

*Message
from the
C.E.O.*

In today's economy, we must stay focused on many things; with quality and customer service still at the top. To ensure Red Gold's future, our focus is not to just be a low cost supplier, but to be "the lowest cost supplier". We must focus on profitability, so we can continue to reinvest in our operation to grow our business.

One of our challenges is to make sure we take advantage of the "uniqueness" of all the Midwest and what our company has to offer.

Our location – Red Gold is a two day drive within 67% of the U.S. population.

1. Our plants are designed to run year around – fresh tomatoes from August to October, and concentrate the rest of the year.
2. Water advantage – no restrictions for the grower or processor.
3. We have great grower/employee/processor relations - we work together.
4. We share a family heritage – both on the farm and at Red Gold.
5. There exists an open-minded, entrepreneurial spirit - we have solved many challenges through the years.
6. We have quality fruit from the fields – our yields keep improving.

We are starting to see financial and sustainability improvements with our lean manufacturing initiatives. At RG Geneva, production activity is up 13%, primarily in packaging. The plant's 5S program is now moving into the office area. The tomato peeling room project has started in earnest, which is great, since fresh pack is only seven months away. Geneva recently promoted three supervisor trainees to supervisor status. Two of the three were internal plant personnel and all were a part of the Purdue OLS program.

Our new ketchup processing system for the flexible packaging room at RG Elwood is up and operational, so we are looking at adding additional Portion Pack machines soon. Bottle line efficiencies are up significantly, due to a constant focus on the process. 64 ounce PET juice will be added to the production list within the next two months.

RG Orestes recently installed new case printers and will soon begin producing cases with a printed over-wrap. They are also expanding their waste treatment plant capacity and utilizing ozone technology.

Three "system" Kaizens, focused on Peak Performance efforts, were hosted by the RG Orestes location. These included paste utilization, maintenance effectiveness and non-value added activity elimination. These Kaizens spawned at least nine other projects, everything from upgrades to the fresh pack tomato dock to new roofs and new paste blending instrumentation.

Direct plant shipments have continued to grow over the past year. The rail facilities have successfully increased their usage of returned rail dunnage from our forwarding warehouses. This saves money and it helps reduce waste!



Brian

AND THE WINNERS ARE

Inspiration, excitement, innovation and laughter highlighted the Red Gold Annual Growers Banquet held recently in Indianapolis. Each year, in conjunction with the Purdue University Horticulture Congress, the Red Gold agricultural family celebrates the season by coming together with RG Corporate personnel for a special evening, to honor the achievements of those responsible for the bountiful harvest from the past season.



E. A. Reichart Quality Achievement Award

Red Gold President and CEO Brian Reichart, Executive Vice President Maurie Fettig, and Senior Director of Manufacturing Mike Crooks began the evening by addressing the crowd with their vision of future growth for the company. Red Gold's family heritage and the strong family farming traditions represented by the growers, provide the solid foundation for working together to gain efficiencies and flourish in a changing and competitive industry.

Steve Smith, Director of Agriculture, recounted the events of the past year and emphasized the role of "the new face of agriculture" in today's world. He was assisted by the Agriculture Department staff in awarding eleven farming operations the distinguished title of "Master Grower". This year's winners were: Knick Farms, Ansonia, OH; Utterback Farms, Elwood, IN; Wittmer Farms, Kouts, IN; Keesling Farms, Middletown, IN; Carnahan Farms, Edwardsport, IN; Associated Growers, Marion, IN; Daily Farms, Kokomo, IN; Dick and Rex Detling, Union City, OH; Triple "S", Smith Farms, Sharpsville, IN; Gelfius Farms, Hartsville, IN; and Carey Farms, Jonesboro, IN.

From this select group of Master Growers, the E. A. Reichart Quality Achievement Award was then presented to the Grower of the Year. Quality production, industry leadership, and professionalism provided the criteria for the presentation of this award to Bill Gelfius, of Gelfius Farms, by Brian Reichart and Tina Anderson, children of the late Ernie Reichart.

The Red Gold Grower Action Fund Board of Directors drawing was conducted by Danna Dolliver. Mike Carnahan was selected as the new representative to serve a three year term. Phil Boring, outgoing Chairman of the Board, gave the annual report highlighting the activities of the board and growers during the last year. Rohrs Brothers Farms and Kurtz Farms from near Hamler, OH, received the Innovation Award presented by Adam Hartley. They researched and utilized a new type of tomato transplanter that reduced the labor requirements by 50%. Curt Utterback presented the Yield Guessing award to Jay Ousley of Elwood, IN. Jay had the closest guess to his actual seasonal yield. In a spirit of fun, Scott Smith was honored as the grower guessing the farthest from his actual yield.

