

The Land that Summer Forgot

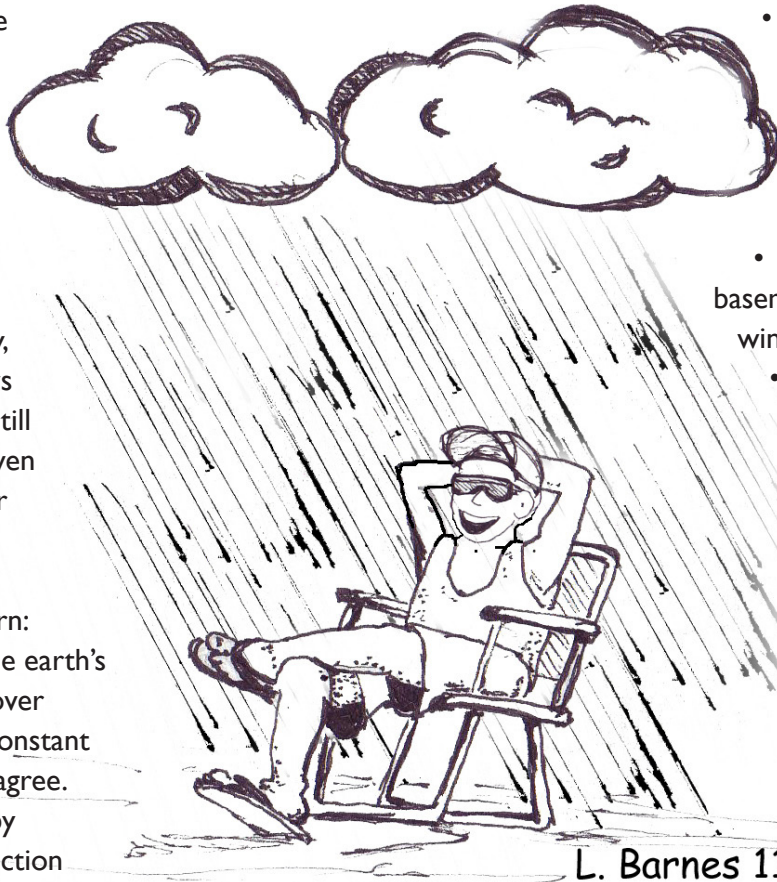
Weather is once again the topic of controversy in Western Washington. While the rest of the country suffers through its fourth week of a heat wave, we Seattleites eagerly await our day in the sun. By the end of July, with only a handful of days breaking 70 degrees, we still don our spring jackets (even rain coats) as we leave for work in the morning.

It's *supposed* to be our turn: that time of year when the earth's tilt puts the sun directly over us northerners. But the constant cloud cover seems to disagree. Seattleites should know by now that summer is a function of calendar, not temperature.

Summer technically comes on June 21st and leaves September 23rd, so it IS here...somewhere.

Meanwhile we've developed some new Seattle "summer" activities:

- Skiing (Washington slopes set records for their longest ski season, closing on July 16th)
- Tulips (some didn't bloom until June)
- Sungazing (like stargazing but you search the sky during daytime to find the sun)
- Driving with your lights on at noon



- Taking Vitamin D since we're not getting it from sunshine
 - Cleaning mildew out of the unused air conditioner
- Still trying to dry out the basement that flooded in last winter's rains
 - Sunbreaks (a flexible work schedule that allows you to catch the 10 minutes of sunshine when it does appear!)

And there are plenty of reasons to look on the bright side of the weather situation this year:

- No talk about drought
- No burn bans
- Don't have to hear newscasts about global warming or El Nino!
- Overstocked summer apparel available at deep discounts

A few days of punishing heat is just what we need to justify spending money on a new bathing suit, help use up the leftover sunscreen, and to bring on the favorite Seattle summer activity:

Complaining that it's too d___ hot!

Turnkey Adventures

Earlier this year we brought two new faces to our purchasing team. The two are veterans in electronics manufacturing: Dany Touch and Amber Payne. They joined our senior buyer, Francia Bagaporo, while Vicki Palmer stepped in as our Materials Manager to oversee the transition with training and organizational help.

Dany has been working for Schippers & Crew nearly nine years in assembly, surface mount and materials handling. Her extensive knowledge of components has given her an excellent background for joining our purchasing team.

Amber has been at Schippers & Crew for over



*Front: Dany Touch, Francia Bagaporo;
Back: Vicki Palmer, Amber Payne*

five years, mostly as a surface mount machine operator. Combined with previous employment, she has over fifteen years of experience in electronics.

Vicki has worked at Schippers & Crew more than twenty years, starting with our inception in 1989. In that time she's done almost every job in production and administration, including five years of purchasing. She has long played a roll in developing our

internal training programs. This current move is part of her plan to take our materials program to the next level.

You'll see all these friendly people when you drop by at our shop!

Meet the Crew

Local artist, Garvin Foote, has joined our Crew as Delivery Driver. Garvin spends his off-duty time pursuing his true passion: bronze casting. Garvin shares a studio here in Ballard where he can design molds, pour molten metal and otherwise make a mess. He receives commissions from all over the country for custom-made sculptures or reproductions of his original works.

Garvin was recently commissioned to capture the moment of a high school

slugger's home run. More pictures of his work are online at www.garvinfoote.com. A favorite around here is the "Flying Wiener Dog".



You Call Yourself a Seattleite?

Whether you were born here or immigrated, Seattleite is an attitude. Take our test to find out if this is you:

- Lives within ten miles of the city of Seattle, WA
- Considers Seattle to be the best city on Earth.
- Complains about extreme weather, hot or cold.
- Uses sunscreen liberally in the summer, even when it rains.
- Only visits the Space Needle when relatives are in town.
- When traveling, feels at home upon seeing a Starbucks.
- Knows how to pronounce Puyallup, Puget Sound, Issaquah, Tulalip, and Tukwila.
- Packs a yellow raincoat when going to the coast.
- Knows that “eat at Dicks” is a call for burgers.
- Believes that sports is more about spirit than winning.
- Knows it is “Pike Place Market” not “Pike’s Place Market.”
- Doesn’t put an “r” in Washington.
- Can spot a tourist by looking for the umbrella.

How do you know if you qualified? If you checked the first one, you pass. BUT, if you’re a true Seattleite, you’ll decide for yourself which checkmarks are most important!

Engineer’s Corner

Consignment electronics manufacturing presents a number of challenges, most notably the lack of control over components and PCB’s. Our job is to assemble the product as instructed, with quality, and on time - no exceptions. To aid in this task Schippers & Crew has contracted with one of the industry’s leading fixture and carrier manufacturers to engineer and build a custom, never before seen in the industry, SMT

process carrier. While still in the prototyping stage, the completed carrier will allow us to process PCB’s of any size, shape, and thickness through any of our SMT lines without the need for product specific fixtures or lengthy setup times. The expected results: better quality with greater efficiency. Stay tuned for updates!

Stephen Heimbürger, Engineering Manager

SCHIPPERS & Crew, Inc.

5309 Shilshole Avenue NW, Suite 100
Seattle, WA 98107
(206) 782-2325 • Fax (206) 782-2363
www.schippers.com



**Tag Team
Turnkey**

See page 2....

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5309 SHILSHOLE AVENUE NW SUITE 100 - SEATTLE, WA 98107 - WWW.SCHIPPERS.COM

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