

## Welcome Back!

The snow is gone!!!! Or at least we hope so!

I trust all of you had a wonderful winter! It was good to see most of you throughout the winter meetings!

I would like to focus on your return to work. For some of you, it has been business as usual and you continued to work through the winter months so your body is all ready used to coming to work every day! Others of you have been on lay-off for the winter and your return to work may find you a little on the sluggish side. You may not be used to 8-10 hours of work every day and because of that you may find yourself sore at the end of the day as well as more prone to injuries or accidents! That is the reason for the focus being on what you can do to help minimize injuries or accidents.

Stretch before you start your day, make sure your muscles are warmed up and ready! As best as possible, know what your days work load will be! If you take an extra 30 seconds to make sure you are performing the entire task properly that can save you from sore muscles or even a

possible injury or accident! As much as possible get help when lifting heavy items, four hands or more are always better than your own two, or even using the proper equipment available to do the job! Watch out for your coworkers, if you see them struggling, make sure you jump in to help! When muscles get sore throughout the day continue to stretch them; before long your body will be used to the work.

Below is a report of the accidents and injuries that were reported for the last four years. You will notice which months are low and those that are medium to high. You can see that we took a big jump in April and May and for the most part stayed pretty steady until October, November and December. I believe if work together we

can keep our #'s down and have another successful year! I look forward to seeing you throughout the year!





		INJURY					ACCIDENT				
	2013	2012	2011	2010	Total	2	2013	2012	2011	2010	Total
January	3	1	0	2	6		2	2	0	1	5
February	0	2	2	1	5		1	0	0	1	2
March	1	0	0	2	3		0	0	2	4	6
April	6	2	2	2	12		5	5	3	5	18
May	3	2	2	7	14		7	7	1	3	18
June	1	2	1	3	7		4	5	3	5	17
July	4	2	5	2	13		5	6	6	6	23
August	3	4	3	3	13		7	4	4	14	29
September	6	3	3	3	15		9	4	11	4	28
October	3	1	4	2	10		4	2	5	5	16
November	0	2	2	5	9		4	2	1	5	12
December	1	1	5	1	8		0	0	0	5	5

## **Department Notes**

### **Asphalt**

Jim Jewell

Spring is finally almost here, after what has seemed like long winter. I'm hoping we have some good weather, we have a lot to get done this year.

Since the last we report we have added the following projects: Sargent South on highway 183 and Arnold West on highway 92. We have also picked up three of the new Department of Roads "maintenance" projects. This is a new concept which basically is a 1" mill and overlay that is intended to extend the life of the roadway before more extensive work is needed. They also allow some flexibility of scheduling, we can do the work this year or in 2015. They are Ansley North and South on Highway 183, Arnold South on Highway 47 and Wilsonville east on Highway 89.

As far as the schedule goes, the small plant will start out in the Gothenburg gravel pit for Cozad to Lexington and Gothenburg North. The big plant is set up at Comstock for the Ansley North and South and Ansley East jobs. We will probably also do some temporary surfacing on Sargent South before we move. The

Ready Mix

Brian Engel



**Broken Bow Plant Renovations** 



schedule for the remainder of the year is still evolving.

Finally, we were all shocked and saddened by the sudden death of Greg Rinkol this January. Greg had most recently been the foreman for the small plant. Greg started his road construction career with Biba Company, then worked at Dobson Brothers a couple of years after Biba went out of business. I was pleasantly surprised when Greg called me after I came to Paulsen, Inc. and wondered if we could use some help, he had been working in Oklahoma and was ready to come to Nebraska.



Greg Rinkol 1965 —2014

While he was here, Greg had also been the road foreman for the small crew and the foreman for the big plant. Much to his credit, he was named employee of the year in 2012, after only having been here for about 2 years. Greg's work ethic and honesty gained him the respect of all those who knew him and worked with him. He will be missed.

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Well it finally feels like Spring is actually coming. It sure has been a long cold winter!

The RM Div. has been busy getting ready for the 2014 construction season. We have been busy upgrading our Broken Bow facility with a new Coneco plant that will enable us to produce twice as much concrete per hour as we could before. Our old plant #0055 is being replaced with #01015, so you can only imagine the vast improvements we will have. Doug and the guys are excited to use the new plant with all of the upcoming work in the Broken Bow area.

We have been fortunate to pick-up some nice work for the season. Here is a rundown of some of our larger projects: Cozad-Lexington Whitetopping, Broken Bow wind farm, City paving in Lexington, City paving in Holdrege, New Elementary School – Holdrege, Cozad South bridge, Gothenburg Interchange, Birdwood Bridge and Paving – North Platte, South Platte River Bridges – North Platte, and City paving in Ogallala. There is still some nice work that is yet to bid, so we feel very good about the amount of work that is out there this year.

