

THE SOUTHWIND EVENING POST

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The Dreamcatcher



Southwind Drilling Newsletter - Issue 5 - December 2015

Christmas



Dear Southwind Employees,

I am absolutely astounded to think that another year is coming to an end! The old adage that “time flies the older you get” has a lot of truth to it. What started out as some brainstorming talk between Chris and I in my office thirteen years ago has become something that I don't believe we could have ever imagined happening at the time. There have been some really wonderful times and some that we would just as soon forget. We were visiting recently about how the current downturn in our industry reminds us somewhat of the slowdown in 2009, and like that one in '09 this one will eventually get behind us as well.

We closely monitor the rig counts, market share and trends especially in Western Kansas. I am very proud to say I think for all the indicators observed we have weathered this storm about as well as anyone currently in the drilling business. I attribute this as a direct reflection upon you guys in the field. We have always believed that if everyone puts forth their best effort our customers work will return and I think you have proven this idea.

We have said many times, “We can't be successful as a company without a strong group of employees”. So, with our greatest appreciation we want to wish you a Merry Christmas and may the New Year bring you much joy and happiness.

Warmest wishes,

Todd E. Morgenstern

Todd E. Morgenstern
President/CEO

Merry Christmas

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MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

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Visit our website @ southwinddrilling.com & we are officially on Facebook, so go like our page!!



LAST MONTH'S CROSSWORD WINNERS ANNOUNCED!!

Congratulations to **Terry Gibson**, who was the Grand Prize Winner of the America's Best Steaks Package!

Also instead of giving away just one turkey for second prize, we decided to change things up and give everyone who participated in last month's puzzle a \$50.00 dollar Dillon's Gift Certificate! Those winners are listed below! Congrats and thanks to everyone who participated!

Remember we can change the rules at any time, so it might pay off to participate!

Erick Arias	John Ledbetter
Larry Beavers	Wes Pfaff
Fred Castillo	Bill Sanders
Matt Dunlap	Donald Sanders
Terry Gibson	Will Straub
Joe Hood	Tyler Tomlinson
Jay Krier	Shannon Wolf
Gary Ledbetter	

Congrats!

Governor Brownback & Delegation visit Rig #1

By: Albert Lin
(Russell County News)

Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback, speaking November 4 at the Bunker Hill Community Center after completing his tour of an oil drilling site near Bunker Hill, said the top industries in Kansas are agriculture, aviation, and oil and gas, and he likes to take annual tours of Kansas sites which offer top-quality representations of these key industries in action.

At the Bunker Hill Community Center, Brownback praised the quality of his just-completed tour of oil operations in Russell County.

"It was a really good, in-depth view about how it's done," Brownback said.

Brownback, speaking to the many oil industry representatives in his audience, said the backbone of America's prosperity is the nation's ability to produce food and energy.

"And they do it better than anybody else in the world, and you guys are a big part of that," Brownback said.

Earlier, Governor Brownback had visited the rural Bunker Hill oil drilling site (Southwind Drilling Rig #1's Location) as the main event in his 2015 tour of the Kansas oil industry. This recent annual oil industry tour was Gov. Brownback's fifth and also was the first such tour conducted by Brownback in Russell County.

Brownback's visit to Russell County was hosted by the Kansas Independent Oil and Gas Association.

Also part of the tour were numerous municipal and county officials, as well as representatives of the Russell area oil and gas industry. Furthermore, a group of students from Russell High School also accompanied the tour. Those students were selected by RHS principal Larry Bernard.

Governor Brownback arrived at the Russell Municipal Airport in the morning.

After meeting together in the local airport terminal, Brownback and the other people on the tour were transported in a Russell County Unified School District 407 tour bus to the location of the featured oil operations site. This site was about a half-mile south of Bunker Hill. The featured drilling unit was the Smith Unit #1, operated by Ellinwood based Southwind Drilling, Inc.

After touring the drilling site, Brownback and the other people on the tour had lunch at the Bunker Hill Community Center. After the lunch, which was sponsored by Scheck Oil of Russell and Southwind Drilling of Ellinwood, Brownback departed Russell County.

Helping to lead the preparations in Russell for Brownback's visit were Tim Scheck, owner-manager of Scheck Oil of Russell, who is a former chairman of the Kansas Independent Oil and Gas Association (KIOGA); and Southwind Drilling of Ellinwood, a company represented by Todd Morgenstern, Mitch Driscoll, and Jill Suchy.

