

The Rooster Crows

A quarterly newsletter for the employees of Western Waterproofing Company as well as RAM Building Restoration & Waterproofing

Trendy Royal Oak's hot appeal sparks development, renovation

Though Michigan is slow to rebound from a sagging economy, the hot property in Royal Oak, Michigan continues to translate into a fresh flow of work for Western Waterproofing Company. In just the past year, three jobs — all residential complexes — have brought Western's crews to this small urban community on the outskirts of Detroit. The jobs include Sky Lofts, North Main Lofts, and the current job at Fifth Street Condominiums which is a brand new, unoccupied structure.



According to job foreman **Craig Cuppetelli**, this current project is a significant structure with 19 floors and interesting

challenges due to its positioning between buildings. "We're out here doing all the masonry caulking and sealing the building with water repellent," Cuppetelli reports. "What makes our day interesting is physically getting to our stage since we need to access the neighboring buildings' roofs and all the adjacent buildings are different heights, plus we need to ride up in a

basket." Cuppetelli is working the job with just a two man crew — himself and **Erik Bacon**. Despite the physical hurdles for reaching the site, the Fifth Street Condominiums project is on track to wrap up any day leaving Western Waterproofing Company ready to tackle the next project this hot town has to offer. Let's hope there's more to come from Royal Oak.

Another good reason to drink water

Bet you didn't know that dehydration can also be linked to hair loss. Why? When you are dehydrated, there are not enough fluids to carry proteins to the scalp. Drink up, fellas.



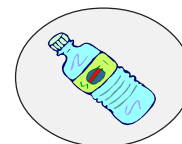
Unfortunate Sign of the Times

Whenever an economy is depressed and money tight, incidents of theft go up. Such is the case in the construction world, where on-site theft incidents are on the rise. Sadly, Western Waterproofing Company is feeling this "sign of the times" as job-site cargo boxes are broken into and tools stolen. Each incident hurts the fiscal well-being of our business, a fact that affects all of us whose careers are invested with this company. Help safeguard the security of our many assets by being aware of your work-site. With integrity, we can weather these times. Be a part of the solution.

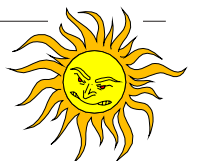


Summer safety reminder

The temperature is rising and that means the likelihood for dehydration increases. During these summer

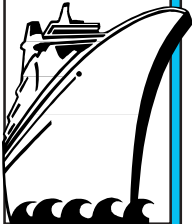


months, remember to wear light, loose clothing and to stay hydrated.



Summer Travel Trivia

Have you ever wondered why cruises cost so much? Consider this.... The average cruise ship burns approximately 1 gallon of fuel to move just 6 inches. Yikes.



Here's the scoop on the latest news

New Hires

There are two new faces drumming up business at the RAM Cincinnati office. The first is Project Manager/Estimator **Patrick Walsh** whose responsibilities include masonry restoration. Patrick joined the Ohio team on April 2 though his face is not an unfamiliar one in the industry. Patrick served as a project manager for Zeiser Construction, Inc. in Cincinnati for 15 years before being recruited to the RAM team where he is already doing his thing to secure jobs.



Patrick Walsh

Also coming onboard in Ohio is Estimator **Kurt Luckow** who is working with Patrick Walsh to solicit new projects and develop a strong presence in the area. With 15 years of experience for Roncelli Inc. as a senior estimator, Kurt's reputation is well known to the Western Waterproofing family since he often worked as a general contractor for the company. As for his new role, Kurt sees a market with much potential that is waiting to be



Kurt Luckow

cultivated. For now, he's keeping his Michigan roots and is commuting weekly but sometime in the next year, he plans to be become an official Buckeye.

Staying true to Michigan is newly hired Senior Sales Estimator **Tony Catner** whose work includes new projects and restorations. Tony joined the Western Waterproofing team in April after working

seven years as an associate vice president for business and finance facilities at Eastern Michigan University where he oversaw operations, property acquisitions, and much more. He's worked frequently with Western

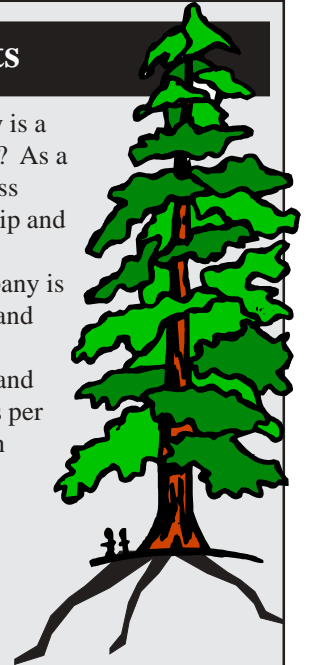


Tony Catner

This family tree has deep roots

Did you know Western Waterproofing Company is a business with deep roots and renown reputation? As a member of our crew, you are part of a world class organization regarded for its expert craftsmanship and dedication to details.

