

Creative Problem-Solving



A school principal was alerted by the janitor about a persistent problem in the girl's lavatories. Some of the girl students were leaving lipstick kisses on the mirrors. The janitor had repeatedly left notices on the toilet walls asking for the practice to cease, but to no avail. Every evening, the janitor would wipe away the kisses, and the next day lots more kisses would be planted on the mirror. It had become a bit of a game. The principal usually took a creative approach to problem solving, and so the next day she asked a few girl representatives from each class to meet with her in the lavatory.

"Thank you for coming," said the principal. "As you see, there are several lipstick kisses on the mirrors in this washroom." Some of the girls grinned at each other. "I know you all understand that modern lipstick is cleverly designed to stay on the lips, and so the lipstick is not easy at all to clean from the mirrors. We have therefore had to develop a special cleaning regimen, and my hope is that when you see the effort involved, you will help spread the word that we'd all be better off if those responsible for the kisses use tissue paper instead of the mirrors in future."

At this point, the janitor stepped forward with a sponge squeegee, which he took into one of the toilet cubicles, dipped it into the toilet bowl, and then used it to clean one of the lipstick-covered mirrors. The janitor smiled. The girls departed, and there were no more lipstick kisses on the mirrors.

There are many management styles that one could use to influence others to do what's right, but none more effective than being creative. Showing someone, instead of just telling them, always brings the point home. Creative people have a way of convincing others to comply with their request.

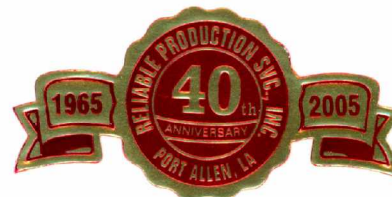
VADA GROUP, LP



BATON ROUGE, LA (WAFB) - Louisiana authorities report a dramatic increase in complaints about calibration errors in gasoline pumps. A CBS News investigative unit has also found blatant rip-offs and violations in some other states, including Texas. Benjy Rayburn with the Office of Agro-Consumer Services said in 2007, there were 533 calibration complaints filed with the Louisiana Department of Agriculture for the whole year. For this year, with four months to go, there are already 720 complaints. If that rate continues, we'll be looking at more than 1,000. That's a 56% increase from last year. Rayburn said there's a reason for that. He said the pumps across the state have a 95% to 96% accuracy rate, but because they are computerized, they are more subject to electrical and computer problems than the tough old gasoline pumps of yesteryear. It's the state's job to stay on top of them. There are 3,300 gas stations across Louisiana, meaning 64,000 nozzles that must be checked each year by a team of 38 inspectors.

By Louis James

THE RELIABLE REPORT- Designed to inform Reliable Employees. For comments or suggestions, please contact Chris David (Safety Director) @ 937-6579 or Sharon Hebert (Systems Adm.) @ 343-3900



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SPOTLIGHT ON RIG #17

Pictured from left to right are Samuel "Sambo" Meche, Oreste Theriot, Brian Meche, Jamie "T-Boo" Boudreaux and Clarence "CT" Thomas.

Jamie is the Rig Supervisor, Samuel is the driller, Brian is the derrickman and Oreste and 'CT' are the floorhands.

The crew has worked for Reliable since coming over from Great Southern Well Service in June of 2003, where they worked together for five years. Their combined work experience in the oilfield is right at eighty-five years. The crew spent the last year working in South Louisiana for Kash Oil & Gas, Liberty Resources, Inc., Flash Gas & Oil and Ascent Energy.

Thanks for your dedication and hard work!



September Anniversaries

Connie Gosserand 24 yrs. 9/1 RAC
Craig Tullos 28 yrs. 9/1 RAC
Steve Gosserand 27 yrs. 9/1 LRI
Billy Parks 39 yrs. 9/1 RPS
Brad Currier 1 yr. 9/4 LRI
Vanessa Albert 16 yrs. 9/14 RAC
Michael Pate 17 yrs. 9/18 RPS
Ray Briley 11 yrs. 9/26 RPS
Sonny Martin 16 yrs. 9/28 RPS



Reliable Production Service

Reliable Amusement Company



Liberty Resources, Inc.



