate" trophy.

News from the Branches

CENTRAL DIVISION

WTS To the Rescue!

An ice storm in Kansas in early January affected over 211,000 Westar Energy customers, requiring more than 360,000 restorations. The call for help went out to WTS crews in Iowa. **General Foreman Todd Reese** responded with nine crews. Traveling on 100% snow and ice-covered roads, the crews arrived safely and went to work, climbing ice-covered trees by spot light and working long hours in below freezing temperatures. All crews returned home safely seven days later without incident. Todd wants to pay particular tribute to **General Foremen Roger Farley, Tim Leiser** and **Greg Williams** and their crews. "We could not have done this without them," Todd said. "We found them all to be hard-working professionals." (See item below and photos on page 12 in this issue of Our Family Tree.)

Westar Says "Thanks"

In a letter to **Vice President Bob Myers** in the home office, three officers of Westar Energy, Jim Haines, Bill Moore and Doug Henry, signed a letter of thanks for the support and assistance of WTS crews following the January ice storm in Kansas. "Without your company's help, the restoration would have been insurmountable," the letter stated. "We have

received many positive comments from our employees and our customers regarding the crews from other areas of Kansas and from other states. Because they are representative of many of the sentiments we have received, we would like to share the comments from one of our Wichita customers with you: "I felt such admiration for the power linemen here in Wichita and especially the out-of-town linemen. When I saw them on my street, it was like the cavalry coming in to save me and my neighbors. From then on, every time I would see a caravan of trucks, I felt proud to be in a country that comes to the rescue of its neighbors from state to state." The letter concludes: "Your employees left their homes and families to take on a daunting task. They worked long hours in harsh weather conditions. We appreciate their willingness to do so. A sincere thank you to you and your employees who assisted us." We wish to add our thanks to the General Foremen and their crews who followed through so superbly in this time of need.

More Kudos From Kansas

Thanks to **Division Manager Jerry Black** who shared this email with us from a Westar

customer from Valley Center, KS. The customer wrote: "As I was driving through Valley Center yesterday after the power came back on here, I noticed a large fleet of trucks from 'Wright Tree Service, Des Moines, Iowa.' Later in the day, I drove past another group of Wright Tree Service trucks in the nearby town of Maize. Thank you for coming all the way down here to Wichita to help out during this very difficult time. Hopefully, everyone will be able to return home in a few more days. Thanks again for your help." We're sure this note represents the gratitude of thousands of Westar customers whose power was restored, thanks to the dedicated employees of WTS.

Joy In Johnston!

Two MidAmerican Energy customers in Johnston IA called the home office to express their satisfaction with work performed by WTS. One customer commended **Foremen Dallas** and **Jason Dix** and **Trimmers Dave Meyer** and **Kelly Thompson**. The customer said they did a great job and were very nice and considerate. The other customer extolled **Foreman Lorimer Christianson** and **Trimmer Kevin Kasal** for "doing a great job in trimming a huge cottonwood." Thanks to these crews for their courtesy and professionalism in representing WTS. Their **General Foreman** is **Todd Reese**.

Huge Job Handled!

"It was a huge project but these guys did a great job and were all very nice." That was the comment from a MidAmerican Energy

customer in Norwalk IA in a phone call to the home office, praising three of **General Foreman Todd Reese's** crews. The **Foremen** were **Jason Dix, Chad Hollingshead** and **Kelly Thompson**; the **Trimmers** were **Jose Andrade, Aric Hollingshead, Craig McCoy** and **Dave Meyer**. Cheers to these crews for coming through for WTS!

"Good Samaritans" Injured Trying To Help

As **Trimmer Bill Haggard** was crossing an icy turnpike bridge in Topeka KS on his way to work in early February, he happened upon an accident and stopped to help. While Bill and another motorist were assisting the victim of the crash, another vehicle struck the damaged car which, in turn, struck Bill and the other "good Samaritan." Both were injured, Bill more seriously, and he was taken by ambulance to the hospital. Bill finished his recuperation at home and is back to work, according to his **General Foreman, Tim Leiser**, who tells us Bill still has "some aches and pains." Bill and his wife, Toni, want to thank all of the WTS crew members who assisted them at home after the accident.

Pass-Along Praise

Wright Tree Care, our residential Des Moines operation, received a call from a Des Moines IA customer commending the work of a WTS crew that was line clearing for MidAmerican Energy.



Karen Minor of Wright Tree Care passed along the compliment to our home office. The customer "wanted us to know what a great bunch of guys we had working in her neighborhood," according to Karen. The customer also added that WTS "was much better than the Swedish company that butchered the trees in the past." Unfortunately, we couldn't obtain the names of the crew.

Good Listeners

A couple from Carlisle IA who rely on MidAmerican Energy wrote the home office, praising one of **General Foreman Wes Langford's** crews. "They talked to us, actually listened to us, performed their jobs professionally and cleaned up the area when they were finished," the couple wrote. A deserving pat on the back to **Foreman Paul Forck** and **Trimmer Joseph Fee**.

Just Call Him Mr. Chips

Don Jamison, Training Director for the Missouri Valley Line Constructors, wrote the home office, thanking WTS and especially **General Foreman Wes Langford** for all the chips donated to the Missouri Valley JATC apprentice program. "The time, effort and coordination put forth by all of your people has resulted in a tremendous benefit to our training activities," Don wrote. "The chips help keep the pole climbing area safer for the

(continued on page 2)



Scott Packard, WTS President/CEO, thanks Jim O'Halloran, President of O'Halloran International, for his service on the WTS Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting Banquet. Jim completed his term on the board following the meeting.



Bob Myers, WTS Vice President/Operations, points to his name at the top of the longevity display. Bob was honored at the banquet for his 40 years of service.



