

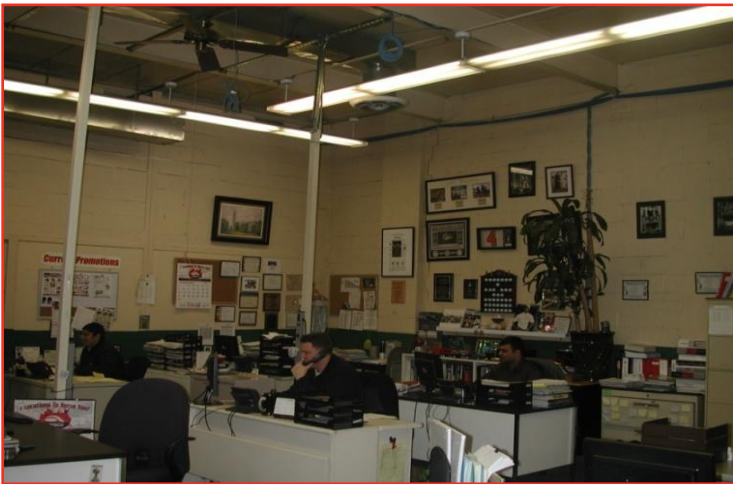
MASPETH GETS A FACELIFT

It's been some time since the Maspeth office had a major makeover but this month we've been busy getting a new paint job and upgrading the office furniture. A team of professional painters spent three weekends in a row to get the job done with minimum interference to office operations. I must say the changes are noticeable! It has given a brighter, cleaner and more welcoming appearance to the office.

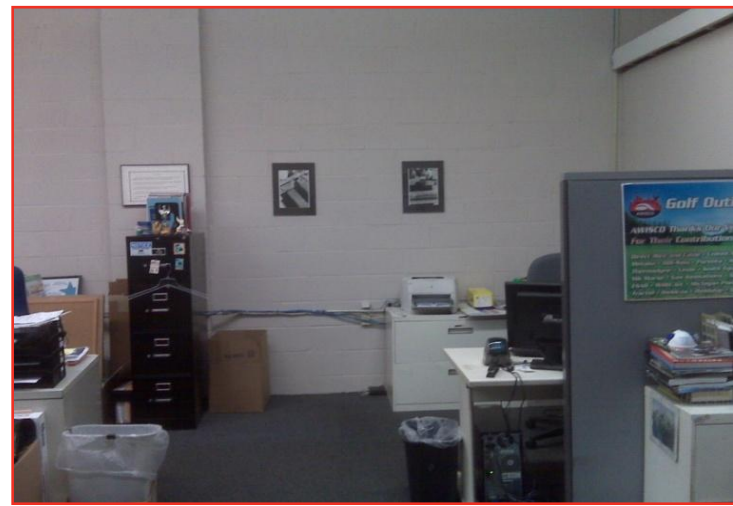
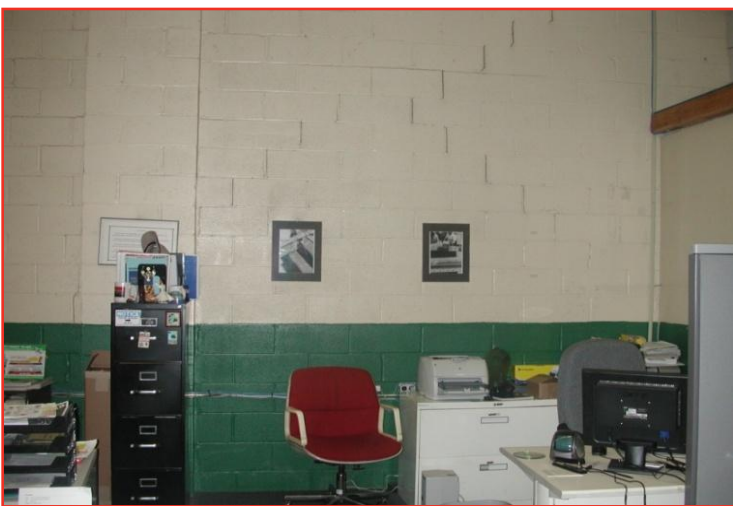
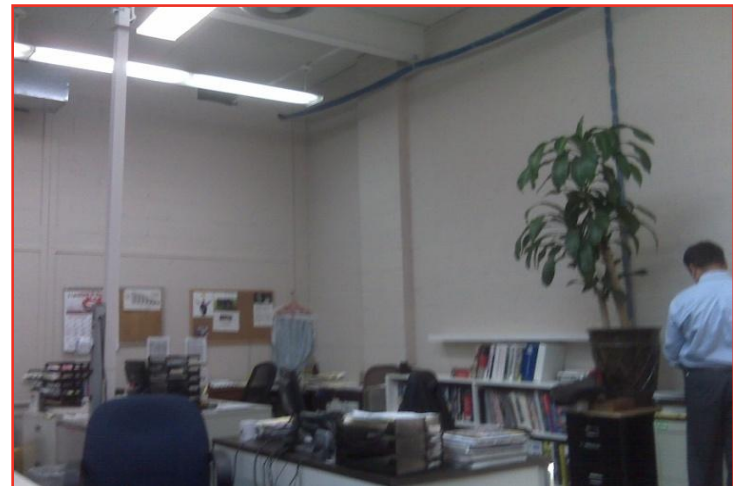
The walls, ceilings, and doors have all been painted and we will continue to make other changes during the upcoming weeks. Fresh paint, new chairs and a little TLC transformed the office from dumpy to dazzling! Check out the before and after pictures!