Scheck led the tour group, during which he and several other oil-field technical workers displayed many kinds of oilfield tool and trucks. Also, of course, Scheck and the other technicians explained the many highly skilled jobs which all must work together, around the clock, to find and extract oil from the ground.



CO-TRUCKPUSHER WILL STRAUB WENT ABOVE AND BEYOND COOKING A DELICIOUS LUNCH FOR THE GOVERNOR'S VISIT. HE PREPARED FOR DAYS LEADING UP TO THE EVENT, AND THANKS TO HIS DAUGHTERS FOR LENDING A HAND AS WELL. ADDITIONALLY, IT WAS NICE TO HAVE DRILLING SUPERINTENDENT FRANK ROME, SAFETY AND COMPLIANCE OFFICER FRED CASTILLO, RIG #1 TOOLPUSHER LARRY BEAVERS, CO-TRUCKPUSHER MAC MCCRAW, RIGPUSHER WES PFAFF, AND EMPLOYEES ERICK ARIAS, MATT DUNLAP, AND TERRY GIBSON AT THE EVENT.

Scheck also emphasized there is a vast number of subsidiary businesses which support, directly or indirectly, the workers who are actually on-site in the oil patch.

After visiting the drilling site, Brownback and the other members of the tour group were bused to Bunker Hill, where they toured the local Smoky Hills Public Television station. Leading the tours at the television stations were Michael Quade, Hoisington, general manager of the SHPTV, and Tricia Flax, Russell, event coordinator for SHPTV.

After touring the television station, the tour moved to the Bunker Hill Community Center. There, Scheck presented Brownback with a copy of the book, *The Moral Case for Fossil Fuels*. That copy was signed by the book's author, Alex Epstein.



Nick Powell, Prairie Village, the current chairman of KIOGA, thanked the people who organized the Russell County oilfield tour, and he noted the organizers had to go the extra mile because Gov. Brownback was originally scheduled to make the tour, Thursday, Oct. 29. However, the tour was rescheduled because Brownback wanted to be in Washington, D.C., on that day, in order to watch his friend, United States Congressman Paul Ryan, become installed as speaker of the House of Representatives.



*"I was **amazed** at the number of service companies that attended to explain to the governor what their job operations entail. I'm sure the governor left that day with a much better understanding of what all does into drilling and completing an oil well." — Jill Suchy, Vice President of Operations Southwind Drilling*



The Safety Blog

Good Housekeeping

“Good Housekeeping” is one of the best Safety measures that can be undertaken. However, it is something that must be practiced day-by-day and not spasmodically or only once a year. Quite often a crew will get ambitious and everything is washed down, swept up, put away, hung up or otherwise disposed of and then everyone sits back and waits until conditions get so bad that it all has to be repeated. What if your wife let the house “go” and only cleaned up once a month or once a year?

The only way to properly handle housekeeping is for every man to do those little jobs as they come up and not leave things lying around. It is much easier to fix hazardous conditions when they first appear than it is to explain an accident that may result from them.

Some of the housekeeping chores to remember are:

1. Put a tool back in the rack when you are through with it.
2. Sweep up or wash off any dirt or mud as soon as you can.
3. Repair those loose steps, rickety handrails, and loose walkways.
4. Keep the catline coiled up when not in use.
5. Do not allow oil to collect on rig floor or in cellar.
6. Keep B.O.P. and cellar washed down and keep cellars jetted down.
7. Keep all trash and miscellaneous parts from under substructure.
8. Keep all excess pipe, connections, etc., in a rack, not under or spread around the rig.
9. Keep the water hose clean and coiled up, when not in use.
10. See that all fire extinguish equipment is in the clear and ready for use.
11. See that first aid kits and supplies are clean, filled, and ready for use.
12. Check all safety equipment (hard hats, shoes, goggles, gloves, gas masks, etc.) and see that they are clean and in good repair.



Remember that “Good Housekeeping” means: Keeping house at all times.

A Drilling Tip from your Drilling Superintendent...

“I've noticed lately some total disregard for care of the catline and boomline rope. This can result in severe injury or needless replacement of rope. You can do better.”

Frank Rome



Halloween
Costume
Update



“I love
Halloween,
and dress-
ing up as a
chicken
was the
best!”

Says Steve...
...NOT!