Will Nutter, WTS Vice President/Division Operations, left, and his wife Cami visit with WTS President/CEO Scott Packard and his wife Amy at the banquet.



Tim Rice, left, of Denman & Co., the accounting firm for Wright Tree Care, and John Fitzgibbon, a long-term member of the WTS Board of Directors, were guests at the banquet.



Jon Griffiths, Manager of Plant Health Care for Wright Tree Care, attended the banquet with his wife Darla.

Longevity Employees Honored

At Annual Meeting Banquet



President/CEO Scott Packard congratulates Bob Myers at the Annual Meeting Banquet for 40 years of service.



Eight 25-year veterans were honored, including front row, left to right, Herb Coy, North; Randy Rempe, Safety Supervisor; Bob Lien and Byron Stahl, Minnkota; back row, left to right, Jeff Wood, North; Scott Schweisthal and Jim Engelke, Minnkota. Jerry Coy, North, was unable to attend.



Nine employees were honored for 20 years of service, including, front row, left to right, Gerald "Tony" Vincent and Wayne Fancher, both North Division; back row, left to right, Keith Smith, Minnkota; Lois Ward, home office; and Mitch Frye, Central. William Glander, Steve Hollister and James White, North; and Keith Gugel, Minnkota, were unable to attend.



Six employees were honored for 15 years of service, including, front row, left to right, Jay Hafemeister, North; and Bob Steadman, Minnkota; back row, left to right, Mike Kuhrt, North; and O.J. Feay, Mountain States. Jim Campbell and Dean Davolt, Central, were unable to attend.

Sixteen employees were honored for 10 years of service, including, front row, left to right, Scott Dundee, Central; Norman Shultz, Minnkota; and Mark Fuhrman, Southwest; back row, left to right, Robert Tyson, Minnkota; Tom Acker, Southwest; and Terry McGonegle, home office. Bob Bumgardner, Ray Flick, Ray Gaunt and Jim Neis, Central; Troy Heinz and Trevor Jacob, North; and Mark Nelson and Tobin Wood, Mountain States, were unable to attend.



From the Treetop



By Bob Myers
Senior Vice President/
Operations

On May 12th, 2004, I celebrated my 40th anniversary with Wright Tree Service and was recently asked to write this article.

After 40 years of service, I should be able to fill this article with many words of wisdom. After thinking about this, it might be more entertaining to write about some of the differences, comparing 40 years to now.

I started as a groundman in Fargo ND. At that time we were working for Northwestern Bell Telephone, a company that does not exist today. In fact, almost all the work that Wright Tree Service was doing at that time involved telephone companies.

My first foreman was Roger Keuger. He is no longer in the business. He was one of the best climbers that I have had the privilege of working with and, by the way, his height is 6'7". Roger Keuger, Gene Olson and John L. Wright, among others, had a very positive affect on my approach to our industry.

When I started, we were a climbing crew only. Our chip truck was a flatbed with about 5' high plywood sides with no hoist. We spent about one hour each day of our own time shoveling off the chips. Our chipper was a 6" chipper. We had two chain saws on our crew; the small saw was a NU-17 Pioneer and our large saw was a 620 Pioneer which had a 24" bar and chain and weighed about 35 pounds.

All climbing from the ground up was done as free climbing. We did not set a rope until we got to the top of the tree. Because our chain saws were so heavy, we always used a separate rope to lift and hold the chain saw. This chain saw rope was held by another person on the ground and would be raised or lowered by this person depending on the need.

I became a foreman in the fall of 1964 at an hourly rate of \$1.65 per hour. My first chip truck was a 1959 Ford, which had a hoist on it. My chipper was an older Fitchburg chipper. Fitchburg chippers did not have flywheels on them. To compensate for the

lack of flywheels, general speaking, they had larger engines on them. My chipper had a 292 cubic inch V8 Ford engine with dual straight pipes. I loved the sound of it.

My first bucket truck was a 1967 F-600 Ford with a 5TD 52" Hi Ranger flatbed. This truck and boom was the Cadillac of the industry.

I started trimming power lines in the early part of the year in 1965. In those days, we were able to get much more clearance. All wood within the right-of-way was clear cut and treated with herbicide. There were no exceptions and all overhang was taken off.

From this point on, change started happening very quickly. As a matter of fact, it is amazing how fast the forty years went by. I ran a crew for about twelve years on various properties.

In 1975, I was promoted to Division Supervisor. My area was Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma. At that time, we had two crews in each state. We started building from there and continue to build in those areas today.

Over the span of my career, I have been fortunate enough to work in every state that we operate in. By doing this, I was able to gain experience but, most importantly, I have been able to personally meet hundreds of outstanding Wright Tree Service employees.

As I look forward, I could not be more excited about Wright Tree Service and the future of our company. Our company is growing, we have the best equipment available, our employees are second to none and we have an outstanding reputation.

My wife, Theresa, and I are starting to plan our retirement and part of that retirement will be to watch the growth of each of you as well as the company itself. Thank you for everything that you have done for me and my family. If you are in Des Moines or see me on the road, please stop by and say hello.

ews from the

News from the Branches

(continued from page 3)

current and future apprentice linemen". Don also noted the chips keep the pole climbing area looking nice. Thanks, Wes, for finding an excellent use for the chips.

Engaging News

Congratulations to **Foreman Jason Dix** on his engagement to Jennifer Jacobe. A September wedding is planned.

NORTH DIVISION

Bouquets For Bock!

