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The Monthly Newsletter Of  
**GREENVILLE TOOL & DIE**  
1215 S. Lafayette  
P.O. Box 310  
Greenville, Michigan 48838  
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

# Tool Bits

September  
2018

VOLUME 52 No. 9 "An Employee Owned Company" ISO-9001:2008 REGISTERED

## 46<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL DANISH FESTIVAL



Greenville Tool & Die Company is a proud sponsor of the Danish Festival and supporter of the community of Greenville.



Designers & Builders of High Quality Stamping Dies Since 1946

**GREENVILLE TOOL & DIE**

Dale A. Hartway, CEO Laura Baker, Editor  
1215 S. Lafayette, P.O. Box 310, Greenville, Michigan 48838  
Phone: (616) 754-5693 Fax: (616) 754-5500 Website: www.gtd.com

## JON GIGOWSKI RETIRES



Jon Gigowski officially retired from Greenville Tool & Die this past May after more than 29 years of service.

Born in Illinois, around the age of 2 his family moved to the Lakeview area. This is where Jon would be raised and attend school. Graduating from Lakeview High School, he played sports and had several part-time jobs. About 6 months after graduation, Jon joined the United States Marine Corp. He became a motor vehicle operator, and it is here that his superiors were impressed with his skills and promoted him to instructor. As instructor Jon led the first formal motor vehicle transport school in the armed services for the next 4 ½ years. After spending 1 ½ years overseas, and marrying his wife Cindi, Jon concluded 10 years of active duty by joining the active reserve and returned to Michigan.

On January 10, 1989, Jon took a job with the former Tomco Tool & Die Company in Belding. Jon had said that he did not have a clue what he was getting into, but had a family, needed a job, and was willing to accept the challenge of a new career. Jon and Cindi have three daughters; Cristal, Megan, and Jaimee.

Jon completed his apprenticeship program and chose to specialize in the machining area. After a few years he became CNC manager at Tomco. After Greenville Tool purchased Tomco in 2003, Jon continued his machining expertise here, particularly with our larger mills. In January of 2017 Jon became of Night shift Mill Forman.

Jon has been active in his community, coordinating the Marines Toys for Tots program. He also served on the GTD fundraising committee for several years. Jon is active in his church, plays the guitar, mandolin, and sings in a local Bluegrass band. Jon has a small engine repair certification and enjoys restoring old cars. In fact, Jon restored a 1929 Ford Model A Tudor that his father Albert had purchased in the 1960's for \$100 and gave to Jon in 2003. Jon has restored this vehicle to "mint" condition.

Jon, thank you for your many years of service to Greenville Tool & Die, and more importantly thank you for your many years of serving our country in the Marines.

## WELCOME TO GTD



Please join us in welcoming our new co-operative student learner Ashton Ingersoll. Ashton is a junior at Greenville High School.

## BLOOD DRIVE



American  
Red Cross

Together, we can save a life

Our next Red Cross Blood Drive will be held on **Tuesday, September 11<sup>th</sup>**, from 12:30pm - 5:45pm.

## GTD FLU SHOT CLINIC

**Tuesday, September 18, 2018**  
2:15 - 5:15pm



GTD employees/retirees, your spouse, and your children are eligible for onsite flu shots. Please contact Rich Ring in Human Resources for more information or to schedule an appointment.

## ANNUAL HEARING TEST



Employee Hearing Test  
**Monday, September 24, 2018**

REMINDER: For accurate testing, please use hearing protection over the weekend prior to the test.

## SAFETY & SUGGESTION

Safety & Suggestion Meeting  
**Wednesday, September 26, 2018**  
3:30pm

September committee members are:

