

PROLINES

Summer 2013

The Newsletter for the Professional Builder

JOHNNY BEEN GOOD

In his 59th year of dedicated service, our Credit Manager; **John Wojtowicz** has decided to "Hang up his Phone". It all started back in the summer of 1954 when a young man, fresh out of High School and experienced in working and sweating in the Sugar Beet and Wheat fields around Lethbridge, Alberta; that he began a career in the Lumber Industry. Although he had worked as a summer student for the company for a couple of years previously, he was now a full fledged, full time "Lumberman". What an apprenticeship that must have been. Back in the day every job that was done in the Lumber "Yard" was done by hand; there were no forklifts, no cranes, no hoists; just a strong back and a will to get the job done. On weekends and nights he would take on additional work by piecemeal; unloading 87.5 Pound bags of Portland Cement by hand in a cement dusty, dirty, sweaty, back straining job that, when complete, came with a \$25.00 bounty split with another worker. Or he was hand bombing and re-piling entire box cars from train loads of Dimension Lumber.



Picture from a 1963 newspaper article.



His regular duties were working in the office and there was not a job or task he probably didn't perform, and that continued through the years. Order Desk, Purchasing, Quoting, Shipping, Receiving, Filing, Cash Balance, Inventory Control and Counts, Hiring, Dismissing, Safety Officer, and eventually Commercial Sales Representative. This last activity was a responsibility he maintained throughout the years because of the excellent rapport he had built with his customer base. He would facilitate the supply of a variety of building materials to some of the largest and most impressive commercial projects in Southern Alberta after the business had moved to Calgary. In addition to his Sales responsibilities he was made Assistant Manager with added Personnel duties. What changes he has seen and was involved with over the years: from adding machines to calculators to computers and systems integration; from hand written, to typewriter, to word processors, scanners and email. However, when he was eventually asked to fulfill the responsibilities of Credit Management, he undertook it with the same determination he

always had and he excelled at it. An experienced staffer from our annual Auditing firm that we employed once remarked that John "was probably the best Credit man in the city" and she would know having performed years of Review Engagements with hundreds of independent companies over many different industries.

HOLIDAY

We will be closed Monday July 1, 2013, for the Canada Day Weekend.
Enjoy a safe Holiday Weekend!



There was an incident that stands out in the record of company history that bears witness. A disgruntled, historically unbalanced employee took exception to the verbal instructions given to the employee from the then General Manager, and as the GM turned his back on the employee and started up the stairs the unexpected took place. The employee removed a linoleum knife from his work belt and stalked up the stairs. John was several yards away but seeing the potential emergency he leapt up the stairs and wrestled the assailant down, disarming him and preventing the potential tragedy. You often hear the term about someone "having your back covered", this man lived it; "Johnny on the spot".

This is only one small example of the degree of commitment that John provided but really pales in comparison to the activities he was involved with in his personal life through several Volunteer agencies, community and school initiatives, the Knights of Columbus, the Minor Hockey teams and Associations, the Bishop Grandin High School Band. He did more than his fair share of Bingos, Casinos, and Chaperoning, managing, volunteering and more importantly, all the while he and his wife Charlotte raised a family. The plethora of raffles

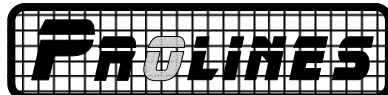


tickets and pool tickets often presented always came with a cheerful smile and we didn't really mind. We sometimes forget that the real measure of a man is to his values, his family and his community: the workplace only defines a very small part of us while providing the means to support those labors of love. So we wish John the very best in his future chapters. The owners of the company would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank him for the years of hard work, loyalty and devotion to this enterprise, and may those values and efforts continue for his family and community for years to come.



D&E BURSARY, AT UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Davidson Enman Lumber provides for a \$2,000.00 bursary to a student entering third or fourth year of Civil Engineering at the University of Calgary. The competitive award is based on financial need, academic merit and an interest in the construction field. The Davidson Enman Lumber Limited Bursary was established in 1975. PROLINES would like to congratulate this years' recipient; Mr. Roy Saunderson.



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