Daniel Wagner, Real Estate and Right of Way Representative for American Transmission Company (ATC) emailed **General Foreman Jim Bock** about a commendation he received from an ATC customer who lived along a transmission line that is being rebuilt. The email read: "The customer was extremely pleased with the work that WTS did on his property in clearing the brush and trees prior to the construction of the line." Wagner wrote that the customer complimented Jim personally and was extremely thankful for the way Jim and his crew accommodated him. Wagner noted that this type of work can often upset property owners "but it's great to hear from property owners that understand the need and compliment you on the necessary work." Thank you, Jim, for eliciting this praise and thanks, too, to



your professional crew: **Foreman Barry Bestland** and **Trimmers Craig Jensen** and **Jason Miller**.

DIVISION 45

Will Jim Use A "Chip Gang"?

Jim Dodge, Horticulture Instructor for the Michigan Department of Corrections, wrote a letter to the home office, thanking WTS for providing chips for landscaping. **General Foreman Paul Dwight** has been "very kind to our needs and has dumped several large truckloads of excellent chip materials," the note said. According to Jim, the chips will be used for landscaping around the Jackson prison complex. Thanks, Paul, for going above and beyond in satisfying this need.

MINNKOTA DIVISION

Preventing Major Power Outages

We all recall the major power outage in the eastern United States and Canada in August, 2003. A joint government

task force determined that the primary cause of the outage was shoddy tree trimming around major power lines by an Ohio utility. This has caused power companies to be more aggressive in following the National Electric Safety Code which calls for a 20-foot easement around transmission lines at all times. WTS has been clearing trees in accordance with Xcel's easement rights in Waseca MN, upsetting some homeowners. An article in the *Waseca County News* explains the reason for the line clearing. The article also points out that Xcel could legally require the homeowner to remove the offending trees; however, the utility has chosen to remove the trees at its own expense. **Foremen Mark Frank, Dennis Jacobs** and **Jim Klukas** and their crews were involved in this line clearing project.

"A Credit To The Industry"

"A credit to the industry" is how one Xcel Energy customer concluded his letter about WTS to Erica Oreskovich, Xcel Forestry. The customer lives in Inner Grove Heights MN where WTS was clearing a line. He expressed his thanks to the WTS crew members for their professionalism in their daily activities and for the outstanding job they did. At the receiving end of this praise are **General Foremen Jim Engelke** and **Scott Schweisthal** and their excellent crews.

MOUNTAIN STATES

News We Like To Read!

Following are excerpts from a news release announcing a new contract for WTS: "Residents in some Utah Power and Pacific Power service areas will soon see trucks with the Wright Tree Service logo clearing trees from power lines in their neighborhoods. PacifiCorp (the parent company of Utah Power and Pacific Power) is transitioning to a new vegetation management contractor to perform services in locations throughout northern Utah, Idaho and Wyoming. Wright Tree Service will initially have nineteen crews in operation, with additional crews expected to be added in April. PacifiCorp provides approximately \$35 million for vegetation management company-wide each year. About 100,000 trees are pruned annually in the area Wright Tree Service will operate." Our congratulations to **Division Manager Kirk Schuster** for acquiring this excellent new business for WTS.



Safety Honor Roll

Wright Tree Service congratulates the following employees who have been accident-free for ten consecutive years.



Central Division

Bobby Bumgardner
Lawrence Cowan
James Kamp
Jeffery Neis
Doug Sibold
Tyson Young

North Division

Jay Allen
John Block
Chris Goral
Mark Hengstenberg
William Johnson
Steven Kauffeld

Scott Laux

Jeff Peters

Scott Rice

Everett Smith

Mike Suprenand

Gerald Vincent

Mt. States Division

Mark Nelson

Southwest Division

David Elder

George Fields

Albert Johnson

Kenneth Johnson

Minnkota Division

Gaylen Ackerman

Jay Bult

Marcus Doppler

Mark Frank

Keith Gugel

David R Hanson

Robert Hanson

Daniel Hawker

Dennis Jacobs

Mike Laffey

Richard Nyhus

Keith Smith

Robert Steadman

*We also commend our employees who have been accident-free for up to nine consecutive years.
Their names appear on the following pages.*

There's Safety



Central Division

Robert Allen
Tom Allen
James Anzalone
Thomas Bertrand
James Black
James Blake Jr
Shawn Blanchard
Jeff Buboltz
Lorimer Christianson
Anthony Ciavarelli
James Clark
Crager Cook
Robert Cunningham
Dallas Dix
Jason Dix
Charles Dock
Dennis Edmonds
Ronald Ehram
Korey Einfelt
Paul Forck
Jeremy Frye
Rick Gaunt
Randy Gayer
Bruce Giroux
Peter Gordon
Larry Greenwood
Eric Gustafson
Randy Hake
Terry Harris
Mike Hill
Arik Hollingshead
Timothy Housh
Heath Huff
Earl Jackson
Gabe Jones
Randall Jones Jr
Kevin Kasal
Larry Lawrence
Jody Lewis
Chad Luckow
Brandon Magee
Terry Mahlstedt
Paul Mallinger
Jordan McCarter
Craig McCoy
David Meyer
Charles Mills
Thomas Moore
Eric Nelson
Adrian Oliver
Mark Owens
Matt Pegg
Andy Perez
Shon Plate
Bill Reese

Christopher Rice
Nicholas Rosenboom
Kurt Schneckloth
Edward Sickels
Doug Smith
Kelly Thompson
Jason Waugh
Andre White
Dennis Williamson
James Williamson

