



PAULSEN *PRIDE*

SPRING 2024

Looking forward to the 2024 season with pride and gratitude

*A message from
Larry Paulsen*

Spring is here, OOOPS! It just snowed.

What a great winter so far and what a great year. I am so proud of what we have and are accomplishing. Your work is exceptional and your effort and attitude are exceptional and a pleasure. Let's make this construction season a productive and fun one.

Speaking of "Pride", I was especially proud of our Paulsen crews who truly made a difference when the heat was on. At the end of February, grass fires started in North Platte and came through Maxwell, Brady and other communities that we call home. Seeing our Paulsen, Inc. trucks carrying water to help those fighting the fires truly "warmed my heart!"



Employees of the Year

The Employees of the Year are **Randy Wilson** with Asphalt and **Tim Pflaster** with Redi-Mix and Gravel. We will have a larger article on these two Studs in our next issue. We are headed to Alaska fishing on June 21st. Great Job guys!

Celebrating Dave Neill

March 2nd we had a retirement party for **Dave Neill**. Everyone kidded him about when he was going to retire. Off the record, I was always glad when he kept extending the date. Industry Icon is what I called him. Gaining the respect of the N.D.O.T. and other Engineers along with his peers and employees for 52 years is remarkable. I am hopeful that I will beat his record on years but have a long way to go to be as respected as Dave. Job Well Done!

(For more about Dave's official "send off" see page 9)

Ready - Set - Go!

Scott Holbrook
Loss Control Manager
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Department training classes have come and gone and now it's time to put into practice all the information you were given! Due to the nice weather we have been having, most employees on lay-off may be coming back earlier than anticipated. So now you will hit the ground running which may be a challenge for you physically! For some of you, it has been business as usual and you continued to work through the winter months, so your body is already used to coming to work every day! While others of you have been on lay-off and your return to work may find you a little on the sluggish side. You may not be used to 8-10 hours of work every day and because of that you may find yourself sore at the end of the day as well as more prone to injuries or accidents!

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics there were 169,200 construction site accident injuries in 2021. About 40% of construction injuries result in days away from work, average days missed was 11.

We don't want any of our employees becoming a part of those statistics! So, how can you help prevent fewer injuries? Taking a few moments every morning to stretch, getting your body warmed up before you begin your day can be a great benefit for you! Your body will respond better to the physical demands that you will put on it if it is warmed up! So take a few moments every morning to stretch and get ready for the day and encourage others to join you!

*Let's have a
safe and happy
2024!*



DEPARTMENT NOTES

READY MIX

Brian Engel

It has been a great winter for the construction industry!! Other than a 2 week cold snap we have had it pretty good!! In fact it's been so nice it has been tough getting needed maintenance work done at the plants and on our trucks and loaders.

I think the shop will have enough trucks through DOT that we can get started while they finish up some of the stragglers. Ben, Matt and Jovi have been working hard on lots of plant maintenance. Four major jobs at Arapahoe, Holdrege, McCook and Lexington. They have spent a lot of the winter up in the agg bins fixing bin walls and slopes. Should be ready to go again for a few years!!

The phone has started ringing for jobs and projects for the coming year. It is looking like North Platte will continue to be the hot spot for us. The beef plant has been pouring floors all winter long and we actually have a long ways to go yet. Its nice to have a job so close that pours concrete everyday. The outlook for the year appears to be a busy one with paving jobs starting out of the chutes at Lex, McCook, North Platte and Fremont airport.

Lets all work together to have a safe and prosperous 2024 construction season!!



Flowable fill pour at Trenton Ethanol Plant

GRAVEL

Kelly McCoy

I hope everyone has had a good holiday season. This year really didn't slow down except our pumping when we froze out. Trucks stayed running hard and the locals and some counties were still coming in hot and heavy.

The maintenance crew and the loader mechanics in the shop did their best to make sure everything was fixed but with the mild temperatures in February and March we were not able to get everything through.

As of March 8th Elm Creek, Gothenburg, North Platte, Ogallala, and Gates are up and running. Lexington is hooked up and ready to pump just patiently waiting for Dawson Public Power to run polls and power since we moved over the winter. Cozad and Indianola will be running by the end of next week.

Owen has been working on getting all the permitting to open the Odessa pit. Seems like every day we are getting closer. Once we get the okay it's going to get crazy in Odessa to get everything up and running. Koss Construction wants to start paving July 5th, they can use up to 4,000 to 5,000 tons of 47B in a day when everything is going well. Every pit is going to be busy again this year so production and keeping trucks moving with minimal breakdowns must be a top priority. Paulsen Inc just purchased all Aggregate Express trucks and pups. They were located out of Odessa and hauled our materials from our Elm Creek pit and the Lexington pit.