Door prizes were presented by Jim Holloway. The evening closed with laughter provided by Dave Dugan, a comedian from Indianapolis. The next day all the growers participated in the Indiana Horticulture Congress. Speakers from Purdue University and private industry gave programs covering many topics such as accounting, sustainable business practices, land leases, labor law, and a grower panel to share valuable information. Mike Carnahan, Carnahan Farms was named a "Knight of the Red Tie", honoring those who "do more instead of less". A successful meeting, providing long term benefits, was enjoyed by all. The growers continue to produce the "freshest, best tasting tomato products in the world!"

KETCHUP KORNER

Ketchup Korner is a new feature for Vine Lines! This is a place where you can catch up (Get it?) on news, fun facts, and items of interest about our products, people, and activities. Don't forget to look for this segment in future newsletters. Where would you find it... in a corner of course!

Nila Johnson, Human Resource Manager at Red Gold Elwood, retired after 27 years of service. During these 27 years she never missed a day of work! What a feat to be recognized!

Thought you saw a lot of Red Gold trucks on the road this past month? The volume of product shipped from the DC has exceeded the shipments of the last two years for the same time frame by nearly 350,000 cases! This is in addition to the increase of direct plant shipments; those that leave straight from RG Elwood, Orestes, and Geneva docks.

Quarterly Definitions – there will be a quiz

Comminuted Products: Products in which the tomato material is ground, like ketchup, sauce and puree. These products are graded by the results of what we call a Bostwick test.

Bostwick Test: This is a measurement of the flow of product, for a set amount of time, in a standardized tray. The tray is marked in half centimeters and that is the Bostwick reading that gets reported for each test.



Dear Stewie Readers,

As you can imagine, the life of a very popular marketing icon, oh...and newsletter reporter, of a well known tomato products company can be pretty hectic. Thank goodness for my sophisticated day planner system...or as some might call it...my new 2008 Puppy Dog calendar. All my important events are recorded on the doggie days. Organization is the key to any successful and incredibly active lycopene storage unit. Whether it's a meeting, my swanky apartment rent, Mama Mater's birthday, picking up my delicacies at the cleaners, rotating the Stewie-mobile tires or just tracking the expiration date on my half-pint of skim milk, my cute tail waggin' planner keeps me on top of it.

Now, I don't mind confessing, this reporter was a little excited when I turned the fuzzy yellow lab January page to find that February had a way-too-cute beagle puppy. BUT, THAT'S WHEN I SAW IT...it stopped me dead in my tracks...it was a large 2...followed by an equally large 9. Now, I'm no rocket scientist, but I know Day 29 should not be on the February beagle page.

How does that poem go...thirty days hath December...turkey days are in November...all the rest have 31...is that it? Nothin' in there rhymes with 29! So, I instantly searched my puppy planner for a phone number. While dialing digits and mentally rehearsing my complaint speech to the quality control department's big cheese, it took a mere 28 seconds of perfectly delivered dialogue to color me embarrassed. "It's called what? LeapYear?" Who knew?

They tell me this Year of Leap thing arrives about every four years. I learned a full year is no longer 365 days, but actually 365.2422 days long. It seems we get cheated out of .2422 days for three consecutive years and then, with obviously very little notice, they give it back on the fourth year. Now, I'm not totally sure why this has to happen...but it seems if we did nothing, we would eventually be planting tomatoes in February...or something like that.

This reporter also uncovered a very old Leaping tradition making it socially acceptable for ladies to propose marriage to any unsuspecting gent on each February 29. The Internet highway says it's called Sadie Hawkins Day. Now, I know what you're thinking...being the most eligible bachelor this side of the interstate exit...I'm thinking I'd be wise to not even answer my phone on SH day. I don't want to Leap to conclusions, but I'd rather all my girlfriends get my voice mail that day than to get their hopes up and be feverishly looking for something old, borrowed or blue.

So, if this four inch tall unattached mater-hunk must lay low on the 29th, what should I do on my newly discovered freebie day? Obviously, I could catch up on my "to do" list, but that's no fun. I guess I could rent the Pirates of the Caribbean DVD series and see if Captain Jack Sparrow could lend some clues to that extremely difficult Pirates Puzzle in our last newsletter. Or, I could make an appointment with my favorite pedicure girl and get these goofy feet worked on a bit...oops...my toes technician may be in the know about Sadie...cancel that thought.