North Division

Brian Alexander
Christopher Alexander
Rodney Barnett
Juan Belmares
David Brandenburg
David Bryant
Jose Cerrillo
James Copeland
Daniel Davies
Dean Dickson
John Ditta
David Hegwood
Roberto Hernandez
Gerald Hoffman
Marvin Hoogstraten
Jeremy Hunt
Daniel Hutchison
Charlton Jackson
Jared Jeffries
Daniel Johnson
Ernest Johnson
Kevin Ketchmark
David Kline
Kingsley Lemon
Carlos Lemus
Dorsey Levy
Edgar Luna
Lorac Mahan
Carlos Martinez
Cecilia McLaughlin
Brad Moreland
Ryan Mumm
Juan Oropeza
Mark Parker
Jeff Parkerson
Mario Pinzon
Rogelio Pinzon
Richard Reed
Paul Reuter
Juan Rodriguez
Armando Sanchez
Jason Scott
Timothy Skidmore
Marcus Smith
Jonathan Stenson
Gary Thorgerson
Vicente Torres
Sean Tracy
Juan Trejo
Wilmer Vasquez
John Vitrutti
Rusty Walker

Kurt Warwick
Delwin Williams
Jerry Willis
Larry Willis
Darryl Worthy

Mountain States Division

Juan Aguilar
Matt Bright
Jon-Paul Chavez
Francisco Delgado
Juventino Delgado
Lorenzo Delgado
Walter Derby
Mark Dinnell
Kevin Fitzpatrick
John Foley
Nick Fox
Timoteo Gonzales
Terri Guild
Felix Jaramillo
Paul Leadbetter
Joshua Levings
Vernon Liggett
Gerald Long
Blake McGrew
Chester Morrison
Jose Palacio
Robert Reaves
William Rigsby
Robert Schovan
Justin Siruta
Robert Stout
James Winters
Christopher Yates

Division 45

Jose Amaya
Rigoberto Arregoitia
Rodrigo Arregoitia
Timmie Baker
Daniel Burwell
Jose Camacho
Jose Cervantes
Manuel Chavez
James Clark
Thomas Clayton
Justo Condado
Gerald Correll
Johnnie Dailey
Gerardo Duarte
Steven Duel
Rigoberto Figueroa
Felix Franco
Rene Gomez
Felipe Gonzales
Jason Green
Juan Hernandez Sr
Jose Herrera
Linda Hurst
David Ice
Tajuan Jordan
Joshua Kaleward
Robert Kirby

Victor Lopez
Matthew Meuche
Roger Morford
Antonio Najera
Gabriel Orozco
Martin Pantoja
Jose Pedraza
Clemente Quiroz
Pedro Ramos
Jose Ramos
Julio Ramos
Rodney Riley
Alfonzo Rodriguez
Aurelio Rodriguez
Victor Villasenor
Ben White

Southwest Division

Thomas Adams
Frederick Clark
Jorge Delgado
Chris Dunn
Brennon Frederickson
William Frye
Radames Garcia
Dewey Horse
Kenneth D Noblitt
Richard Rodriguez
Juan Sanchez
Brian Timmons

Minnkota Division

Maclin Alvarenga
Cassidy Arnold
Tim Brandt
Chad Brinkman
Josh Bult
Martin Campbell
Rafael Cerrato
Matt Chase
Glen Crabtree
Robert Cummins
Shon Daniels
Pat Dehart
Brad Despot
Allen Detray
James Dufour
Lance Edwards
Matt Erickson
Thomas Gamble
Ronald Garner
Steve Goette
Earl Hall
Patrick Hardel
Wesley Jones
Robert Kappelhoff
James Klukas
David Knapp
Ron Knutson
Chad Koecher
Tim Koivisto
Matt Lancot
Robert Latscher
Elmer Lee

In These Numbers

Joshua Linz
Richard Loushine
Lucas Mahal
Jonathan Marx
Neil Mayer
Carlitos Medina
Kevin Mejia
Christopher Meyer
James Neeser
Herman Ohr
Richard Olson
Jesus Ortiz
Mark Ostoff
Orlando Pacheco
Edward Pacholke
Mike Papenfuss
Dale Peterson
Rafael Salamanca
Jake Schweisthal
Mike Sipes
David Slaughter
Thomas Smith
William Smith Jr
Roger Stahl
Arnold Tabora
Mike Vogt
Derek Williams
David Woltz



Central Division

Reyes Alanis
Roberto Alvarez
Heath Bengford
Tom Cady
Jeremy Cason
Donald Clubb
Danny Copp
Jason Crawford
Scott Dundee
Francis Flory
Bruce Fuchs
Jerrad Garrett
Russell Gayer
Ernest Geoffroy
Daniel Griswold
William Haggard
Jon Hanson
Stan Jones
David Knight
Juan Linares
Paul Mitchell
John Moore
Matthew Nelson
Max Stevanov
Larry Swan
Carlos Valentin

Michael Venditti
Bryan Waetzig
Howard Weedon

North Division

Robert Anderson
Thomas Bianchi
Thomas Brumm
Joshua Cook
Jerry Coy
Seth Erickson
James Germann
R Scott Gietzel
Michael Gilbert
Stephen Hollister
Mark Jones
Robert Kresse
Wayne Marty
Kyle McCorkle
Brett McCully
Jeffrey McNamara
Marvin Miller
Mike Price
Keith Resch
Daniel Richmond
John Seeber
Nate Stone
Dale Stout
Robin Troxel

Mountain States Division

Jose Blanco
Pedro Delgado
James Dolson
Mitchel Elwood
Jose Flores
Keith Gallegos
Stanley Len
Joseph Martinez

Division 45

Edgar Arriola
Mario Cabrera
Emiliano Campechano
Cornell Capps
Israel Del Carmen
Hermilo Duarte
Rick Eddelman
Steven Ford
Roerto Francisco
Manuel Gonzalez
Miguel Hernandez
Melanie Hurst
Benito Juarez
Leonides Martinez
Elias Mijangos
Carlos Moreno
Jesus Morrieta
Eduardo Orozco
Federico Orozco
Armando Palmero
Thomas Patrick
Bernardo Perez
Eugenio Prieto

