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"An Employee Owned Company"

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Pictured above (I-r): MMUSA president and GTD employee Dave Bean, State Senator Judy Emmons, and State Representative Rick Outman.

MID-MICHIGAN UNITED SPORTSMAN'S ALLIANCE AWARD

In October of this year, State Senator Judy Emmons and State Representative Rick Outman, presented the Mid-Michigan United Sportsman's Alliance with the 2015 Montcalm Conservation District Partner of the Year Award, recognizing the MMUSA's vital contributions and crucial role in educating the community about wildlife and conservation related issues.

In recognizing the award, The State of Michigan, also presented a Special Tribute to the Mid-Michigan United Sportsman's Alliance.

GTD employees Dave Bean, Jeff Waite, and retired employee Steve Foster are all members of this 501(c)(3) organization. Dave, Jeff, and Steve are all founding members of the organization, started in 2007. Dave has served as president of the board since the beginning.

Currently the group has over 140 members.

MMUSA also uses it resources for the preservation of our local hunting, fishing, and fur harvesting opportunities. They promote good sportsmanship, hunter ethics, sound wildlife management, and habitat improvement. A major focus of the organization is to educate the youth of our community about the outdoors and the natural resources. They have established two \$1,000 annual scholarships and sponsor many local camps and events in the Montcalm area. In addition to this, they also provide grants to the Montcalm Conservation District to assist with a number of projects and services.

Congratulations to the MMUSA on this award, we offer our thanks and best wishes for your continued success.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

We would like to take this opportunity to wish the following GTD employees a Happy Birthday on:

DECEMBER

2	Marv Doezema
2	Tim Adkinson
13	Alex VanderHoek
14	Johnathon West
14	Jeremy Schaap
18	Gordon Garvey
21	Terry Miller
25	Tristen Potter
29	Dan Pitch
30	Josh Bailey

SAFETY & SUGGESTION COMMITTEE

John West Brent Hoffman Travis Colter Pat Kloostra

The Safety & Suggestion Committee met on Wednesday, November 25, 2015 at 3:30 p.m. in the large conference room.

BLOOD DRIVE

We had another successful turnout for our November Red Cross Blood Drive with 44 donors. Several reaching milestones with their donations were:

Marty Bush 10 Gallons Ted Murray 6 Gallons Phil Rewa 2 Gallons

Our next Red Cross Blood Drive will be Tuesday, January 12 from 12:30 pm until 5:45 pm.

TOOL BITS ANNIVERSARY

November marks the 49th anniversary of this monthly newsletter, the "Tool Bits". Started by the late Bob Augustine, the newsletter was named in a contest won by Gladys Smith, the wife of long time employee, the late George Smith. After Augustine, came editors, Kent Slater, Steve Foster, and then myself for the past year.



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ICEMAN COMETH CHALLENGE



GTD employee Dave Hendricks (left) recently competed in his 4th consecutive Iceman Cometh Challenge. This was the 26th year of the event which features a 30 mile point to point mountain bike

race from Kalkaska to Traverse City, Michigan. It is held traditionally on the first Saturday of November each year. More than 4,100 cyclist participated in this year's event. Dave cut 16 minutes off his previous best time, completing the race in 2:55:26. Dave still feels there is room to make improvements in that time and that's his goal for next year's race. Weather conditions this year Dave described as the best ever that he has ridden in. Dave began biking in the spring of 2011, competitively biking in 2012. He thoroughly enjoys the outdoor activity and has met many new people while doing so. The sense of accomplishment, improvement, and having fun are what Dave enjoys, and that also is what drives him to do it again next year.



ALASKA MISSION TRIP

GTD employee Caleb Green spent two weeks this summer traveling to Port Alsworth, Alaska as part of a mission team through the Blythefield Hills Baptist Church located in Rockford, Michigan. The mission team spent more than 6 hours of flight time from Grand Rapids, Michigan to Minneapolis, Minnesota to Anchorage, Alaska. From Anchorage they boarded a bush plane that took 1 1/2 hours to land in Port Alsworth. Caleb was one of many cabin leaders at Tanalian Bible Camp, reaching out to the more than 70 native youth campers. Their goal is to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ to the people of southwest Alaska, and also to show love and care for the campers who may otherwise never experience that kind of compassion. Caleb's faith and desire to spread the word of God per the Great Commission is what inspired him to go on this mission trip. Caleb shared that the experience was very humbling, as well as a little bit of culture shock for him, but yet very rewarding and a joy to minister to the campers. In addition to that Caleb said the scenery was indescribable. Caleb is hoping to return to Tanalian Bible Camp sometime in the near future. For more information on the camp visit: www.tanalianbiblecamp.org



Caleb Green (above, back row center) poses breifly before



Caleb Green (back row, 5th from left) joins other cabin leaders one last time before departing Tanalian Bible Camp in Port Alsworth, Alaska

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