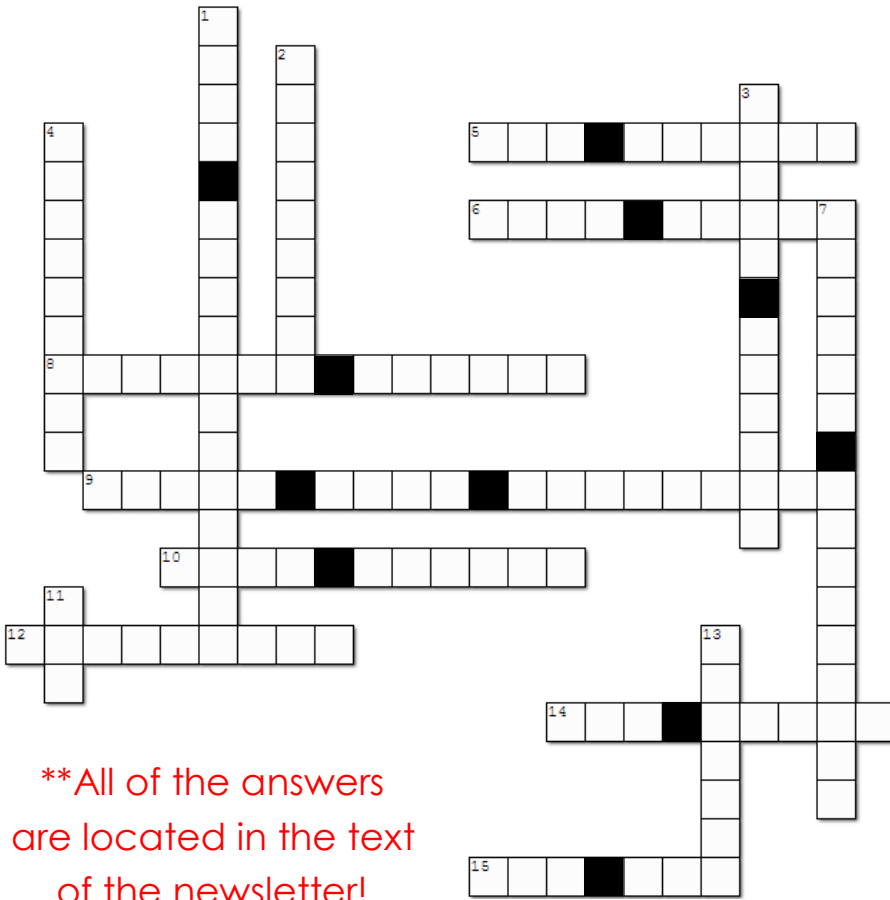
Important Announcement

“The office will be mailing out
W-2's during the month of
January, please make sure to
notify us if you have had an
address change. Thank you.”

— Shannon and Steve



THE CROSSWORD CONNECTION



****All of the answers are located in the text of the newsletter!**

Enter your completed crossword puzzle into our monthly drawing for a chance to win a PRE-PAID Gift Card (1 \$200 Gift Card OR 1 \$100 Gift Card). The winners (2) will be announced on the afternoon of December 10th.



This is for Southwind Employees only! Remember crosswords have to be correct in order to be entered into the drawing.

Name: _____
 Rig # (or just write shop): _____
 Phone #: _____

Across

5. Who lead the preparations in Russell for Governor Browback's visit? (Hint: Page 4)
6. Prizes for winning this month's crossword? (Hint: Page 8)
8. You need to notify the office if you have a _____? (Hint: Page 7)
9. What is Darrell Yott's favorite Christmas dish? (Hint: Page 11)
10. Who is the current chairman of KIOGA? (Hint: Page 5)
12. According to Frank, there has been total _____ for the catline and boomline rope? (Hint: Page 7)
14. What rig has the best rig efficiency? (Hint: Page 9)
15. What rig has the best trip time? (Hint: Page 9)

Down







1. One of the best safety measures that can be undertaken? (Hint: Page 6)
2. Fix what kind of conditions when they first appear? (Hint: Page 6)
3. Who was the winner of the steak package last month? (Hint: Page 3)
4. Who is the Governor of Kansas? (Last Name)
7. What should be checked, and made sure they are clean and in good repair? (Hint: Page 6)
11. What should not be allowed to collect on the rig floor or in the cellar? (Hint: Page 6)
13. What should you keep coiled up when it is not in use? (Hint: Page 6)