Jason Smith
Miguel Taiz
Randall Thompson
Victor Torres

Southwest Division

Larry Bear
Ronnie D Elmore
Michale Hall
Aaron Hendrix
Kimberly Self
David Walker
William Welsh

Minnkota Division

Jorge Campos
Keith Christianson
David Diaz
Steven Eickstadt
Ross Fleischauer
Mark Flood
Patrick Franzene
Tim Frink
Allen Hedtke
Ivan Hernandez
Curt Houle
Bobby Isaacson
Ben Isbell
Mark Lambert
Anthony Lendt
Ron Lockard
Roy Manson
Justin Montey
Michael E Nelson
Robert Reemts
Scott Ruzicka
William Schumal
Tim Sullivan
David Swanstrom
Leonel Tabora
Lowell Thorson
Joe Tijerina



Central Division

Jason Akins
Bobby Bailey
Corey Booge
Noel Caceres
Marcus Cornett
Jason Davis
Dean Davolt
Wardell Dicus
Jerod Droge
Adam Ellis
Jacob Fruh
Randy Grell

Mike Hasse
Mark Jaquith
Ryan Johnson
Kyle Nelson
Sam Russell
Steve St John
Chuck Stoll
Caleb Weber
William Wood

North Division

Robert Belden
James Bock
William Glander
William Hillier
Tim Hohulin
Craig Jensen
Ronald Jones
Craig Lyles
Todd Lyles
Steven Mathews
Boyd Rasmussen
James White

Mountain States Division

Luis Castillo
Michael Coffey
Thea Leasure
Jose Ponce

Division 45

Elmer Adams
Jose Arguello
Marcus Bowling
Albino Bruno
Charles Cook
Francisco Duarte
Anthony Feller
Larry Gadd
Arnaldo Graneros
Fredy Martinez
David Miller
Mario Olivares
Donnie Richey
Ulices Sanabra
Terry White

Southwest Division

Jack Down
Richie Moreno

Minnkota Division

Shane Camozzi
Pedro Castillo
Lonnie Frank
Arthur Gilliland
Tim Hanson
Marlin King
Ted L'allier
Matt Ohr
Joel Radel
Antonio Soto
John Turner
Brent Watzel

(continued on page 10)



Central Division

John Bigham
Charles Boesenberg
Michel Foulks
Jerry Holder
Darin House
Jess Hout
Shawn Huffman
Ben Jacobs
Tim Kisner
David Maurer
Jeremy McColley
Issac McNown
Travis Patterson
David Rodman
David Stapleford
Michael Swisher
Robert Wilson
Ray Wolken

North Division

George Anderson
John Carne
Tim Cart
Jeffrey Gilmore
Mike Hebert
Larry Hoskins
Jakeb Meyer
Brian Morin
Lawrence Nickel
Loren Pruitt Jr
Duane Reich
Richard Reinel
Kevin Simmering
Debora Spoerke
William Wallen
Troy Webster

Mountain States Division

Jaime Gonzalez
Denis Green
Scott Schreiter

Division 45

Charles Baker
David Parker

Southwest Division

James Bushue
Bill Childress
John Childress
Dale Holleman
Noel Lopez
Jerrod Main
Rockford Miller

Minnkota Division

John Brezinsky

Jay Callahan
Richard Crowell
Alan Dobie
Steve Radel
Ron Royal
John Ruppert
Jim Sieverding



Central Division

Kevin Becker
Philip Boesenberg
Jeremy Buckholtz
Jonathan Cates
Aaron Cox
Tim Graham
Luke Grove
John Mains
James Martin
Daniel Roberson

North Division

Brian Bennett
Bret Chocholous
Chris Finch
Ken Hermanson
George Hess
Tim Monn
Randy Reynolds
Ernest Troxell
Thomas Winters

Mountain States Division

Guadalupe Bustos
Kathleen Chytka
Benedicto Moran
Manuel Rodriguez
Joe Valdez

Southwest Division

Mike Blain
Gary Claborn
Jimmy Hicks
Leisha Self

Minnkota Division

Carl Braatz
Brian King
Cory Kobernick
Randy Sterry



Central Division

Jeff Adams

Russell Burk
Lance Even
Shawn Huff
Michael Jud
David Lenning
Travis Platt
Todd Powers

North Division

Greg Arndt
Jonathon Davies
Troy Jacob
Richard Lemke
Dale Panas
Bruce Wuchterl

Mountain States Division

David Jensen
Bernal Joel Ojeda
William Sutherlin

Southwest Division

Leonardo Ponce
Lucko Self

Minnkota Division

Keith Gummeringer



Central Division

Andy Boyer
Jason Martin
Larry Peterson
Gary Randolph
John Rogers
Robert Selhaver

North Division

Mike Collins
Mike Euteneier
Brian Marion

Mountain States Division

Abel Bernal Flores

Southwest Division

Larry Elliott
Matt Silkey

Minnkota Division

Todd Discher
John Nyberg



Central Division

Lavernon Wright

North Division

Allan Bienemann
Kevin Jung
David Thomas
Tim Weber

Mountain States Division

Tim Jennings
William McCormick

Southwest Division

James Bennett

Minnkota Division

Landon Poppens



Central Division

Terry Brack
Steve Richey
Dennis Rubitsky
John Waring

North Division

Jay Hafemeister
Michael Kuhrt
Peter Nowicki

Mountain States Division

Roberto Lozano
Tobin Wood

Southwest Division

Mark Barber
Jeffrey Rhodes

Minnkota Division

Byron Stahl
Robert Tyson
Tracy Yahnke

Wow! 1,035 Employees

*Qualified For The Safety Incentive Award During
The First Quarter Of This Fiscal Year (10/04 - 12/04)*

