

# ABB MOMENTS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR ABB EMPLOYEES



**ABB Labs Team in STL Honors Breast Cancer Awareness** | Front Row: *Ivonne Oviedo Fuenzalida, Brittany Ybarra, Ashley Henrick, Summer Cates, Lena Greeling, Patricia Crangle, Michelle Wittman* Back Row: *Janessa Goble, Karen Riddell, Dana Ford, Dayton Smith, Shantell Gaston, Angela Lafferty, Trista Skierkiewicz*

## Thank You Team ABB

As 2024 comes to a close, we want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all our amazing ABB employees!

Your dedication and hard work have been the backbone of our success this year. We are grateful for each one of you and hope you enjoy a well-deserved break with your loved ones.

## Q4 Town Hall Recording

Watch Daniel provide a state of the business, James discusses the progress made on our plan and an update on our go-to-market focus, and Dave covers some major milestones and major awards and recognitions.

**Password: ABBQ4TownHall!**

[Click to play the Video](#)

## End of Year Video

Watch a video from your colleagues as they recap their favorite highlights from this year and wishes for 2025.

[Click to play the Video](#)



## Upcoming Holiday Closures

- **Christmas Day:**  
Wednesday, December 25th
- **New Year's Day:**  
Wednesday, January 1st

# CONGRATS Q4 ANNIVERSARIES!



**42 Years:** Linda Wickson

**34 Years:** Elisa Sugg

**31 Years:** Patricia Lewis

**29 Years:** Cheryl Hatch  
Timothy Gonzales

**29 Years:** Crystal Bailey

**26 Years:** Jean McConnell  
Nally Concepcion

**22 Years:** Zaveeda Shariff  
Ryan Lindsay  
Christopher Bilinsky  
Kristen Peterson  
Susan Abano

**21 Years:** Sherre McMahon  
Thanh Giang  
Lihua Mei

**20 Years:** Jerusha Coffin

**18 Years:** Audley Brown  
Jacqueline Graham Powell  
Mark Smithers  
Vincent Monaghan  
Deigo Crawford  
Jamie Guinn

**17 Years:** Mary Ayala  
Michael Gati  
Soraida Claudio  
Denise McGuiggan  
Margarita Cardenas  
Vincente Morris  
Patricia Ryan

**16 Years:** Cheryl Sisson  
Almira Madrigal  
Joann Barron  
Marc Daniel  
Gregory Downing

**15 Years:** Brandon Carbbins  
Marisa Samuel

**14 Years:** Simon Austral

**13 Years:** Daniel Arcan  
Cathy Truong  
Alfredo Eclipse  
Thomas Rogaski  
Barbara Garner

**12 Years:** Austin Asher  
Jeffrey Knapp

**11 Years:** Ryan Tedlock  
Yolanda Purdy  
Sean Schuerman  
Richard Garcia  
Sharon McCool  
Christopher Francosky  
Norga Alvino  
Karen Asch-Johnston

**10 Years:** Rosario Frando  
Marian Erickson  
Shakeva Doyle  
Chelsea Bacic  
Nickeisha Redley  
Randi Romney  
Tiffany Hinds  
Nathan Gregory

# GIVING SIGHT: CINDY'S MISSION TRIP TO UGANDA

Cindy Piper-Watson always knew she wanted to help people. It was no surprise this purpose led her to a career in eye care.

Cindy was passionate about helping individuals see better. She became an optician and settled down in the state of Washington - finding her interest in private practice and working her way up to becoming a practice manager. She eventually relocated to the south to be closer to family and transitioned to another side of optical – working



in sales and business development. After many years, she wanted to return to Washington and had heard about an exciting opportunity with ABB Optical Group. Cindy joined in 2024 as an Optical Sales Consultant based out of Seattle. In this role she was still helping patients by supporting the independent eye care practices.

One important thing to know about Cindy is she is always looking for ways to give back to other people. One organization that really resonated with her was VOSH International (Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity) and their mission to provide the gift of vision and quality eye health to people worldwide. Cindy has done several mission trips, including Mexico, but her most life changing trip happened this October with a mission trip to Uganda.

Cindy and her VOSH team which was comprised of several doctors, opticians, and other optical support team left for Uganda with 24 bags of optical gear, packed to the brim with eyeglasses. During their almost two-week stay, the team restored vision to over 1,300 patients. The experience was thoroughly rewarding, emotional, and truly unforgettable.

*When asked about her patients during their visit, Cindy shared a story of two siblings. “The children were both almost legally blind. After an exam and proper fitting with glasses the immediate smile on their face. They could finally see their mom. I will never forget that moment.”*



“  
“One key lesson I have learned is to appreciate the blessings we enjoy in America and not take them for granted. We live a life of luxury. My experiences in Uganda have taught me that happiness is internally driven and can be achieved despite difficulties. We often overlook the simple pleasures in life like clean, parasite free drinking water, hot water, and good food. We are blessed and extremely fortunate to have what we have in America,” said Cindy. “We are exhausted, yet fulfilled, enlightened, and deeply grateful for this opportunity. It was the trip of a lifetime.”

Cindy thanks her supportive team at ABB Optical Group that jumped in to help her customers during her absence, so she could do her mission trip to Uganda without worry. She plans to do more mission trips in the future and encourages anyone who is interested to learn more about VOSH and get involved.

## VOSH

Vision means health, income and education – especially for women and kids. The primary mission of VOSH-Northwest (a Chapter of VOSH-International) is to facilitate the provision of vision care worldwide to people who can neither afford nor obtain such care. The VOSH-Northwest Chapter covers the states of Washington, Idaho, Oregon and Alaska but boasts membership throughout the United States and the World.