I could do some Google'ing and see what the IRS considers a deduction and start my tax return. Maybe, my free day would be the perfect time to finally go through my four hundred pound over-stuffed junk drawer. I'll bet there are even potential donation items in there (can you say deduction...cha-ching!!).

Perhaps the best Leap Year plan is to not Leap past the door of my swanky bachelor pad...maybe, just stay home. I could Leap outta bed, very carefully Leap into the shower, Leap to the laundry room, Leap to the kitchen and make some yummy Leap Year snacks, Leap to the couch and catch up on my taped shows. And, if the urge hits me just perfectly, I can Leap into a nice long afternoon nap. Celebrating Leap Year can be quite tiring.

Be sure to enjoy your extra day! I'll see everyone next time...

A Day in the Life...

Government Affairs & Human Resources



It's nice to know that there are people responsible for making sure our communities have good schools, fair taxes, and safe places to live. Likewise, there are people responsible for making sure your company's interests are allowed to be heard and protected. For Red Gold and Red Gold employees, these interests are one in the same. Steve Austin does a great job explaining this concept while describing his position. We were recently given the opportunity to speak with Steve about what his job means at Red Gold.

How would you describe your position at Red Gold?

When I joined Red Gold in January of 2001, my job description was written to include 75% human resources and 25% government and public affairs. That split in work duties was accurate the first year, but in 2002, when we began searching for grants to rebuild our seasonal housing company-wide, the government affairs side started to take up more time. My job split has done a total flip. The 25% of time spent on HR related items includes: College campus recruiting and company events like the picnic and Indianapolis Colts events.

How would you define governmental relations in regards to a company like Red Gold?

We are a very interesting company in the many ways we are impacted by our government. At every level from local, state, to federal government, we are intricately linked and affected. At the local town board level, these bodies must be the sponsors and facilitators of nearly all economic development incentives, to encourage business to expand. In Red Gold's case, five grants that originated from the Department of Housing and Urban Development flowed through the City of Elwood, the Town of Geneva and the Town of Orestes to help Red Gold build new seasonal housing. This has been a positive government program for our employees and in economic development terms for our three communities.

We care greatly about what is going on in state government too. It is important for recruiting that Indiana is a place where people want to work and raise a family. Red Gold deals with state agencies nearly every day as a normal course of doing business. Knowing those agencies and maintaining good working relationships with staff is highly important.

At the federal level, I spend most of my time in the legislative branch. Being an agriculturally based company, Red Gold is impacted by what happens regarding farm policy. Congress writes a new Farm Bill every five years and it takes about two years to put such a huge bill together. Members of the Senate and House Agriculture Committees are the key players in writing the bill. Because of turn-over in Washington, it is a difficult task maintaining working relationships with each of those Members and their staffs.

Red Gold growers were negatively affected by the 2002 Farm Bill. Because of the intense lobby efforts of western FRESH fruit and vegetable interests, Midwest farmers found themselves locked onto acres on which they had been previously growing tomatoes. In short, the fresh industry in the western states used the Farm Bill as a protectionist tool to lock out what was perceived to be competition in the Midwest. We have been working on this issue for five years and we have made tremendous progress. We are about to come to a resolution in the current Farm Bill negotiations. Our efforts have involved hundreds of meetings with Members of Congress and networking among dozens of farm groups, trade associations and food groups.

To work on our issue, we formed a coalition called the Canned-Frozen Food and Grower Coalition. I put together the membership and raise the money annually to fund the group. I plan two trips to D.C. annually for the groups to meet with Members of Congress. We do sixty to eighty meetings on every trip. It is an immense task, but an effort we must complete to maintain lines of communication. Negotiations for the next Farm Bill are coming to a close.

The other side of my government affairs job is operating two Political Action Committees (PAC). I operate a State PAC and a Federal PAC for the company. Political Action Committees are common and they give us another way to be involved in the government process.

Briefly describe what you do in a typical day. Do you usually have a set schedule?

I spend a lot of time producing reports for our various grants, making telephone calls for fundraisers, reading legislation or working on a Red Gold HR sponsored event or project. My schedule varies and changes quickly. Many times I am out of the office to get signatures on documents, or on a job site if I am involved with a Red Gold construction project.

What aspect of your job do you like best?

I like the variety and constant change. One day I will be on the phone with an elected official and the next I might be at one of our seasonal housing sites regarding a construction project. I like the fact that I am involved in a building project from start to finish. I am even responsible for acquiring the furnishings and organizing the actual move into the buildings. Before 2007 PAC, we had three new seasonal buildings constructed and ready for occupancy. The buildings had to have 240 bed frames, 240 mattresses, 486 sets of blinds, 69 trash cans and 240 chairs. That move required coordination of two semi trailer loads of furnishings to Geneva and Orestes. Nearly twenty people were involved to accomplish the task in two days. It was a monumental undertaking.