We have also been meeting with a couple different companies that supply different truck cleaning chemicals. We are hoping we can find a different truck cleaning solution that will enable us to use it with less PPE and make it easier for everyone to keep a clean truck. I really would like everyone to try it and let me know if we are headed in the right direction.

I want to congratulate Daniel on being chosen as Driver of the Year, great job and it is definitely an award well deserved. It's going to be another busy year for us, so let's all remember to utilize our safety training from this winter so we can have a safe and prosperous year.

# **Department Notes**

Building

Joe Welch

Hello Spring, where have you been???????

Wow, it is nice to see some warmer weather in the area. All the Building Department employees are ready for this winter to end. My prediction in the last *Paulsen Pride* that the cold snap we had in early December will be it for the year and it should be in the 40's and 50's through March and then warm up for spring was not too accurate.

The Lexington Middle School continues to move forward and the emphasis lately has been the interior work in the building. Project Superintendent Terry Brand has all the crews are working towards a summer completion of the project.

In Ogallala, Project Superintendent Shane Schutte has also been concentrating on interior work over the past couple of months. Two of the classroom buildings are ready for paint and other interior finishes and with improved weather the remainder of the project will now have an opportunity to move forward. The entire 92,500 square feet of new building should be under roof by the end of May.

Project Superintendent Dan Schwarz completed the renovations at the Dairy Queen in Cozad over the last couple of months. This involved a complete renovation of the kitchen and dining areas at the facility.

Project Superintendent Clay Otto continues to work on the Lexington Airport Snow Removal Equipment building. The building is up and with warmer weather we will be able to finish the interior floor slab and exterior paving.

Superintendent Dan Niles is up in Broken Bow completing renovations to the Broken Bow redi-mix plant. This included new foundations and other concrete work as they update the concrete plant at the site.

Superintendent Tim Yocom and crew are ready for the spring season and will be very busy with installation of concrete paving at the Doran Post/Team Detail site in Lexington and the Lexington Middle School site, among several other places.

Paulsen, Inc. has begun the additions and renovations to Pony Express Chevrolet in Gothenburg. The project involved an addition on the east and north sides of the existing building for a new showroom and service entrance.

Paulsen, Inc. also began a classroom addition to the Brady Public Schools. Work on this project should extend into the late summer.

The Building Department would like to extend congratulations to Fermin Lopez and his wife Janeth on the birth of twins recently. Fermin and his family live in Lexington and he has been an employee of the Building Department since March, 2011. Congratulations!!



Mantor-Randall Hall at UNK

Grave

Chris Hunke

Hopefully by the time you are reading this we are all back to work. We have work lined up out of all locations and some locations will be extremely busy.

Again I remind you that all of the training you have attended, this year and years past, doesn't do anyone any good if we don't practice it in our everyday activities.

Let's continue to work together and remember that Safety is Part of Everyone's Job!

Look forward to seeing everyone.

Paving

Dennis Sandrock

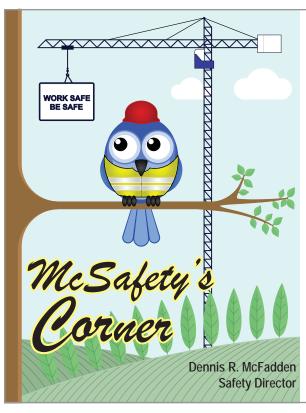
Black, Joe and Don are going to finish up on the Norfolk rounda-bout with some median and bike trail, and then paving the Norfolk Northeast project which has about 180,000 sy. left.

Darrell and Sam are going to North Platte Birdwood Viaduct first thing, and then possibly to Lexington on 18th Street and will also finish up on the white-topping project between Cozad and Lexington.

Gary Wendt and Nick Hollatz have been doing the surveying in Norfolk and also are the survey/controllers for our stringless paving so they will be very busy this year.

Denny and Glen will be finishing up the alley portion of the Cozad paving, and the bike trail and street for Pelican Bay at Johnson Lake. They will also go to Kearney for the Part 1 subdivision project.

We also have a bike trail at Lake Moloney, a City project at Ogallala and the Gothenburg I-80 Interchange bridge and paving that have to be done this year. This is one of the biggest paving years that we have had and we need to have everyone working efficiently and safely to get everything done.



The annual safety meetings are finally over and as the weather breaks we will be getting into full swing. As spring comes major league baseball teams will start their spring season and eventually opening day will be here. Unlike major league baseball we don't get the benefit of a spring season to work out the kinks in our game. When we start pouring concrete, pumping gravel, laying asphalt, providing even more redi-mixed concrete to customers, and the buildings start going up its automatically our opening day; we don't have the luxury to practice for a few weeks or even a few days. We are exposed to the risks and the hazards right from the start – so we need to be playing our A game.

