



Anniston, AL  
2nd Quarter 2012

## The Valve Stem Messenger



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## ***General Manager***

*From the Desk of Tony Orlowski*

### **Handsome is as Handsome Does**

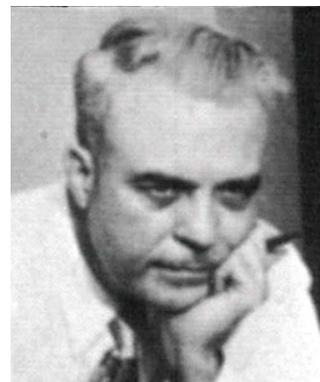
I can't tell you how often I get the question, "So what do you do?" And no, it's not from people I meet in social settings – it's usually people I work with. In such situations I am often reminded of a person whose life's work I admire: Dr. Milton Erickson.

Erickson was a medical doctor and psychologist who was one of the first to extensively use hypnosis in therapy, and his accomplishment in eliminating people's debilitating problems is legendary in that field. But Dr. Erickson's methods were unorthodox. He never claimed to "cure" anyone, but believed that most people were basically competent beings, able to cope with most of life's challenges. His job was to remind them of the skills and abilities they possessed and to offer suggestions that showed how to use them in ways they may not have thought of before, or to suggest different viewpoints of past events based on who they are today. And he wasn't limited to just solving problems – he also helped people perform better, as he did for at least one person who went on to medal in the Olympics.

One of his techniques was to simply chat with his patients about everyday events that had nothing to do with the subject at hand, or to tell them interesting stories that were totally unrelated to what the patient had come to him for. This was to get the person's conscious mind off guard so he could speak to the unconscious, which he believed was both very powerful and perceptive and would pick up on the therapeutic points and suggestions he was making with his "meaningless" talk.

Did it work? Oh, yes it did, if you go by his many published case studies. It may have even worked too well, because some of his patients became angry with him after therapy and refused to pay, acknowledging that they were cured but claiming *he* hadn't done anything! That wasn't a problem for Erickson (although he always insisted on getting paid) because he used whatever tools needed to get results. His desire was to help others, not himself. Once someone asked Dr. Erickson about this, and he said: "*I like to help people. Some of the people I help like me, and some don't. It doesn't really matter which one it is.*"

Put me solidly in the camp of liking Milton Erickson.





## Machine Shop Manager

*Mike Fulmer*



The Machine Shop for February seen an improvement over the previous month of January once everything was calculated in. Bookings were up across all product lines which were related mainly to the price increase however the increase usually occurs at this time each year. Assembly numbers were a little short due to the increase but we still assembled and delivered more units compared to January. We will continue at this pace and monitor bookings to ensure we level load Machining and Assembly areas over the next couple of months. We also have a large order of Hydrants and RS valves for the city of New York that the first order is rapidly approaching. Should be a busy spring!



The spot light department of the month is the Hydrant Assembly Area. These employees have worked extremely hard to ensure our customers are receiving a quality product and making certain it is delivered on time. These employees can't do it by their selves and a lot of other personnel are involved on the Machining side of things. Hopefully we will get to spot light those employees in future articles.

## **Machine Shop Hydrant Rail / Pipe Fab Employees**

Employee's (left to right)

Matthew Lambert, Stanley Mulkey, Cheyenne Good, Dennis Jackson, Chris Sayles, Modney Estelle, Harold Westbrooks, James Martin, Kendrick Carmichael, Adam Hunter and Josh Seals.

The Machine Shop recently was able to hire two new salary employees. Tim (Brad) Gauldin and Danny Arnett both accepted positions within the Machine Shop. Both employees come to us with extensive background with different companies and have a lot to offer here at M&H. Both of these employees will be over RSGV product Line. The next time you have a question concerning RSGV you will know who to call.



Tim (Brad) Gauldin

## Supervision Additions

Brad comes to M&H Valve from Honda manufactory in Lincoln in quality assurance. Brad and his wife Shannon have three sons Adam, Dylan and Alec and reside in Lincoln.

Danny comes to M&H Valve from PBS&J Consulting as construction manger. Danny is single (widow) and has a son Dalton and they reside in Weaver.



