

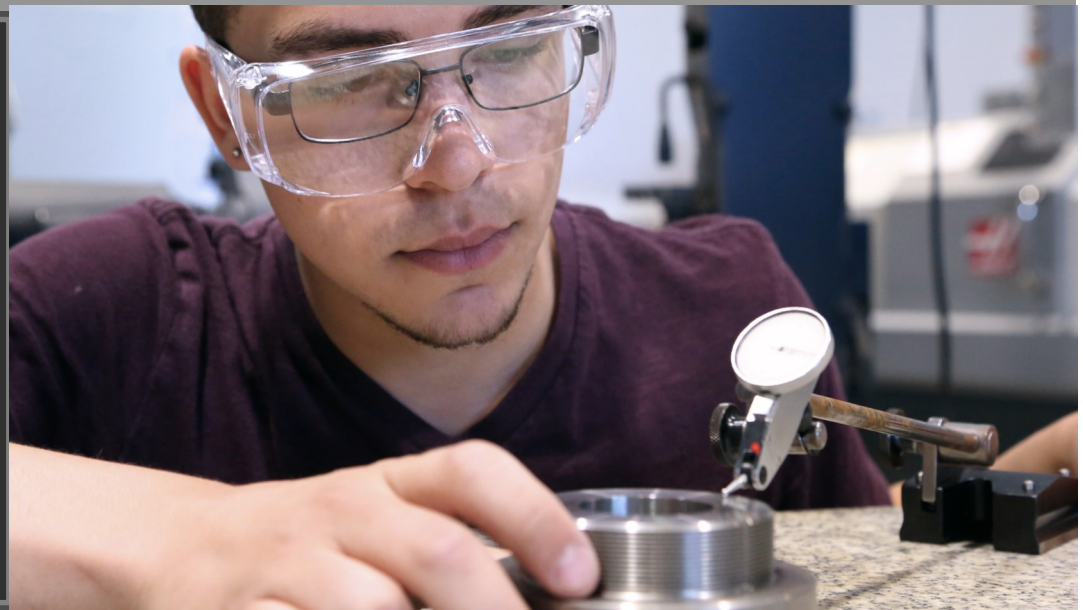
Footnotes

The Computer Numerical Controls **CNC Boot Camp Newsletter**

ISSUE 19 July 2014

In this issue:

Success Story - Nick Kloften
Boot Camp Interviews
Alumni Update: Shanta Harris
Success Story - Matt Christman
Completion Ceremony
Upcoming Boot Camps



Success Story - Nick Kloften graduated last year from Union Grove High School but was unsure of what he wanted to do until the CNC boot camp. “After high school I did not know what I wanted to get into.” Before attending the boot camp he was working 30 hours per week at an area grocery store, and was “just getting by.” A friend was going into the Marines so he investigated that option but decided it was not for him. Shanta Harris, a friend of his father, shared his own experience while participating in a CNC boot camp, and his cousin, Andrew, graduated from the high school CNC boot camp. Both told him he should consider applying. “I don’t want a part-time job for the next couple years ... I want to get into something solid, plus I heard all good things about the program”.

After he completes the camp and gets some experience in industry, Nick would also like to take some engineering classes. “Going from nothing to something and designing something new is fun. I enjoy it. I think anything having to do with technology or machinery sparks my mind.”

He feels what is most beneficial about the boot camp is the way the instructors teach the program. “They teach you about attitude too...so you know what to expect in the workplace.” The first day he met instructor Rick Lofy and Todd Nienhaus from the Racine County Workforce Development Center, they told the participants that the course was going to be tough. He quickly found out that was true, but said he appreciates that structure of the program.

“This experience is making me think more about my future...things are changing and I know how important knowledge is.” He looks forward to having decent pay so he can save money, be able to support himself, and a maybe a family someday.

“I was just thinking it would be schooling and then get out of here to go to work ... but it has opened my mind up to a bigger picture. I really love this. It is awesome!”

Nick has family and friends who have worked for SC Johnson and he has always heard about it being a great company to work for, so he was not surprised that they were supporting this program. He was very appreciative of their support in paying tuition for the students in this program. “It is a big commitment, but as long as you are willing to put in the work, it is worth it ... FREE is my favorite four-letter word,” he said with a laugh.

Attention Employers...

Rooms are available for interviewing CNC Boot Camp students immediately following the completion ceremony.

For more information contact Todd Nienhaus from the Racine County Workforce Development Center at 262-638-6541 or Todd.Nienhaus@goracine.org

BOOT CAMP #19**COMPLETION CEREMONY**

Join us as we celebrate the accomplishments of our boot camp students and stay after to interview qualified candidates!

Date: Friday, August 1, 2014

Time: 1:00-2:00 PM Ceremony
2:30-4:30 PM Interviews

SC Johnson iMET Center
2320 Renaissance Blvd.
Sturtevant, WI 53177-1763



Alumni Update: Shanta Harris completed CNC Boot Camp #13 in 2012 and immediately was hired as a third shift CNC operator at Bradshaw Medical

Representatives from Bradshaw came into the boot camp and watched people during run time. They gave the students pointers and Shanta took their advice. He interviewed

with them the day before graduation in one of the boot camp interview sessions and they called him a week later for a follow-up interview. He was then offered the position.

