

BICERA BEACON

VOL. 21 | SEPT 2023



WHAT'S NEW AT BICERA VALVE?

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

September marks the end of our fiscal year here at Penn-Troy. Looking back, this was a busy year, probably one of the busiest in memory. With the joys of constant work, also comes various scheduling challenges. Luckily, we have some of the best employees that manage production and inventory to help us be successful. Part of that success is directly related to our plant manager, who you will read more about in this issue.

We are getting very close to announcing a new product that current and prospective customers have been requesting for quite some time now. We have been so busy developing new products that were already in the pipeline, as well as continuously improving existing products, that we struggled to find time for yet another project. But the stars aligned, and breakthroughs were made so, please be on the look out for announcements on social media and right here, in the Bicera Beacon Journal. You aren't going to want to miss these new offerings!

Product Spotlight

BICERA Sigma Valves

There's never been a better way to protect the people and property associated with the operation of your engine or compressor.

Thanks to the comprehensive benefits that the BICERA Sigma Valve Series of crankcase explosion relief valves offer over your current valves, you've never had so many reasons to switch.

Stringent tests prove that the BICERA Sigma Valve is a better flame arrestor than other valves. Our proprietary technology offers better protection for your staff and equipment. Contact us today to see what Sigma can do for you.



▶ Employee Recognition Corner



Willie Jennings Plant Manager

This is somewhat of a special edition of the Employee Spotlight section. Our plant manager is a humble man who does not seek the spotlight. So, you could probably imagine his reaction when he was approached to answer these questions about himself. What ended up happening was a team effort. So, as you read this section, know that the questions were actually answered by those here at Penn-Troy that have known Willie a long time. Owner Dolly Powers felt that there is so much more to be said about Willie than these questions reveal.

She remembered aloud the excitement of her husband, Greg Powers, when Willie accepted the job. He was excited to be adding such a young, talented, college educated machinist to his team. His anticipation was rewarded too many times to count throughout the years. Whenever there was any sort of issue, Willie stepped up time and time again. Through floods, late night (false) fire alarms, and general issues, he was always willing to lend a hand to solve the problem.

Another trait that Dolly wanted to talk about was how Willie always tries to say something positive when things get tough or go sideways.

Finally, Dolly said that “without Willie, this company wouldn’t be the company it is today.” Those are words that I think every employee hopes to hear spoken about them someday.

How long have you worked at Penn-Troy?

About 37 years.

What is your position and common daily duties?

Plant manager. My duties include keeping the shop running smoothly, hiring, scheduling production, training and many, many other things.

What do you like most about your job?

Solving problems, keeping my mind young. I enjoy the day-to-day challenge.

What are your hobbies?

Raising beef cattle on the family farm, keeping tabs on college wrestling, as well as local high school wrestling. Avid hunter.

Do you have a vacation ritual or location?

A cabin in the woods.

What is your favorite movie?

Vision Quest

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

Spending time with family and passing down my love for the outdoors and hunting to my grandson.

Do you have any hidden talents?

A memory like a steel trap. Dedication. I can do complicated math in my head. Recalling small details

Family?

One daughter and one grandson.

How do you unwind outside of work?

Drinks with friends in my “Conference Room”
Following local sports and the Pittsburgh Steelers.

▶ A Message from the President

Welcome once again to the *Bicera Beacon*. Summer is over, kids are back in school, and parents everywhere find themselves back in the role of the coach for their child's sports team. I, for one, am coaching my kids' U10 soccer team. The kids played well, but we lost our first game 5-2. Our team handled losing fine, and I'm not especially bothered by it, except that my mind likes to remind me that the success or failure of an organization starts at the top. The human mind is not particularly concerned with phrasing things gently. Fortunately, after letting those thoughts pass, I'm able to remember that success for the kids isn't measured by winning, but rather things more critical their development as people such as learning, enjoyment of the game, friendships, and just good old exercise. The same concept applies here at Penn Troy. We can't win every job, but if our customers are satisfied, our products are improving, our employees are furthering their skills, and we can pay our bills, that's a good day at work.

Thanks again for your time, and until next time, take care, and thank you for supporting Bicera Valve.

Sincerely,

Mark Powers

Mark Powers
President and Chief Executive Officer
Cell: 607-742-2746 | Toll Free: 800-232-4442





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.