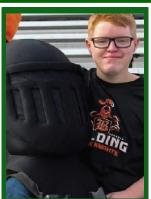


VOLUME 54 No. 6

"An Employee Owned Company"

# **GTD COOPERATIVE STUDENTS CLASS OF 2020**





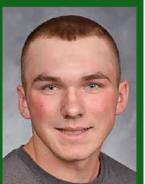




DEVYN HUBBARD Greenville High School



ASHTON INGERSOLL Greenville High School



JOHN MALLORY Greenville High School



ZACHARIAH **POWERS Belding High School** 

## **GTD DAUGHTERS AND SONS CLASS OF 2020**



JAZLYN BAILEY Greenville High School Daughter of Josh Bailey



ADELE **BATEMAN** Walled Lake Northern HS Daughter of Travis Colter



Daughter of Ken Bradley



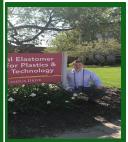
BRENDAN CAVERLEY Greenville High School Son of Matt Caverley



**Davenport University** Daughter of Mike Davis



KYAH **FISHER** Central Montcalm HS Daughter of Neal Fisher



AUSTIN GARNSAY Ferris State University Son of Joe Garnsay



KRISTYN HENDRICKS Ferris State University Daughter of Dave Hendricks



KRISTINA ROUSSEAU Montcalm Community College Daughter of Dennis Brasingtor



KARTER SENN Greenville High School Son of John Senn



JACQUELYN **TEEGARDIN** Central Montcalm HS Daughter of Jody Teegardin

MEGAN WINTERS

Ferris State University Daughter of Joe Winters



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GREENVILLE TOOL&DIE

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#### **INDEPENDENCE DAY**

In observance of Independence Day Greenville Tool & Die will be closed on Thursday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> at 4pm and Friday, July 4<sup>th</sup>. As we celebrate our nation's freedom, we honor the courageous men and women dedicated to preserving it.



# **QUARTER CENTURY OF SERVICE**



Gaven Tift was the 98<sup>th</sup> employee to reach 25 years of service at Greenville Tool & Die on June 12<sup>th</sup>. Born and raised in Grand Rapids, Gaven is the son of James Tift and Sheril Johnson. He has three siblings Michael Johnson, Amy Vanhaitsma, and Cory Larson. The last two years of grade school, Gaven switched from the Grand Rapids school district to attend and graduate from Belding High School in 1995. At sixteen years old Gaven was working at the only other job he has ever had; McDonald's. Gaven said he actually took a small pay cut after he quit to become a cooperative student learner with Greenville Tool & Die. We are glad he made that decision. In 2000 Gaven earned

certification as a journeyman diemaker from Montcalm Community College and the US Department of Labor. He was certified as a die designer in 2004. Over the years Gaven has seen a lot of changes. When asked about what stands out he mentioned how far we have come with everything being computerized now, "These days jobs are much closer to closure before they even hit the shop floor." When he is not working as a die designer in our engineering department, Gaven enjoys bowling and golfing. He said "GTD has always been a good place to work." Sometimes necessary changes are a frustrating process and not an event, but we can always count on our co-workers. In fact, it is common to find them looking out for each other both at work and outside of work. Thank you Gaven, for 25 years of service to Greenville Tool & Die.



Kenny Haines was the 99<sup>th</sup> employee to reach 25 years of service at Greenville Tool and Die on June 12<sup>th</sup>. He is a lifelong resident of Montcalm county born in Belding, graduating from Greenville High School, and living in Sheridan. Kenny and his sister Anna were raised by their mother Anna Haines, yet the credit of his upbringing goes to his grandmother, Edith Haines. Kenny began his career with GTD as a cooperative student when he was 18 years old. He is an incredibly hard worker whose strength has been a valuable asset to the company ever since. Kenny handles heavy materials with ease and never backs down from any task asked of him. You might have noticed the grass is greener at Greenville Tool & Die and for around 15 years

Kenny was responsible for it. After removing all rocks and sticks he meticulously mowed patterns that could rival professional landscapers. Kenny used to really enjoy bike riding, however in 2002 he was in an automobile accident that left him with some lifelong injuries and unable to ride. It did not stop him from coming to work. He has fabricated himself a sharp chrome skull cane and puts in overtime every week. When asked about the changes he has seen over the past 25 years Kenny commented on the floor space which has at least doubled. "Everything is bigger and better." Also, the advancements in the computer system which maintains shipping and receiving. "These days we know exactly what is coming and going. Once upon a time you might have spent half the day looking for a part only to discover it had already been shipped out." Kenny said his favorite thing about GTD is easily the people. Not only has he made great friends here, Kenny says his coworkers have always treated him like family. Thank you Kenny, for 25 years of service to Greenville Tool & Die.

