Save the Date: Educator Open House 1/28/14

Field Trip Spotlight

11/11/2013—We enjoyed hosting a field trip for St. Mark’s School from Peoria, Illinois!

Hours of Operation
Monday—Saturday
10:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.
*Last entry is at 3:30 p.m.

Visit caterpillar.com/visitors-center & click on Educator Resources to...

- Reserve your spot for a spring field trip to the Caterpillar Visitors Center
- Check out the student activities aligned to Illinois Common Core State Standards
- Print a FREE one day Educator Pass to preview the new Caterpillar Visitors Center

We look forward to working with you and learning from you!

The Caterpillar Visitors Center in partnership with the Peoria Riverfront Museum would like to invite you to our Educator Open House on January 28, 2014, 3:30 p.m. — 6:30 p.m. Please come and tour the Caterpillar Visitors Center, meet our new Education Advisory Council, sign up for field trip raffles and tour the Peoria Riverfront Museum galleries, theater and planetarium.

We are proud to introduce our inaugural Caterpillar Visitors Center Education Advisory Council

Education Advisory Council Objectives:

a. Review and evaluate education concepts, including curriculum, classroom activities, learning labs and workshops produced by the Caterpillar Visitors Center educational staff
b. Provide input on programs and review feedback from students and educators after their visit
c. Act as liaison between the Caterpillar Visitors Center and school districts, home schools and community groups promoting and increasing awareness of the educational programs offered through the Caterpillar Visitors Center

Council Members:

Mary Blum—Caterpillar Visitors Center Education and Community Outreach Coordinator
Sheryl Clark—Crossroads Area Home School Association, Home School Educator
Kathy Crum—Springfield Public School District 186, Director of Teaching and Learning
Adam Hamilton—Caterpillar Visitors Center, Associate Communications Representative
Erika Kempf—Caterpillar Visitors Center, Receptionist/Operator
Ali Kuran—Quest Charter Academy, Principal
Julie LeMasters—Metamora Jr. High School, Science
Alan Porter—Caterpillar Marketing Communications Manager, Marketing and Product Support
Analiesa Rackauskas—Caterpillar Production System, Organizational Development Supervisor
Jean Ringenberg—Peoria Christian School, Kindergarten
Shannon Rogers—St. Joseph’s School, Principal
Charlie Roy—Notre Dame High School, Principal
Ann Schmitt—Peoria Riverfront Museum, Curator of Education
Lindsey Shubert—Caterpillar Corporate Communications, Associate Communications Representative
Dawn Stage—Caterpillar Global Brand Marketing, Marketing Consultant
Jim Ten Haken—Washington High School, Industrial Technology
Autumn Wickenhauser—Caterpillar Visitors Center, Marketing and Communications
Charlie Zimmerman—Caterpillar Global Mining, External Communications, Marketing Support
Karen Zuckerman—Hollis Grade School, Science/Tech

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Instruction Began at the Caterpillar Service School in 1913

In 1913, the Holt Manufacturing Company, one of Caterpillar’s two predecessor companies, began holding classes for operators, owners and prospective purchasers of Holt Caterpillar Tractors and Holt Harvester Motors. The Holts hired Frank L. Person, University of California Agricultural Engineering head, to conduct what would be called the Caterpillar Service School. Person also arranged for other professors from the University of California to lecture on agricultural subjects of general interest.

The first class was held in Spokane, Wash. and the Holts held another class later that year in Stockton, Calif. Class instruction was held annually at both locations. Additionally, there are archival documents which indicate that classes were held in East Peoria, Ill., as early as 1915.

Documents from 1917 communicate a class lasted for two weeks and was free to owners of Holt Caterpillar Tractors and Holt Harvester Motors. The only cost to a product owner was railroad fare and room and board. Non-owners were responsible for paying a $25 tuition fee.

The Caterpillar Service School continued after the formation of the Caterpillar Tractor Co. in 1925. While it is unknown when the Caterpillar Service School was discontinued, its legacy remains in today’s Operator, Safety and Service Training which aim to maximize the performance of Cat® equipment, reduce costly downtime, increase return on investment, improve safety in the workplace, enhance operator performance and much more.