Founded in 1918, Western Waterproofing Company is the oldest and most experienced waterproofing and restoration contractor in the United States. Our reputation is built upon knowledge, experience and reliability. Completing more than 1,500 projects per year, we have grown into the largest Midwestern contractor specializing in restoration of aging structures and skilled construction of new structures. Over the years, we have revitalized aging structures in a dozen states across the country. These projects range from below-grade waterproofing of a 600,000 square foot auto assembly plant, to weatherproofing a 32-story office tower, to the delicate cleaning and restoration of stone and terracotta on a 100-year-old church.



Projects in the Works

Felician Sisters (Livonia)

Western Waterproofing Company is restoring some glory to the 75-year-old church and convent operated by the Felician Sisters, an apostolic congregation of the Catholic Church located in



Livonia, Michigan. Foreman **Robert Woods** calls the project a total facade/masonry restoration utilizing a crew of five men. The work, which began in early May, involves all caulking and sealant replacements as well as removing bad

mortar and replacing it with color matched mortar, then cleaning the entire exterior. The project is expected to wrap up around September.

Beyond the fact that there are nuns everywhere, the job is interesting from a professional aspect for one very big reason. "Part of the job is tearing down 30' feet of a 125' smokestack and re-capping it," Woods explained. "That's definitely the most challenging part of the job." Hopefully, the job-site will lend some special grace as that scaffolding goes up!

Phase II Blue Deck (Detroit)

Things are moving along at Detroit Metro Airport's Blue Deck where the second of four phases is well underway.

Overseeing the work to the parking deck is Foreman **Dennis Lezotte** who is utilizing a crew of 10-20 guys to make the east side of the deck look brand new (Phase I was the west side of the deck).. The work includes structural repairs, drain replacement, deck coating, all joint sealants and expansion joints, and milling 1/2" of concrete off the surface and overlaying it. With work staying on track, the crew expects to wrap up the fourth and final phase of the project to wrap up by October. Until then, they will continue to juggle the ongoing challenges of the job, most notably re-routing traffic and dust control.

Roosevelt Hall (Ypsilanti)

Over on the Eastern Michigan Univer-

Waterproofing Company over the years and is excited to join the team!

New on the warehouse crew

The warehouse crew in Livonia also welcomed some new employees, including driver **Chris Coby** and mechanic **David Smith**. Welcome to Western, guys!



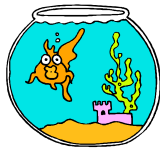
Chris Coby



David Smith

There are bigger bowls out there!

Don't be afraid to jump to a bigger bowl! Career opportunities await outside the Michigan market. From Ohio, to Minnesota to Florida, job opportunities await. For more information, contact **Connie Moody** at (734) 437-6225.



How's your driving?

Your driving record follows you everywhere. If your driving record is questionable to downright bad, you will

not be able to drive Western Waterproofing Company vehicles. End of story. For the sake of yourself, your family and career, always drive safely.

Call-In Center

Western Waterproofing Company is now home to a 24-hour, seven-day-a-week Centralized Call-In Center for any job sites in southeastern Michigan. The new system enables a single point of contact for ordering materials, small tools and equipment as well as scheduling equipment delivery

and pickup. Calls are currently processed through the call center with simple prompts.



New in the warehouse!

To celebrate our longtime employees, anniversary banners will be hung from the rafters in the warehouse featuring those employees celebrating 10, 15 or 20+ years with the company. Come and see!

Your online store is open for business!



It doesn't get any easier than this! Western Waterproofing Company's online store is now open for business to all employees. With a simple click, you can order men's apparel, outerwear, hats, lady's apparel, tees and promo items such as golf balls with the Western logo. Online credit card payment for items is quick and easy with all orders sent directly to the employee's home. Visit our website to see what's for sale!

www.westernwp.com

sity campus in Ypsilanti, Foreman **Jim Monday** and his crew of two guys are working on a long-standing



piece of history: Roosevelt Hall. The building has some deep educational roots dating back to 1925 when it first opened as a high school. It now serves as an EMU building housing classes and the campus ROTC. To retain some of the structure's original appearance, Monday and his crew are removing exterior limestone and waterproofing the two-tier front stairway. The job

includes replacing the stairs with new limestone and putting down stamped concrete on the deck landings of the stairway. If all goes well, the project should wrap up by the end of June.

University of Michigan Deck (Ann Arbor)

Meanwhile, on a campus nearby, Foreman **Jeff Pugh** and his crew of 25 guys are restoring every floor of a five floor parking deck connected to the Dental School and Power Center for the Performing Arts at the University of Michigan. According to Pugh, the job involves the whole nine yards... "caulking, removing bad concrete, and steel replacement." To get the job

done, they are utilizing a hydro-demolition machine which removes concrete down to 4 1/2 inches through high pressure water blasting. Of course, the challenge is catching the 150 gallons of water used per minute and filtering it. Expect this project to wrap up by mid-August.