Shanta had an opportunity to work as an assistant with the past few boot camps and also came back to Gateway to complete the Lean Six-Sigma Green Belt certification. "It allowed me to see things differently and understand how to help the company improve." Now he is enrolled in CNC programming classes and has taken six courses here at Gateway and plans to finish six more. He has progressed to a lead first shift operator and is enjoying it because he gets to help teach other people.

"I was hoping for this...the results are gratifying and I am really happy with how my life is going."

Upcoming Boot Camps

- **Telecommunications Installer:** Aug. 18 - Nov. 7, 2014
- **CNC Boot Camp 20:** Sept. 2 - Dec.5, 2014
- **High School CNC 2:** July 14, 2014 - Jan. 23, 2015

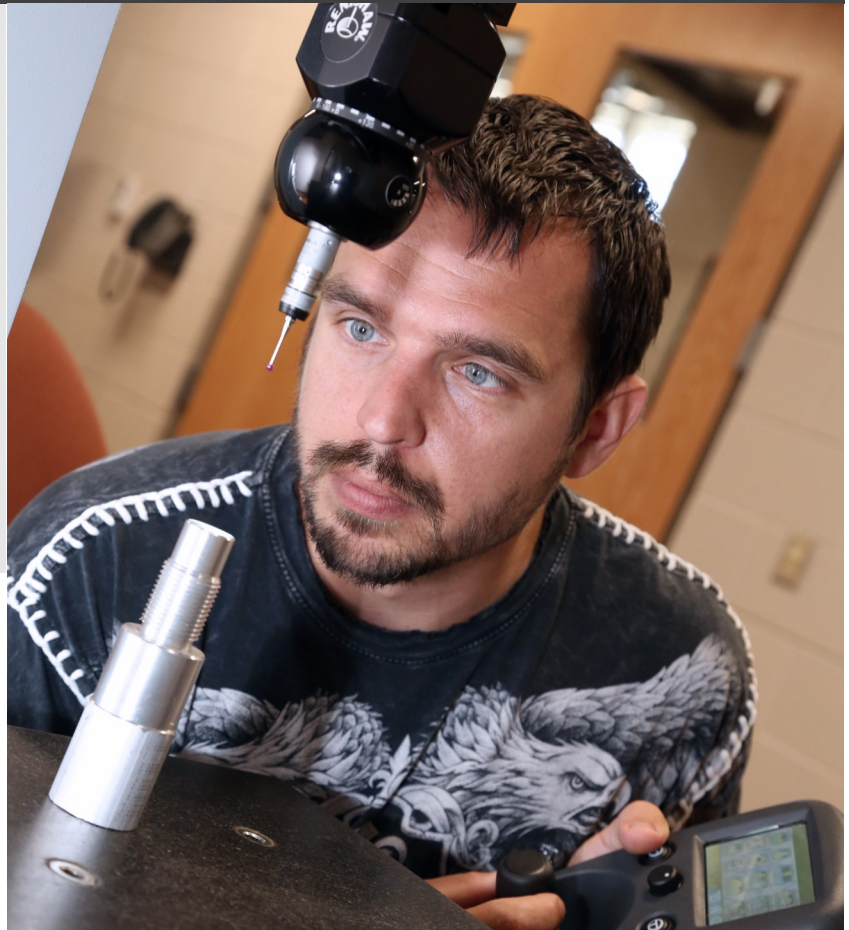
Are you interested in applying for the Boot Camp program?

Contact one of the following Workforce Development Center (WDC) representatives for additional information and application materials:

Kenosha: Rich Salisbury, Rich.Salisbury@kenoshacounty.org

Racine: Todd Nienhaus, todd.nienhaus@goracine.org

Walworth: Mark Leemkuil, mleemkuil@dwfs.us



Success Story - For Matt Christman, the CNC Boot Camp is a change in his career direction.

"Being able to find a job with opportunities for advancement with better benefits is life changing. It means being able to provide more for my family."

While working in construction for the past five years, he attended Gateway in the HVAC program, and graduated in 2013. He searched for jobs, but the companies he applied at were hiring installers instead of technicians. He thought about joining a union as a general laborer or mason tender, but he knew he would have been lower on the call list since he was not a long time union employee.

When Workforce Development Center staff shared the opportunity of the CNC Boot Camp, he thought this may be an opportunity to learn new skills, make himself more valuable, and increase his earning potential.

The study habits he learned while taking courses at Gateway are helping him now in the boot camp. He already took a blueprint reading course, but was surprised with how rigorous the course is in the boot camp. It was more involved and challenging. "It is a little different from school because of the schedule and the rules...this is a job."

Matt feels the boot camp has been a positive influence on his life, "This has opened up more doors of potential opportunity for me to get a job somewhere."

"I thoroughly enjoy it, I love learning."

CNC Boot Camps

2320 Renaissance Blvd
Sturtevant, WI 53177

www.gtc.edu/wedd/boot-camps