



VALCO INDUSTRIES, INC.
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PRESSing NEWS

June 2024

Spotlight of the Month: Viviana Rodriguez

Our Associate of the month spotlight this month shines on **Viviana Rodriguez** who has been with Valco since November of 2023. Viviana wears a number of “hats” such as receptionist, recruiter, accounting associate, interpreter, and heads up our orientation and on-boarding functions.



Viviana was born in Peoria, Illinois and raised in Henry, Illinois. She graduated from Henry-Senachwine High School in 2011 and attended Illinois Central Community College for two years graduating with a major in Business Administration. Viviana was raised in a bilingual home, so she has been fluent speaking in both Spanish and English most of her life. She mentioned that she did very well in her high school Spanish classes.



She moved to Springfield in 2014 because of family and thinking there would be new and different opportunities for her. She was right on both counts! She started her working career being a daycare teacher with the Creative World of Learning in Springfield in August of 2016. She then took a position as a bilingual lead recruiter with First Diversity and then moved to Carrillo Staffing in the same role. In 2021, Viviana joined The TBG Group as a talent acquisition specialist doing recruiting for Silfex. While working for TBG she started working part-time with Valco doing translation of forms and policies, translation in group meetings and helping with recruiting. In November 2023, Valco had a full-time opening and we were very fortunate to be able to hire Viviana.

Viviana is married to Mariano, who also works at Valco, and they have three children, Thiago (4), Camila (3) and Theo (1). Needless to say, Viviana and Mariano are very busy and have a very full plate. Viviana has 5 siblings, a sister who lives in Springfield and works at Rocking Horse, a brother in Illinois who works for the State of Illinois and three brothers who all live in Springfield and who all work for Amazon in London, Ohio. When Viviana does have some free time, she loves to bake, learn new recipes from her mother-in-law, read and enjoy the outdoors with her children.

It has been great having Viviana as part of the Valco Team as she has added so much to our company in helping us improve our diversity and our culture and making us a much-improved cohesive team. We look forward to working with Viviana in the years ahead and having her help a number of us learn Spanish while a number of our folks learn English.



As we are all well aware it has been excessively hot and humid. We greatly appreciate everyone being here every day and working through some very tough working conditions in order to meet our customers’ requirements and needs. Making it happen in the last couple of weeks is what being employee owned is all about. Owning a “piece of the pie” gives each of us a different mind set and a different perspective and allows us to share in the “fruits of our labor.”

To provide a little relief and provide a small token of our appreciation we had The Kona Ice Truck stop by and provide everyone with a much-needed snow cone and a well-deserved break. Those snow cones sure hit the spot and were certainly enjoyed by all our shareholders.





Steve Queen. July 8th

Looks like Steve has the entire month of July to himself as far as birthdays at Valco are concerned. We certainly want to wish Steve a great day on his special day and a year of good health, lots of laughs, and much continued success. Here's hoping Steve has many more birthday celebrations in the years ahead and the good health to know what he is actually celebrating. Have a great day, Steve!

Years of Service

- Renea Bailey July 5 . . . 7 Years!
- Tim Denney July 6 . . . 4 Years
- Dan Penwell July 16 . . .6 Years!
- Bryant Wells July 21 . . 10 Years!
- Don Briggs July 22 . . . 25 Years!!
- Jose Rivera Pagan . July 24 . .5 Years!
- Craig Bishop. July 25 . . . 2 Years

July looks like it was a great month to hire some great people. Thanks to each of you for being such an important part of the Valco Team and for doing all you do for our customers and for Valco. We appreciate all you do.

A very special shout out to Donnie Briggs on his 25 Year Anniversary. Well Done, Donnie.



CUSTOMER SERVICE AT IT'S BEST!

Late on a very hot Friday afternoon three of our best, Adam Leventhal, Bill Brougner and Steve Queen stayed well past quitting time to unload powder coated parts that had to ship that afternoon in order to meet our customer's requirements. We are happy to report Mission Accomplished. The parts were shipped that afternoon and arrived at our customer on Monday morning as promised. Thanks Adam, Bill and Steve for going well beyond the "call of duty." Whatever it takes we will make it happen.



Congratulations to **Angie Judy** for being our first annual winner of the Guess Our New Share Price contest! **Steve Queen** had a close second-place winning entry. Angie received the winning prize of ten times the new price and Steve received 5 times the new price. We were very happy with the large number of entries we received and seeing our share price grow as well.



Hopefully everyone is aware that July 4th, Independence Day, is on a Thursday this year. We will of course be closed that day in honor and celebration of our independence, and we will remain closed on Friday, July 5th. Normal production schedules and hours will resume on Monday, July 8th. We hope everyone has a great holiday, enjoys the long holiday weekend, and that the weather co-operates to make outdoor activities more enjoyable. Be safe and smart out there.

Great Quotes

"If you are too lazy to plow don't expect a harvest." Unknown

"I haven't got the slightest idea how to change people, but still, I keep a long list just in case I should ever figure it out."

David Sedaris, Author

"Stop worrying about what you have to lose and start focusing on what you have to gain."

"Life is the greatest journey you will ever be on."

"Never forget where you have been. Never lose sight of where you are going. And never take for granted the people who travel the journey with you."

VALCO FAMILY PICNIC 2024!

Valco's annual Family Picnic will be taking place on Friday September 6th at Young's Jersey Dairy from 4:00 p.m. till 8:00 p.m.

All Valco associates and immediate family members will receive wrist bands that will allow you to use all of their many facilities and activities until 8:00 p.m. Dinner and gift giveaways will take place from 5:00-6:00. Sign up sheets and more information to follow. We just wanted to be sure you save the date for what should be a great evening and company wide get together.