

Stem Brothers

Naturally, Your Fuel & Home Energy Experts.

To Our Customers:

Stem Brothers, Inc. has been a family owned business in Milford for over 77 years. It has been our passion to provide our customers and community with only the best products and services. We know that a business is only as good as its employees, and we are thankful to those who have continued on this journey with us. This year's Employee Milestones include Keith Opdyke, a propane delivery driver and Richard Harrison, a service technician.



Rich Harrison & Keith Opdyke

Keith has been employed with Stem Brothers, Inc. for over **25 years**. He began his employment in January of 1999 and services the areas of Califon, Tewksbury, High Bridge, Lebanon and Annandale. One of Keith's favorite things about his job is being able to see the beautiful countryside and wildlife. Rich has been employed at Stem Brothers, Inc. for over **10 years**. He began his employment as an oil delivery driver servicing the local community. Rich transitioned over to the oil service department in 2018 and most recently moved into the propane service department handling a wide variety of tasks such as gas piping, performance & safety inspections, installation of furnaces, boilers and water heaters and dryer conversions. Rich enjoys the problem-solving side of being a service tech and directly engaging with equipment for maintenance and repair.

Stem Brothers, Inc. cannot go without thanking our customers, whose continued support is most important and vital to what we do. We hope that you have a wonderful year and remember that we are here for your heating and cooling needs 24/7/365.

All the best,
The Stem Family

SIGN UP TODAY!

Now is a great time to start saving for next winter's heating expenses. We offer two programs that you can participate in to help ease the burden of heating your home - the **Easy Pay Plan** and the **CAP Price Protection Plan**. You can enroll in one or both of the programs.

The **Easy Pay Plan** spreads your heating costs over 11 months, with the first payment due in July. Monthly payments can be made automatically with a credit card by accessing your account through the Stem Brothers website. Enrollees will receive a 5-cent per gallon discount on all gallons purchased during the heating season and will be on automatic delivery service.

The **CAP Price Protection Plan** offers you piece of mind during the heating season by guaranteeing that your price of heating oil or propane will not exceed a certain level throughout the heating season.

To enroll in one or both programs, please complete the Customer Response Card included in this newsletter.



www.stembrothers.com e-mail: heating@stembrothers.com

760 Frenchtown Road, P.O. Box 619, Milford, NJ 08848-0619 (908) 995-4825 (908) 996-4441 FAX (908) 996-3508

John David Stem, II, Master HVACR Contractor Lic. #19HC00424600 PA HIC #PA032216



King of Propane Retires After 35 Years



Stem Brothers, Inc. is proud to celebrate the retirement of its long-time propane manager, William "Fuzz" Fazekas III, who retired last August after thirty-five years of employment. Fuzz began working with Stem Brothers, Inc. in August of 1988 as a delivery driver. A few years later, he transitioned over to the propane department and in 1994 stepped in to fill the position of the propane manager.

Throughout the years, Fuzz was instrumental in securing propane accounts all throughout Hunterdon & Warren counties in New Jersey and Bucks & Northampton counties in Pennsylvania. His knowledge of gas and local township codes were beneficial when assisting customers in the development phases of their propane installations. Fuzz worked closely with many contractors, electricians and inspectors over the years and maintained warm relationships with many customers years after their jobs had been completed.

William "Fuzz" Fazekas Fuzz also worked closely with both the service technicians and drivers; all of them he considered part of his team and his friends. Fuzz had a lively personality and was always keeping staff chuckling with his quick quips and jokes. Staff meetings are just not the same without him! Now that Fuzz has retired, he is enjoying spending time with his wife, Marion, and his girls – Kelli and Katie, traveling and playing golf. Happy retirement Fuzz!

"Fuzz's loyalty and dedication to both our company and our customers will forever be cherished. His contributions and impact remain today and will continue for many years ahead. We remain thankful and blessed that we had his tenure and friendship for over 35 years!" - J.D. Stem II

Sign Up for the Biodiesel Key Club

Consider joining our **Biodiesel Key Club** and have access to both clear on-road and dyed off-road biodiesel whenever you need it! We have four self-service biodiesel pumps available to you 24 hours a day at our location in Milford. Gallons are billed monthly and a 5-cent per gallon discount can be taken when you pay your bill within 7 days. This is a great program for fleet & over the road truckers, landscapers, snow plow drivers, and those with farm & construction equipment. If you are interested in the club, have questions or want to open an account; call the office today at **(908) 996-4441**.



Consider A Propane Tank Monitor

Are you considering propane use at your home? With so many residential options, propane has become the most popular choice for homeowners when it comes to whole house generators, pool heaters, ranges, dryers and more!

If you already have a propane tank on your property, consider a **tank monitor**. A tank monitor is a handy tool to have when power outages and heavy usage is a concern. Tank monitors are inexpensive, accurate and provide up-to-date inventory levels delivered daily to the office via cellular communications.



Call our office for more information on tank monitors, propane tanks, delivery and service, or use the enclosed *Customer Response Card* to request more information. Let us take the worry out of ordering fuel!



Honey Do! Reminders



Spring is here! Now is a great time to get a jump start on your **Honey Do** list! Simple maintenance can save you money and helps to keep your home in tiptop shape.