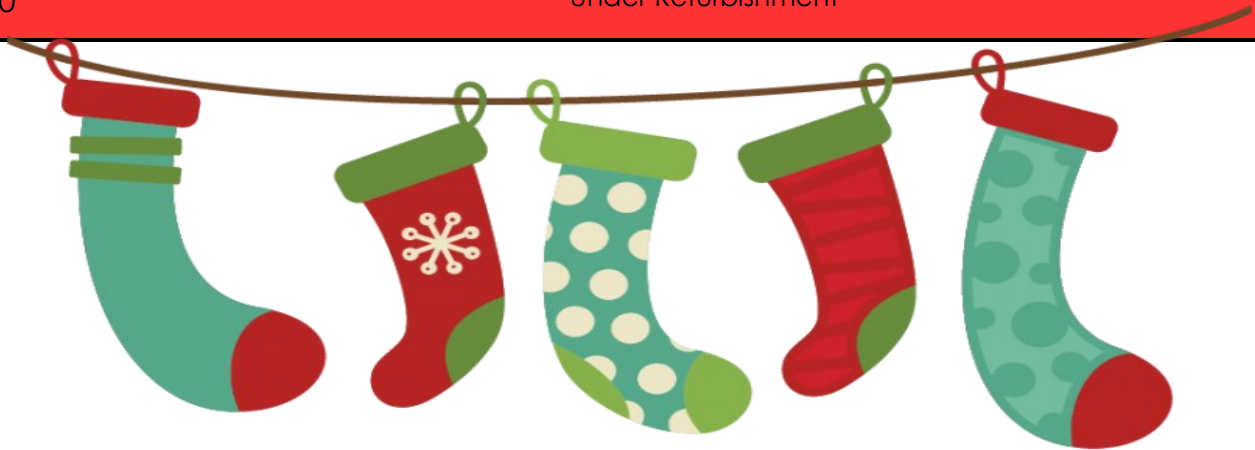
WIN a PRE-PAID Gift Card for the Holidays!

Please either mail in to PO Box 276 or just give to your toolpusher to bring in to the office by December 10 @ Noon to be eligible. Make sure you send in entire page!

Southwind Rig Efficiencies (Overall)



 = GREAT JOB!!!	Footage Rate/ Hr	Rig Efficiency	Trip Time	Rig Repair (Hours)	Non-Billable Hours
Rig #1	53.42	86%	2694.46 	69.75 	1068.25
Rig #2	Under Refurbishment				
Rig #3	55.97 	87% 	2632.39	95.50	889.75 
Rig #6	Stacked				
Rig #8	42.05	85%	2454.34	101.25	1022.50
Rig #9	Stacked				
Rig #70	Under Refurbishment				