RED GOLD ALL STARS

Newsletter Team

WHAT WE DO:

Your newsletter team meets twelve times every year, three times each quarter, to plan, organize, and edit the newsletter you are reading right now! The first meeting of each quarter is the chance to get together and discuss ideas for the upcoming newsletter, including the puzzle and the yummy recipe from Linda! Once these ideas are turned into topics, a team member volunteers to research and write about the subject. This is where many of you get the friendly phone call to act as a contributor to the newsletter, as you are an expert in the area that we want to feature. We could not get far without the feedback and support from all of our contributors!

Once the newsletter team member gets the facts, they compose an article based upon the chosen topic and meet with the rest of the newsletter team for the second meeting of the

quarter. At this meeting, members of the team are assigned to edit one another's articles. This process is to make sure that the article flows with clear communication and proper grammar. It is always best to have someone check your work!

When all of the articles are reviewed by the assigned personnel, the group meets again to go through the updated and corrected articles for one final group edit. This is a long meeting that ensures we publish the best newsletter for our readers. Once this is completed, the layout, placement of articles and pictures is determined. Some have a regular spot and others get a place depending on the size and available space. Then our team leader puts it all together



TEAM MEMBERS: Linda Wallace-Team Leader, Selita Reichart, Jim Fairfield, Renee Dunham, Lisa McMinn, Emily Jones, Susan Geiselman, Bethany Johnson, Stewie

and sends it to our printer. A proof is made and sent back to the group for final approval. All team members have the opportunity to review and respond, then it is approved to be printed. The next step is the mailing out to all of you for your enjoyment!

DID YOU KNOW that the company newsletter started in August of 2000 and this one is #31?



GIVE A LITTLE BIT...

If you work at Red Gold you surely know about E3, EIT, and LMNOP? Right? If you are a little mixed up about the acronyms, that's ok, we'll explain them to you. But if you don't know what the EIT teams have been doing for the past year, then you may need to read this article carefully. EIT stands for the "Employees In Touch" teams and their mission is to promote involvement in the community and with one another. The RG Corporate, DC, Elwood, Geneva and Orestes all have EIT teams comprised of both hourly associates and management. They earn all of their own funds through some very creative methods and these funds are distributed back to the community. They also do some pretty terrific things for their fellow employees.

To generate funds, the EIT teams sponsor all sorts of raffles focused around the Indianapolis Colts and the Super Bowl. Jeans Days at the Corporate Office are always a popular fundraiser. The DC is famous for their cook-outs and our outside drivers look forward to a hot sandwich off the grill. In fact, food items are always a hit! Candy bars sales, the Sloppy Joe Dinner, and Orestes Nacho Days really help the EIT teams' treasuries.

These teams get very creative when it comes to holidays, with beautiful baskets at Valentines Day, 50/50's on St. Patrick's Day, Easter hams, Memorial Day grills, 4th of July summer goodies, Treat or Treat, Thanksgiving centerpieces and Christmas poinsettias. White elephant silent auctions have proven that one man's trash is truly another man's treasure. The Geneva group has raffled off some very pricey items and it has proven to be a good decision every single time. Some lucky Geneva employee was the winner of a very cool Wii. Guessing the exact five minute period when "The Last Tomato" rolls off the truck during fresh pack seems to be an enduring money-maker, and of course, Dip-A-Duck for a Buck at Elwood provides entertainment along with it proceeds. Four teams join together to serve nearly 700 meals at their annual Fish Fry (see related article).

So how are these monies spent? The EIT's first obligation is toward the community and each team must pick at least two community philanthropies to support. That means every year there will be a minimum of ten endeavors. In 2007, the teams undertook 40 efforts! They joined together to assist the American Cancer Society with Daffodil Days, raising \$3000. They also held two other events to benefit the American Cancer Society. The Ronald McDonald House, the United Way, The March of Dimes, the Mustin Center, Elwood and Alexandria Schools, and the Geneva Chamber of Commerce were all recipients of our employees' goodwill.

In addition, during Christmas, the Elwood team donated 350 books, 70 plastic shoe boxes, filled with crayons, construction paper, stickers

and glue sticks to the Hopewell Center to create literacy boxes. These were used to help families encourage reading with their children ages 3 and under. They also purchased a portable document scanner for the Center to use during home visits. The Geneva team supplied all of the residents in the Jay County Retirement Home with towels, toiletries and other personal items, along with an electric razor for all of the males. The Corporate team was able to make a large cash donation to the Alternatives Women's Shelter, as well as participate in the Madison County Child Wishes Granted program. The DC decorated and supplied an entire bedroom at the Dove Harbor Shelter and the Orestes team was pleased to donate nearly \$500 to the Christian Men's Shelter in Madison County.

