

# WM Schlosser

Company Incorporated

## WMSSENGER

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### Quote of the Month

*Experiments don't fail. When you try something new, you either learn that it is worthwhile for you or that it does not work for you, and thus save future time by not trying it again.*

-Stanley Goldstein

### Contributors

- Lori Bell
- Tracy Garland
- Wendell Jackson
- Maria Julien
- William Lawrence
- Michael Peton
- Shannon Longoria
- Damion Walker

## Holiday Drinking means extra driving precautions

By: Mike Peton

Even if you are not Drinking and Driving that doesn't mean that that everyone else is sober.

Use extra caution when driving this holiday season.

Drinking and Driving Don't Mix! Drunk Drivers Kill more and more people every year. Many states are making tougher laws about Drinking and Driving but that doesn't mean that people will stop doing it. This year be extra cautious of Drunk Drivers

Holidays at any time of the year do not involve alcohol at my house but that doesn't mean that the rest of the world quit drinking. The following information is primarily for the non-alcoholic.

The Christmas-New Year's holidays are one of the most dangerous periods of the year on our streets and highways because so many people foolishly try to mix drinking alcoholic beverages and driving automobiles and other vehicles.

It is estimated than between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day, close to 2,000 people are killed in traffic crashes involving automobiles.

Fortunately, a combination of

tougher laws, awareness campaigns and changing public attitudes has had a positive impact on the drunk driving problem.



The number of arrests for DUI decreased from a peak of 1,613,000 in 1983 to 1,033,000 in 1995. At the same time, the percentage of alcohol related fatal accidents has dropped from 57 percent in 1982 to 41 percent in 1995. Unfortunately, there is bad news as well. For the first time in six years, the number of people between the ages of 15 and 20 killed in alcohol related accidents went up.

Safety officials say 2,315 youngsters in their late teens died in DUI accidents.

Not many persons think too intelligently after a few drinks, so the only way to guard against trouble is to plan ahead.

If you're going to drink during the holidays, plan to stay where you are drinking or have someone who is sober available to take you home.

Contrary to what some persons think, physical exercise, black coffee, fresh air, cold showers and other popular theories for sobering up fast don't work. As one authority put it, these methods at best will result only in a wide-awake drunk.

In addition to individuals taking responsibility for their own behavior, good friends can save lives by taking the car keys of acquaintances who have had too much to drink.

Party hosts and hostesses can set the right kind of tone by setting limits on drinking and by providing ample alternatives to liquor, beer and wine such as alcohol-free egg nog and hot cider, soft drinks and fruit punch.

Make Your Holiday Party A Safe and Sober Celebration

Many generous Americans nationwide have been donating blood to ensure a sustained and secure blood supply for all Americans. Together with the Red Cross, these blood heroes are ensuring that the safest possible blood is readily available whenever and wherever needed - for the military, for other blood centers in America and for all 5,000 of America's hospitals.

The honor, spirit and resources of the American people comes forth with neighbors helping neighbors in need - during earthquakes, floods, fires, storms - and also for the deeply personal and often quiet disasters that require a gift of blood.

To find out where you can donate, visit [www.givelife.org](http://www.givelife.org) or call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE (1-800-448-3543).

#### Recruiting:

Due to the diligent efforts of our estimating department, here and at the Chesapeake office, we are actively recruiting for the following positions:

Project Managers  
Superintendents  
Project Engineers  
Quality Control Representatives for the D.C, North Carolina, and Virginia areas.

Recruiting incentives are still applicable.

Questions? Comments? Do you have something you'd like to contribute? Then please feel free to contact Michael Peton at the Main Office.

[mpeton@wmschlosser.com](mailto:mpeton@wmschlosser.com)

## Holiday Recipe

By: Charletta McCoy

- 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice
- 1/4 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/3 cup chopped pecans
- 1/3 cup currants
- 1/4 cup butter, softened
- 1 cup sugar
- 3 eggs
- 1 cup canned pumpkin
- 1/4 cup orange juice
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla



In medium bowl, stir together flour, baking soda, spice, baking powder, and salt. Stir 1 tablespoon of the mixture into pecans and currants; set aside.

In large bowl at medium speed, beat together butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in eggs, pumpkin, juice and vanilla until well blended. Add remaining dry mixture to pumpkin mixture and beat at low speed until thoroughly blended. Stir in reserved pecans and currants.

Line bottom of lightly greased 9 x 5 x 3-inch loaf pan with waxed paper. Pour in batter. Bake in pre-heated 350°F oven until lightly browned and cake tester inserted in center comes out clean, about 60 to 70 minutes. Cool on wire rack for 10 minutes. Remove from pan. Gently peel off waxed paper; cool.