#### **QUARTER CENTURY OF SERVICE**



Brad Throop was the **100**<sup>th</sup> employee to reach 25 years of service at Greenville Tool and Die on June 19<sup>th</sup>. Brad was raised in Vestaburg and is the son of Allen and Chervl Throop. He has three brothers: Arden, Brian, and Scott, and one sister, Alice. Before graduating from Vestaburg High School, Brad was a Junior Pre-Apprentice with Greenville Tool and Die. Apprentices earn an hourly salary and elective credit toward their high school diploma. Brad additionally earned college credits toward the completion of his apprenticeship. Brad graduated from high school in 1995, earned certification as a journeyman diemaker from Montcalm Community College and the US Department of Labor in 1999, and as a die designer in in 2001.

Since then he has gained experience in nearly every aspect of the die making process. In addition to spending several years working in the shop, Brad has also worked in engineering, toolpath, design, and surfacing. With all the knowledge he has obtained, Brad became a perfect fit for the position he currently holds; Project Engineer/Program Manager. Brad and his wife Amy have two children Emily (15) and Logan (12). Brad enjoys hunting, fishing, and sports, but he said his favorite pastime is time with his family. He has taken great joy in getting to coach many of his children's ball teams. That quality time is as important to Brad as quality work. When asked about what has motivated Brad at Greenville Tool and Die for the last quarter of a century, Brad commented on the people here. GTD has a great staff and Brad has been continuously impressed by the perseverance of all of them. Whether facing challenging jobs or even the economic recession of 2008, this company manages to produce quality work and that is because of a great team who always rise to the occasion. Thank you Brad, for 25 years of service to Greenville Tool & Die.



Derrick Baker was the 101<sup>st</sup> employee to reach 25 years of service at Greenville Tool and Die on June 28<sup>th</sup>. Derrick is the son of Jeff Baker, Dana Willard, and Mike Willard. He attended Central Montcalm High School where he took machine shop class with Bruce Rozell. In his senior year he began a co-op with GTD, however Derrick accepted full time employment with Tomco Tool & Die in 1994. When Greenville Tool & Die purchased Tomco in 2003, Derrick returned to Greenville. In 2012 he transferred from the shop to engineering and now works in simulation and surfacing. Things have certainly changed since he started, Derrick said no one used simulation and we still used duplicators. Machining and engineering have both had

vast improvements as well. Derrick and his wife Cari have two sons Tyler (19) and Chase (21). Chase is following in Derrick's footsteps and has been an apprentice with GTD the past few years. When he isn't working, Derrick enjoys camping with his family and riding their side by side. When asked about why he has remained in the tool and die trade he sarcastically gave the most honest answer; "It's a little late to start over now." Truly Derrick shares the sentiments of all our quarter century club, "It is the people who work at GTD." Even the toughest jobs are easier when everyone works hard to accomplish goals together. Thank you Derrick, for 25 years of service to Greenville Tool & Die.

#### **COMPLETION OF APPRENTICESHIP**

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY



July 25 & July 26

## #RelayWhereYouAreMontcalm

Tag Relay For Life of Montcalm County in your posts and show us how you are Relaying at home!

www.RelayForLife.org/MontcalmCountyMi

Last year, the money raised by the Relay for Life helped the American Cancer Society do more than fund breakthrough research. The ACS was also able to give nearly 29,000 cancer patients free rides to chemo, provided more than 27,000 people with a free place to stay near hospitals, and gave answers and support to 1.42 million people who reached out through their live 24/7 helpline. This year Covid-19 has changed the way we Relay, but with everyone's support, we can make sure the fight to end cancer

doesn't stop. While the event scheduled at the Montcalm County Fairgrounds has been cancelled, the ACS will be hosting a virtual event this year. We can still show our unwavering support to Team Wheeler's Walkers by making a donation. Please see Mici Bos, Joe Hoy, or Jeff Waite to donate. Follow the event, join the endurance walker challenge, participate in a virtual auction, or share pictures of how you and your family are keeping the spirit of Relay alive from the safety of your home on Relay for Life Of Montcalm County's Facebook page: www.facebook.com/rflmontcalm/



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