Although RG Transport cannot have regular EIT team meetings with 90% of their employees on the road, they too have a charitable project plan at Christmas time. Three local families in need had a wonderful Christmas with the food staples and three SUV-loads of gifts purchased with nearly \$1200 donated by RGT employees.

Along with the EIT's community involvement, comes some much appreciated kindnesses toward their fellow employees. The teams gave 22 Red Gold baby blankets to employees with newborns last year, a girl's and a boy's bicycle at the company picnic and 87 beautiful wicker angels for bereavements.

They sponsor the children's' Christmas parties, purchase the 12 Days of Christmas gifts, and supply daily newspapers for the break rooms. Numerous coloring contests, bingo and puzzles add a little variety to our workday...and we can't count the number of snacks and lunches sponsored by the EIT teams.

The next time a fellow employee tells you that they are on the EIT team and they would like you to buy a raffle ticket, or perhaps donate your time or talents, please remember what a good job these teams do all year round!



Jump Start Your Heart

September 5, 2007 marked a significant date for the health and safety of Red Gold employees. That date designates when Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) were installed at RG Elwood, Geneva, Orestes and the DC.

You may ask yourself, "Why did Red Gold do this?" Well, did you know that each year, sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) strikes more than 250,000 Americans? Unlike a heart attack in which blood flow to the heart muscle is temporarily blocked, the primary cause of SCA is ventricular fibrillation (VF). VF is a life-threatening condition in which the heart's normal electrical signals become erratic causing the heart to cease pumping blood effectively. When VF occurs, the victim immediately becomes unresponsive, stops breathing, has no detectable pulse, and without intervention, will die within minutes. Defibrillation, or restoring the heart's natural rhythm by applying an electrical shock, is the only definitive treatment for SCA.

Red Gold has trained many of its employees to respond to emergency situations. But unlike other worksite medical emergencies such as lacerations and broken bones, survival from SCA requires immediate intervention. For optimal impact, CPR and defibrillation should be administered within four minutes of SCA. This is where the AED comes in.



AEDs are proven to be safe, reliable and effective in preventing unnecessary death from sudden cardiac arrest, by allowing trained citizen responders to provide the crucial and timely defibrillation immediately on-site. The machine actually talks to the user, guiding them through the process. With training, anyone can learn how to help save lives.

Thanks to training conducted by Red Gold's Corporate Environmental Health and Safety Department, 243 Red Gold employees (including Red Gold CEO Brian Reichart) have completed the requirements for Adult CPR/AED and received certification through the American Red Cross.

Red Gold's AEDs are located in the break room at RG Elwood, Geneva and Orestes, and the auditor's office at the DC.

Facts about AEDs:

- AEDs save 66,000 lives annually
- For each minute without defibrillation, a victim's chance of survival decreases by 10 percent
- The only treatment for sudden cardiac arrest is defibrillation. Without this, the victim will die
- Lightweight, portable, affordable AEDs are now available and becoming increasingly common in schools and other public places
- Most AEDs are designed to be used by non-medical personnel
- An AED will not deliver a shock unless it is necessary
- Indiana has a Good Samaritan Law that protects persons who voluntarily render emergency care from liability unless they are grossly negligent.



SHINING STARS

Perfect: Being in a state of undiminished or highest excellence; thorough; complete. This definition is from Webster's II New Riverside University Dictionary, and it describes 134 of our best employees.

We are proud to announce that 16% of our manufacturing employees have perfect attendance! Perfect attendance at Red Gold means being present for every scheduled day, never being tardy, and never leaving early. Employees earn extra hours in their attendance bank if they retain a perfect attendance record for three months. Once they receive the maximum amount of 76 hours, they are given \$10 Red Gold vouchers as a reward for continuing to complete quarterly perfection.....believe it or not, \$5650 of these Red Gold vouchers have been issued this year! The vouchers are redeemed for Red Gold merchandise and products. In addition to the Red Gold vouchers, nearly \$9700 in attendance awards have been presented.

RG Geneva is our shining attendance star, with 22% of their employees maintaining perfect attendance, and 250 vouchers awarded last year!