Days Since No Loss Time Accident

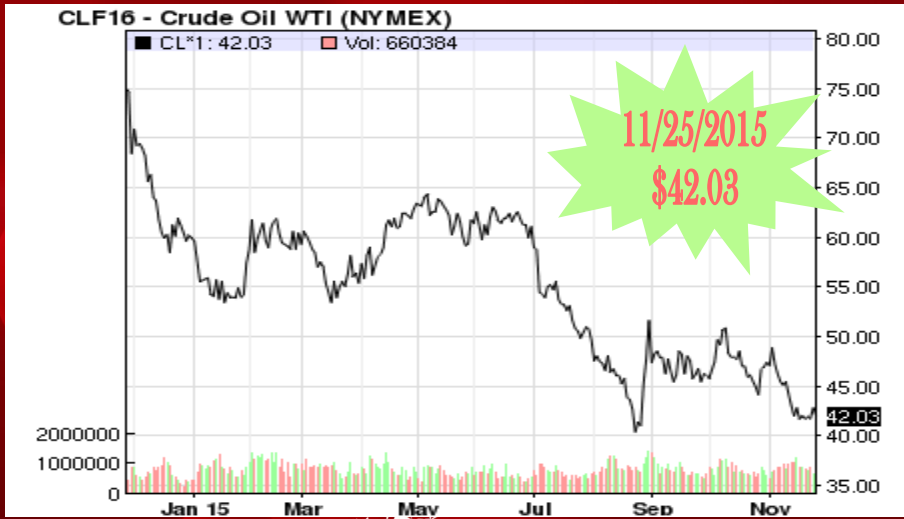
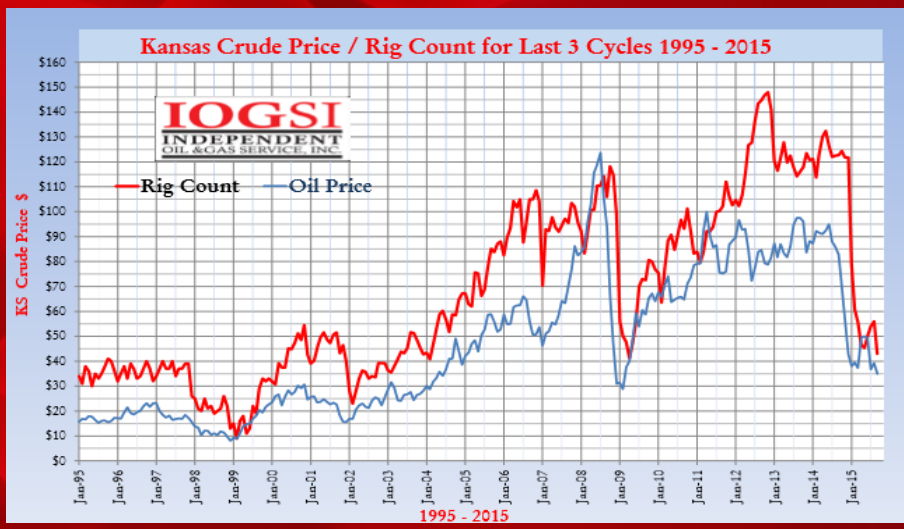
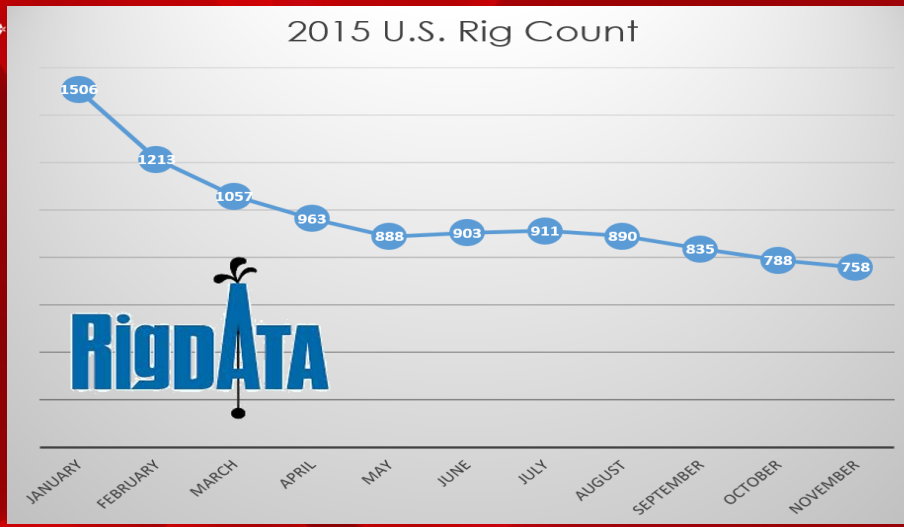


Rig #1 - 721 Days (12/6/2013)

Rig #3 - 275 Days (2/25/2015)

Rig #8 - 70 Days (9/18/2015)

Truck/Shop - 562 Days (5/14/2014)





Darrell Yott



Darrell Yott has been with Southwind Drilling for the last nine years, working about every position available. Starting out as floorhand on evening tour, he quickly learned and was moved into the position of Morning Tour Driller. Eventually he achieved the position of Daylight Driller. Darrell was offered and accepted the toolpushing job on Rig #8 in 2013. Todd stated, "One of Darrell's strengths is his outgoing and calm personality. We have had several operators call the office to say how much they enjoy working with Darrell." Currently with the industry slow-down Darrell is heading up Daylights on Rig #3.

Darrell is a **valuable employee** and is a major asset to Southwind Drilling. He is the ultimate "Company Man" who is always upbeat and gives us his best. Congratulations on being chosen for this month's spotlight, and thanks for everything you do for Southwind!



Q. How long have you worked at Southwind, and what drew you here initially?

A. On December 21, it will be nine years. The driller at the time hired me.

Q. What is your favorite Memory @ Southwind?

A. Back in 2009 when I was driller on Rig #3 Morning Tour, I had just found out I had cancer. I remember Todd calling me at 9:30 at night (the night before my surgery) saying that there would be a job for me when I got back; this meant so much to me.

Q. What are your plans for the upcoming holiday season?

A. Stay at home and enjoy.

Q. What is your favorite dish at Christmas?

A. Green bean casserole.

Q. Who has been the most influential person in your life?

A. My dad because he taught me so much.

Q. What is a Christmas memory you have as a child?

A. I remember I got a stereo one year, but it was a complete surprise, because my parents had hidden it by using it as a pedestal/stand for the tree.

Q. If you could go anywhere where would it be?

A. Hawaii, just because it looks really pretty.

Q&A



Pictured from left: Peter Zamarripa, **Darrell Yott**, Fred Ross, and Shawn Epp