#### AMMBUSHER

Our mission is to always be looking for new equipment that will be safer and more efficient to ultimately provide our customers a better final product. This fall we have been testing a new clearing head for our skid steers made by Ammbusher. This head is a mix between a fecon used for heavy clearing and a brushwolf used for light clearing and mowing. The Ammbusher head allows us to clear heavier growth areas than a brushwolf can handle, but move faster than a fecon head. So far the results have been positive. The Ammbusher attachment is extremely well built and the operation has left the final product of ROW looking very good. Over the next few months we have more attachments to demo, as well as new machines that are coming to the market. Here at Lanracorp, Inc. we strive for quality and safety, always, and that is why we are always looking for new products and equipment to continue to be the leader is our industry.



# Longaged

## A TIME TO GIVE THANKS

As the Holidays are now upon us we often find ourselves in a hurried rush, stressed, and feeling burnt out. Instead of giving into the stress of the Holidays let's make a conscious effort to give thanks to all of God's blessings for us. In James 1:17 the bible states that "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father".

Most people are willing to pray when there is something they need but how often do we take time to reflect upon that blessings given to us? There are often difficult times in life and it's very easy to forget and overlook the gifts that God has given us. God has blessed us in many ways, take a few minutes to list some of the good things in life and then take the time to offer thanks for them.

Along with giving thanks we should encourage this mentality in our children or family as well, be a leader. Others are likely going through tough times, be a blessing to them. In Colossians 3:12 and 14 it states "...clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience and over all these virtues put on love".

Listen and encourage those around you. Give thanks to God for all the blessings given to you and tell those close to you how much they mean to you and how thankful you are to have them in your life.

See what a difference this can have in your life.

Brent Oberlink



First, I want to wish all of our customers a Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas. This time of year is naturally a time for reflection, both positive and negative as well as a time of year to say thanks to all of those who make our jobs possible. Thank you for all of your business in 2014!

LETTER FROM THE PRESID

In the theme of reflection, I look back at 2014 as a year with weather challenges. From one of the coldest, harshest winters on record to a very wet summer for most of the US, 2014 definitely had challenges in terms of getting work done by our deadlines. However, despite the weather we look to be on track to finish up our projects by year end. We've added some new equipment to make this a reality so that when January 1st hits we can start on all of our new projects.

Our crews have completed over 1,000 miles of ROW this year so far with no OSHA recordables. That's an outstanding achievement!! I applaud our crews for being engaged in our safety culture and being proactive in safety. We have an excellent employee team, I wouldn't trade them for anything.

In 2014 we made a strong focus on data tracking. From installing trackers on equipment and trucks to using a GPS timestamp on clocking in/out for employees we are making a strong effort to ensure we are providing you with the most productive, yet safe crews in the industry. All of this data is fed into trackers which I review on a weekly basis. In 2015 we are going to be taking this another step with the addition of a new software program which will pull all of our data together into a more complex report. I'm excited about these changes. In an industry with a very mobile and sometimes remote workforce it takes an extra effort on management's end to ensure we are bring the best value to our customer.

On the safety front we made a conscious effort in 2014 to double the amount of audits and increase our behavior based safety (BBS) participation. We made great strides this year but we don't want to stop there. I'm glad to announce that in October 2014 we decided to hire Gus Mattka to our safety team. Gus brings years of safety experience to the table and will allow for Lanracorp to increase our management team involvement in the field with the crews. We believe this is critical in gathering real world data and solutions, as well as getting feedback from the folks on the ground. I believe this is how we create a true safety culture as well as 100% buy-in from all.

I'm looking forward to 2015. With several new projects on our calendar, additional work with most all of our current customers, and the changes we have in the works I'm very excited about what's to come.

Sincerely,

Brent Oberlink, President

## EMPLOYEES OF THE QUARTER



David Reed

December marks David Reed's first year anniversary with Lanracorp, Inc. Reed is very accountable and has never asked for a day off work. He has always been on a traveling crew and has a great attitude about it. In the last few months, Reed has really stepped up as a leader. Reed's foreman commented that Reed is good at taking charge and has been his right-hand man all year. Reed works very safe and always puts safety first.



**Justin Short** 

Still in his rookie year, Justin Short has definitely proved his is one of our most valuable leaders. Short is always ready to do any task that is asked, never needs to be asked twice, and will takes initiative to keep the job going. Short is very knowledgeable and skilled with a chainsaw. His skill versatility allows him to catch on quickly and ability to work with any crew.

### **EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT OF THE QUARTER**



#### **ANDY CANNING**

"I have been employed with Lanracorp, Inc since April and the reason I enjoy coming to work everyday is the amount of pride each crewmember has in the quality of work we do. We strive for safety and excellence in every facet of the job from the office to the right-ofway to maintain customer satisfaction. Everyone ensures that safety and quality are our top priorities."

#### SAFETY

Here at Lanracorp, Inc., we continuously assess goals to avoid complacency. We are always looking to improve what we already do great. One area that we are excelling at is safety. We have a great, hard-working team and each individual takes pride in completing each job and each day safely. Our zero OSHA recordable history is proof of company safety culture. So we asked ourselves; where can we improve our safety and keep our culture strong? Our answers included increasing job-site audits to weekly instead of monthly, Monday morning safety trainings and not just safety meetings, and enhancing our safety program with more frequent training. Our first step to achieving this goal was to find an experienced safety leader that will take Lanracorp, Inc to the next level. We definitely, hit the nail on the head! We have found someone that is passionate about safety, fits in well with our entire team and has already lead numerous safety trainings during his first month here. We are proud to introduce Gus Mattka as Lanracorp, Inc.'s new Health and Safety Manager.

Krystal West

#### Communication is key among a crew, especially when trying to keep everyone on the crew busy yet operating safely and efficiently. This is often a challenge because there is so much going on; individuals may be working in different directions and plenty of noise distractions from equipment to traffic. We set out this year to find a safe way for the crews to communicate and increase productivity. And we found just the tool: RopeTek Communication Helmets. We purchased Kask arborist helmets installed with a Ropetek blue tooth enabled communication system. This system allows the crew members to communicate hands free. The system cuts out background noise during communication to allow the crew members to hear clear direction from one another. Our main goal was to use this system for our bucket truck operations by allowing our spotter to provide guidance to the "bucket man," who can have hands free communication while operating with chainsaw in hands. We have also found other areas of work that have benefited from this system. Spotters are able to help operators maneuver equipment with more ease and for crews that are dropping trees it allows spot on communication while keeping the additional spotters at a greater distance from the tree-felling zone. These have been such a great addition that we have added two more units to different crews. We will continue to find new applications for this system and plan to equip our

entire team to keep our all our crews safe and

more productive.

## ROPETEK HELMETS



#### **GUS MATTKA**

I recently joined the Lanracorp, Inc. team in November 2014, as the Health and Safety Manager. I am very excited to work with such an outstanding group of individuals. Everyone from the management team to our many crews has been very helpful in my transition into this position. I have over 13 years experience in Safety and 10 years in the Pipefitting/Welding trades. Since my start here, I've seen that Lanracorp and their employees are very committed to safety and what it takes to achieve such an outstanding record of over 2800+ days without an OSHA recordable injury!.....Great Job! I know I have big shoes to fill by taking over for Krystal West. The goals I have set is to continue to keep the 2800+ days of "Zero Accidents" moving forward, enhance the safety training programs, continue field audits on a regular basis and help Lanracorp continue to be a leader in the field of safety for their industry. I would like to thank Brent Oberlink and his staff for giving me the opportunity to work for Lanracorp, Inc. and looking forward to working side by side with everyone in the coming years.