(The paint is a little light so it is hard for the pictures to truly show how great the project turned out)

BEFORE



AFTER



Transforming your branch or office? Let me know so that we can share the improvements with all of AWISCO.

TRAINING TALK



We have our first 3 employees who have completed Miller's online "Professional Sales 1 E-Learning".



Congratulations to:

First Place Winner- Arnie Arboleda \$100.00

Second Place Winner- Adam Lacku \$50.00

Third Place Winner- Jesse Brossmer \$50.00

For all their hard work, they will be rewarded with gift cards. It literally "pays" to learn.

GREAT WORK EVERYONE!

For those of you not currently taking Miller training, here is a list of the courses other staff members are taking to continue their education in the welding industry:

- Basic Electricity
- GMAW
- GTAW
- Plasma
- Engine Drives
- Basic Selling Skills
- SMAW
- Intro To Metals

Trainees include: Tom, Arnie, Jerry B, Dennis, Jesse, Alyn, Andy, Roger, Dani, Jon, Bill G, Mark, Kathy, Joe, Steve, Bill K, Adam, Abel, Aron, Ernie, Felim, Maco, Cliff, Lloyd, Gary, Matt, Dan W, and Bobby W.

Hobart Training- March 16th

Abel, Peter, Jesse, Matt, Jon, Gary, Mark, and Jerry Ott have attended Hobart Brothers Training in Swedesboro NJ, to continue education in Filler Metals.



AWISCO's New Jersey staffers shined this month completing the required ADP courses!

Rob, Jake, Matt, Kathy, Andy, Jon, Steve J, Abel, Cliff and Jerry completed: General Safety, Manual Materials Handling, Working from Heights, Hazardous Materials, Oxygen Handling/ Refilling, and Bloodborne Pathogens.

On March 10 and March 24th Jerry B, Steve J, Cliff, Jon, Abel, Mark, Matt, Tom, Rob, Jake, Kathy and Andy took a Sexual Harassment Course.

The following NY employees completed Sexual Harassment training on Feb 24th: Victor, Danny, Orlando, Anthony, Jairo, Bobby B, Dorian, Dennis, Dan W, Jerry Ott, Gary, Steve K, Ernie, Mark.