Josh Bailey Macade Paulson  
John Senn Mike Smith

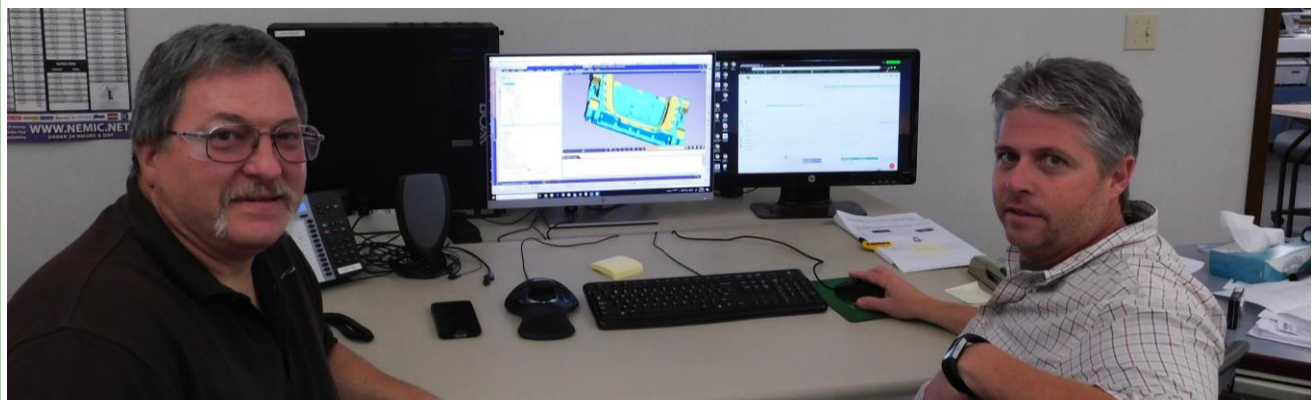


## A DOZEN GOOD MEN



Thank you, retirees, for sharing this picture. Left front to back: Ron Brimmer, Dennis Guernsey, Bruce Rozell, Cliff Proctor, Dick Rittersdorf, and Dan Badge. Right front to back: Frank Selleck, Toby Ingraham, Steve Foster, George King, Rick Hillman, and Dick Grimm. GTD retirees meet the first Wednesday of each month, 9 am, at Turk Lake Restaurant.

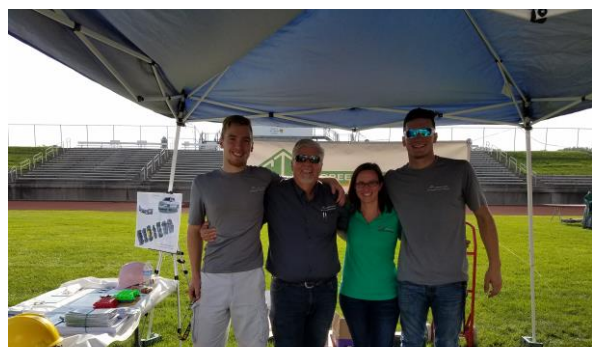
## MACC INSTRUCTOR VISITS GTD



Mr. Mike Johnson, new CAD and Engineering instructor at Montcalm Area Career Center visited GTD on Monday August 27<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Johnson (left) is pictured above with Tony Walker (right) learning more about CNC programming. Thank you to Mark Heintzelman, Derrick Baker, Ken Selleck and Tony Walker for taking time out of their busy day to help bridge the gap between the classroom and industry.



## Greenville's Back to School



Branden Luscher, Rich Ring, Mandy Christian, and Connor Somerfield worked the booth during Greenville Public School's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Block Party at Legacy Field.



Vendors included local organizations, clubs, businesses, civic and non-profit groups, and GPS programs.



Even some princesses came to party. Games, activities, food & special give-a-ways were available free of charge for all attendees.



Restaurants provided a "Taste of Greenville" sampling. Exciting vehicles from fire engine to farm tractors offered a Touch-A-Truck demonstration.



While passing out notebooks, folders, pencils, and glue sticks, our Human Resource Director, Rich Ring, used the opportunity to spark interest in the tool & die trade.



GTD gave away school supplies to nearly five hundred students who stopped in to see us. It was wonderful to witness the community come together for such a great event!





## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Fred Murray and the former Jessica Lamb who were married on July 19<sup>th</sup>.

Congratulations to Kris VanOcker and the former Kaitlin Barth who were married on August 11<sup>th</sup>.

Best wishes to both newlywed couples for a long and happy life together.



Congratulations to Drew and Bridget Nielsen on the birth of their son, Lincoln James. Lincoln was born on July 31<sup>st</sup> at 6 pounds, 13 ounces and 20 inches long.

## REMEMBER WHEN



In this picture from the September 1988 Toolbits, GTD retiree Karen Pierantoni flaunts one of five new PC's we envisioned would eventually handle most of our accounting functions, purchasing, personnel records, vendor information and inventory, as well as expand our Cad/Cam capabilities. Today GTD has 27 workstations in engineering, roughly 34 out in the shop, and 14 administrative offices containing PCs' all with dual screens.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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

### SEPTEMBER

1.....Joel Palmer  
3.....Larry Ruthruff  
5.....Mandy Christian  
5.....Ross Cusack  
5.....Jack Hansing  
9.....Ted Bush  
9.....Mike Parker  
13.....Gavin Tift  
13.....Teagan Heether  
16.....Drew Nielsen  
16.....Jeremy Payne  
17.....Derrick Baker  
17.....Matt Edwards  
21.....Tony Bannen  
23.....Roger Rasmussen  
24.....Caleb Green  
26.....Justin Ross  
28.....Zach Winters  
29.....AJ Selleck  
29.....Brian Bello-Munoz  
30.....Ted Murray



## NEW APPRENTICE



Congratulations to Ben Cooper who was recently hired full time into our apprenticeship program. Ben is a 2018 graduate of Ionia High School. We wish him the very best as he works toward obtaining his journeyman certification.

## CLEAN-UP GREENVILLE



Co-op students Brennon Smith (pictured left) and JW Hansing (pictured right) along with co-op coordinator Terry Miller (not shown) cleaned up the Fred Meijer Trail from Baldwin Street to Fairplains Street. This is the 6th year GTD has participated in the "Clean-up Greenville" campaign. This year the clean-up was completed on August 10<sup>th</sup>, just in time for the Danish Festival celebration.

## James William Elkins



November 1, 1935 -  
August 26, 2018

Our deepest condolences to the many friends and family of Jim Elkins. Jim retired from GTD on Dec. 31, 1994 after over 40 years of service. He was a great man and will be missed.