25 YEARS

Herb Coy	North
Jerry Coy	North
Jim Engelke	Minnkota
Bob Lien	Minnkota
Randy Rempe	S.E.T.
Scott Schweisthal	Minnkota
Byron Stahl	Minnkota
Jeff J. Wood	North

20 YEARS

Wayne Fancher	North
Mitch Frye	Central
William Glander	North
Keith Gugel	Minnkota
Steve Hollister	North
Keith A. Smith	Minnkota
Gerald Vincent	North
Lois Ward	Home Office
James D. White	North

15 YEARS

Jim Campbell	Central
Dean Davolt	Central
O.J. Feay	Mt. States
Jay Hafemeister	North
Mike Kuhrt	North
Robert Steadman	Minnkota

10 YEARS

Tom Acker	Southwest
Bob Bumgardner	Central
Marcus Doppler	Minnkota
Scott Dundee	Central
Ray Flick	Central
Mark Fuhrman	Southwest
Rick Gaunt	Central
Troy Heinz	North
Trevor Jacob	North
Terry McGonegle	Home Office
Jeff Neis	Central

2005 Longevity Awards



Bob Myers
Home Office

Mark Nelson	Mt. States
John Nyberg	Minnkota
Norman Shultz	Minnkota
Robert Tyson	Minnkota
Tobin Wood	Mt. States

5 YEARS

George Anderson	North
John Atwood	Central
Kevin Becker	Central
Brian Bennett	North
Nathan Berge	North
Mike Blain	Southwest
John Brezinsky	Minnkota
Jeremy Buckholtz	Central
Tom Cady	Central
John Carne	North
Tim Cart	North
Kathleen Chytka	Mt. States
Keith Christianson	Minnkota
Crager Cook	Central
Aaron Cox	Central

Daniel Davies	North
Walter Derby	Mt. States
Brad Despot	Minnkota
Wardell Dicus	Central
Alan Dobie	Minnkota
Chris Dunn	Southwest
Wendy Eckhart	Home Office
Mike Ellis	North
Chris Finch	North
Michel Foulks	Central
Jeff Gilmore	North
Jerrad Garrett	Central
John Griffiths	WTC
Eric S. Gustafson	Central
Ken Hermanson	North
George Hess	North
Jim W. Hicks	Southwest
William Hillier	North
Larry Hoskins	North
Curt Houle	Minnkota
Darin House	Central
Brian King	Minnkota

Andy Klindt	WTC
Cory Kobernick	Division 45
Mitch Lillie	North
Noel Lopez	Southwest
Craig Lyles	North
Jerrod Main	Southwest
James L. Martin	Central
Brett McCully	North
Danny McMillen	North
Mike Mibbs	North
Tim Monn	North
Benedicto Moran	Mt. States
Brad Moreland	North
Adrian Oliver	Central
Mike Orzel	North
Mike Papenfuss	Minnkota
Don Parrish	North
Loren Pruitt, Jr.	North
Steve Radel	Minnkota
Randy Reynolds	North
Dan Roberson	Central
Manuel Rodriguez	Mt. States
Ron Royal	Minnkota
Shawn Salmon	North
Leisha Self	Southwest
Tim Skidmore	North
Tom Snyder	Central
Randy Sterry	Minnkota
Robert Stout	Mt. States
Matt Thesing	North
Gary Thorgerson	North
Ernest Troxell	North
Joe M. Valdez	Mt. States
Rusty Walker	North
William Wallen	North
Howard Weedon	Central
Tom Winters	North
Richard C. Wright	Central



"You gotta raise your kids WRIGHT!"
Division 45 Foreman Mike Kidd wrote this very appropriate caption for this photo of his five-year-old daughter, Brinn.



Could it be a new division office site? General Foreman Ken Venzke, Minnkota Division, caught this interesting shot when his crews were working for Minnesota Power. First row, left to right, Roger Carriere, Tim Hanson, Todd Shultz, Norman Shultz, Scott DeRosier, Brian Dempsey and Marlin King; back row, left to right, Shayne Kuhl, Dale Kuhl, Bob Femling, Joe DeRosier, John Millsop, Shawn Feld, Jeremy Mueller and Jerry Kern.

"Breaking The Ice"

*General Foreman Todd Reese And Nine Crews Answer A Call For Help From Kansas
(See story in News from the Branches)*



Standing, left to right, Ben Braafhart, Luke Sackett, Jeremy Cason, Tom Bertrand, Aric Hollingshead, Paul Giroux, Dave Meyer, Heath Huff, Rob Allen, Shawn Blanchard, Nate Pexa, Jeremy Smith, Caleb Weber, Jason Waugh, Rob Philipsen, Rick Bates and Troy Phillips; on truck, Jason Dix; kneeling, left to right, Chad Luckow and Butch Christianson.





These paintball enthusiasts are, left to right, David Setke and Christopher Dickson, nephew and son of North Division Foreman Virgil Dickson. Virgil tells us that he and his son, Trimmer Dean Dickson, and Trimmers Francisco Rangel and Reymundo Serrano also enjoy playing paintball on weekends in Kankakee IL.