Additional Training:

Joe K. attended training at The University of Industrial Distribution on March 8th – March 11th

Maco, Jesse, and Bobby W. all took Jackson/ Kimberly Clark training on March 18th.

Arnie was in PA, March 22nd- March 23rd advancing his knowledge in Metabo products.

On behalf of AWISCO we would like to congratulate the following employees on their anniversaries with the company!



Jairo Morera	4/3/03	7 years
Ernie Olsen	4/15/05	5 years
Robert Buckheit	4/27/92	18 years
Peter Blandeburgo	4/14/08	2 years
Jon Ernst	4/6/09	1 year

CALENDAR EVENTS

Aprils Fools Day (April 1st 2010)

The history of April Fool's Day, sometimes called "All Fool's Day", is not totally clear. There really wasn't a "first April Fool's Day" that can be pinpointed on the calendar. Some believe it sort of evolved simultaneously in several cultures at the same time, from celebrations involving the first day of spring.

The closest point in time that can be identified as the beginning of this tradition was in 1582, in France. Prior to that year, the New Year was celebrated for eight days, beginning on March 25. The celebration culminated on April 1st. With the reform of the calendar under Charles IX, the Gregorian calendar was introduced, and **New Year's Day** was moved to January 1. However, communications being what they were in the days when news traveled by foot, many people did not receive the news for several years. Others refused to accept the new calendar and continued to celebrate the New Year on April 1st. These backward folk were labeled as "fools" by the general populace. They were subject to some ridicule, and were often sent on "fool's errands" or were made the butt of other practical jokes. Pranks performed on April Fool's Day range from the simple, (such as saying, "Your shoe's untied!"), to the elaborate. Whatever the prank, the trickster usually ends it by yelling to his victim, "April Fool!"

Passover (March 30th - April 6th)

Good Friday (April 2nd 2010)

Easter Sunday (April 4th 2010)



Tax Day (April 15th)

Administrative Professional Day (April 21st)

AWISCO BIRTHDAYS CORNER

*Wishing you your happiest birthday yet
A birthday too special To ever forget.*

Jerry Beck 4/9/10
Peter Blandeburgo 4/13/10
Jesse Brossmer 4/19/10
Aneudy "Maco" Duran- 4/26/10
Kathy Isgro 4/2/10
Jerry Ott 4/2/10

In This Issue:

- Training Updates
- Tradeshow Countdown
- Birthdays

- Important Days In April
- Announcements
- Employee of the Month

IMPORTANT!! IMPORTANT!!
OPEN ENROLLEMENT

Shortly, all eligible employees will be receiving Open Enrollment notices at their home address direct from the Benefit Group at ADP Total Source.

Open Enrollment is an important time because it is the **one time a year** which you can choose the type of Medical Insurance you want to participate in for the next year.

Please consider when reviewing the options offered to you that you are purchasing an INSURANCE POLICY to cover future possible medical costs. When evaluating the plans, you need to consider how often you have utilized services in the past, and whether the plan is a good fit for you. There are economical choices available for participants who rarely utilize the services such as the HDHP plans which have a low monthly premium. ADP Total Source will be able to explain this option to you when the Open Enrollment period begins.

Please see Bob Reddan with any questions or concerns.



For those of you who wonder where our dead inventory items go, we found a great place to sell it! Ebay!! If you go to: http://stores.ebay.com/arcs-and-sparks-supply_W0QQ_fsubZ7204640QQ_sidZ382168862QQ_trksidZp4634Q2ec0Q2em322

you can find our store named "Arcs and Sparks". We use this website to liquidate surplus and slow moving items. Customers from all of the United States, Canada and Europe have purchased items there.

What makes this so cool is that we have just received our 100th positive feedback from our customers. Our stars have turned Turquoise which shows we are an active and well-established member of the eBay community!