## 'Tis the Season: Donating to Charities

By: Lori Bell

With more than half a million federally recognized charities soliciting contributions, chances are you'll be asked to donate. Here are some tips to help you give wisely:

**Ask for written information.** A legitimate charity will give you information outlining its mission, how your donation will be distributed, and proof that your contribution is tax deductible.

**Watch out for similar sounding names.** Some phony charities use names that sound or look like those of respected, legitimate organizations.

**Refuse high pressure appeals.** Legitimate charities won't push you to give on the spot. Be cautious of charities that offer to send a courier for your donation.

**Consider the costs.** When buying merchandise or receiving free goods for giving, remember that these items are paid for out of your contribution. That means less of your donation may go to the charity.

**Don't send cash.** For security and tax record purposes, pay by check. Write the official name of the charity on your check.

## The power of positive thought

By: Wendell Jackson

Attitude will determine one's level of success both professionally and personally. If we have a great attitude about life, we can handle virtually anything that life throws at us.

In fact a positive attitude is the best way to combat the anger, frustration, and disappointment that most people feel daily.

### Methods for Maintaining Positive Attitude

**Choose your thoughts carefully.** You have the power to control what you are thinking. You can be happy right now doing whatever it is that you are doing. It all comes down to changing the way you think.

**Read something positive daily.** If you are constantly reading about death and murder, your outlook could be influenced negatively. Try reading something positive for 15 to 30 minutes a day so that your mind is anchored in positive thought.

**Affirm your potential each day.** Make a list of 10 positive things you can say about yourself and repeat them every morning. Repeat thoughts like "Success is in me," or "I was born to greatness." You can also have a motivational quote of the day sent to your form sites such as [www.goal-setting-guide.com](http://www.goal-setting-guide.com). These sayings can instantly make you feel better about what you can accomplish.

**Limit the time you spend around negative people.** Try to associate with positive people. Negative people can have toxic attitudes and try to make you think that your ideas are undoable. Combat this by surrounding yourself with people who have the attitude of "I can" and "I will."

A person with a positive attitude is more likely to achieve than one who is afraid to risk disappointment or who expects to fail. In addition, negativity can destroy one's self-esteem and lead to illness.

### A History of Thanksgiving

After arriving in America, the initial harsh Massachusetts winter killed approximately one-half of the original 102 colonists.

In the spring of 1621, the Native Americans, led by two braves named Samoset and Squanto, taught survivors how to plant corn and how to catch alewives (a variety of the herring family) that were used as a fertilizer to grow pumpkins, beans and other crops. By that summer, a good corn yield was expected, and the pumpkin crop was bountiful.

In early Autumn, to recognize the help of the Native Americans, and to give thanks for having survived, Governor William Bradford arranged a harvest festival. Four men were sent "fowling" after ducks and geese.

The festival lasted three days. Massasoit, local chief of the Wampanoag, together with 90 Native Americans from various tribes, participated in the ceremony.

In 1789, George Washington issued a general proclamation which named November 26 as a Day of National Thanksgiving. President Abraham Lincoln made Thanksgiving a national holiday. In 1941, Congress ruled that the fourth Thursday of November would be deemed an observation of Thanksgiving Day, and that it would be a legal federal holiday.

## WMS SAFETY DEPARTMENT HOLDS LIVE-BURN FIRE SAFETY CLASS

On Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2006, the WMS Safety Department held a fire prevention and a live-burn fire extinguisher class in the main office conference room. First was a classroom session about fire prevention, hot work permit requirements and the proper way to use a fire extinguisher. After the classroom sessions were completed the class got to go out into our parking lot and actually put out a flammable liquid fire with a fire extinguisher. The Safety Department would like to thank all of the job sites who could spare people to attend the class. Fire safety is important to all of us. With the holidays approaching...do you have a fire extinguisher in your home and know how to use it?





**Is your cell phone acting funky?**

Here's a step by step guide on how to do a Master Reset:

- Menu
- Settings
- Advanced
- Connectivity
- Master Reset
- Display will read, "Enter Security:"
- Enter 000000
- Press OK
- Display will read "Master Reset"
- Press Yes
- Display will read "Caution see Manual"
- Press OK on center of keypad (phone will power off at this point)
- Turn phone back on

This Month's Sudoku

	6		1		4		5	
		8	3		5	6		
2								1
8			4		7			6
		6				3		
7			9		1			4
5								2
		7	2		6	9		
	4		5		8		7	

# IT Humor

By: Damion Walker

General Motors doesn't have a "help line" for people who don't know how to drive, because people don't buy cars like they buy computers – but imagine if they did . . .

HELPLINE: "General Motors HelpLine, how can I help you?"  
 CUSTOMER: "I got in my car and closed the door, and nothing happened!"  
 HELPLINE: "Did you put the key in the ignition slot and turn it?"  
 CUSTOMER: "What's an ignition?"  
 HELPLINE: "It's a starter motor that draws current from your battery and turns over the engine."  
 CUSTOMER: "Ignition? Motor? Battery? Engine? How come I have to know all of these technical terms just to use my car?"

