

THE '47

November 2023



Mark Penninger

2023 Mike Alewine Safety Award Winner

On Thursday, August 31, 2023, under a shower of gold confetti, Bruce Henson, President of Jennings-Dill, presented Sheet Metal Superintendent Mark Penninger with the 2023 Mike Alewine Safety Award. This honor includes the privilege of driving a brand-new Jennings-Dill Safety Truck with all the bells and whistles.

Mark, who has been with Jennings-Dill for over twenty years, remarked, “This means so much to me because it shows that the company still values Mike Alewine’s contributions to our company’s Safety Culture. The only way it could have meant more is if Mike had been around to give it to me.”

Mark went on to share that the company has always been family to him. As he stated, “The company has always done right by me- in good times and bad. For the over twenty years I’ve been with the company, they have always taken care of their employees.”

At Jennings-Dill, safety always comes first. Congratulations to Mark Penninger on this well-deserved honor.



JD Foremen: The Backbone of the Company

In September 2023, Jennings-Dill celebrated the promotion of four of our employees to the respected title of Foreman: Emmanuel Araujo, Pipe Fitting Foreman; Josh Rider, Plumbing Foreman; and Derrick Griffin and Stephen Bobby, Sheet Metal Foremen.

At Jennings-Dill, the most important responsibility of a Foreman is to keep the crew safe at all times which requires the Foreman to constantly be engaged and aware. In addition, the Foreman oversees jobs, keeps materials organized and available, reads drawings, ensures proper installation, maintains time-sheet checks, manages employees, possesses the correct tools, and is OSHA certified.



Meet the Foremen:

Emmanuel Araujo, a native of Venezuela, came to the United States in 2016. Emmanuel has been with Jennings-Dill since 2019 and heard about the company through Bonds Career Center. Emmanuel onboarded through Dycos

and started as a Helper in the Piping Division. Prior to working at JD, Emmanuel worked at a company in Spartanburg that manufactures parts for BMW.

Josh Rider, an Easley, SC native, has been with us since 2021. Prior to that, Josh managed his own tree business, worked at a family-owned carpentry business, spent thirteen-years at a timing belt & manufacturing company, and operated a forklift for BMW. Although initially hired in Sheet Metal, Josh quickly moved to the Plumbing Division and has developed in the trade.



Derrick Griffin, a Greenville, SC native, has ten years of Sheet Metal experience and has worked for the company for five of those years. Derrick learned about the construction business from his dad who was a roofer and had Derrick working on roofs by the time he was fourteen years old. Derrick describes himself as a “hands-on” guy, and from those early days, he knew he wanted to be in the construction field.

Stephen Bobby, a Liberty, SC native, has worked for the company since May 25, 2010. Even though Stephen’s father Frank Bobby was a Foreman at JD for over 20 years, Stephen never really intended to go into Construction. However, one summer, Stephen worked at JD and became interested in the business. He started in the Sheet Metal Division, then tried his hand at Plumbing, but eventually made his way back to Sheet Metal where he has been ever since.



All four of these new Foremen have earned the *White Hat* that symbolizes their rank as Foreman, and they stated that the Growth Path assisted them in earning this title.

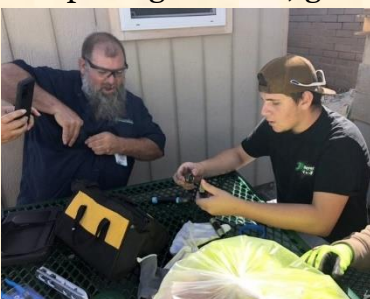
Jennings-Dill reveres all of our Foremen; they are truly the backbone of our business!!

Training the Future



On September 25, five of our Plumbing Division employees, Mike Sanders, Dylan Sanders, Joe Campbell, and Seth Blackstone, put their teacher hats on as they provided instruction and hands on experience to students in Donaldson Career Center’s Building Construction classes.

The learning target was to create a 7 1/4” x 9 3/4” square using provided materials and a Threading Machine. The class watched a video of the process prepared by Mike Sanders prior to completing the task, giving them the opportunity to observe each step. Then, students assembled the square with assistance from Mike Sanders and Daniel Moody, Operations Manager. Next, students were sent to Threading Machine Stations manned by Dylan Sanders, Joe Campbell, and Seth Blackstone. The square had to be completed within a 30-minute time



frame, and 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prizes were awarded based on accuracy which was largely accomplished through the skillful use of a tape measure.



Not only did the students have fun and compete, they learned that Plumbing is not just about unclogging drains and toilets but that it is a complex trade that involves a strong grasp of measurements, drawings, soldering, brazing, med gas, and codes.

Part of working in the trades is training others about the intricacies of the crafts. Trade Division Employees step up to this task each and every day in our own field, sharing their skills with one another, as well as in educational communities where the future of the construction industry resides.



9.30.23, JD Picnic

Group Therapy Pub & Playground



Announcements

Growth Path Participants

- **Congratulations** to the following employees who have recently started the Growth Path program.
 - Seth Blackstone (Plumbing)
 - Braylon Blackwell (Sheet Metal)
 - Gabrielle Duncan (Sheet Metal)
 - Elax Farella-Genova (Sheet Metal)
 - James Grooms (Piping)
 - Gabe Mason (Sheet Metal)
 - Daniel McPherson (Sheet Metal)
 - Blake Pace (Plumbing)
 - Blaine Parr (Piping)
 - Adam Pruitt (Sheet Metal)

Newsletters Published Quarterly

- Next Newsletter, February 2024



Survey Monkey Quiz

- Answer all questions correctly by November 8 on the survey linked [HERE](#) and your name will be entered in a prize drawing for a Gift Card.

Holiday: Thanksgiving, Thursday, November 23



& Friday, November 24, for Office/Service Employees