



(L-R) Brett Tomkinson, Eric Teegardin, Dennis Guernsey, Roland Demorest, Ken Bradley, and AJ Selleck.

### TOWER AUTOMOTIVE (2011 FORD EXPLORER)

As featured in our February Tool Bits issue, we are completing the design and building of the necessary dies to make (8) parts for Tower Automotive and Ford's upcoming 2011 U502 Explorer (shown below). All of these parts will become part of the sidesill assembly being assembled by Tower's Chicago plant.

This month we are featuring die leaders, Dennis Guernsey's and Ken Bradley's Reinforcements as shown above. These parts are both made of high strength materials in progressive type dies. Both Dennis and Ken handled the assembly and tryout of their dies themselves. Eric Teegardin and Brett Tomkinson handled the designs for Dennis' part while Roland Demorest and AJ Selleck did Ken's.

As mentioned earlier, this vehicle will be switching from the body-on-frame chassis to the D4 unibody platform similar to the Ford Flex and Lincoln MKT. Ford is hoping for a significant weight drop and in turn 20-25% better fuel economy.



### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

We would like to take this opportunity to wish the following GTD employees a Happy Birthday on:

#### MAY 2010

- 1 .....Andy Green
- 1 .....Don Orr
- 1 .....Nate Akin
- 7 .....Dan Gasper
- 8 .....TJ Holland
- 10 .....Dan Updike
- 10 .....Kevin Coon
- 18 .....Brian Lake
- 18 .....Mark Heintzelman
- 30 .....Brett Tomkinson

### SAFETY & SUGGESTION COMMITTEE

Nathan Akin  
Gaven Tift

Brian Lake  
Tim Holland

The Safety & Suggestion Committee for April will meet on Wednesday, April 28, 2010, at 3:00 p.m. in the large conference room.

### RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

We had a nice upswing in our Red Cross Blood Drive in March as we had 38 donors. They are always much appreciated, but we would like to recognize a couple of our donors for reaching milestones:

Kevin Lipp                      2 Gallons  
Nate Post                        3 Gallons

Our next Red Cross Blood Drive will be Wednesday, May 12 starting at noon.

### SERVICE AWARDS

We would also like to recognize, thank, and congratulate Joe Dempsey who celebrated 20 years of service on April 4.

### AVALON PARK

Now that spring is arriving, be sure to visit our company recreation facility, Avalon Park, on beautiful Burgess Lake.



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## TAE KWON DO

Above left, our Roland Demorest watches as Grand Master Tae Zee Park, a 9th degree black belt, 5-time Korean Tae Kwon Do champion, and instrumental in starting Tae Kwon Do in the U.S. in the 1970's, instructs participants at the national seminar in Dyersburg, TN earlier this year. At this 2-day seminar, Roland successfully tested to become a 4th degree black belt and a Master Instructor.

Inspired by a weekly television series in the 70's, "The Green Hornet," with Bruce Lee as one of the stars, Roland actually started his participation in Tae Kwon Do in 1993, earning his black belt in 1996. The fact that he is presently in charge of Tae Kwon Do schools in Cedar Springs, Greenville, and Belding demonstrates his interest and devotion to the sport. His family is certainly in complete support as his wife, Pam, is a 3rd degree black belt, son, Mitchell is a 2nd degree black belt, and daughter, Jessica will be testing later this year for her black belt.

Roland says the different levels or degrees of Tae Kwon Do are both time and performance based. He plans to continue with his progression but has now satisfied his most important goal of becoming a Master Instructor. At right, he and Matt Klingbeil of Sheridan demonstrate how to get out of a choke hold.



## MIDWAY PRODUCTS GROUP, INC.

As featured in our January Tool Bits issue, we have been designing and building tooling for our customer Midway Products Group Inc. to produce parts for this same 2011 Ford Explorer. Most of this work has now been completed. Above, die leader, Dave Bean (left) and die maker, Mark Winters, hold the right and left C-Pillar for this vehicle (die in the background). Midway will produce an annual volume of approximately 158,000 parts at their Columbus Grove, Ohio plant.



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