Kresge Library (Rochester Hills)

On the rolling hills of Oakland University in Rochester Hills, Foreman **Bob Leporowski** and a crew of approximately 10 guys are tackling renovation work to the school's Kresge Library. The building, which rests atop a hill, requires brick replacement and structural steel work. In total, Leporowski estimates that 30,000 bricks will be removed

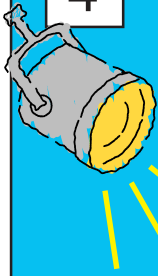
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Fishing made easier

While you are online ordering company shirts, surf on over to your state's website (michigan.gov). Many states now have fishing permit



applications online. It's fast and it's simple.



M & M Corner

By Michael McNab and Al Manley

Suggestion Box

Got any ideas for training?
If so, drop your idea in the M&M
suggestion box.

Employee Spotlight

When it comes to working for Western Waterproofing Company, **Tammy Gagnon** has more stories than most. That's because she's been with the company since 1985! Yep. Twenty-two years and counting!

When asked who is still around from when she first started, she smiles. "Well, I guess that would be Bob (Mazur)...he and I are the only ones left from those days," she chuckles. Her memory is quick and clear when it comes to the small building on Freeland in Detroit where she first worked for the company. "The neighborhood was terrible but we had new computers and everything we needed."

Though she says she could write a book about her experiences at Western, it doesn't take long for her to recount a story, like the time when a pregnant employee's water broke on the dance floor at Bob Mazur's wedding. "That made the evening memorable," she laughs.

When Tammy first came to Western Waterproofing in the mid-80s, it was Bob who originally hired her and he's the reason she's stayed on all these years. "He has always treated me well," she recalls. "And the people...I've always enjoyed the people I work with here."

Tammy's career with Western started with a secretarial position. Since then, she has worn many hats but it



Tammy Gagnon

Name that employee

This employee's first car was a '71 white Cadillac.

His first job was as a bus boy at Big Boys and his first concert was the Scorpions at Pine Knob. Who is he?



The answer is...
Tony Morris

In our thoughts and prayers....

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of restoration field work **Jerry Holley** who tragically passed away in April. We also send our heartfelt condolences to **Tony Morris** whose mother passed away recently. The Western Waterproofing family is with you during these most difficult times.

Golfers Wanted!

It is almost time to tee-off and we need some golfers to get those balls flying! Western Waterproofing Company's Second Annual 18-Hole Golf Outing scheduled for August 18 at Fox Hills Golf in Plymouth, Michigan. This just-for-fun event is open to all employees and their guests with money raised going to the Karmanos Cancer Institute. The cost is \$80 per person which can be paid by check or via a one-time payroll deduction (make checks payable to Western Waterproofing Company). The cost includes golf, cart, open bar and a steak dinner. Last year, 40 employees and about a dozen guests participated and successfully raised over \$3,000 for charities. Experienced golfers, inexperienced golfers, couch potatoes and putt-putters are all welcome. Sign-up by calling **Connie Moody** at (734) 437-6225.



wasn't until a lady in accounts payable needed some help that she made her move to the money side of things, eventually landing her current role in payroll.

Congratulations, Tammy, on being this month's *Employee Spotlight!*

It's a Family Affair!

This month, yet another family is spotlighted as relatives who call Western Waterproofing Company their employer: siblings **Shelley Szostek** and **Christopher Szostek**. Shelley works in the executive offices of the Restoration Department as an Administrative Assistant where she is well-known and well-liked! She is

married to **Dave**, has a younger son, **Cody**, and has been at Western for almost 8

years. For the past three years, her brother, Chris, has worked in the mechanic's department for **Ron Palo**. Outside of work, Chris loves to golf and take care of his handsome 3-year-old son, **Josh**. (Anyone need a "ringer" for their golf outing team?)

On our minds

Our thoughts go out to fellow employees **Fred Sieradzki** and **Brian Hovis** who are on sick leave. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.



One proud mama!

Western Waterproofing Company employee **Michele Riley** has much to smile about these days.

Her son, **Zachary Riley-Kelley**, graduated from Hazel Park High School and is heading off to Western University in Kalamazoo, Michigan where his future looks bright!. Congratulations to both the proud mama and her graduate!



Project updates

— *Kresge Library project continued from Page 3*

and new structural steel added. To work around the challenging logistics of the landscape, the crew is utilizing hydro-elevated work platforms (hydro-mobiles) which has been used in two other projects for Western (Book Cadillac and 640 Temple). Leporowski received training on the hydro-mobile in Montreal, a



trip he recently returned from with five other Western employees. Should the project go as planned, a completion date of August is expected.