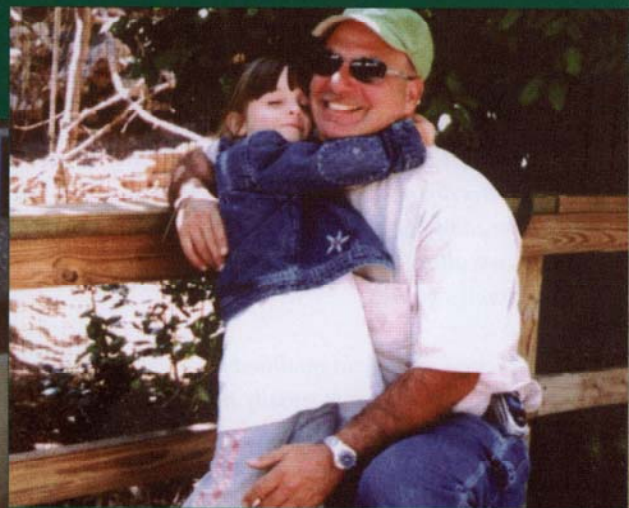
"The picturesque location made a cold day a little more tolerable," said North Division Foreman Tim Ladwein. The picture was taken along the Kankakee River east of Kankakee IL. Foreman Tom Petruszak was also involved in this job, along with Foreman Tim Kline (in the bucket).



When Southwest Division Supervisor Tim Bingaman was starting up a new contract for TXU Electric Delivery, Fort Worth TX, he put out the call to Oklahoma for some help in training new employees. Responding to the call were, left to right, Jimmy Brachna, Kwatee Cox, Shawn Decker, Mike Blain, Cary McNutt and Jerrod Main. Tim says he and Division Manager Roger Hagen really appreciated the help.



Minnkota Division Trimmer Josh Bult proudly displays his first big buck kill which was shot last November.



Mountain States Division General Foreman Bob Mongiello says "hello" to everyone from Albuquerque NM. Bob is a single dad with two daughters (Tori, age 5, is in picture) and three granddaughters.

Davis Law Firm And O'Halloran International Announce Award In Memory of John L. And

Two companies long associated with Wright Tree Service, the Davis Law Firm and O'Halloran International, Inc., have announced an award competition with the entrants vying for the **"John Wright Memorial Arbor Day Award."** Through the years at Wright Tree Service, both John L. and John R. believed in preserving trees as much as possible and both understood the importance of trees. In order to honor the memory of both John L. and

John R., this contest has been developed for the children and grandchildren of Wright Tree Service and Wright Tree Care to further their understanding of Arbor Day and to promote the significance of Arbor Day.

There are two divisions for the contest. The first division is open to children in grades 3 to 5. The second division is for children in grades 6 through 8. Children must submit their entry based on the grade they are in at the time the entry is submit-

ted. The entry must include the child's name, school, grade, the name of the parent or grandparent and the division or office where they work.

Contestants in grades 3-5 are to submit a drawing on the meaning of Arbor Day. Contestants in grades 6-8 are to submit a written report of 400 to 500 words, also on the importance of Arbor Day. But don't grab your crayons or sharpen your pencils yet. The contest does not begin until

September 1, 2005 and entries are due by December 16, 2005.

Winners will be announced on January 16, 2006 with the winning drawings and essays on display at the Annual Meeting Banquet in March. There will be three prizes in each division: 1st place, a \$500 savings bond; 2nd place, a \$300 bond; and 3rd place, a \$200 bond. A mailing with all of the details will be sent to all employees as the deadline of September 1st approaches.

Benefits

Expert Answers To Your Retirement Questions

Q: I'm concerned about saving money for my retirement, but I've got kids to put through college, too. Which should be my first priority?

A: *Cruel as it may sound, you AND your kids will be better off if you put retirement needs first, college savings second. Here's why: first, unlike qualified retirement plans, most options of saving for college are generally not tax-sheltered – meaning less of the money you save ultimately serves your savings goal.*

Second, money in qualified retirement plans is usually not counted as an asset when calculating your financial aid contribution – other investment assets generally are.

Third, there are no scholarships for retirees – when it comes to finding money, there are more options for college kids than senior citizens.

Finally, if you spend all your would-be retirement savings on sending your kids through college – leaving nothing for yourself – you wouldn't be giving them the gift of financially independent parents once they reach adulthood. And that can be a great gift indeed!

Q: I want to borrow money pretty quickly and my retirement plan looks like a good place to turn for a loan. After all, I'm not going to need that money for retirement right away.

A: *Whoa! First, make sure that loans are available from your plan. If so,*

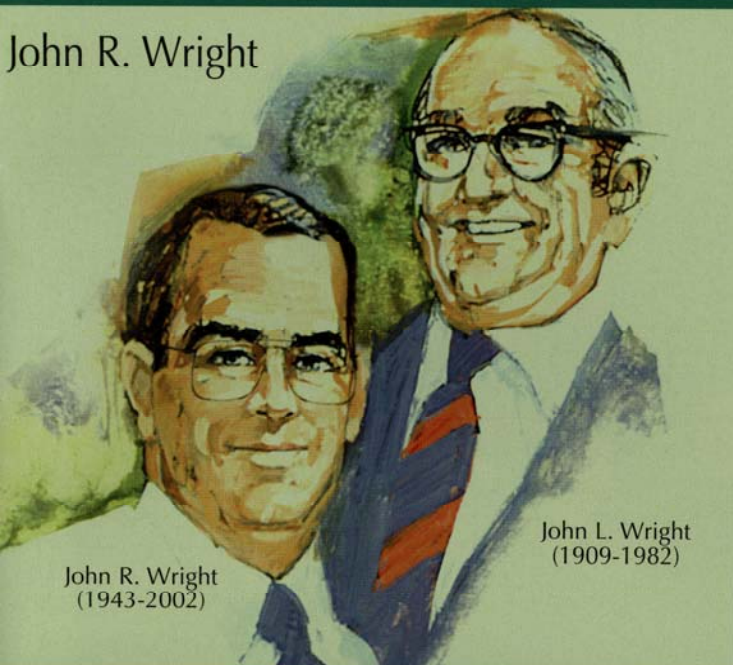
you will have to pay interest on the loan to yourself. Also, you will lose the tax-deferred compounding until you pay the money back. So, you could be better off taking out a home equity loan or a conventional loan. For more information on this option, visit www.principal.com

Q: We're new investors, and our first inclination was to put all of our retirement plan contributions in the safest investment option possible. But some friends of ours tell us the safest investments can actually be more risky because of inflation. How can this be?

