

# TURTLE TRACKS



## In This Issue

### Employees of the Month

Quinntavious Stevens & Jodi Light

### One Word with Thermo-Kool

Larry Gandy, Paul Moss, Wade Adkins, Jermaine Jones

### 65 YEARS OF KOOL:

A Story Worth Telling

### TK In The News

- Red Beans & Rice Event
- Welcoming Industry Friends to Thermo-Kool
- Celebrating Recent Graduates
- Welcome to the world, Georgia Mae!

Volume LVI

MAY/JUNE 2025 | Issue No. 3



## EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH



**QUINNTAVIOUS STEVENS**  
MACHINE OPERATOR III  
DOOR METAL DEPARTMENT

**Thermo-Kool** Machine Operator III, Door Metal Department – **Quinntavious Stevens** was selected Employee of the Month for March 2025. Quinntavious was nominated by two **Thermo-Kool** plant supervisors, who shared, “Quinntavious consistently delivers exceptional quality in his work, ensuring each project meets the highest standards for subsequent workstations. He demonstrates impressive versatility by effectively balancing Door, Door Metal, and Frame building tasks. Furthermore, his proactive approach to cross-training in the welding booth provides vital backup support. With his unwavering positive attitude and strong work ethic, he is truly a valuable asset.” Quinntavious has been with **Thermo-Kool** since May 2024.



**JODI LIGHT**  
PRODUCTION ASSISTANT SPECIALIST  
PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT

**Thermo-Kool** Production Assistant Specialist, Personnel Department – **Jodi Light** was selected Employee of the Month for April 2025. Jodi was nominated by a member of management and one of **Thermo-Kool's** factory supervisors, who shared, “She is recognized for her outstanding contributions to the organization and efficiency of factory paperwork. She is also recognized for her exceptional willingness to assist others, her dependable nature, and her consistent commitment to exceeding expectations by offering support even for tasks outside her regular duties.” Jodi has been with **Thermo-Kool** since April 2020.

## ONE WORD

*Every year, our team selects a word to live and work by. This word is displayed in everyone's respective office as a reminder of our commitment and dedication to make the new year as successful as possible.*



**Larry Gandy**  
Customer Service Consultant  
**Sharing**

*“As we go through this year, I will be reminded to share with others to expand their depth of knowledge.”*



**Wade Adkins**  
Production Supervisor  
**Willing**

*“To be willing, a person needs to be positive, open-minded, and unselfish. If we are all going to reach our goals, we all must be willing.”*



**Paul Moss**  
VP & Comptroller  
**Calm**

*“When faced with trying obstacles in today's hectic and chaotic world, I will turn to a quiet place of serenity to help clearly navigate my thought process and reaction.”*



**Jermaine Jones**  
Production Supervisor  
**Believe**

*“My one word for 2025 is “Believe”. Proverbs: 3:5 states Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding.”*



# 65 YEARS OF KOOL: A STORY WORTH TELLING



By: *Lisa Hinton*



## It All Started with a Simple Idea

Back in 1960, in a quiet corner of Laurel, Mississippi, a small team set out to build something better—not just walk-in coolers, but a company rooted in craftsmanship, integrity, and innovation. Those early days were filled with hand-drawn plans, trial and error, and long hours fueled by grit and determination. There was no playbook, just the belief that if you did things the right way, people would notice.

And they did. Over time, Thermo-Kool grew from a modest operation into a name recognized across the country and beyond. What hasn't changed is the spirit behind every unit we build. It's the same commitment to excellence that's carried us through for 65 years and counting.



## A Vision Bigger Than the Blueprint

When Randolph W. McLaughlin arrived in Laurel in the early 1970s, he didn't just see a small manufacturing company—he saw potential. With a background in engineering and business, he brought fresh energy and bold ideas that would shape the company's future. Under his leadership, Thermo-Kool patented innovations, expanded its reach, and helped push the industry forward.

Randolph didn't seek the spotlight—he built relationships, he served on boards, and he rolled up his sleeves. He helped organize the first food service equipment trade show in Dallas, laying groundwork for an industry tradition that continues today. His legacy isn't just one of growth, it's one of purpose. Thanks to him, Thermo-Kool became more than a business. It became a vision realized.

## Built by the Hands—and Hearts—of Many

Ask anyone who's spent time at Thermo-Kool what makes this place special, and they won't hesitate: it's the people. Over the years, craftsmen, welders, engineers, office staff, reps, and service teams have all added their thread to the Thermo-Kool story. Each person brought their own kind of excellence, and together, they built something stronger than steel.

