



"We bring it all together"
STEEL ERECTORS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Foreman at Phoenix Steel Erectors Honored with Retirement Poem

Phoenix Steel Erectors of Haymarket, VA recently hosted a retirement party for one of its foremen, Fred Brinson. Fred had previously worked for another SEAA member, L R Willson, for nearly 30 years before coming to Phoenix Steel Erectors for another seven years.



While at Phoenix, he was able to share his knowledge with the younger employees and teach the hands-on experience of iron working; something that one does not learn from books. He was able to give back this type of training to our industry that has been an integral part of many of our careers.

Fred wanted to spend more time with his family, church and hunting and so announced his recent retirement. His wife Janet composed and read the following poem at the event. Those in attendance loved it and wanted to share it with SEAA members.

The Night Before Retirement

'Twas the night 'fore retirement
And all through the house
Our cats kept a stirrin'
Probably chasing a mouse.
Jan in her jammies
And I in a cap
Had just settled down
For a short winter's nap.
When all of a sudden
I came wide awake
As I thought of steel beams
And retirement cake!
I could hear myself yelling
"Just a bit to the right"
As they swung a steel beam
That was in a place too tight.
Awake and asleep and confused all around
I kept thinking of welding,
Hot slag dropping to the ground.
Blueprints and workers all danced in my head,
As I thought of telling a fabricator
That he could drop dead.
Then what to my wandering eyes did appear
But a piece of nice land, with a tree stand and deer;
I could see myself shooting that ten pointed buck
I was loading him while laughing in the back of a truck



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Then all of a sudden Pete and Jim drove into sight
Waving directions, more blueprints and a brand new job site? !?
I turned with a nod, and got into my truck
Still laughing over getting a shot at that buck
And they heard me exclaim as I drove out of sight
I'm retired, I'm retired, and that made it right!

Written 12-27-12 by Jan Brinson
For Fred's Retirement

Well done, Fred. Well done.