HELPLINE: "General Motors HelpLine, how can I help you?"  
 CUSTOMER: "My car ran fine for a week, and now it won't go anywhere!"  
 HELPLINE: "Is the gas tank empty?"  
 CUSTOMER: "Huh? How do I know!?"  
 HELPLINE: "There's a little gauge on the front panel, with a needle, and markings from 'E' to 'F.' Where is the needle pointing?"  
 CUSTOMER: "It's pointing to 'E.' What does that mean?"  
 HELPLINE: "It means that you have to visit a gasoline vendor, and purchase some more gasoline. You can install it yourself, or pay the vendor to install it for you."  
 CUSTOMER: "What!?" I paid \$12,000. for this car! Now you tell me that I have to keep buying more components? I want a car that comes with everything built in!"

HELPLINE: "General Motors HelpLine, how can I help you?"  
 CUSTOMER: "Your cars suck!"  
 HELPLINE: "What's wrong?"  
 CUSTOMER: "It crashed, that's what went wrong!"  
 HELPLINE: "What were you doing?"  
 CUSTOMER: "I wanted to run faster, so I pushed the accelerator pedal all the way to the floor. It worked for a while, and then it crashed – and now it won't start!"  
 HELPLINE: "It's your responsibility if you misuse the product. What do you expect us to do about it?"  
 CUSTOMER: "I want you to send me one of the latest version that doesn't crash anymore!"

HELPLINE: "General Motors HelpLine, how can I help you?"  
 CUSTOMER: "Hi! I just bought my first car, and I chose your car because it has automatic transmission, cruise control, power steering, power brakes, and power door locks."  
 HELPLINE: "Thanks for buying our car. How can I help you?"  
 CUSTOMER: "How do I work it?"  
 HELPLINE: "Do you know how to drive?"  
 CUSTOMER: "Do I know how to what?"  
 HELPLINE: "Do you know how to drive?"  
 CUSTOMER: "I'm not a technical person! I just want to go places in my car!"

# NEW FAMILY MEMBERS



Ama Asantewaah Tweneboa-Kodua, was born on October 28, at 11:52 am. Ama weighs 8lb-1.1oz and was 20-1/4 inches tall at time of birth. Baby, Mom and Dad are all doing well.



Nancy Martin and husband Joe Kaniecki welcomed the addition of their 8th grandchild, Nickolas Marion Kaniecki on October 1, 2006. Nickolas weighed in at 7 lbs. 13 1/2 oz and 21" long. Nickolas is the son of Paul and Glenna. Paul is in the United States Navy stationed in Bremerton Washington on the aircraft carrier John S. Stennis. Grandma went out to help the new mom while Paul was out to sea. Paul and Glenna met while serving together in Pensacola Florida immediately after boot camp and before being assigned to the Stennis. Glenna has since resigned from the Navy to be a full time wife and mom while Paul continues to serve. Nickolas is only the second grandson for Nancy and Joe. Nickolas and mom will come back east in the spring while Paul is on a 7 month deployment.



New Addition to the Jackson Family:  
Name: Jackson's Queen Mighty "Mola"  
Born: September 4, 2006  
Breed: German Shepherd  
Information: Championship bloodline, CKC registered and full of energy and intelligence.

The Prolog Department is currently offering Prolog training. Please contact Michael Peton to schedule training.

[mpeton@wmschlosser.com](mailto:mpeton@wmschlosser.com)

The W. M. Schlosser Company invites you to a Holiday Brunch  
Date: Friday, December 22  
Time: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
Place: Main Office

Featuring the Omelet Man! Come enjoy your favorite omelets, along with an espresso cappuccino bar, pastries, Belgian waffles with toppings and much more! What a great way to start the holidays!

Please RSVP to Jane in the Main Office by Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> by email to [jcarlin@wmschlosser.com](mailto:jcarlin@wmschlosser.com) or call 240-455-1409.

Hope to see everyone there!

The IT Department is proud to announce the arrival of in-house Microsoft Outlook and Excel Training. Anyone interested should contact Damion Walker in the main office for further details.

[dwalker@wmschlosser.com](mailto:dwalker@wmschlosser.com)

# WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT

By Michael Peton



It has been said that "The man or woman you really love will never grow old to you. Through the wrinkles of time, through the bowed frame of years, you will always see the dear face and feel the warm heart union of your eternal love ". On Saturday, September 30th 2006, Tracy Garland's daughter, Cindy Marie King was married to Christian Lee Rutter before family and friends. W. M. Schlosser employees in attendance included; her favorite aunt, Lisa Farrell and her husband, Jane Carlin and husband Steve, Chuck Kozel and wife Debbie, Jerry Sprouse, and Kelcey Wilson, long time family friend, Michael Peton, and Debbie Hurley and her son Jessie.