A: *In a way, both you and your friends are right. First keep in mind that each type of investment carries particular risks – and benefits.*

"Stable" investment options usually have the least volatility, meaning they are less likely to take wide swings either high or low. The downside is that their longer-term returns may be lower than more risky options, which historically perform better over a longer period of time. In fact, the risk of putting all your money in such funds is that the rate of inflation could be greater than the returns earned on your money. If you're investing for the long term, you may want to consider a diverse mix of investments to even out the risks.

For more information, visit www.principal.com to complete the Investor Profile Quiz which will help you determine what level of risk for which you are best suited.



John R. Wright
(1943-2002)

John L. Wright
(1909-1982)

From the Kitchen

SPRINGTIME SALAD

By the time you read this, spring will be in full swing. And there's always food to prepare and delicious recipes waiting to be tried. Here is one we think you'll want to try. It's so easy and quick, it almost makes itself – and it is delicious!

1 small head of cauliflower, broken into small flowerets
2 cups seedless green grapes, sliced in half

Mix with: **1 cup mayo (regular or lite)**
2 cups sugar
2 teaspoons Dijon mustard
1 cup pecan pieces (or English walnuts)

After thoroughly mixing, let chill in the refrigerator before serving.

SALTED NUT ROLL

When Senior Accountant Wendy Eckhart brought this tasty dessert to the office, everyone who enjoyed a piece had to have the recipe. Try it and you'll see why!

1. Spray a 9"x13" pan with cooking spray, then cover with part of 16 oz. of peanuts.
2. Melt together: **1 can sweetened condensed milk**
1 10-12 oz. pkg. peanut butter chips
3 tablespoons butter
3. After the chips have all melted, stir in one 10 oz. bag of mini-marshmallows (try not to have them melt). Pour mixture over the peanuts lining the bottom of your pan. Add remaining peanuts on top. Note: Press the peanuts into the mixture. Spray your spatula and use it to press them down. Refrigerate and enjoy!

S.E.T. News

WTS Welcomes Two New Safety Supervisors

Miguel Duarte and **Nick Fox** have been named **Safety Supervisors** in the Safety, Education and Training Department (S.E.T.).

Miguel was previously a General Foreman in Indianapolis IN for Division 45. He brings training expertise as well as bilingual skills, speaking both English and Spanish. Miguel will continue to be working out of the Indianapolis area. Miguel and his wife Sandra have one child, Miguel, Jr.

Nick has worked in both the Central and Mountain States Divisions as a Foreman. Nick will be based in Ogden UT and working with crews in Utah, as well as Idaho, New Mexico and Wyoming.

Welcome to both Miguel and Nick.



Miguel Duarte



Nick Fox

Wright Tree Care News

By Linda Wright, President
Wright Tree Care



Meet our Tulsa employees. First row, left to right, Pete Burkett, Sales Manager, Adolfo Alonzo, Sarah Frock and Dale Hughes, Operations Manager; back row, Aaron Forrest, Bruce Williams, Mark Harwick, Bryan Merseburgh, Clay Bishop, Jon Haring & Jason Stinchcomb. Not pictured, Michael Worthington

Congratulations to **Ralph Conner** (Des Moines) for receiving his ISA Board Certified Master Arborist (BCMA) designation. Ralph is the only Master Arborist in Iowa and one of only four in the Midwestern Conference.

...

Our condolences to **Adolfo Alonzo** (Tulsa) on the loss of his wife Manuela who died of cancer in January. We're happy to see Adolfo back in Tulsa. We appreciate the temporary job opportunity that Wright Tree Service gave him while he was with Manuela at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN.

...

Congratulations to **Will Ekwall** (DM) and his wife Lori on the birth of their new baby boy, born in February. Kendall William entered the world as a big 8 lb., 8 oz. bundle of joy.

...

Can't remember a time they weren't with us, but **John Griffiths** and **Andy Klindt** (DM) have just received their five-year longevity awards. Congratulations to both – we're looking forward to having them with us for many more years.



Our newest employee, Tex, is a favorite with everyone but the UPS man (although we're working on that). He came to us by way of Texas, hence his name.

Family Clippings



WTS Vice President John Margeson is surrounded by three lovely ladies at the Annual Meeting Banquet. Left to right, Receptionist Donna White, John's wife Jennifer, and Administrative Assistant Carol Saltz.



Kyle Packard, son of President/CEO Scott Packard, who will graduate from The Citadel in May, recently received the Gen. Douglas McArthur Foundation award. The prestigious award is presented to outstanding cadets attending military colleges and schools in the U.S. Kyle, a Valley High School graduate, finished No. 1 among 350 students in his regiment at the Army's Leadership Development and Assessment Course last summer. Our congratulations to Kyle on his outstanding achievements.


Human Resources Director Julie Chapman, left, and Benefits Administrator Michelle Eggleston were accompanied by their husbands at the Annual Meeting Banquet, Tom Chapman and Kevin Eggleston.



Meet Dennis Dean who has joined WTS as a Computer Programmer. Dennis and his wife Marilyn live in Urbandale IA. They have two grown children, Kevin, 26, and Jessica, 21. Dennis is an electric train enthusiast and continues to expand his layout.

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

 printed on recycled paper