This anniversary isn't just about marking a number. It's about saying thank you. To the ones who stuck it out through the hard times, who mentored others, who stood by us and believed in what we were building—this milestone belongs to you.



## Always Thinking Ahead

Even as we look back, our eyes remain on the future. Thermo-Kool has never been afraid to innovate, and that's as true now as it was in 1960. Today, our integrated blast chillers, 3D Walk-In Configurator, and partnerships with cutting-edge technologies like Middleby's BlueZone® air purification systems are just a few examples of how we continue to push boundaries in cold storage.

We're not just adapting—we're leading. And there's more on the horizon: exciting projects in the works, new ways to support our customers, and a commitment to engineering solutions that stand the test of time.



## Here's to What's Next

Sixty-five years ago, we set out to build something better, and along the way, we built something that lasts. As we look ahead, our promise remains the same: to deliver quality without compromise, and service that feels like family.



To everyone who's been part of the journey—thank you. The best stories don't end at the milestone. They keep going.

And we're just getting started.



# IN THE NEWS

## LAISSEZ LES BONS TEMPS ROULER—WITH RED BEANS & RICE!

When it comes to Fat Tuesday, some folks catch beads—but at Thermo-Kool, we catch a moment to give back.

Every Mardi Gras, the aroma of something special fills the air as we roll up our sleeves for **Red Beans & Rice Day**, a beloved Thermo-Kool tradition that turns a classic Cajun dish into a meaningful act of service. This year was no exception as our own **Paul Moss, Vice President & Accounting Manager**, stirred up something more than just a big ol' pot of beans—he stirred up community, kindness, and a little Louisiana spirit, too!

With tireless effort and a heart full of purpose, Paul took the lead in prepping, cooking, and keeping the lunch line movin' like a second line parade. The Thermo-Kool team provided the ingredients, served up hearty portions, and made sure every child at **St. John's Day School** had a plate full of good food and even better memories.

Founded in 1950, St. John's Day School has a mission close to our hearts: to educate each student to the very best of their ability so they can thrive in the next stage of their journey. It's a mission that aligns with Thermo-Kool's own values—because whether we're crafting quality walk-ins or cooking for a cafeteria full of smiling faces, we believe in doing things with care, excellence, and a whole lotta love.

From the gumbo pots of South Louisiana to the classrooms of Laurel, Mississippi—community matters. And when we get the chance to feed minds *and* bellies, you better believe we'll bring the rice, the beans, and the Thermo-Kool team spirit.

'Til next Mardi Gras, keep stirrin' the pot of goodness.



Thermo-Kool was thrilled to welcome two special guests to our Laurel, Mississippi headquarters this past week—Curtis Price with Forbes, Hever & Wallace, and Tom Nash with Amundsen Commercial Kitchens. As longtime partners and industry friends, Curtis and Tom were given a behind-the-scenes look at the Thermo-Kool process and the core values that drive our commitment to innovation, quality, and customer care.

During their visit, the group toured our manufacturing facility, connected with various team members, and got a firsthand glimpse into how Thermo-Kool consistently meets gold standards in craftsmanship and service. From the initial quoting phase to final delivery, we shared how each step in our process is thoughtfully designed to ensure our customers receive not only the best walk-ins in the industry but the best experience too.

We're always excited for opportunities to host our partners and strengthen the relationships that help us continue to grow. A big thank you to Curtis and Tom for spending time with us. We appreciate your partnership and look forward to the continued success we can build together.

At Thermo-Kool, we believe it's not just about the products we make—it's about the people we serve and the relationships we cultivate. Here's to more collaboration, more innovation, and more shared wins.

## WELCOMING INDUSTRY FRIENDS TO THERMO-KOOL





# IN THE NEWS

## THE KOOL KIDS: CELEBRATING OUR GRADUATES



**Ava Kinley Biegel**

*Daughter of Jon Biegel,  
National Sales Manager*

Ava Kinley Biegel, 18, is a proud homeschool graduate whose creativity and vibrant energy shine in everything she does. Throughout her school years, Ava found joy in writing and discovered her voice through both cheerleading and chorus, where she excelled. Now that she's graduated, Ava plans to continue building experience in the restaurant industry—following in her dad's footsteps—while saving and preparing for her next big chapter. We're excited to see where her passions and hard work will take her next!



**Michael "Mike"  
Randolph McLaughlin, Jr.**

*Son of Rand McLaughlin,  
President and CEO*

Michael "Mike" McLaughlin Jr., 18, is a proud graduate of the Class of 2025 from The Baylor School in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Throughout his high school years, Mike excelled both in the classroom and on the field, participating in baseball, golf, and track and field. This fall, he'll head to Southern Methodist University in Dallas to study business at the prestigious Edwin L. Cox School of Business. With his drive and well-rounded experience, Mike is poised to make a lasting impact in whatever path he pursues next.