Thirty-four employees received Red Gold jackets for having one year of perfect attendance. They are: Kathy Amstutz, Rick Bogan, Chris Brainerd

Brian Bright, Carl Buis, Michelle Burkhart, Darlene Cook, Roger Cook, Danny Cooper

Crystal Cox, Brad Davis, Mark Durbin, Jack Elliott, Robert Gaunt, Bill Gibson, Steve Gray, Russell Haffner, Elliot Hartje, Aaron Loyd, Leann Martin, Fred McIntosh, Felix Merced, Randy Mullins, Shannon Patterson, George Peavler, George Robertson, Don Scott, David Sloderbeck, Cecil Stinson, Stan Studebaker, GERAL Tonak, Scott Trent, Ron Vehikite and Deb Waechter.

Red Gold watches were awarded to 14 employees with two years perfect attendance. They are: Wendy Boze, Ferrill Chatman, Shonny Craw, Roger Fox, Jack Gambill, Janet Gilson, Richard Jarrett, Joe Johnson, Jason Lloyd, Roger Mays, Jesse Mills, Sandra Ost, Jennifer Plummer and Meredith Sanders.

\$100 savings bonds and Red Gold Tervis tumblers are awarded to employees with three and four years of perfect attendance. The 16 employees with three years are: Bob Alig, John Bailey, Tim Boeger, Roger Conrad, Dan Costello, Kim Deaton, Mike Fluckiger, Frank Grondin, Forrest Lanning, Karen Lloyd, Zindy McCorkle, Candy McWilliams, Deborah Shaneyfelt, Chris Stansberry, Beth Taylor and Joe Watson. The 17, fourth year recipients are: Jon Bowland, Phil Burnett, Jeff Capper, Judy Chapman, Richard Farber, Connie Fernung, Terrie Grayson, Stefanie Groves, Gary Hutson, Tom Landers, Margo Luzadder, Danny McDavid, Jack Monroe, Mike Pollock, Paula Roberts, Linda Ryan and Connie Straley.

Sixteen employees received Red Gold mantle clocks for their fifth year of perfect attendance. They are: Dale Ainsworth, Mike Augsburger, Ed Bickel, Dave Booher, Becky Booher, Lindain Brehm, Craig Chriss, Mark Groover, Tim Johnson, Pat Johnson, David Lloyd, Dan Rushing, Kevin Ryan, Eric Scherrer, Joe Spaulding and Tim Staples.

Employees with six years or more perfect attendance receive cash awards. This year, 37 employees were in this category.

6 years: Chad Bollinger, Shirley Clark, Rusty Cochran, Kerry Dailey, Ladge Gambill, Ted Goodpaster, Gary Goss, Michael Hull, Dave Jessup, Kraig Karn, Stacey Noland, Lois Oxley, Kim Rushing, Charlie Soden, Mike Waymire and Myron Waymire.

7 Years: John Hampshire, Doug Harris and Rick Matchett.

8 Years: Brian Boruff, Richard Byrd, Roger Orebaugh and Roger VanErman.

9 Years: Tim Kelich, Debra Gray and Jamey Sisson.

10 Years: Todd Bellamy, Steve East and Jeff Himes.

12 years: Joe Galvan, Phil Rector, Mario Santiago and Sherry Van Buskirk.

14 years: Dan Clark, Robert Dougherty and Jerry Turschman.

15 years: Rodney Lawson.

PEAK BOARDS GET A NEW LOOK

So, just what is a kaizen, or muda, a kanban? Have you been part of a kaikaku?

If you have to think, or just aren't so sure, don't worry! We are in the process of updating the Peak Performance boards located in our facilities. The redesign will make it easier to keep up with the kaizens and what they accomplish, as well as give us all new information about Peak practices.

The elimination of waste and using Peak Performance practices are a part of each of our jobs. We do not have to be member of a formal kaizen or 5S project, to use the ideas in our workday. Keep an eye on the boards; learn methods that will help each of us assure that Red Gold is a Peak Performance company in every way.

1 Adult Ticket - \$8.00...

1 Child Ticket - \$5.00...

Helping the Community - PRICELESS!

Red Gold's annual "Dan's Fish Fry" will be held Saturday, February 23, in the RG Orestes break room. Serving hours are from 4:30PM until 7:30PM. Dine-In and Carry-Out options are available. Tickets can be purchased from members of the EIT (Employees in Touch) team or from your Human Resources' office. Tickets may be payroll deducted!



Adult tickets can be purchased at discounted price until Friday, February 22.

Adults \$8.00 (\$8.50 at the door)
Children 5-11 years \$5.00
Children 4 years and under are FREE

This **ALL YOU CAN EAT** event features fish and/or chicken. Yummy side dishes include coleslaw, applesauce, tomatoes with zucchini, potato chips, bread and butter, dessert and sugar free lemonade (goodbye New Year's resolutions). Everyone is invited to participate in this event. Whether you are volunteering, eating, or both, you are supporting your EIT teams. Please invite your friends and family to a delicious meal...the more the merrier!