*"People might not get all they work for in this world,
but they must certainly work for all they get."*

~ Frederick Douglass ~

September Birthdays

Rufus Miller 9/4 RPS
Leon Dixon 9/4 RPS
Michael Meredith 9/13 LRI
Louise Guidroz 9/14 RPS
Leroy Langlois 9/18 RPS
Jared Courville 9/19 RPS
Veta Stokes 9/20 LRI
Chris Hernandez 9/20 RAC
Elton "E.J." Ryder 9/24 RPS
Rickie Hebert 9/27 RPS
Darrel Milson 9/28 LRI
Sharon Hebert 9/30 RPS

RPS – Reliable Production Service
RAC – Reliable Amusement Company
LRI – Liberty Resources, Inc.

SAFETY FIRST



Picture your worksite in your mind. Worksites can be busy and hectic with many workers and multiple contractors carrying on different yet simultaneous operations.

What would happen if these groups never cleaned up after themselves? Trash and debris would pile up to become one large hazardous obstacle course. Imagine how tough it would be to maneuver around such a site, not to mention how difficult it would be to find tools and supplies that would be covered up by the trash. A worksite with poor housekeeping is not productive nor is it a safe working environment. It's every worker's responsibility to know and follow the site safety plan, practice good housekeeping and promptly report and/or correct hazards at the worksite. Everyone must do their part to keep the worksite free of unnecessary clutter and debris that could cause an injury or accident.

Poor housekeeping can frequently contribute to accidents by hiding hazards that cause injuries. Effective housekeeping is an ongoing operation. It is not a hit-and-miss cleanup done occasionally.

Poor housekeeping can be a cause of accidents, such as:

- ✓ Tripping over loose objects on floors, stairs and platforms
- ✓ Being hit by falling objects
- ✓ Slipping on greasy, wet or dirty surfaces
- ✓ Cutting, puncturing, or tearing the skin of hands or other parts of the body on protruding objects

Benefits of good housekeeping practices are:

- ✓ Fewer tripping and slipping accidents in clutter-free and spill-free work areas
- ✓ Better control of tools and materials
- ✓ More effective use of space
- ✓ Improved moral

You can do your part to keep the workplace a safer place for yourself and your co-workers, if you just remember to clean up as you go, and at the end of each shift.

Are You Distinguished?

After I speak to a large group of people, or I perform some skits for youth, someone will make the comment, "I wish I could do that", or they will ask, "How do you find the courage to get up in front of all those people?" I respond, "I use the 'double P' method. I pray about what I want to say and then I practice the answer to my prayers." Now that I've been doing it for so long, I'm able to be more spontaneous because of the years of experience, but for me, speaking in front of people is second nature. I had to leave my comfort zone in order to challenge myself, and oddly enough, my motivation was born out of tragedy.

There is an old Jewish-Christian tradition which says: God sends each person into the world with a special message to deliver, with a special song to sing to others, with an act of love to bestow. No one else can speak my message, or sing my song, or offer my act of love. These are entrusted only to me. I can offer it to a few, or to all the people in a small town, or to all the people in a large city, or even to all those in the world. It all depends on God's unique plan for each person. This is all made possible because of God's gift of life. The greatest tragedy, it would seem, would be to return that gift, ungrateful and unopened.

Talk with anyone who is faced with the real possibility of booking their flight to heaven and you'll see a person who is not wasting what precious time that remains of their life. Talk to anyone who was given a second chance at life and they will help you understand how important it is to make the most of every moment you are alive.

I do difficult things that challenge me to go beyond my comfort zone, because it gives me the opportunity to experience life to the fullest. I still get nervous just before speaking to a group. As a matter of fact, I wouldn't have it any other way. To me, it's an indicator of my dependence on The One who spared my life four times thus far.

Life, as defined by Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary, is the quality that distinguishes a vital and functional being from a dead body. When we look at our life, can we say that it resemble Webster's definition?