Danny Arnett



# Environmental Manager

*John Davis*



Did you know that M&H Valve has thirty seven (37) stormwater drains located though out the facility? Have you noticed anything different about some of the drains lately?



These drains also called catch basins are used to collect the stormwater, in our case normally rain water, and direct it into a system of underground pipes that flow to the west to an unnamed tributary channel of Snow Creek.

As part of our ongoing efforts to reduce or eliminate M&H Valve’s impact on the environment we are experimenting with a “in the drain” filter system sold by New Pig Corporation. Made from 100% Post-Consumer Recycled Synthetic Fibers,

these devices have an accumulation pocket that collects oil, sediment and other contaminants but let’s water flow through, filter strips made from recycled fibers helps remove floating oil and other hydrocarbons.



Right now we have thirteen (13) drains with the filters, our heavy users, and will be watching them to see if there is any improvement in our stormwater. Depending on the results we may expand there use or remove them and try something else.



## Retiring March 31st



**Wayne Brown** is retiring with almost 39 years of dedicated service. Wayne has worked all his time in the foundry and has made a lot of good friends. Wayne has seen a lot of good changes since coming to M&H Valve and said he has made a good living while working here. Wayne will be deeply missed.

~ *Sherrill Burt, Wayne’s Supervisor.*

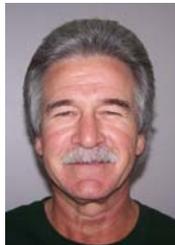
**Stanley Mulkey** is retiring with almost 43 years of loyal service. Stanley has worked throughout M&H Valve except for maintenance and pattern shop since beginning work here in 1969. Stanley will continue to do volunteer work and do some gardening and hunting. Stanley has always committed himself in doing excellent work.

~ *Josh Seals, Stanley’s Supervisor*

## Welcome New Employees



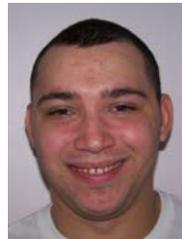
**Josh Sweatt**  
Foundry  
Cleaning Room



**Steve Butterworth**  
Machine Shop  
Machinist



**Antonio Macon**  
Foundry  
Cleaning Room



**Joseph Ramirez**  
Foundry  
Core Room



**Tadarious Mallory**  
Foundry  
Cleaning Room



**Cecil Beavers**  
Foundry  
Cleaning Room



## **Foundry Cleaning Room Employees**



An all time production record was set March 1st, 2012 in the foundry cleaning room of 102.11 tons produced. Grady Calloway cleaning room supervisor gives all the credit to these employees for their outstanding work in safety, quality, attendance and their motivation as a team to get the job done even to train new employees. This is the best group of employees I've work with in the past 7 years.

~ Grady

### **James Simpson joins M&H Valve as the Foundry Maintenance Manager**



James Simpson, brings with him 39 years of experience in the maintenance / electrical field. Before coming to M&H Valve James was the Maintenance Superintendent and Chief Electrician at Griffin Pipe Products in Council Bluffs Iowa. James duties will be to direct workers engaged in maintenance activities such as repairing furnaces, conveyor system and molding machinery. Knowledgeable of maintenance procedures relating to hydraulic, pneumatic and electrical systems to include trouble shooting.

### **Harvey Funderburk M&H Valve Maintenance Manager**

With the addition of Jim Simpson to the foundry maintenance staff, Harvey Funderburk will be concentrating on tasks associated with projects and capital improvements for the foundry and the company, plant wide.



### **Kelsey McWilliams M&H Valve Engineering Draftsman**

Kelsey is proud to be a part of the M&H Valve Team, and looks forward to working with everyone in years to come. Kelsey and is wife Kellon have been happily married for two years and are about to buy their first home in Oxford. Kelsey says he enjoys playing golf and playing his guitar.

### ***“Believe it or Not”***

William Patterson, shown here standing by the Frigidaire Refrigerator located in the core room office, is still operational and was built by the General Motors Corporation in the 1940's or early 1950's. William says it does not have an ice maker or freezer like the new one on the right, but it still keeps his lunch and soft drinks cold. ~ William Patterson





## Plant Manager - Mark Willett

As much as we would sometimes like things to stay the same, they always change. Great teams get broken up, oftentimes *because* they were great. Such was the case recently when M&H lost Steve Johnson to head Union Foundry, and Olivier Marietta to start up our Abu Dhabi venture. But as painful as change can be, it's a necessary step to progress and improvement.

