2018 Holiday Gatherings

Great Lakes, Great Southern, and Process Systems gathered in Sterling Heights, Michigan to celebrate the season and a great year. Huge thank you to Donna Adrian for organizing a fantastic night!

All three companies get together for a group photo.

The Great Lakes group. Front row, left to right: Dan Csomos, Scott Boone, Danielle Adrian, Mike Jones, Scott Mezuk, John King, Donna Adrian, Joe Zach. Second row, left to right: John Gall, Marv Filas, Ed Adams, Ryan Miller.

Ruthman Companies President, Thomas G. Ruthman, accompanied by Mike Jones (left) and Ed Adams (right).
More Holiday Gatherings at Gusher

Gusher’s Northern Kentucky and Ruthman Companies’ Cincinnati office employees celebrated the year with an annual holiday lunch. Gusher’s Jennifer Conrad did an excellent job coordinating as usual!

Employees were treated to a delicious catered lunch.

Tim Vallandingham, who retired earlier this year from his role as Vice President of Gusher manufacturing, was presented with a clock by Gusher GM Tim McClanahan, in recognition of his 52 years of service to the Ruthman Companies.

A crowd of well-wishers gathered to say hello to Tim. It was obvious the tremendous impact Tim has had on everyone who worked at Gusher.

The poinsettias decorating the tables were raffled off, with one going to ‘Joe the Tester’.

Joe Edwards, Gusher’s well-known pump testing technician, chatted with Ruthman Companies President, Thomas G. Ruthman, as they wait their turn in line.
The Ruthman family of companies and their employees wish you a happy and safe holiday season. We hope it allows for the creation of many future memories with family and friends.

We thank you wholeheartedly for your support and efforts on our behalf.

2018 was a very good year for the Ruthman companies despite the loss of and retirement of several beloved employees. During 2018, we continued significant and worthwhile process improvements, cost reductions, and marketing incentives. Personnel additions were a big part of our year and we believe we were very lucky in filling several very important positions with well-qualified and effective people.

We look forward to 2019 and firmly believe it will be a very exciting year for Ruthman Companies as we continue significant improvements. We’re glad you are a part of our family!
Lisa Wallner has joined Ruthman Companies as Director of Marketing. Lisa comes to Ruthman from Halma Holdings, where she managed PR and content marketing for a diverse group of industrial, scientific, and health companies. She has created a variety of written content for industry trade journals, photographed product in the studio and the field, produced promotional and training videos, and managed social media.

Based out of Ruthman Companies’ Cincinnati Headquarters, Lisa will be responsible for consolidating the marketing activities for all Ruthman’s brands, delivering high quality consistent content to raise brand awareness. She will spend the first months of 2019 getting to know Ruthman products, customers, and marketing needs.

Lisa can be reached at: LWallner@RuthmanCompanies.com; 513-559-1901.

Lisa lives in northern Cincinnati with her husband Mike and her 10-year-old son Cooper. When she is not working, she enjoys reading and stretching her creative skills via Pinterest.

A Sporty New Vehicle

Christoph Kubiciel sent in this picture of Ruthmann Pumpen’s sharp new Ford Tourneo service truck.
A Successful PRI Show in Indianapolis

In December, Gusher’s Gary Smith and Scott Smith spent three days immersed in the excitement of the Performance Racing Industry’s annual show, representing Ruthman Companies. Thousands of motorsports enthusiasts descended on Indianapolis for the world’s largest racing trade show.

PRI showcases the latest advances in racing products and race engineering. Professional teams, from NASCAR Cup to NHRA Top Fuel, and even international race circuits, connect with the vendors that can give them the edge in capturing the checkered flag. Ruthman’s exhibit was situated in Machinery Row, a hall dedicated to precision automotive machining equipment. Manufacturers of this equipment use Ruthman pumps and valves for reliable operation of its parts washing cycles.

While parts washing is Ruthman’s primary interest in PRI, this year brought some unique application possibilities in engine dyno pumps, diesel fuel transfer, and dirt track watering. The sales team is busy following up, quoting products from Ruthman divisions Gusher, BSM, PSI, and Fulflo.

The motor of a Gusher 7800 series pump is visible on this Axe Equipment Spraywasher. Axe is a longtime user of Gusher Pumps, and one of many OEM customers exhibiting at PRI.

Gusher GM Tim McClanahan stopped by for the day to check out the exhibits.

Gusher’s Gary and Scott talk pump solutions with show visitors.
Streamlining the Stamped Stainless Line

We recently visited with Clyde Caldwell who manages the Stamped Stainless series of stand-alone and immersible multistage pumps at Gusher Williamstown. Clyde has been focused on re-organizing the department to better control inventory. He enjoys the possibilities, variety and different applications of the line, and working with customers to solve their application challenges.

Clyde points out this custom discharge, added to this GMVCP model. A special stainless steel adapter was custom engineered at the Gusher factory for a customer’s special intake application.

The Gusher Stainless Multi Stage pumps are used to increase the supply pressure for spray systems, water circulation, pressure cleaning, and a variety of other applications.