INSIDE

- Schedule an Oil Burner Tune-up
- Schedule an Air Conditioning Preseason Check-up
- Change the air filter for your HVAC system
- Inspect air ducts for buildup of dust & debris
- Look over your oil tank and/or water heater for any signs of leaks
- Replace the batteries in your smoke alarm/carbon monoxide detectors
- Check the expiration date on your fire extinguisher

OUTSIDE

- Clear roof and gutters of leaves and debris
- Clear the A/C condenser of leaves & debris
- Inspect your homes' foundation
- Inspect caulk & seals around windows & doors
- Trim trees and bushes
- Inspect chimney for cracks or crumbling mortar/bricks

Use the enclosed **Customer Response Card** to schedule a tune-up or any other service we offer. If you prefer, you can call the office and we'd be happy to get you scheduled. **908-996-4441 or 908-995-4825**

Remembering Harold "Howie" Breithoff



Howie Breithoff

It is with great sadness that Stem Brothers, Inc. shares the loss of one of its long-time employees, Harold "Howie" Breithoff. Howie passed away last October at 89 years old. Howie began his employment at Stem Brothers in 1970 as an oil driver and, upon his retirement, became the mail courier in 2008. Howie worked at Stem Brothers for over 52 years! Howie was one of a kind - a good ol' boy - and he is greatly missed.

Important Account Reminders

The best way to guarantee accurate communication and uninterrupted service between you and Stem Brothers, Inc. is to contact us when any of the following occur:

Your Phone Number, Email, Mailing Address or Credit Card has Changed

Receive important documents and information by keeping your information current.

You Added or Removed an Appliance

To ensure uninterrupted deliveries and avoid run outs, let us know if you've added a generator or gas fireplace or made any other updates to fuel-burning appliances.

You Sold Your Home

Notify us if your home is under contract or sold so that we may update your delivery status and schedule a tank reading.

If you haven't already, go to **Stembrothers.com** to set up an online account. Find the "**My Account Login**" tab, then click "New User Registration" to set up a profile. Once you are set up, you can order fuel, set up payments, view statements, service invoices and propane tank rental invoices. Coming soon in 2024, you will be able to view delivery tickets through the customer portal.



Stem Brothers, Inc. is proud to offer a Special discount for Veterans!

20% off of the price of an Annual Cleaning/Preventative Maintenance for A/C and Oil or Propane heating appliances.

This offer is valid for current or new Stem Brothers, Inc. customers.

Proof of veteran status required. Ad must be mentioned at time of scheduling a cleaning or preventative maintenance. Not valid on parts, after hours calls or other offers or specials. No cash value. One per household.



Stop by any one of our 16 convenient locations across New Jersey and Pennsylvania. We offer car washing, auto detailing, and quick lube.

Our quick lube centers are located at 131 Rt. 31 in Flemington and 1501 West Ave. in Phillipsburg.

The **Unlimited Wash Club** offers all the car wash services you need and more! Enjoy unlimited washes starting at just \$23.99 a month. Plus, every membership comes with **free vacuums, litter bags & car mat beater** so you can keep your car looking its best.

Come to Shammy Shine Car Wash and experience the difference for yourself today.

Employee Milestones

Stem Brothers, Inc. is proud to recognize the following employees for their continued years of service.

Keith Opdyke	25 years
Neil Boss	20 years
MaryAnna Zdepski	20 years
Jen Epstein	10 years
Rich Harrison	10 years
Dave Coppola	5 years
Lianne Rabinsky	5 years

A Warm Welcome



Joining our staff over the past year:
Sean Lee, Sarah Ego, Billy Moore,
Bob Gloss, Pam Dean

www.stembrothers.com

Do You Own a Seasonal Home?

Seasonal homes are very popular along the Delaware River and surrounding areas and make spending time here worth the investment. Living along the Delaware River offers many advantages such as beautiful views, water activities such as fishing, kayaking and boating, and a serene atmosphere that can lift spirits and chase away stressors. Walk across the bridge that connects Milford and Upper Black Eddy, Pa. in the spring or fall and you will be sure to understand what makes this one of the most beautiful areas in the state.



Take the worry out of owning a second home by signing up for automatic fuel deliveries. We use a degree day delivery system that keeps track of the weather and times your deliveries accurately. An additional option, for propane users, is to install a **Tank Monitor** on your propane tank. A tank monitor relays the amount of fuel in your tank to the office on a daily basis by cellular data. When your fuel level reaches a predetermined amount, a delivery ticket is generated. A tank monitor minimizes the chances of running out of fuel and is beneficial for homes where fuel usage is irregular.

Call our office for more information on tank monitors, propane & oil tanks, automatic delivery service or use the enclosed **Customer Response Card** to request more information.

Delaware River Fun Facts

Lenape Wihittuck was the original name of the river.

The Delaware River is 330 miles long. It is the longest undammed U.S. river east of the Mississippi River.

It begins in New York and ends in Delaware.



The deepest part of the river is 113 feet.

There are 60 islands in the Delaware River. Those nearest to us are Marshall Island, Treasure Island and Prahls Island.

George Washington crossed the Delaware River on December 25, 1776.

Legend has it that a powerful Indian chief, Big Mountain, would sit at what is known as **The Devil's Tea Table** to overlook the land he governed. This spot is visible from the river along route 29.

Pat Gardner Retires

Stem Brothers, Inc. would like to wish Pat Gardner a warm and happy retirement after 15 years with the company. Pat joined Stem Brothers in 2008 and worked in the Credit Department. She was skillful in helping customers navigate energy assistance through various community-based programs. As the unofficial "Stem Historian" she maintained scrapbooks and photo albums filled with years of company memorabilia. In her retirement, Pat is looking forward to traveling and spending time with her grandson. Congratulations Pat on your retirement!