

BICERA BEACON

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WHAT'S NEW AT BICERA VALVE?

There's always something new at Bicara Valve. Here's the latest scoop!

2021 is off to a cold start here at BICERA Valve. We have had snow cover since the middle of December. It appears that this week we will see all that snow finally disappear, with temperatures forecasted to be around the 60s most of the week. It's funny how the first hints of spring bring out positive attitudes and renewed focus, not to mention the maple tree sap that is being boiled off to make maple syrup right now all over the area.

Here at Penn-Troy, we're continuing to improve our product drawings. The ongoing pandemic has caused business to slow somewhat, and the virus has had an impact on shipping around the world. For many manufacturers around the globe, worker shortages have caused long delays in the supply chain, but here at BICERA Valve, with very few exceptions, we have seen our lead times remain the same. We pride ourselves on our reputation for short lead times and even quicker response times to emails and phone calls.

Finally, we have a new employee to introduce. Mak Gleckner has joined the inside sales team and is also our spotlight employee of this issue. We are excited to have him.

As we welcome a new member to the Penn-Troy/BICERA Valve family, we prepare to say goodbye to one of our longest tenured members, Kim Perry. Kim will be calling it a career at the end of May. We can't help but reflect on her time here with respect for what she has accomplished and the fantastic example she has set. Although we absolutely are going to miss her dedication and thorough work ethic, we're nonetheless excited for Kim as she rides off into the sunset ... probably to a warm beach near the equator. Please join us in thanking Kim for her contributions and congratulating her on her retirement.

Don't forget the kits!

Exercise your valves every year and replace the seals with a new BICERA maintenance kit every other year. Not sure what valve you have or what kit you need? Our Tools & Kits page <https://www.bicera.com/tools-kits> has a lot of useful information to help you identify the right kit for your valve. You can also call us at 800-232-4442 or email us at sales@pennstroy.com, and we would be more than happy to help you get the information you need to keep your valves in compliance and you and your crew, safe!

BICERA VALVE
MANUFACTURING TRUST

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Tools & Kits

Kit Name	Model	Part Number
K04 - Penn-Troy Bicara Valve Repair Kit for 4B0 The 4B0 was last produced on 11/17/70. Serial numbers run from 1 to 1015.	4B0	K04
K4A - Penn-Troy Bicara Valve Repair Kit for 4A Serial numbers on the valve start at 1 and are still being produced.	4A	K4A
K4W - Penn-Troy Bicara Valve Repair Kit for 4A0R0W This valve is a "Quick Disconnect" design valve. Serial numbers start at 1 and are still being produced.	4A0R0W	K4W

▶ A Message from the President

Thank you once again for reading the BICERA Beacon. Today I am writing to remember the life of the man who started it all for my family here at Penn-Troy, my grandfather, Ed Powers, who passed away last week. There is no doubt that Ed had quite a career in the water industry, holding positions such as General Manager of Kennedy Valve and CEO of Mueller Company, but if you asked him what drove him to work so hard, he would tell you that he did it for his family.



I'll forever remember what he did for me after my father – who was President of Penn-Troy – passed away, and I had been named acting President. He came to Troy and worked with me for two weeks to teach me the job. I'll never forget watching him tear through financial statements, meticulously construct a budget, and prepare to meet with our banker as though we were about to be under siege. If he hadn't spent those two weeks with me, I don't know where I would be today. And above all, I knew he was doing all of this while grieving for his son and honoring him in death by ensuring that his family would be OK.

We've attached a portion of my grandfather's obituary to this newsletter. It's a fascinating read of a life well lived. After you read about everything he accomplished in his lifetime, I think you'll agree that Ed is most deserving of finally getting some rest.

Thanks again for reading, and as always, thank you for your business.

Sincerely,

Mark Powers

Mark Powers
President and Chief Executive Officer
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Honoring the Life of Ed Powers

Easton, MD -- Edward D. Powers, age 88, passed away at his residence in Wilmington on March 9, 2021.

Edward David Powers is the son of the late Joseph and Catherine Powers, émigrés to the United States from Newfoundland. Ed was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York. He was the first in his family to graduate from college, obtaining a chemistry degree from St. John's University in 1954. He met his wife, Doris, also a degreed chemist, while in college. He and Doris had six children.

Ed served in the United States Army in Alaska during the Korean War. He eventually started his career at Lever Brothers in New York City. While living in Tenafly, New Jersey, helping Doris raise his oldest three children and working full time, he attended Farleigh Dickenson University where he received his MBA.

He progressed into management positions in purchasing and materials management with Lever Brothers. He worked for Universal Oil Products (UOP) from 1966 to 1970 after he was recruited to establish a corporate purchasing department. He left UOP for a position with ITT Grinnell and was transferred to various locations, including East Greenwich, Rhode Island and Elmira, NY where he was named President of a newly acquired business, Kennedy Valve.

Ed eventually became president and CEO of the Mueller Company in Decatur, Illinois and was named to the Chicago Federal Reserve Board in 1985, serving until 1990.

In the late 1970s, he bought a small private company, Penn-Troy, based in Troy, Pennsylvania and eventually turned the leadership over to his son Gregory, who became its president. Ed purchased Firebrick Company in 1983 and Curtis Industries in 1987, combining them under the name "Powers Holdings." He recruited his sons Richard and Steven Powers to run those businesses.

Aside from his distinguished business career, Ed's passions included sailing, traveling around the world with Doris, golf, and, most important, his family. He and Doris created an environment for their kids, kids' spouses, grandkids, siblings, and nieces and nephews to ensure that everyone would remain lifelong friends who loved and supported each other. He and Doris bought a 17-acre home on the Chesapeake Bay and hosted 30 years of family reunions with 150 aunts, uncles, and cousins as well as hosted family holidays with "just" their 38 immediate family members. Ed's charity and love did not end with family, as he and Doris were very active supporting charitable organizations and those in need.



▶ Employee Recognition Corner



Mak Gleckner

Inside Sales

How long have you worked at Penn-Troy?

Two weeks

What is your position and what are your common daily duties?

Inside Sales. Issuing quotes, entering orders, speaking with customers.

What do you like most about your job?

The people I work with

What are your hobbies?

Hunting, fishing, trapping

Do you have a vacation ritual or location?

I go to the family cabin.

What is your favorite movie?

Shrek

Any bucket list item(s) you care to share?

Draw a PA Elk tag and harvest one.

Do you have any hidden talents?

Walking on my hands. I can even walk down steps.

Family?

Engaged to be married this spring.

How do you unwind outside of work?

I would most likely be doing something outside.

Drop us a line...

Questions? Comments? If you would like to give Penn-Troy/BICERA Valve any feedback, please send an email to sales@penntroy.com. Your feedback helps us know when we are on the right track, and where we need to refocus.