We are looking forward to having a safe and productive year and remember to watch out for each other's safety. We appreciate everyone's hard work through the winter months to get everything prepared to make it through another busy season. Remember it's a division, not just one pit. We need to work as a team to get all the jobs done in a timely manner.

DEPARTMENT NOTES

SAFETY

Carlos Avalos

Even though our annual winter safety training sessions are over, it's important to remember that our commitment to workplace safety remains an ongoing priority. At this time, I would like to urge everyone to verify that the annual inspections of all fire extinguishers at your jobsite and in your trucks/ equipment have been completed. Please continue to perform and document your regular monthly fire extinguisher inspections and immediately replace any extinguisher deemed to be defective. It's also essential to conduct a thorough review of your first aid kits to replenish any necessary supplies and to replace any expired items. Remember, we have first aid supplies readily available at the office for restocking your jobsite kits.

Looking ahead, as we prepare to embark on the 2024 construction season, it is also important to remain conscientious of the transition from winter downtime back into work mode and its effect on the body. Let's prioritize familiarizing ourselves with the tasks at hand and acclimating ourselves to the different work activities that are performed. Implementing the lessons we learned from our winter training and ensuring that Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is used properly are critical to safeguarding against potential injuries. Should you need any type of PPE, please contact your supervisor or a member of the safety department for assistance.

It is paramount that all accidents, injuries, and hazards are promptly reported to your supervisor and a member of the safety team. If the situation requires, contact the proper authorities or emergency personnel immediately. Also, ensure that a completed incident report is submitted to the safety department within 24 hours of an event. If you have any specific safety concerns or questions, do not hesitate to contact Scott, Jacob, or myself.



Lastly, I would like to express my appreciation to everyone who helped with the winter sessions this year. Without your dedication and assistance, our efforts would not have been as fruitful. Special thanks to Logan Geiser for assisting with training, to all the departments for their wonderful meals and to Larry Paulsen for wowing us with his culinary prowess! Most importantly, I would like to extend my most sincere gratitude to Scott Holbrook and Jacob Rush for all their significant contributions that were instrumental in orchestrating this year's winter meetings. Their commitment and effort were crucial in having a successful round of training sessions.

Let's continue to prioritize safety as we venture back onto the workplace, and most importantly, let's look out for one another! I look forward to seeing everyone out on the jobsites this year. Stay safe!

DEPARTMENT NOTES

ASPHALT

Brett Wolf

Winter safety training has come to an end for another year. I would like to thank Carlos and the Safety Department for their hard work putting together the classes for all the departments.

The plant and road equipment are currently being repaired for the upcoming season and will be completed by the end of March. Once the season is underway the asphalt crew will begin work east of Broken Bow on HWY-70. The pictures below show the Broken Bow plant-site just off HWY-70.



Congratulations **Randy Wilson** 2023 Employee of the year for the Asphalt Department! Thank you for all your hard work and dedication throughout your career with Paulsen, Inc.

The Asphalt Department will begin the 2024 Construction season on the 25th of March, Weather permitting. Please be safe and have a great Asphalt Paving Season!



The Asphalt Department won Best Project in Overall Quality 2023 for the Cambridge South Project. This photos was taken at the Asphalt Conference in February 2024. Congratulations!

Asphalt projects and locations for the upcoming year:

Broken Bow Plant-Site - 63,000 Tons

- N-70, Broken Bow East 63,000 Tons

Elm Creek Plant-Site - 54,000 Tons

- N-23, Loomis - Holdrege 34,000 Tons
- L56D, Brady Link 5,000 Tons
- 2024 Dawson County Asphalt 10,000 Tons
- S56A, I-80 South of Maxwell 5,000 Tons

Highway 30 Plant-Site East of Chappell - 102,000 Tons

- US-30, Chappell East 50,000 Tons
- US-30, US-138 West 52,000 Tons

Burwell Plant-Site - 31,000 Tons

- Calamus Reservoir State Rec Road 31,000 Tons

DEPARTMENT NOTES

BUILDING

Tim Dean



Robert Henri Museum and Art Gallery

The Building Department has a full slate for the 2024 construction season. The battle will be in full swing this summer, completing extensive remodels to both Cozad Schools, while keeping all the other jobs moving forward.

Tim Hemmingson has mobilized into North Platte to complete a new maintenance facility for Murphy Tractor. This impressive structure will be a state-of-the-art maintenance facility with an attached office and training center.

Shane Schutte has his sights on completing the structure for the Robert Henri Museum and Art Gallery in Cozad. The ICF (Insulated Concrete Forms) walls are up, and the roof structure is being set as I write this article.