**Alyssa Mosley**

*Daughter of Daphne Mosley,  
Human Resources Assistant*

Alyssa Mosley, 20, recently graduated from Jones College, earning her Associate Degree in Arts. Passionate about creativity and expression, Alyssa is now setting her sights on completing her Bachelor of Art Degree at the University of Southern Mississippi. Her dream is to continue growing as an artist and to share her beautiful work with the world. We're excited to watch her talent and dedication take her far!



**Zyavia McCray**

*Daughter of Audreanna McCray,  
Customer Service Assistant*

Zyavia McCray, 18, is graduating with honors from Laurel High School, where she made her mark both academically and athletically. A standout member of the track and field Team, Zyavia helped lead her team to victory as the 2024 state champions in the 4x200 event. She was also part of the 2024 Lady Tornadoes basketball team, who brought home the championship title. This fall, Zyavia will attend Pearl River Community College, where she plans to major in Physical Therapy Technician studies. With her determination and winning spirit, there's no doubt she has a bright future ahead.



**Ryne Herrington**

*Son of Danielle Herrington,  
Payroll/Accounting*

Ryne Herrington, 17, is graduating from Northeast Jones High School with a stellar 4.2 GPA, ranking 13th in his class. A dedicated athlete and scholar, Ryne has played on the Varsity and JV baseball teams since 8th grade (and even started in 7th), as well as spending two seasons as a football long snapper. This year has been especially memorable—he pitched a perfect game, set a new personal record with 12 strikeouts in a single game, and celebrated his first home run. Ryne has been accepted into Mississippi State's engineering program but is also exploring opportunities to continue playing baseball at the JuCo level while working toward his engineering degree. With talent and drive on and off the field, Ryne is ready for big things ahead!



**Jaden Flynt**

*Daughter of Erin Harrison,  
Sales Supervisor*

Jaden Flynt, 17, is a proud graduate of Northeast Jones High School and the daughter of Erin (Nathan) Harrison and William Flynt. A talented student and performer, Jaden was awarded multiple scholarships—including two for her outstanding participation in the Jones Concert and Chorale Choirs. She will attend Jones College in Ellisville, Mississippi, to major in Accounting, with plans to continue her education at the University of Southern Mississippi. Jaden's goal is to gain two years of valuable work experience after earning her Bachelor's degree, all while preparing for the CPA exam. Her dedication and focus are sure to set her up for success!



# IN THE NEWS

## THE KOOL KIDS: CELEBRATING OUR GRADUATES



**Dax Brown**

*Son of Kasey Brown,  
Programming Technician*

Dax Brown, 12, is celebrating a big milestone as he graduates from 6th grade at North Jones Elementary. This fall, he'll start a new adventure at West Jones High School. Dax has big dreams of becoming a marine biologist one day—and living on a boat! His love of science and band are already shaping his path, and with his curiosity and enthusiasm, there's no doubt he'll make waves in the years ahead. Way to go, Dax!



**Michael Lewis  
Hudson Reddoch**

*Son of Marketta Reddoch,  
Executive Assistant*

Michael Lewis Hudson Reddoch, 17, is a proud member of the Class of 2025 at West Jones High School. The son of David Reddoch and Marketta Reddoch, Hudson is eager to dive into a hands-on career. He plans to attend Jones Junior College to earn his welding certification, with his sights set on a challenging and rewarding future in offshore underwater welding. With his determination and passion for skilled trades, Hudson is ready to make his mark.



**Brandon Crosby**

*Son of Nikki Ashford,  
Accounts Payable*

Brandon Crosby is a proud graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi, earning his Bachelor's degree in Geography and Cartography on December 13, 2024. Brandon is no stranger to Thermo-Kool, having worked with the team during the summer months while pursuing his studies. His dedication to both his education and his family shines through in everything he does. We're excited to see where his skills and determination will lead him next!



## WELCOME TO THE WORLD, GEORGIA MAE!

We're thrilled to celebrate the arrival of a brand-new blessing to the **Thermo-Kool** family.

Born on March 24, 2025, at 6:22, sweet **Georgia Mae** weighed in at 7 lbs, 9 oz and measured 20.5 inches long. Her proud parents, Jacob and Ellie Chunestudy, are overjoyed—and so is her grandfather, our very own National Sales Manager, **Jon Biegel**!

Please join us in congratulating Ellie, Jacob, and Jon on this beautiful addition to their family. We're sending all our love to baby Georgia Mae and can't wait to watch her grow.