

### 1st QUARTER NEWSLETTER

## NEWS - EVENTS - JOBS

#### **CHANGING TIMES**

We all know that "Times Change". We see it every day in the news, our work environment and even in our personal lives. It seems lately that the rate of change has been accelerated with the pandemic that caused so much fear, confusion and turmoil paired with one our our most challenging economies. The strife and discourse taking place in other parts of the world just adds to the challenges.

How do we handle all this change Personally and Professionally? Well the personally side of things is.....well personal. But on the professional side of things we do it as a team. We all first acknowledge that we have some rough roads to navigate and we work together as a team to get where we want to go. Beckstrom is committed to our team, our family. Always looking for the best routes through the rough roads to ensure we have everyone on board and we all get their safely.

We are seeing the changes and challenges in our industry and together we are doing a fantastic job getting through them as best as we can. We are all seeing the inflated costs of everything we buy and that hits us hard and affects the way we do business. We are seeing some of the longest delays in getting the materials to perform our jobs, from small items to major packages of gear and lighting. We are seeing a lack of qualified candidates in the job pool, and it is going to affect the industry for a long time to come.

How is Beckstrom Electric navigating the challenges? With inflating costs, we are working diligently with our vendor partners, working on locking in pricing at the earliest opportunity, making bulk buys to reduce costs to make us more competitive in a tight market. With all the delays we focus on educating the GC's and owners of the potential delays, pushing for approvals and getting releases worked out as soon as possible and figuring out any storage concerns. Beckstrom started planning for the manpower shortages over 7 years ago with the apprenticeship program, we are and have been recruiting some of the best young bodies and training them up with a path to knowledge and success.

Yes these times are challenging but Beckstrom Electric along with all of our Beckstrom family will continue to be that growing success story in the industry. We are proud to overcome these challenges with all of you. Our future is bright together......

## Project Update

Beckstrom Electric is proud to have been a part of the 19,000 Sq Ft. renovation at Inova Lansdowne Hospital. This project consisted of 9 Exam rooms, 3 Minor Procedure Rooms, 15 Infusion bays and multiple other support spaces for staff and patients. Great job Team!

#TuesdayTower ~ the new Inova Schar Cancer Institute (ISCI) — Loudoun treatment facility opened its doors to patients today. The state-of-the-art space is located on the first floor of the North Tower near Market Coffee. ISCI has an expert team of cancer specialists, an infusion clinic, and Life with Cancer programs — all designed to create better experiences and outcomes for our cancer patients.

The center's team of experts specialize in breast, colorectal, GI, head and neck, melanoma, gynecologic, lung, and prostate cancers.

ISCI is a dept. of Inova Fairfax Hospital. https://www.inova.org/.../inova-schar-c ancer-institute...



## Beckstrom Electric is now hiring

Know someone looking to work for a great company, are they tired of their current job and being a number with a company that does not even know who they are. Tell them about the great opportunity here at Beckstrom Electric.

We are looking for Electricians, Mechanics, Journeymen, Apprentices, Fire Alarm Technicians, Service Technicians.

All these jobs will be a great opportunity for someone to come join our team and grow with us all.



If you have a story please let us know, we love to share good news with the Beckstrom Electric Family!!!

#### **ALL ABOUT EDUCATION**



# APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING

## Some very relevant words from Mike Rowe

"We're on a mission to help close the skills gap by challenging the stigmas and stereotypes that discourage people from pursuing the millions of available jobs. We're redefining the definition of a good education and a good job, because we don't think a four-year degree is the best path for the most people. We want people to understand the impact of skilled labor on their lives, and we're convinced that the solution has to start with a new appreciation for hard work."

"Over the last 30 years, America has convinced itself that the best path for the most people is an expensive, four-year degree. Pop culture has glorified the "corner office job" while unintentionally belittling the jobs that helped build the corner office. As a result, our society has devalued any other path to success and happiness. Community colleges, trade schools, and apprenticeship programs are labeled as "alternative." Millions of well-intended parents and guidance counselors see apprenticeships and on-the-job training opportunities as "vocational consolation prizes," best suited for those not cut out for the brass ring: a four-year degree. The push for higher education has coincided with the removal of vocational arts from high schools nationwide. And the effects of this one-two punch have laid the foundation for a widening skills gap and massive student loan debt."



#### SAFETY & SAFETY DRAWING WINNERS

As always safety is our highest priority, remember that safety doesn't stop when you leave the job, no texting and driving or aggressive driving. Keep up the tool box talks and let's keep our jobs safe!!!

The winners below all received their share of the safety drawing that gets split 5 ways each month, on average about \$120 each. Congratulations to you all!!!!

## **Tool Box Talks Are MANDATORY**





#### **OCTOBER WINNERS**

Jose Cruz Cailen Baggett Kevin Gold Matt Kane Jorge M Velasco

#### **NOVEMBER WINNERS**

Bernardo Urbina Justin Murphy Joseph Richards Jorge M Velasco Joseph Richards

#### **DECEMBER WINNERS**

Dalton Burgess Orlando Morales Josh Ruffner Mark Trowbridge Manrique Segovia

## Spotlight

### Planning for your future.... or are you?

It is never too early to start planning for your future. Well actually it is never too late either. Although waiting to plan for your future until later in life could pose many obstacles that are hard to overcome. The best advise I NEVER followed was "save for your future" while you are young. if someone has the discipline to set money aside for the purpose of reaching a retirement goal, the earlier that savings begins, the easier the goal will be to reach. Rule of thumb is always to take full advantage of a companies offer with regards to 401k plan. When a company has any kind of match policy (as Beckstrom does) it is strongly recommended that you participate in that plan to receive the full benefit of the match. That match is free money, and not just that, it will grow with the market. As a hypothetical example, if you put \$10 of free money into the market and leave it alone for 20 years, that money will be worth \$61.50. If you put that money in your pocket and not invest it, within 20 years it would be worth a lot less than the current \$10 due to inflation.

Investing as an older and more mature individual might allow the lessons in life to steer you to being more frugal with your money and in turn allow you to invest more money than you ever could have as a younger version of you. This is another way of striving to reach that retirement goal. Why would a company offer to give its employees free money and manage a 401K retirement program? Most companies would much rather have a happy employee who has a set goal to reach retirement. The flip side of this would be an employee who has done no planning and can not afford to retire and may become "a longer term employee" against there wishes, and this creates an unhappy employee. Bottom line, plan save and be happy.











Please keep us informed of the exciting events in your lives and it might just end up in the newsletter!!!