

FLEET FOCUS

A newsletter from Lee County Fleet Management

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ENJOY YOUR HOT CHOCOLATE

A group of graduates, well established in their careers, were talking at a reunion and decided to go visit their old university professor, now retired. During their visit, the conversation turned to complaints about stress in their work and lives. Offering his guests hot chocolate, the professor went into the kitchen and returned with a large pot of hot chocolate and an assortment of cups - porcelain, glass, crystal, some plain looking, some expensive, some exquisite - telling them to help themselves to the hot chocolate.

When they all had a cup of hot chocolate in hand, the professor said: "Notice that all the nice-looking, expensive cups were taken, leaving behind the plain and cheap ones. While it is normal for you to want only the best for yourselves, that is the source of your problems and stress. The cup that you're drinking from adds nothing to the quality of the hot chocolate. In most cases it is just more expensive and in some cases even hides what we drink. What all of you really wanted was hot chocolate, not the cup; but you consciously went for the best cups... And then you began eyeing each other's cups."

"Now consider this: Life is the hot chocolate; your job, money and position in society are the cups. They are just tools to hold and contain life. The cup you have does not define, nor change the quality of life you have. Sometimes, by concentrating only on the cup, we fail to enjoy the hot chocolate provided to us. We are given the hot chocolate, but you choose the cups. The happiest people don't have the best of everything. They just make the best of everything that they have.

Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply. Speak kindly. And enjoy your hot chocolate.

- *Author Unknown*

QUOTABLE QUOTES:

"Grass grows, birds fly, waves pound the sand. I beat people up."

- *Muhammad Ali
Legendary Prizefighter*

"History, despite its wrenching pain, cannot be unlived, however, if faced with courage, need not be lived again."

- *Maya Angelou
Poet*

"You gave your life to become the person you are right now. Was it worth it?"

- *Richard David Bach
American Author*

"I would rather regret the things I have done than the things I have not."

- *Lucille Desiree Ball
Actress, Comedienne*

"You ask me what I'd like to do that I haven't done and I say 'Nothin'!' I haven't any mountains to climb or oceans to swim. I've been an extremely blessed individual. ... I'm not clamorin' for more trinkets. If I were to die tomorrow, I could say I've had a good life."

- *Ray Charles
Musician, Entertainer*

DO I REALLY NEED TO KNOW THIS?

** Often thought to be the world's first miniature golf course, Thistle Dhu, (this'll do) in Pinehurst, NC built in 1916, is off by almost half a century. In 1867 it was not considered appropriate for women to swing a golf club higher than their shoulders, so the St. Andrews golf club in Scotland built them an 18-hole putting green, thus creating the world's first miniature golf course.

** If a dime-sized piece of a neutron star landed on earth, it would weigh about 100 million tons.

** When high speed trains pass each other they must slow down or break their windows. The passing trains produce a low-pressure area between them that can actually pull the glass out of the frames.

** The Great Lakes have a combined area of 94,230 square miles - larger than the states of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Vermont combined.

** A chronometer is a watch or clock whose movement has been tested and certified to operate within a certain standard of accuracy.

** The first battery-powered watch, the Hamilton Electric 500, was released in 1957 by the Hamilton Watch Company of Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

** The French word "horologie", used to describe a large clock, was derived from the Greek 'hora' meaning hour and 'legein' meaning to tell.

** A rat can last longer without water than a camel can. (*Ed: Great!*)

** The first advertisement to discuss body odor was a 1919 ad for the deodorant Odo-Ro-No.

** Pound for pound, grasshoppers are 3 times as nutritious as beef.

** A week-old gazelle can outrun a full grown horse.

** The size of your foot is approximately the size of your forearm. (*Ed: Odds are that you will check this out for yourself!*)

** The skeleton of an average 160 lb body weighs about 29 lbs.

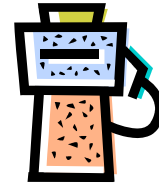
** The pyramids in Egypt contain enough stone and mortar to construct a wall 10 feet high and 5 feet wide running from New York City to Los Angeles.

** In 2004 a Sherpa named Pemba Dorje climbed Mount Everest in 8 hours and 10 minutes.

** The word nightmare is the private name of a medieval female demon

that attacked sleeping people. "Mare" means goblin in Old English.

** The planets in the solar system rotate counterclockwise, except Venus, Uranus and Pluto which rotate clockwise. No one knows why.



FUEL CONSERVATION TIPS

1. **Avoid long idle times** - The worst mileage a vehicle can get is 0 mpg, which occurs when it idles. Restarting an engine uses about the same amount of fuel as idling for 30 seconds. When idling for longer periods of time, shut off the engine.

2. **Drive the posted speed limit** - This tip may save lives as well as fuel. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates a 10 to 15% improvement in fuel economy by driving 55 mph instead of 65mph.

3. **Use the A/C sparingly**- Use the a/c only when needed. The air conditioner is one of the biggest drains on engine power and fuel economy. It can reduce gas efficiency by 5 to 20%.

4. **Park in the shade** - the vehicle's interior will be easier to cool and less gas will evaporate.

5. **Car pool whenever possible**

6. **Avoid aggressive driving** - Fast starts, weaving in and out of traffic

and rapid acceleration to and from a stop light don't save much time and wear out components such as brakes and tires faster. This can save up to 20 % in fuel economy according to the EPA. (excerpts from article in *Automotive Fleet Magazine* April 2008)



LAST MONTH'S TRIVIA

What is the only baseball position not mentioned in the famous Abbott and Costello "Who's on first?" routine?

