



VALCO INDUSTRIES, INC.
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PRESSing NEWS

September 2026

Spotlight of the Month: Alejandro Juarez Flores

Our employee spotlight this month shines on Alejandro Juarez Flores who has been part of the Valco Team since August of this year and works in our laser department.

He was born and raised in Veracruz Mexico and graduated high school in 2004. He came to the states about 18 years ago and first settled in Alabama where his father was living. Alejandro moved to Springfield about 15 years ago as he had some family living here. He said he moved to Springfield with the desire to better himself.

Once in Springfield he did various landscaping jobs, worked as a tire technician, and in several different manufacturing companies. He was hired by Sweet Manufacturing about 8 years ago. While at Sweet he operated saws, shears and was involved in shipping, receiving and assembly operations. He then was trained to become a laser operator, which he did for several years.

Alejandro's father lives in Atlanta and works in the automotive industry, his mother lives in Mexico as does his two sisters. He is married to Mari and is the proud father of 5 children, 4 boys and one girl ranging in ages 8 to 18. He loves spending time with his family and attending all of their many activities and sporting events. He and his family love soccer and fishing.

He says his favorite part of the job is feeling that through what he does every day he is helping his colleagues and the company he works for. It is great having Alejandro as part of the Valco Team as he brings many years of metal fabrication skills, knowledge and experience. He is very much looking forward to the upcoming training on our new Bystronics fiber laser and being able to operate the newest and best technology available.



October is Manufacturing Month, a time to recognize the important role manufacturing plays in our economy, our community, and our everyday lives.

For those of us in metal fabrication, manufacturing is much more than machines, lasers, brake presses, welding, powder coating, and pieces of steel. It is about people, skill, craftsmanship, technology, and pride coming together to make products that our customers depend on.

Every part that leaves our facility represents the work of many people—from sales and engineering to production, quality, shipping, maintenance, and administration. Each of us plays an important role in delivering the quality and service our customers expect and deserve.

Manufacturing also creates something especially important: opportunity. It provides good careers, develops valuable skills, supports families, strengthens local businesses, and helps build stronger communities. It gives young people the opportunity to learn a trade, work with advanced technology, and build a rewarding career right here in Springfield.

As metal fabricators, each of us can take great pride in knowing that we make things. We take raw material and, through knowledge, technology, teamwork, and hard work, turn it into something useful and valuable.

During Manufacturing Month, we celebrate our industry—but most importantly, we celebrate each Valco Team member who makes manufacturing possible every day. Thanks to all of our Employee Owners for your hard work, your commitment to quality, and the pride you bring to what we do. Together, we are not only manufacturing products, we are building our company, our community, and our futures.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Ta'Vione Arnold October 3
Jon Young October 3
Jordan Guinn October 4
Mariano Morales Octubre 17
Eddie Leventhal October 19
Eleodoro Mendez October 20

We wish each of you a great day on your special day. Here's hoping your new year is a year of good health, lots of laughs, good times/experiences, and lots of parts to fabricate. Wishing each of you will have many more birthday celebrations in the years ahead and good health to be able to enjoy each one of them. Enjoy your special time of year!!

Years of Service

James Mercier . . . Oct. 13 . . . 1 Year
Jerry Shingler Oct. 21 . . 7 Years!
Darren Perez . . . Oct. 22 . . 14 Years!!
Adrian Woodson . . Oct. 23 . 9 Years!

We thank each of you for being part of the Valco Team. We appreciate all you have done over the years and that you continue to do for Valco and our many customers. We look forward to working with you in the months and years ahead. Let's Keep It Growing and Going in 2026 and beyond!



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Congratulations and a huge Thank You to Dave Denney who recently celebrated his 20th year as part of the Valco Team!

Dave does a fantastic job as head of shipping and receiving, having perfect attendance, a can-do attitude and always willing to do whatever it takes to make it happen. Well done, Dave and we look forward to being able to continue working with you in the years ahead.



Valco will once again be providing FREE flu shots for all associates who would like to get one.

Flu shots will be administered by Rocking Horse Health Clinic on Tuesday, October 20th from 9:00am till 12:00pm You must pre-register to receive your free flu shot. If you have any questions or need additional information, please check with Viviana.



Valco's annual Family Picnic will take place on Friday October 2nd. 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 Young's many facilities and activities until 8:00 p.m.

Dinner and gift giveaways will take place from 5:00-6:00. Signup sheets and more information to follow. We just want to be sure you save the date for what is always a great evening and companywide get together.

In Honor, Memory and Admiration of Dolly Parton

- "The way I see it, if you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain."
- "Find out who you are and do it on purpose."
- "Storms make trees take deeper roots."
- "Don't get so busy making a living that you forget to make a life."
- "If you don't like the road you're walking, start paving an other one."
- "Dream more, learn more, care more, and be more."
- "Being a star just means that you find your own special place, and that you shine where you are."
- "You'll never do a whole lot unless you're brave enough to try."
- "Nothing's ever easy. If it is, it ain't worth it."