This is just another way AWISCO is branching out to tackle all aspects of the market industry. You can find us soon on Facebook and Twitter.

**HOPE EVERYONE IS GETTING EXCITED,
THE TRADESHOW COUNTDOWN HAS
BEGUN!!!!**

**AS OF APRIL 1ST THE SHOW WILL BE HERE
IN 49 DAYS!!!!**

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Lunch with Lloyd

This month the luncheon was held with all NJ employees. Dana, Andy and Steve were taken out on March 17th to *Tiffany's in Pinebrook, NJ* (<http://www.tiffanysrestaurant.com/>).



Lloyd: It was interesting to learn that Dana's fiancée practices mixed martial arts. Andy and Steve both spend their free time doing yard work, only difference is Steve enjoys it and for Andy it is a chore. Even though we have a random draw for the employees who are chosen it made it that much more of a coincidence that all 3 employees have previously worked for Welco (which is another welding company in NJ)! I had a great time and it was a lot of fun!

Dana: I had a really good time at lunch with Lloyd today. It was nice to be able to sit down with everyone and get to know them on a personal level. The restaurant that was picked had good food and a relaxing atmosphere. We had a lot of laughs and I think this experience will be good for everyone that goes in the future.

Andy: I think we all had a good time. It was nice to spend time with co-workers and not talk about work. I learned that we almost did not have Lloyd as our president due to a career in lifeguarding.

Steve: It was a great opportunity to get to know Lloyd and my fellow co-workers better. I look forward to doing it again.



Snow Days.... Although the weather has gotten nicer, there is always a chance of a stray snow shower! It's happened before that we had snow on Easter (ok, it might have been a very long time, but it goes to show, anything is possible). Hopefully we are past the snow days but it is still important to talk about the ones we have had these last 3 months. All of us have been getting them, except for those lucky guys in Florida, Dan, Hector and Dan Jr.! We know at times it has been quite difficult for everyone to get to work and open up their stores but we are in a business where we deal with customers and have to remain loyal to our word to them and open up when they are counting on us to be there! Thanks to everyone for coming in, trying to get in and working together to get the job done. This year we have had a lot of snow but what is most important to us at AWISCO is everyone remains safe and stays in contact with each other during those days and helps one another out! Here is a checklist everyone should go through before a snow storm hits, don't wait until next year to go through this list, it's always better to be safe than sorry!!!

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Get a Tune-up | Fix Leaks |
| Fill Washer Fluid | Get Snow Tires |
| Carry Supplies | Have A Phone |
| Check Wipers | Fill Your Tank |
| Check Battery | Check Rear Defrost |
| Carry Sand Bags | Check Coolant |

Once again, let's all keep our fingers crossed that we are out of the snowy times and looking towards warmer, sunnier days!

Employee of the Month

Written by: Lori Francone,
Office Manager

This month AWISCO's spotlight falls on Hector Rojas of the Maspeth warehouse. Hector has been with AWISCO since February, 2008 and is a very dedicated and diligent contributor to the warehouse team.

He was born in the Dominican Republic and has been in the United States for the past 3 ½ years. His parents, brother and sister have remained in the Dominican Republic.

Hector graduated from LaGuardia Community College and now attends John Jay College of Criminal Justice striving for a degree in legal studies. If all goes well and Hector passes his LSAT's in October, he will start law school in August to focus on Criminal International Law.



As busy as Hector's life is, it's amazing he still finds time to do the things he most enjoys including skiing and reading (hopefully not at the same time). He also enjoys traveling. Some of the places that Hector has visited include Spain, Canada, Chicago and Cincinnati.

When asked what Hector enjoys most about his job, he replied, Inventory Control Management and said this is very important in achieving the greater good at AWISCO. On the flip side of that, his most challenging part in his role at AWISCO is inventory counts.

With all Hector's hard work and dedication to both AWISCO and his studies, he ultimately sees himself working at the United Nations in the International Court of Justice.