Dan Schwarz is finishing up the east addition to the Cozad Elementary. We plan to turn over this area of the school in May and focus on the final phase of construction. The final phase is an interior remodel of the kitchen, administrative office, and south entrance.

Dan Niles is focused on the competition gym, locker rooms, and administration areas on the west side of Cozad High School. This summer the crew has a massive interior remodel right in the center of the school to complete in just a few months.

Ross Collins has taken the reins at Homestead Bank and has the addition enclosed. Phase 1 of this project is the addition and a small interior remodel. During phase 2 the crews will be updating the interior finishes of the main bank.

Roy and the paving crew will be focused on exterior concrete at both Cozad School locations, Homestead Bank, and the Henri Museum.

As always, continue to work safely and efficiently.

DEPARTMENT NOTES

PAVING

Jed Paulsen



I hope everyone had a relaxing winter with family. It sure went by quickly. I hope the wife's tale that "fog days lead to rain days" is wrong, otherwise we will be having a wet spring.

Justin, Don, Steve, Tony, and crew will start the season off in Columbus working on segment 2. This segment has fewer square yards but effects more businesses, so it will be just as challenging and require just as much grace. There will be a small gap in Columbus where they will head to the Fremont Airport to remove and replace a stretch of their runway. After Fremont, they will head back to Columbus and finish off the year there.

Darrell, Mike, Same, and crew will start in North Platte on the second half of this project. They will start on Philip Street and head north to 1st Street. Before North Platte gets too hot and heavy they will pave Taft Street in Lexington, while we wait for removals and utility work to advance enough to give us a good stretch of room to pave. Once done on Jeffers Street, they will head over to the new beef plant in North

Platte, paving the entrance road, and then they will finish the year out in Sutherland pouring bridge approaches.

Cesar, Logan, and crew will start the year out in McCook doing a new subdivision north of town. They will then head to Lexington to work on the new viaduct over the train tracks and Highway 30 on Road 435. Once the paving is done there, they will finish the year out at Calamus Reservoir. We will work on half of the campsites this year and finish the other half next spring.

Gary and Kevin have been getting control points set up and shots taken for all our projects this year that we will be staking ourselves or are going to be paving stringless. They will be constantly busy in Columbus and will help in Fremont, Lexington, and Calamus.

Mike and I would like to thank everyone for coming back this season and look forward to another safe and fun construction season.

Paulsen People



April Birthdays

COLE R WIESELER	4
CLINT WALKER	4
ANTHONY STEFFENSMEIER	5
DALLAS WALKER	5
JORGE FIGUEROA	6
JEFFREY T. MUELLER	7
RYAN M. ALLEN	9
WADE A. STOVER	10
JOVI DC WEAR	11
JOSE J. ORTIZ - OTERO	11
KEVIN A WILSON	13
LEOPOLDO LOPEZ JUAREZ	15
OWEN J. JOHNSON	17
DARRELL D. O NEAL	21
JANE M. GERMAN	22
JOSEPH N. HARRIS	22
TRACI J. FLEISCHER	23
TIM S. DEAN	27
STEVEN W BUSS	28

May Birthdays

JOSEPH A. KENNICUTT	1
BRYON N. MOORE	2
LEE W. NELSON	3
ERIC MOST	9
MICHAEL O HILL	10
JOSE L. GUTIERREZ	10
ALDO FLORES HOLGUIN	11
JARED C. DUELAND	13
SHERWIN L. SWEeley	14
HECTOR RAMIREZ MENDEZ	14
TONY L BAUER	14
JAY A. FULLER	14
ALVIN GUYLE	17
LOUIE M LUSERO	17
TERENCE STEVENS	17
JAIME RAMIREZ	19
MICHAEL MOORE	20
DAVID P. EGGLESTON	22
DYLAN E BROWN	22
BERNARD S. FRANZEL	26
SHAWN ROBBINS	26
SCOTT R. TENBENSEL	28
MATTHEW A OSTENDORF	30
JACOB A. BASSETT	30
DANIEL D FOSTER	31

June Birthdays

CARLOS BAUTISTA BELTRAN	1
SHERMAN NEAL BEHYMER	1
MATTHEW T. YOCOM	6
JERRY L. MILLER	7
ROBERTO RENTERIA ALONZO	7
SETH E. VLIENER	7
DANIEL R. FOLLMER	7
IZAC HARMS	9
TRINIDAD RAMIREZ BALTIERRA	9
DANIEL D. SCHWARZ	10
ELEAZAR RODRIGUEZ	11
SAM ANDERSON	12
RUBEN HERRERA ARRIETA	12
AMBER ROSS	13
KENDRA L. HOOD	14
DANIAL L. JAMESON	14
CHARLES R WEBER	16
SHANE R TILSON	20
CHRISTOPHER BARBER	21
THOMAS A PHROPER	22
LONNIE D. HUEFTLE	25
ALISIA MILLER	25
LOGAN GEISER	27
BRANDON DODSON	27
CHARLES JOHN WALKER	30