This is why we are so excited to have Mark Willett on board as our new plant manager. Mark comes most recently from Kennedy Valve where he served as their machine shop manager. With fresh eyes and new ideas we have a great opportunity to make the improvements we need to keep us at the top of our game. So I'll take this last opportunity to say "thank you" to Steve and Olivier. And to Mark ..... "C'mon Willett!"

~ Tony



## Severe Weather Preparedness



After the devastating storm in April 2011, Keith Brown machine shop CNC operator and his wife Shelly said they were going to be prepared when another storm comes their way. Keith with the help of his cousin Glenn Starr built this shelter that can occupy 10 to 12 people. Keith has notify his neighbors where to come if they need shelter. Keith and Shelly have three sons Brandon, Tyler and Matthew and reside in Ohatchee. ~ Ron



In August 2011, M&H Valve was contacted by an attractions company about buying a fire hydrant. They were interested in the Model 129 hydrant because it had just the look they were interested in. Turns out the attraction company was working on a project for the new LEGOLAND® Park in Orlando, Florida that officially opened on October 15, 2011. LEGOLAND® Florida is geared specifically towards youngsters ages 2-12 with over 50 family rides, "hands-on" attractions and shows. You can find the M&H hydrant at a display named "The Fire Station" just outside one of the feature rides. As of today, it is the only fire hydrant that is visible from within the park itself. With neighboring attractions like Universal, Sea World and Walt Disney World that have over

10-20 million visitors a year, there is a good chance that this M&H 129 hydrant could be the most viewed and photographed 129 fire hydrants of all time. ~ Thomas Ingalsbe, McWane Valve Hydrant Engineer.

### M&H Valve Sales Team

I am pleased to announce that Corey Hill has accepted the position of inside Sales Representative.

~ Sue Thornburg, Inside Sales Supervisor



### Territory Sales

Daniel Feregrino, has accepted the Position as Territory Sales Manager- Florida Peninsula.

~ Terry Christjohn, VP Sales



**Month of April:**

Todd Johnson - 1st  
Sue Thornburg - 2nd  
James Butterworth - 3rd  
Jerry Summerlin - 3rd  
Susan Johnson - 7th  
Dennis Turner - 7th  
Donald Baldwin - 14th  
Sherrill Burt - 16th  
Antonio Macon - 18th  
Kenneth Higgins - 19th  
Harold Westbrooks - 21st  
Steve Griffith - 22nd  
Andrew Mason - 22nd  
Willie Robinson - 24th  
Shannon Payne - 25th  
Gerome Mixon - 27th  
Larry Mays - 30th  
James Wade - 30th

**Month of May:**

Ecky Bryant - 3rd  
Marcel Spinks - 17th  
Josh Seals - 18th  
Greg Davis - 25th  
Daniel McIntyre - 31st

**Month of June:**

Donald Haynes - 2nd  
Danielle Kiser - 3rd  
Jim Meroney - 4th  
Darryl Crump - 6th  
Larry Bowers - 7th  
Che' George - 8th  
Victor Roach - 9th  
Gary Estes - 14th  
Robert Smith - 16th  
Susan Roach - 20th  
Henry Zastawnik - 21st  
Ron Jenkins - 24th  
Travanti Dates - 27th  
Virginia Robertson - 29th  
James Hannah - 30th  
Jack Williams - 30th

**Birthdays**



**Anniversaries**

**Month of April :**

Jeff Rasmussen, 4th - 1 yr.  
Stacy Vree , 9th - 11 yrs.  
Christopher Berta, 10th - 6 yrs.  
Anthony Farfan, 15th - 16 yrs.  
Alkera Garrett, 17th - 6 yrs.  
Charles Sanders, 21st - 8 yrs.  
Susan Johnson, 22nd - 10 yrs.  
Cecil Payne, 24th - 17 yrs.  
Jack Williams, 25th - 41 yrs.  
Patrick Johnson, 26th - 16 yrs.  
Greg Hanners, 27th - 14 yrs.  
Cedric Wright, 29th - 13 yrs.  
. .

