



## August 2021 Newsletter

**M**att Massie was born in Vancouver WA & lived in the area for 18 years before moving to the Tri-cities. He married Lana in 2011, who's dad, Darrell Homola, works for JRT as a pipe fitter/welder. They have 4 children, Marlorie 8, Joren 7, Lillia 5, & Emery 1 yr. Lana has a home business where she makes baby clothes & loves every minute of it! Joren loves to ride dirt bikes with the neighbor boys & being the only boy can get on the girls nerves if he gets bored. As a family they enjoy beach trips & camping with their camper trailer. Matt said over the last few years they have redone a few camper trailers which is really rewarding to see go from crusty trailer to a decent usable camper!

This summer they took a road trip with a motorhome to Minnesota to visit family & on the way stopped at Mt. Rushmore & Bear Country. They went through Grand Tetons and Yellowstone then stopped at the Grand Prismatic Springs which he said is a beautiful place to visit.

Matt entered the plumbing apprenticeship at 17 and carded out at 25. He has worked as a plumber for about 11 years and has been a journeyman plumber for 4. He is currently our project manager in Tri-cities and when asked what some of the biggest challenges have been, he said some days are very quiet & hard to stay motivated but since recently adding a service manager there it's been nice to have a little noise around there! One thing he has noticed is that he doesn't get as many interruptions compared to working at the main office. Although it has helped him get his work done in a timely manner it makes communication a challenge when he can't just go next door to ask a question.

Matt said a typical day at work is showing up at 8 & trying to clear out emails & get things organized for the day. He likes to start the day off fresh & then take care of any issues that come up. Somedays he has to bat salesman away like flies when they have heard we have a shop there in town & want our business, but he also likes to take advantage sometimes to get free lunch. Matt said the part he likes about his line of work the most is seeing the project from the beginning to the very end. It always amazes him how much time goes into a project from every trade. It has also been fun working directly with the GCs that they are getting to know on the eastside.

We asked Matt if he had any good work stories and he said he remembers working out at JBLM on COF/TEMF testing the water lines in a building and he was trying to find a faster way to drain air out of the system. He decided to open a hose bibb and for some reason it made a loud horn noise so he shut it off. He thought, wow that was cool so he did it a few more times not realizing that 3 blast from a air horn was an emergency warning and the jobsite started clearing out! The Absher safety guy was trying to figure out who blew the horn and he had to explain to him that it was just a dumb plumber making sounds with a hose bibb! Opps.



Our JRT Picnic will be August 20th! Please RSVP Anika with the count of who is attending from your family if you haven't done so already!

**Congrats on your marriage!**

**Ricky & Abby Juntunen** →

**Emilo & Tazzi Ortiz**



**Congratulations on your engagement!**

Lucas Tapani & Annie Merriman

Ty Hendershaw and Bethany Ek!

## August Work Anniversaries

John Tapani - 16 years

Cedar Lunstrum - 10 years

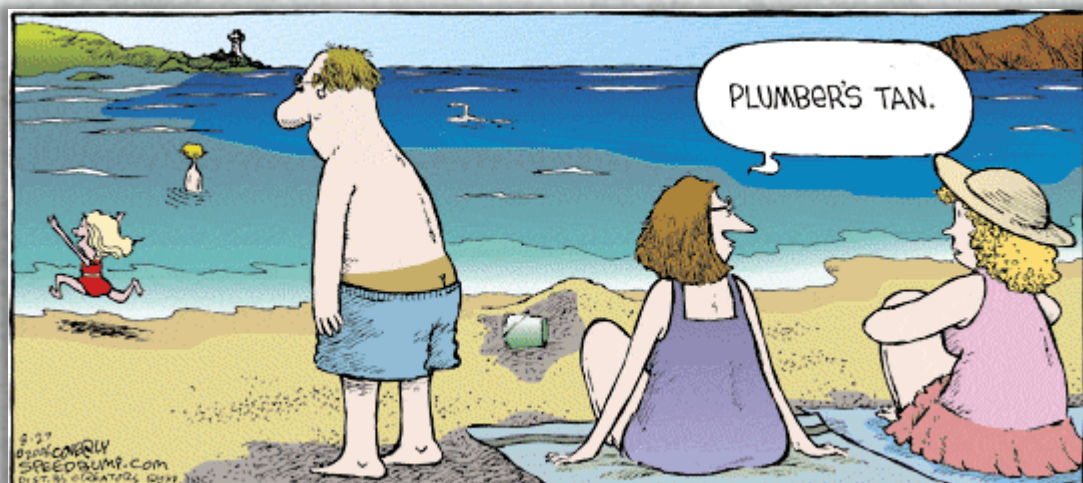
Luke Erickson - 10 years

Dave Charlson - 9 years

Randy Dahl - 2 years

Abe Kadow - 2 years

David Christiansen - 1 year



# Employee of the Month

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## Logan Raisanen

It has been amazing to be able to work with Logan on this project. He is always here before his guys and is always prepared with a game plan for them every morning which is the sign of very strong leadership skills. He has an amazing attitude even through stressful times and always keeps morale high. We typically get along very well unless he doesn't move his oversized large morbidly obese duct work out of my way, then we fight a little bit but always hug it out after. That's a joke, coordinating with Logan has been extremely smooth and he has been a pleasure to work with. Would work with him again after a one to two year break. Ok you got me, that was another joke.

- Jacob Allen

Logan is great to work for and with. He's a awesome teacher and always takes his time to help you learn. There has been many leads and future foreman that came from working for him and learning from him. Ask any hvac employee. When Logan needs help we all want to help and work for him. – Steve Gonzales

## August Birthdays

Jacob Allen  
Bruce Beard  
Ron Bergmann  
Autumn Burton  
Eric Ek  
Stephen Gonzales  
Ty Hendershaw  
Kyl Johnson  
Jackson Lee  
Matthew Mitchell



Logan Raisanen  
Guadalupe Rios  
Oscar Sanchez  
Karl Tapani  
Thor Tapani  
William Tapani  
Austin Tervo  
Steven Tikka  
Darrell Zutter

**S**afety update: this is a quick halfway through the year spotlight on our current standing and what the safety department has been doing.

EMR: 0.7018

TOTAL RECORDABLES FOR 2021: 2

New tailgate safety meetings will be showing up soon.

All employees are up to date on forklift and scissor lift training.

The safety committee is working on a new PPE policy with more info to come.

Let's strive to have zero recordable injuries for the rest of the year! I am happy with the current state of our Safety Culture! We know there is room for improvement, however we are taking the right steps to achieve a safe and productive workplace!

## Productivity Tip for August

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**T**his has to do with installation of an aluminum duct. We use this to vent dishwashers in commercial kitchens mostly. When installing the drive on an aluminum duct there is more friction. It is easy to get hung up & damage your pride as well as your duct. If you can get a can of spray silicone lubricant & spray it in the crack drive, your drive will install much easier. Be careful to not use too much, and some people think you can use WD-40, but you can compromise the sealing ability of your duct sealer because of the oils!

Thanks Drew Lobbestael!

Send any of your ideas that we can share to increase production to Ron Bergmann 360-903-2742 or [ronb@jrtmechanical.com](mailto:ronb@jrtmechanical.com). If your idea is used in a future newsletter, you will receive \$50.00 in cash.

Last months Winner



Christian Weber