



CONNECTIONS



CEO Corner

A successful fundraiser for "Dino Rossi for Governor" was recently hosted at UMC on April 30th. It was attended by other contractors, colleagues of UMC and employees. Dino spent the evening talking one-on-one with those present as well as speaking to the group on the changes he is going to implement to improve the life, economy and future of all Washington residents. He had many exciting yet realistic solutions to problems that plague Washington State, i.e. the Alaskan Way Viaduct, the economy, taxes, education, transportation, the budget deficit. By the people of this state electing Dino Rossi as Governor, it will be the beginning of great opportunities for all of us and the generations to come!

The results of the Employee Survey were sent to employees with email access on April 30th. As stated in the email, "Many positive aspects of working for UMC were identified... as well as areas that need to be improved upon." Rest assured that our Leader Group has high expectations for UMC and is consistently trying to improve and develop ways to continue to value employees and also attract new talent when needed. Again, if you still have questions or concerns, you can talk to any of the committee members - Tom Boysen, Kirk Baisch, Dean Petterson or Dave Babington.

I have commented on the local, national and global economy in the last few newsletters. We are starting to see the effects of the economic slow down we keep hearing about. While UMC has a healthy backlog, we are experiencing

more competition and more competitive pricing in the marketplace. A recent headline in the Everett Herald declared that the recent bidding wars are a "Boon" for the city. Stating that the contractors low on work are cutting their prices and beating the city engineer's estimates - this is not typically viewed as a good sign. All we can do is the best we can do. UMC's biggest advocate is the work that we do. As long as we continue to improve productivity, provide quality work, and put in 100% effort, we will weather any storm. We have done it before.

-Jerry Bush

Safety

Safety Teamwork

An element of the UMC safety culture is that all accidents are preventable. An accident results from a particular series of events, actions and conditions. If the series is interrupted and corrected, then the accident will not happen. UMC management and supervision have the responsibility to provide a safe working environment, to provide training and planning, and to foster a team environment so that our crews perform work safely.

- Each individual worker also has responsibility for safety.
- Each must utilize all necessary personal protective equipment and safety devices for the task at hand.
- Each must perform all work according to safe work practices and refrain from

unsafe acts that may endanger themselves, co-workers, or the public.

- Each worker must participate in safety meetings, and other gatherings that provide the opportunity to discuss and provide feedback regarding safety issues and workplace conditions.
- Each crew member must function as part of the safety team.

A critical element of each worker's responsibility is to correct or report any unsafe conditions that they see on the jobsite. From small housekeeping issues like electric cords in the pathway to more significant conditions like inadequate tie-offs for fall protection, each worker has the responsibility to recognize the hazard and get it corrected. This is an essential part of being a member of the safety team. **UMC management authorizes each worker to stop any work that is being done in an unsafe manner. This is not simply a right; it is the responsibility of each worker to stop unsafe work. If each worker meets this responsibility, then we can achieve our goal of zero accidents.**

STAR Performer-May **RALPH WRIGHT**



One of the founding STAR Performers, Ralph Wright passed away a couple weeks ago at 95. This means he was born before UMC started and was the Chief Financial Officer from just after WWII to the early 1970's. Ralph helped transition the company to the Granston's and then served on the board of MCA. There will be a Memorial Service for Ralph on May 18.

New Hires



Bryan King started working for UMC April 21st as a Drafter, reporting to Curtis Watson. Bryan's last position was with Insight Engineering Company as a CAD Technician for three years. Prior to this he was a CAD Drafter for Electrocom, Process Solutions and Pinnacle Consulting Group. Bryan has ten years of drafting experience. Bryan enjoys watching Seahawk football, chasing his kids, and hiking in the Cascades.



Antonio Fernandez started working for UMC April 21st as a Network Administrator. Antonio's last position was with Wizard International Inc as an IT Network Assistant, where he has worked the past 9 years. Antonio enjoys biking, playing soccer and watching movies.

Birthdays

May

- 5 CV Nguyen
- 5 Gail Kinner
- 15 Steve Otis
- 19 Rene Soucy
- 22 Craig Strugar
- 25 David Malone
- 26 Rich Happel
- 28 Tom Boysen
- 29 Sean Cavanaugh

June

- 13 Linda Pelletier
- 18 Rich Munoz
- 21 Catherine Waldren
- 24 Steve Russo
- 24 Konstantin Aluf
- 24 Terry Schultz

Anniversaries



5 years

Rick Davison

Calendar of Events



August

9th-Company Picnic (Juanita Park)

September

7th-Golf Tournament (Harbour Point Golf Course)

October

30th-Halloween Party

December

12th-Santa Party

January, 2009

10th-Holiday Party (Red Lion, Bellevue)

Local Food, Coat & Blanket Drives

A collection can is located in the kitchen for non-perishable food items benefiting the local food banks. Shelf supplies are getting low! In addition to any non-perishable food items, the food banks would greatly appreciate the following:

- PEANUT BUTTER
- COLD CEREAL
- JAM
- FLOUR/SUGAR
- COFFEE
- TUNA/CANNED CHICKEN
- PASTA
- CANNED FRUIT

The winter coat and blanket drive is going on and donations can be placed in the box in the kitchen labeled "Coat and Blanket Drive". The donations will be given to the Gospel Mission on June 30th.

Susan G. Komen PINK HAMMER

In support of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, UMC has purchased these great hammers (following page) to support this worthy cause. Girls, you can purchase your "PINK" hammer for only \$17 or Guys, you can buy one (or more) for the "women" in your life (wife, mother, daughter, grandmother, aunt, etc.)!

The portion of the money collected from the purchase of these hammers for this fundraiser will be donated to Breast Cancer 3-Day.

Please contact Toni Adams or Marj Schmidt for your "PINK" hammer today and support the Susan G. Komen Foundation.

Hammer Out Breast Cancer!

ONLY

\$17



Susan G. Komen
Pink Hammer
(13oz.)



Magnetized
groove picks nail
in place!

A great hammer for a great cause!

- Lightweight but tough enough to get the job done
- Comfortable rubber grip
- Single handed nailing
- Magnetized nail groove picks up AND holds nail in place
- \$8 from each sale goes directly to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation



UMC has secured 11 more parking spaces beginning Monday, May 12 from Tone Commander in the adjacent parking lot to our building. "Reserved Parking" signs in front of the stalls will designate which are UMC's. Below is a schematic design of the new parking spaces which are labeled 1-11. For your safety, please walk around the parking lot to UMC in order to avoid an accident or injury by cutting through the trees.

The lack of parking is continuing to be an issue for employees, so this is a short-term solution to the problem. With the rising gas prices and as an alternative to running out of parking, another option may be for employees to "carpool" to work. You can let Marj Schmidt know if you are interested in carpooling as she will be keeping a list of those interested to geographically "match" up riders.

ADDITIONAL PARKING