Starting out in assembly at Gusher Williamstown, Clyde has been with Gusher since 2012. He has also gained experience working with customers in the field with Jim Clayton and Rick Yelton of Ruthman Pump Repair and Service. When not working he enjoys his family and takes his fishing very seriously!
In November, Carpenter Technologies/Latrobe Specialty Steel installed two new Deming vertical line shaft turbine pumps in its Latrobe, Pennsylvania facility. Industrial automation distributor The 84 Group sold and managed the installation of the model 12X-900, 25hp, 1800 rpm self-sealing VLST pumps, which replaced a set of Floway turbines.

“This is a repeat Ruthman Companies customer,” explained The 84 Group’s Dave Polcha. “The first turbines were installed over 6 years ago – the Deming H-14, 200 hp, self-seal model. They have been running without incident ever since!”

Carpenter/Latrobe was so pleased with the reduction in maintenance on the self-seal turbines that they are planning to upgrade all of their turbines to this design. The company has a strong history with Ruthman Companies pumps. Over the years, the facility has installed Gusher brand horizontal end suction, vertical pit, self-priming, and machine tooling pumps, as well as several Deming turbine pumps.

“It is very rare to see another brand pump in this plant!” noted Dave. “The success of the turbine pump installations was made possible through the outstanding help of Paul Boles of PSI. Additionally, Gusher’s Amanda Green, Tom Day, and Sherry Bivens have always done nice work with the Gusher Pumps products.”

Left to right: Brad Berkebile, Pump Technician for The 84 Group Inc. (JBIS), James Struble, Vac-Arc Mechanic, Carpenter/Latrobe, Tim Raynak, Vac-Arc Maintenance Technician, Carpenter/Latrobe.
GSP Welcomes New Technician

Ignacio Febres recently joined Florida-based Great Southern Pump as a technician. Originally from Venezuela, he worked on pumps in his native country. Ignacio is currently attending school 2 days a week improving his English.

“Ignacio was thrown into the fire right away and seems to be a good fit,” said GSP’s Scott Mezuk.

Ignacio has proven to be a quick study, learning how to disassemble, clean, inspect, rebuild, paint, deliver, install, set motors and mechanical seals, and adjust impellers properly.

All The Best to Paul Boles

Many of you know Paul Boles of Process Systems. Paul will be taking a well-deserved retirement at the end of this year.

Paul started at Michigan-based Process Systems, Inc. 35 years ago, filling in as a part-time driver picking up and delivering pumps. His strong work ethic meant it quickly became full-time, and he took on many different job duties through the years.

For the last 25 years, Paul has enjoyed working hands-on with distributors and customers in the sales department. He and his wife have sold their home downstate and moved to their recently renovated lake house in northern Michigan. They plan on boating, fishing, golfing, relaxing and traveling to fill their time.

“I have enjoyed my years and experience gained at Process Systems and will miss the times shared with fellow employees as well as customers, Deming distributors, and vendors,” said Paul. “I wish everyone health and happiness and prosperity in all future endeavors.”
Great Southern Pump recently completed the installation of a high service pump for a municipal clear well in Central Florida. The pump you see below is a Deming® 3 stage 10” pump with 50 HP solid shaft inverter duty motor with adjustable spacer coupling, NSF coating, and basket strainer.

According to GSP’s Scott Thurrott, rooftop installations are always tricky. “Once that vertical turbine clears the roof, the crane operator is driving blind, relying on hand signals from our man on the roof, Kevin Dupre. It’s a delicate operation with Kevin depending on the worker on the ground inside to provide the directions for him to relay to the crane operator. Positioning such a large pump into a 16” diameter hole, 30 feet down, requires a slow and steady approach!”
For Larry Conrad “It Couldn’t Be Better”

After 41 years, Gusher veteran Larry Conrad will be retiring at the end of the year from Gusher California. He has been running the Los Angeles area sales and service office since 1992. Larry leaves the office in the capable hands of Frank Conrad, under the direction of Gusher GM Tim McClanahan.

Larry started out in 1977 on the night shift in the machining department. He operated the Blanchard Grinder, turret lathes, engine lathes, Potter Johnson drill presses, and the CNC lathes. He also pitched in on assembly and shipping. “On the night shift we did everything necessary to complete an order,” Larry explained.

As time passed, Larry moved into the day shift, working in the welding department and engineering. In 1980, he became foreman on day shift in the machining department. He was promoted to Plant Manager in 1984, remaining in that position until his move to Gusher California in 1992.

After a year of commuting between LA and Kentucky, Larry moved to California permanently, where he has successfully run Gusher California for the past 25 years. In retirement, Larry will be moving to Oklahoma as all of his wife’s family lives there.

“I am going to miss everyone and that includes all of my customers,” Larry said. “If someone asked me how I feel about all of this, I would say, 'It couldn't be any better.' ”

They Will be Missed

Please remember in your thoughts and prayers our good friends and fellow workers, Dan Torongo and Mike Maus of Process Systems, who we lost this past year.

Looking for past Newsletter issues? This newsletter is also available on the Ruthman Companies site http://www.ruthmancompanies.com/reporter-archives along with an archive of past Ruthman Reporter issues.

Please help us all stay informed! Send us your feedback, information about your organization’s events, photos, videos products and people for future Ruthman Reporter issues to...

Lisa: LWallner@RuthmanCompanies.com or Jim: jmdies33@gmail.com