**Month of May:**

David McKinney, 1st - 6 yrs.  
Terry O'Dell, 2nd - 1 yr.  
Glenn Hanvey, 8th - 42 yrs.  
Gary Estes, 15th - 12 yrs.  
Greg Davis, 22nd - 14 yrs.  
James Wade, 23rd - 1 yr.  
James Butterworth, 24th - 40 yrs.  
Ray McClay, 24th - 8 yrs.  
Gary Ray, 24th - 13 yrs.  
Thomas Ingalsbe, 30th - 17 yrs.  
Don Haynes, 30th - 6 yrs.  
Christopher Morris, 30th - 12 yrs.  
Harold Westbrooks, 30th - 39 yrs.  
Jeremy Felton, 31st - 7 yrs.  
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**Month of June:**

Mike Humphries, 1st - 14 yrs.  
Steve Griffith, 2nd - 9 yrs.  
David Lambert, 2nd - 9 yrs.  
James Martin, 3rd - 10 yrs.  
Tony Orłowski, 10th - 16 yrs.  
Kevin Frisk, 11th - 11 yrs.  
Rocky Lanz, 11th - 11 yrs.  
Frank Musich, 11th - 11 yrs.  
Kendall Rush, 12th - 6 yrs.  
Phillip Smith, 13th - 7 yrs.  
Nicole Ferrebee, 18th - 13 yrs.  
Alan Gaither, 23rd - 4 yrs.  
Terry Heath, 26th - 10 yrs.  
Ron Ponder, 26th - 6 yrs.  
Gerome Mixon, 28th - 2 yrs.  
Danny Smith, 28th - 2 yrs.  
Marcel Spinks, 28th - 2 yrs.  
Dave Acomb, 29th - 25 yrs.  
Walker Hall, 29th - 2 yrs.  
Benu Chakraborty, 30th - 24yrs.



This 1942 M&H Valve Hydrant is located in a wooded area on the southern corner of Fort McClellan where troops were trained for World War II. The hydrant still works and is in excellent condition.

*~ by Mike Humphries.*



# Employees Hired from 1966 through 1973



**Sherrill Burt**  
8/22/1966



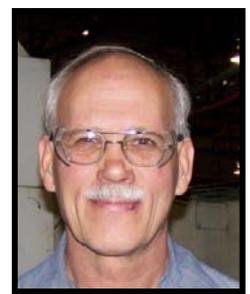
**Virginia Robertson**  
8/29/1966



**Glenn Bungert**  
11/27/1967



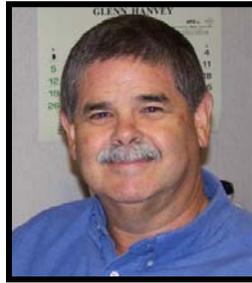
**Charles Finley**  
7/25/1968



**Henry Zastawnik**  
9/02/1969



**Glen Key**  
9/12/1969



**Glenn Hanvey**  
5/08/1970



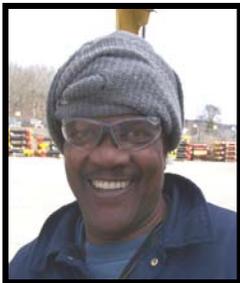
**William Pugh**  
9/01/1970



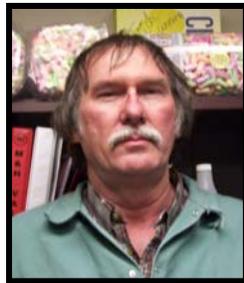
**Ronald Thomas**  
10/27/1970



**Jack Williams**  
4/25/1971



**Larry Mays**  
7/13/1971



**Dennis Turner**  
10/11/1971



**Harry Christian**  
1/25/1972



**James Hubbard**  
3/30/1972



**James Butterworth**  
5/24/1972



**Zan Elliott**  
7/22/1972



**Larry Parker**  
8/21/1972



**Tommy Fielder**  
10/02/1972



**Wilbert Price**  
11/27/1972



**Harold Westbrook**  
5/30/1973



**Kenneth Higgins**  
7/07/1973

Not Pictured

**Terry Christjohn**  
11/15/1973

