

**HOLIDAY NOTICE**  
THERMO-KOOL's offices and factory will be closed Thursday, November 28th and Friday, November 29th, for the Thanksgiving Day Holiday.



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# EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH



**DAVID PERRY**  
MACHINE OPERATOR II ASSISTANT  
FRAME DEPARTMENT

## JULY 2024

Thermo-Kool Machine Operator II Assistant, Frame Department – **David Perry** was selected Employee of the Month for July 2024. David was nominated by Thermo-Kool plant supervisor, **Jermaine Jones**, who commented, “David is an exceptional employee with a great attitude and is willing to do anything asked of him. When there is an absence in crating, walk-in metal, or woodshop, he steps in to help while maintaining his own workload.” David has been with **Thermo-Kool** since June 2022.



**JAMES WHEAT**  
DOOR TECHNICIAN I  
DOOR DEPARTMENT

## AUGUST 2024

Thermo-Kool Door Technician I, Door Department – **James Wheat** was selected Employee of the Month for August 2024. James was nominated by Thermo-Kool production supervisor trainee, **Michael Nixon**, who commented, “James is an exemplary employee who does what is asked of him with great attitude and attention to detail. He also does a fantastic job when it comes to training new employees.” James has been with **Thermo-Kool** since August 1999.

# 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.



**Lisa Hinton**  
IT/Marketing Director  
**Focus**

*“If I can be more focused and attuned to our industry, then I believe we can make a bigger impact in our social and business presence, thereby providing our customers and potential customers with the knowledge, experience, and culture Thermo-Kool possesses.”*



**Justin Pugh**  
Accounting Supervisor  
**Push**

*“I will give my employees a push daily by applauding them for their hard work and dedication. This will help to improve their work performance and let them know that they are meaningful to the company, and we appreciate all they do.”*



**Marketta Reddoch**  
Executive Assistant  
**Value**

*“I will be focusing on value, what it truly means to me, so that I can grow and develop within myself and my career, and in all other aspects of my life.”*



**Kimberly McRoy**  
Human Resources Director  
**Light**

*“I hope to bring light and a lightness to all that I encounter this year, whether that be personally or professionally.”*



# THERMO-KOOL'S 1ST ANNUAL KOOL FOOD DRIVE COMPETITION



By: Lisa Hinton



**"Giving is not about making a donation. It is about making a difference." – Kathy Calvin**

I want to tell you a story. It's about a big city man who moved his family to a small town, hundreds of miles from the place he'd once called home. The man was looking for a change, looking for an opportunity to build his business and raise his family. He found that chance in the small town of Laurel, Mississippi. The people welcomed the big city man into their community, and for 64 years the business the man built thrived and grew into something special, something everyone in the community recognized.

The man in this story is none other than Thermo-Kool's founder, Randolph W. McLaughlin, better known as 'Rocco.'

It's a good story—a true story—filled with ups and downs, as most tales that stretch on for decades tend to. And like most good tales, they come full circle. Where once a community had supported the man and his business, it was time for the business to support its community.



September marked the official start of Thermo-Kool's 1st Annual Kool Food Drive Competition. Taking a unique spin on a classic concept, this food drive challenged companies within the state to compete against each other to see who could collect the most non-perishable food items. Each item was awarded points based on measurement—1 point for 16oz or below, 2 points for 16.1oz or above.

The company with the most points by September's end was crowned the winner and given a personalized 1st Annual Kool Food Drive plaque, catered lunch from one of their favorite dining spots, social media recognition and, of course, bragging rights.



And with the added support of the North American Association of Food Equipment Manufacturers (NAFEM), each item collected would be matched in value and the total sum donated to Feeding America, a nonprofit network of 200 food banks leading the fight against hunger in the United States.

Given this was our first year supporting a charity on this level, we weren't sure what the result would be. To say we were blown away by the turnout would be an understatement. The combined points of all donations were 4,726 points, roughly translating to over 4,000 food items donated! So much, in fact, that I looked up one day and realized my office had become a can food fortress I couldn't escape. A worthy fate, and ultimately not a bad living space, if you like ramen and whole corn.



Humor aside, we are so incredibly grateful for everyone's support and are truly fortunate to be able to provide much needed help to one of our community's great charities, The Mission at the Cross. These donations will go toward not only helping assist the men within the substance misuse recovery program created by the Mission but also to restocking charity kitchens around our area, who have recently reported having bare shelves.



Thermo-Kool would like to personally thank everyone who participated in the competition as well as those in our foodservice family who reached out to participate from a distance. Your combined donations will make a difference in the lives of those in our community who might be struggling and need a little extra help to get by. Being able to provide even one meal to someone in need is so special, being able to provide meals for months to come is life changing.





# IN THE NEWS

## ALABAMA SCHOOL DIRECTORS: A VISIT FROM OUR NEIGHBORS

On Wednesday, September 25, **Thermo-Kool** was delighted to host school directors **Shan Burkhardt**, Andalusia Schools, **Samantha Carroll**, Covington County Schools, **Susanne Boutwell**, Escambia County Schools, **Cacyce Davis**, Elmore County Schools, **Krystal Patterson**, Lee County Schools, and our Manufacturing Representatives from Georgia, **Kyle Belcher** and **Will Steward**, PMR, Inc. for a full day of comprehensive and hands-on training at Thermo-Kool's factory and historic downtown locations.

We truly hope you all had an educational and cultural experience while visiting our hometown and hope you'll all come back to visit us again.



*Photo (from left to right): Melissa Harrison, Susanne Boutwell, Samantha Carrol, Will Steward, Shan Burkhardt, Krystal Patterson, Erin Harrison, Allison Ishee, Kyle Belcher, and Rand McLaughlin.*

## PROMOTION ANNOUNCEMENT – LISA HINTON, MARKETING DIRECTOR

We are excited to announce the promotion of **Lisa Hinton** to the role of Marketing Director at **Thermo-Kool**.

**Lisa's** journey with us began on September 28, 2009, when she joined as our receptionist. Her exceptional work ethic and commitment quickly earned her a promotion to Executive Assistant, where she supported several members of management. During this time, **Lisa** gained deep insights into the inner workings, culture, and responsibilities within the company.

Her growing expertise led to a role as liaison to our outsourced IT team and, later, involvement in marketing efforts alongside our former marketing manager. By late 2023, **Lisa** took on more significant marketing responsibilities and became a key champion of the **Thermo-Kool** brand. Her efforts have strengthened our social media presence and deepened our engagement with both the local and foodservice communities.

Please join us in congratulating **Lisa** on this well-deserved promotion to Marketing Director. We are confident she will continue to contribute to the growth and success of **Thermo-Kool** in her new role!



## PROMOTION ANNOUNCEMENT – ERIN HARRISON, SALES SUPERVISOR

We are pleased to announce that **Erin Harrison** has been promoted to Sales Supervisor.

**Erin** began her journey with **Thermo-Kool** in 2005 as the receptionist at only 19. Quickly realizing her gifts for clerical work, she excelled within other departments including sales, the executive assistant team, and customer service. Though life took **Erin** away for a short time, fate brought her back to our sales team in 2015. She has since worked to build relationships with our customers, consultants, and manufacturer representatives as a Customer Account Representative. **Erin** has continued to grow in her knowledge of Thermo-Kool and leadership skills. Those qualities along with her dedication to **Thermo-Kool** is why we are excited to announce her promotion to Sales Supervisor.

Please join us in congratulating **Erin** on her promotion to this important position.