- Third Base
- Right Field
- Short Stop
- Left Field

The correct answer is "b" Right Field. Who's on first; What's on second; I don't know is on third; I don't give a darn is at shortstop; Today is catching; Tomor-row's pitching; Why is in left field and Because is in center field. This month's prize winner was **Dave Morris from Code Inspections**. Way to go Dave! Thanks to everyone who played our trivia game.



FAMOUS PEOPLE BORN IN JUNE

Marilyn Monroe	6/01
Jill Bammerlin	6/07
Janet Sherman	6/09
Gary Holmes	6/14

Paul McCartney	6/18
Rick Irick	6/27
Helen Keller	6/27

STORMY WEATHER

The word "hurricane" is derived from the name of the West Indian god of storms, Huracan.

SO THAT'S WHERE IT CAME FROM...

** Adolf "Adi" Dassler gave Adidas its name. He made his first shoes in 1920, at the age of 20. His vision was to provide every athlete with the best footwear for his respective discipline. In 1948 he introduced **Adidas** as the company name, a combination of his own first and last name. One year later he registered the Three Stripes.

When Leroy and Forrest Raffel opened the first Arby's in Boardman, Ohio on July 23, 1964, customers enjoyed roast beef sandwiches, potato chips, and Texas-sized iced teas. The brothers decided on the name **Arby's, which stands for R.B., the initials of the **Raffel Brothers**.

** Glen Bell was 23 when he left the Marine Corps. in 1946 and came home to San Bernardino, California. He owned a hot dog stand, three Taco Tia stands and several El Tacos res-taurants, before building the first Taco Bell in Downey, Calif.

in 1962.

** In 1884 **Henry Royce's** company, Royce Limited, was producing high quality electrical machines. Royce decided to enter the car production business. At the same time, **Charles Rolls** was learning engineering at Cambridge. Years later, these two entrepreneurs met and in December 1904, the two agreed to create the first **Rolls-Royce** motorcars.

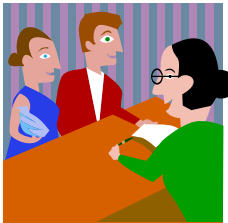
WELCOME TO FLEET'S NEWEST EMPLOYEES

Please join us in welcoming two new employees to our Fleet team. **Jayne Winters**, our new Supply Specialist, comes to our parts room from the military. He loves golf and biking. Jayme is father to 8-year old daughter Rachele. **Keith Twardus**, a mechanic in the EMS shop, comes to us from Lee Tran where he worked the night shift. Keith is married to wife, Lisa, who currently works for Utilities. They have two children, Nick and Kasey. Please stop by the shop to extend your welcome to them.

WAY TO GO BILL!!

Congratulations to **Bill Prussman**, Shop Superintendent, who recently completed the process to become a Certified Equipment Manager (CEM). The certification process is based on experience, education, and

knowledge of the heavy equipment industry. Each applicant must demonstrate involvement in the fleet industry on a national level and successfully pass a 16-part exam covering topics like: preventive maintenance, equipment specifications, benchmarking and environmental issues. The certification is sponsored by the Association of Equipment Management Professionals in Glenwood Springs, Colorado.



LOOKING FOR A NEW JOB?

Here are some you may not have considered...

** An **Armpit sniffer** works for deodorant companies to determine product effectiveness.

** A **Dog breath sniffer** tests the effect of a dog's diet on their teeth.

** A **citrus fruit colorer** gives citrus fruit a more natural coloring with the help of unnatural chemi-

cals (how ironic).

** A **brain picker** trims meat, glands and organs from carcass heads for use in making meat products.

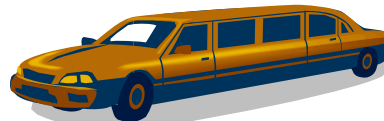
** A **bunghole borer** bores the whole in a keg for the spout.

** A **Wrinkle chaser** irons wrinkles from shoes as they are being made.

** A **chicken sexer** sorts through baby chicks to determine if they are male or female, then segregates them.

** An **egg smeller** smells eggs after they are broken open to check for spoilage.

** A **top waddy** supervises and coordinates the activities of a group of cowpokes.



BUT, I WANT TO RIDE IN A LIMO...

I love the mystique of the dark windows of a limousine. I wonder who is riding in the back seat. Is it someone famous? For some reason the windows on my

black Nissan just doesn't have the same effect. For good reason. According to Florida Statutes, it's illegal!

While the rules for vehicle windows vary, the basic "rule of thumb" is that the window must be transparent and cannot exceed the legal limits for tinting.

If a vendor installs illegal tinting on a County vehicle, the vendor will be responsible for removing it free of charge. Remember, you cannot request limo tinting on your county vehicle, no matter how famous you think you are.

THIS MONTH'S TRIVIA QUESTION IS...

What are you doing when you pandiculate?

- A. Breathing hard
- B. Stretching and yawning
- C. Eating rapidly
- D. Begging for money

Send your answer to Marilyn Rawlings at Fleet Management for a chance to win a prize. The winner will be randomly selected from all of the correct respondents.

**CHANGES COMING
TO FLEET FOCUS**

Fleet Management staff is currently working to re-design the way people sign up for and receive our newsletter. As most of you know, we have changed to an electronic format, replacing at least in part, our blue paper version.

In order to stay on the distribution list, current readers will have to sign up at a specific web site and complete the reader request. You will simply enter your name and e-mail address and a monthly reminder will be sent to you. We hope to transition this over the next few months. Keep watching for additional information. If after 90 days, we have not received a request from you, we will assume you no longer read the newsletter and remove your name from the list.

If you still want to receive a hard copy of the Fleet Focus each month, or if you want extra copies for employees who don't have e-mail accounts, call Raine at 338-3233 and she will ensure that