The proceeds generated from this fundraiser will be divided evenly between the EIT teams at RG Orestes, Corporate, Elwood and DC. The teams use the funds to support local charitable organizations.

Hit Me!!!

Normally, when someone screams "CRAPS", it is not necessarily a positive thing. It usually means something has gone wrong. But, at the RG Transport Christmas Party, the guests loved yelling "craps"...or "hit me"...or even an occasional "bust the dealer"! It meant the employees and their guests were not only having fun, they might be winning!



RGT's Christmas Party Committee broke tradition this year. They "gambled" a little on what employees might enjoy for their party entertainment. Out went the traditional DJ and music. Out went the dance floor and consideration for really bad karaoke. Out went the trivia contest. The risk-taking committee members decided to go "all in" and made a wager...a wager that employees would enjoy a Vegas-style Casino Night. Their little bet turned into a major jackpot!!

RGT partnered with a talented company from Indianapolis, called CrapsKing, Inc, who provided gaming tables. The tables were complete with flashing lights, play money, casino chips, decorations and a friendly staff of uniformed dealers that helped make the night perfect. The record number of employees and guests enjoyed playing Black Jack, Roulette, Money Wheel, Craps and Texas Hold 'Em. It was heart-warming to see the numbers of employees participating...and just having fun. The rookies listened carefully to the dealers and learned the rules of the games. The Vegas veterans might have had a slight advantage, but not by the end of the night. Literally thousands of dollars of play money were won...and lost.

Toward the end of the evening, when the tables were reluctantly shut down, employees and guests converted their winning chips into auction tickets. The auctions tickets were used to secure a chance at winning one of the many prizes donated by RG Transport's valued vendors. Everyone went home with a company Christmas gift to remember their fun-filled evening. Plus, several happy gamblers took an additional vendor prize.

Sometimes gambling does not pay off...however, when asked at the end of the evening, the party guests resoundingly confirmed that they had just experienced their best party yet! So, our next Casino Night will be a short eleven months away. Look out Vegas veterans, the rookies have vowed to practice, and we're betting they'll be more than ready to up-the-stakes next year.

Slippin' and Slidin'...Safely

Winter driving conditions was the hot topic at the most recent RG Transport quarterly safety meeting on January 12, 2008. Snowy and icy roads can be quite dangerous and our drivers were reminded that they are the "Captain of the Ship". RGT empowers their professional drivers to make a sound decisions regarding when it is safe to drive the wintry highways.



RGT's safest and most productive drivers were also recognized at the meeting. They were presented the Driver of the Month Awards. The October 2007 winner was owner operator John Thibeault. Troy Rush was awarded the November prize. The Driver of the Month for December was four-time winner, Ken Roberts. The drivers were selected for their leadership in operational categories, excellent safety performance and their high level of customer service. Congratulations to our winners!

COMPLIMENT

"Hi! I just wanted to pop you guys an email letting you know how much my husband and I both LOVE your tomatoes!!!! They are the ONLY canned tomatoes (and related products! :)) to ever come in our house, they always taste the best, 'tomatoe-y', never green or metallic tasting like other brands... thanks for making a high quality product we can always count on!!!!"
Consumer, TN

RED GOLD'S BIGGEST LOSERS

At Red Gold, we have always been proud of our healthy products...this year we are also proud of our healthier lifestyles. Red Gold is joining 12 other Hoosier companies in Governor Mitch Daniel's INShape Indiana program.

In January, we kicked off the 10 in 10 program, which encourages Hoosiers to lose 10 pounds in 10 weeks. The free and easy-to-use program helps support individual efforts to lose weight. Employees are encouraged to register and use the resources available through the INShape website, www.inshape.in.gov. Information will also be posted at each facility. For other questions, you may ask your local HR Representative or contact Carol Hanna, RG Corporate, who is heading up the company's growing health efforts.

The 10 in 10 program serves as a springboard to highlight health initiatives, both ongoing and new, at Red Gold.

Our Home Economist, Linda Wallace, is constantly searching out and creating new recipes that use our healthy tomato products. In every recipe, she has taken the time to list the Nutritional Facts, which are useful in many dieting programs.

Our vending machines are well stocked with water and fruit juice, and they include symbols to point out the healthy food and snack choices. Every Friday at RG Orestes, Subway@ visits the break room and sells healthy sandwiches and salads.