Employee Milestones

35 Years

SHERWIN L. SWEELE
MATTHEW T. YOCOM

20 Years

ABEL ALVIDREZ
ALVIN GUYLE
RANDY JACOB WILSON

15 Years

JAMES L. HARVEY
JOSE L. RAZO LOPEZ
MATHEW J. HIGGINS

10 Years

RICARDO LEYVA
ALAN HEATH

5 Years

OSMI D PEREZ
JUSTIN E WOOD
JAVIER HERNANDEZ VELEZ
MICHAEL MANNEL
ARIANA RIVAS
LEODEGARIO LOPEZ MENDEZ
STEVEN B. PRICE
CHARLES R WEBER

oh baby!

Congratulations to Stan Underwood as his daughter, Stacy Booker, is having a baby boy in May in Hastings. Hopefully we will have pictures of Grandpa and him in the next Pride!



Celebrating Dave Neill's 52 years at Paulsen, Inc.

A Toast from Larry Paulsen



This will be the easiest speech I have ever had to give. I have had it ready for 3 years.

The Paulsen-Neill relationship started back when I was a 4th grader. We were at recess and I noticed a new kid being brought to school by his mom. I went over and invited Dave's littlest brother Mike to join us. We became friends and Mike told me that his mom Jackie's birthday was coming up. My mom and I delivered a cake to Jackie and have been family friends ever since.

Dave was one helluva basketball player on some really good teams. The whole family followed them to all the games. Dave graduated high school and went to UNL. We pulled up to the Cornhusker for a State Basketball game and out came this cute little bellboy in his uniform. It was Dave.

When my dad heard that the college life wasn't for Dave he recruited him to come to work for Paulsen's. He poured everything with forms back then and there was no one who could pound a stake into the ground like Dave.

We worked hard back in those days but still made time to play Men's softball. Dave and other Paulsen employees played for Pete's Lounge in the evenings and weekends. They were good but apparently needed some speed on their team. So they asked me to play. What a great time.

We played for Pete's Lounge so where do you think we went after the game. One time Dave was feeling ornery so I got him to the ground on the dance floor and was twirling him around by his ankles. Dave was a little skinny squirt back then.

Dave was always dedicated and hardworking. He got along with everyone. Even though he didn't speak Spanish, he communicated with them well. He had a great relationship with the Dept. of Roads people also. They have worked together many times on designing and building projects. It is not every Prime Contractor that is asked his opinion on a project.

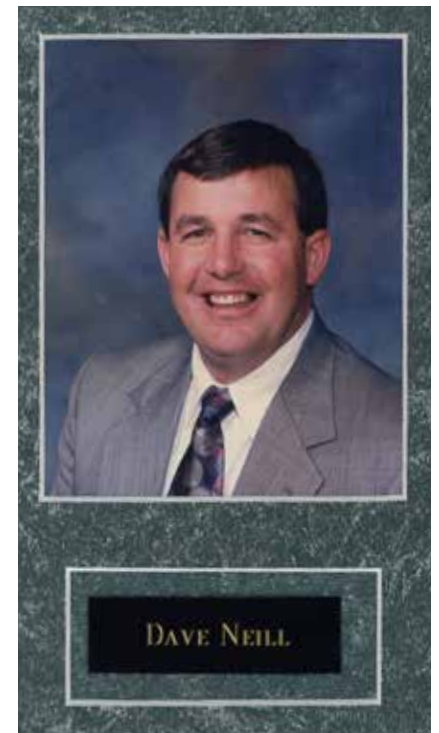
Dave will retire as an Icon in the Construction Industry in Nebraska. We can't thank him enough for his hard work and dedication. We will miss his knowledge and personality. I will have to hand out keys to everyone now since he won't have the office unlocked by 5 am.

Job Well Done my Friend.

Some people think I have a lot of Stress, I don't and I am on 10 medications. Dave is the Stressed one and he is only on a baby aspirin. Figure that one out.

Patti, he is yours now.

From all of us, Thank you Dave and we wish you the best in your retirement. We hope you find something to do and enjoy every minute of it.



"Nobody believed he retired"

Pictured: Dave Neill with Cecilia VanKirk and Katie Wilson at Dave's retirement party





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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Paulsen **PRIDE** is about You!

Do you have news to share
like weddings, new babies,
graduations or other honors?

We want to know!

Please contact Jane German
at 308-784-3333
or email her directly at
jgerman@paulseninc.com

Remember, you can view the
Paulsen PRIDE online at
www.paulseninc.com