I hope that everyone learned at least a few new things during the training and maybe were reminded of a few things that we all need to work on. Safety should never take a day off and hopefully you are a little more aware of the hazards you face and how recognize, eliminate or manage them. We need to make sure that we perform detailed job site, heavy equipment and vehicle inspections. Drivers need to make sure you are fully inspecting your trucks before heading out and completing the required brake measurement form at least once a week and properly securing all of the loads we haul.

I would like to take this time to thank everyone for their participation, comments and ideas that came from the meetings and for everyone's patience as we rescheduled some of the training dates. I would also like to thank Scott for lining up breakfast each day and Jamie for cooking lunches for everyone with some very grateful help from Dave Neil, Joe Moore and Chris Hunke — and the food was great — Thanks!



Larry Paulsen is proud to report that the Board of Directors have chosen this year's winners for the Employees of the Year. This year's nominations were all exceptional; every year seems to be more difficult to choose just two.

The "Employee of the Year" Award was given to Ken 'Black' Osborne in the Concrete Paving Department. Ken lives in Columbus and is a Supervisor.

The "Driver of the Year" Award was given to Daniel Aquilar from Lexington. Dan is in the Redi-Mix Division at the Lexington Plant.

Congratulations to all of the nominees. This year's winners will join Lonnie Hueftle and Cesar Aguado on an Alaska fishing trip this August.

# Paulsen People

# April Birthdays : May Birthdays : June Birthdays

ALAN L. DOBRY	
ALAN L. CLARK	ĺ
ALFRED J. KUSZAK	ĺ
STEPHEN D. HECOX	(
GARY D KAPS	-
DENNIS SANDROCK	-
BRADLEY E DACK JR	13
CHARLES E McCRODEN	13
KEVIN A WILSON	13
AARON J. STARK	16
ROGER M. ANDERSON	19
DAVID A SICKELS	20
DARRELL D. O NEAL	2
JANE M. GERMAN	22
FARREN STOMBAUGH	22
R.J. FLEHARTY	24
FIDEL MENDEZ	24
JESUS A. RUIZ RODRIGUEZ	24
GUILLERMO HERNANDEZ MARTINEZ	26
TIM S. DEAN	2

LEE W. NELSON	3
REX LLEIBHART	4
MARK BROWER	7
MARCEE M. HORN	8
MICHAEL O HILL	10
DON W. CARPENTER	11
CHANCE M. GILPIN	11
JAMION T. ADEN	13
BRIAN JRIZO	14
SHERWIN L. SWEELEY	14
THOMAS R ALLEN	15
AMBER UMMEL	16
ALVIN GUYLE	17
RICHARD W. KELLEY	19
DAVID P. EGGLESTON	22
CHRISTOPHER J. HUNKE	22
SCOTT R. TENBENSEL	28
THOMAS L. DEAVER	29
JOE E. MOORE	29
ROBERT A. HOLDERFIELD	31

DENNIS R. MCFADDEN	1
ANDREW C DAVIS	2
JESSE A HAYNIE	6
MATTHEW T. YOCOM	6
JERRY L. MILLER	7
DENNIS ZERR	7
NATHAN G KAMRATH	8
DANIEL D. SCHWARZ	10
SAM ANDERSON	12
DAVID SANFORD	12
LORAIN L. WOLTEMATH	13
ROBERT J. HAGAN	14
DANIEL GALVAN AGUILAR	16
SCOTT A BRANDT	17
SHANE R TILSON	20
SANDRA K. ROSS	21
LONNIE D. HUEFTLE	25
TONY G. DIETZ	27
PEDRO L. ORTIZ	29
CARL R. BROWN	30
JEFF R MUIR	30

Congratulations to Fermin Lopez and his wife Janeth on the birth of twins recently. Fermin and his family live in Lexington and he has been an employee of the Building Department since March, 2011. Congratulations!!



### 30 Years

ALFRED J. KUSZAK

#### 25 Years

SHERWIN L. SWEELEY MATTHEW T. YOCOM

#### 20 Years

KENNETH W. OSBORNE

#### 15 Years

LARRY C. HORSTMAN

### 10 Years

ABEL ALVIDREZ RANDY J. WILSON **ALVIN GUYLE** 

#### 5 Years

JAMES L. HARVEY CHANCE M. GILPIN JOSE L. RAZO **NEMESIO R. MORALES** PAT FEBRY MATHEW J. HIGGINS



## **WHAT WERE THEY THINKING?**



This was all he could find! Make sure you have & wear the proper PPE.

# Paulsen **PRIDE** is about You!

Do you have news to share like weddings, new babies, graduations or other honors?

### We want to know!

Please contact Jane German at 308-784-3333 or email her directly at

jane.paulsen@cozadtel.net

Remember, you can view the **Paulsen PRIDE** online at www.paulseninc.com