Carol Hanna Wellness Coordinator

Red Gold offers annual health assessments for all employees; and those who choose to participate receive discounts off their health insurance premiums. Speaking of discounts, did you know that Red Gold employees receive discounts from Anytime Fitness in Elwood, White River Club in Anderson, Curves in Elwood, and YMCA's in both Elwood and Anderson? Employees participating in our Anthem Health Insurance can also take advantage of the following discounts: Weight Watchers, Jenny Craig, Global Fit, Curves, and many more. Please visit www.anthem.com for more information.



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Upcoming Events

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| EIT Fish Fry | February 23, 2008 |
| EIT Daffodil Days | March 20 & 21, 2008 |
| State of the Business | Mid April, 2008 |

The Fountain of Youth

One of the easiest ways to gain a more youthful image is to increase your flexibility. Easy fluid movement conveys youth and health, even when a person is in fact older. Some of the natural processes in our bodies tend to make muscles and connective tissue shorter and less flexible over time. This progressive loss of flexibility makes it more common for people to injure themselves when playing a sport or enjoying a game with their kids. It becomes easier to strain muscles or ligaments that have become weak and stiff from disuse, and following an injury they may experience pain and dysfunction for weeks, months and perhaps even years. Maintaining or regaining flexibility, particularly in the lower back area, is a very sensible investment of your time and effort.

The Benefits of Stretching

According to the Mayo Clinic, the top five benefits of stretching include:

- Increased flexibility and joint range of motion
- Improved circulation
- Better posture
- Stress relief
- Enhanced coordination
- Use Proper Stretching Technique
- Warm up first

- Hold each stretch for at least 30 seconds
- Don't bounce
- Focus on a pain-free stretch
- Relax and breathe freely
- Stretch both sides
- Stretch before and after activity

Here are some great stretches for you to try!

Middle / Upper Back Stretch:

Hold your right arm with your left hand just above the elbow. Gently push your elbow toward your left shoulder. Hold stretch for 5 seconds. Repeat with your left arm.



Back Curl (will also stretch your legs):

Grasp your shin. Lift the leg off the floor. Bend forward (curling your back), and reach your nose to your knee. Repeat with the other leg.



Personal Milestones

Italicized Name Denotes Red Gold Employee

RG Elwood: Births:

Scott and Bridget Shannon, Presten Scott,
November 21, 2007

Jesse Pierce and Melissa Flook, Amya Marie,
December 29, 2007

Brian and Tammy Lane, Charlotte Marie,
January 30, 2008

Marriages:

Michael and Michelle Harmon, December 1, 2007

Renee (Haynes) and Harlon Dunham,
November 9, 2007

Matt and Lisa (Bragg) Green, January 1, 2008

Retirements:

Nila Johnson, January 3, 2008, 27 Years

RG Corporate: Anniversaries:

Laurie and Gary Eden, 25th Wedding Anniversary,
March 28, 2008

RG Distribution Center: Births:

Jason and Amanda Montgomery, Alexander Jay,
January 20, 2008

RG Orestes: Births:

Mitchell and Heather Swingley, Laci Ann,
December 26, 2007

RECIPES

ZESTY ITALIAN PASTA

MAKES 8 SERVINGS

PREPARATION TIME: 10 MINUTES

COOKING TIME: 15 MINUTES

- 1 medium onion, cut into half slices
- 1 pound Italian sausage
- 2 (14.5 ounce) cans RED GOLD® PETITE DICED TOMATOES GARLIC & OLIVE OIL
- 1 (8 ounce) can RED GOLD® TOMATO SAUCE
- 1/2 cup shredded mozzarella cheese
- 1 (16 ounce) package ditalini or ziti pasta, cooked & drained

In a large skillet cook sausage and onion over medium high heat until meat is no longer pink; drain well. Add RED GOLD® PETITE DICED TOMATOES GARLIC & OLIVE OIL and RED GOLD® TOMATO SAUCE and heat through. Add pasta and cheese and blend together.

NUTRITIONAL FACTS PER SERVING

Calories 280, Fat 11g, Cholesterol 30mg, Sodium 810mg, Carbohydrate 34g, Fiber 3g, Protein 12g, Vitamin A 20%, Vitamin C 15%, Calcium 8%, Iron 15%



Service Acknowledgments

Recognized once a year
in the third quarter
newsletter (August).

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Raymond and Amy Everling, Jeremiah M,
December 27, 2007

Bruce and Michelle Faulkenberg, Caleb Allen,
December 19, 2007

Patricia and Kris Thomas, Sophia Grace, January 22, 2008

Marriages:

James and Keli Horton, January 15, 2008