VOSH/International and VOSH Chapters are comprised of volunteers. That means that those who come on a clinic trip take time away from their jobs and families, pay their own expenses, including airfare and lodging, as well as other expenses. It is what makes VOSH “VOSH” – and they are proud of that.

VOSH volunteers are licensed optometrists, opticians, health care providers and lay people. There are clinic trips both domestically as well as internationally, in over 30 countries, serving hundreds of thousands of patients. To get involved or find your local chapter visit [US and International Chapters – VOSH/International](#).

# HELPING THOSE IN NEED AFTER HURRICANE DEVASTATION



When *Optical Sales Consultant*, Erica Shelton, saw the impact Hurricane Helene had on Asheville, N.C., she quickly got a team together to help with the relief efforts. She and her husband, a firefighter, began collecting resources they could bring to the community. The pair quickly accumulated two truckloads worth of supplies.

“When disasters like this happen, people lose everything, and they need help from their community. It’s not just about providing things like food or water; it’s about showing them they’re not alone. If you have the ability to help, you should—it makes a huge difference in their recovery,”

Her role at ABB has helped her prepare for being quick to respond in times of crisis. She said her role as a sales consultant requires problem-solving and helping people find what they require.

“That experience really helped me during the devastation of Hurricane Helene,” she said. “I’m used to organizing, communicating and finding solutions quickly, which was essential when collecting donations for the Western North Carolina community.”

Shelton said she was surprised by the response to her call for assistance. She plans on making additional trips to help ensure that the people of Asheville have the resources they need to get back on their feet again.

“The response was incredible. People were so grateful, and I was touched by how many friends, coworkers and community members wanted to help,” she said. “It was a real reminder of how much good people are capable of, especially in tough times.”

Shelton is reluctant to take credit for her efforts, instead making sure that all the people involved are recognized for the work they put into helping with Hurricane Helene relief efforts.

“I’m proud of how everyone came together. It wasn’t just about me; it was about the collective effort of everyone who donated. Knowing that we were able to help people get back on their feet, even just a little, is something I’m really proud of,” she said.

# CELEBRATING 35 YEARS

ABB team members reflect on some of their most favorite memories. Join the fun and share your own stories at [momentmaker@abboptical.com](mailto:momentmaker@abboptical.com).



## Justine Chiricosta

*Vice President, Finance*

“Some of my favorite ABB memories are from Halloween at the office. Everyone, and I mean, EVERYONE would dress up and have a blast coordinating with their teams and decorating the office!

We would do a parade around the office and through the distribution center. What I loved most about the company then and even now is the people. Everyone works hard, but we always find ways to have a little fun too! Circa 2017 Halloween celebration!”

## Andy Jackson

*Director of Specialty Contact Lens*

“My greatest memory at ABB was when my little company first acquired, and ABB asked me to come speak at their National Sales Meeting in Dallas. I knew no one at ABB and was a bit nervous, but they wanted me to talk about who they had acquired and tell them about the new team joining ABB.

When I got to the meeting all the execs were in the auditorium and they invited me in to be in the introduction line awaiting the sales team. As the Rolling Stones cranked up we opened the doors and 75 plus sales folks came running in high fiving Angel and the whole executive team while the music was blaring and everyone was yelling. It was the most electric atmosphere EVER!

When I got up to speak, I was greeted with the same enthusiasm, and I knew immediately I was in the right place with the right culture. When I concluded telling them about all the great folks joining ABB from these companies, they had purchased I got a rousing standing ovation. Probably the greatest feeling I’ve ever experienced in my business life. I left there confident I was in the right place and boy was I correct! What a company....what a culture!”



# ABB MOMENT MAKERS



## Thankful for Terrific Teammates

We are so thankful for teammates like Kirstin, Ronald, Siobhan, and Ken who go above and beyond to make ABB an amazing place to work. Living our core values to the fullest and showing up as Moment Makers every day. Submit your stories at [momentmaker@abboptical.com](mailto:momentmaker@abboptical.com) or on the SEE recognition platform to recognize a teammate.



**Kirstin Williams, Lab Technician II**

“Kirstin is always here and is always in a positive mood. She is one of the top enclosers every day and is always smiling and in a good mood. She is a joy to work with!”

**Ronald Fernandez, Technical Lead, Finishing Department**

“RONALD - Your expertise and passion with eyewear and benchwork is second to none! Thank you for going above and beyond to help get our ABB LABS Hawthorne Finishing Team trained with all they need as well as showing our customers how we can deliver their most challenging poor fitted sales! You have no idea how much we appreciate your trainings, assessments, professionalism, and talent!”



*Ronald said, “Sometimes language is an obstacle, but the desire to do things well makes us speak the same language. Thank you for your patience and trust.”*

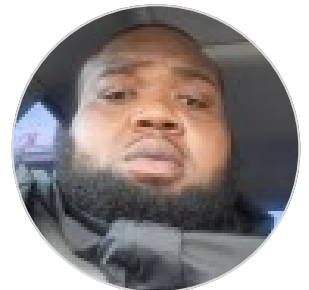


**Siobhan Cook, Customer Service Rep**

“Thank you for sharing your best practices and insightful QA tips with the chat team. Your suggestion to add Grammarly as a free Chrome extension will help prevent grammatical errors in NICE Chat and Marlo Chat!”

**Ken Joseph Jr., Distribution Supervisor**

“Thank You Ken, you are always thinking one team and how to work together as one. Thank you for your leadership.”



# ABB FEATURES AND RESOURCES

*Click below to explore more.*



## ABB Lab's Fall Social

Watch some highlights from the ABB Lab Team's fall event where many Moment Makers were spotlighted. [Click to play the video](#)

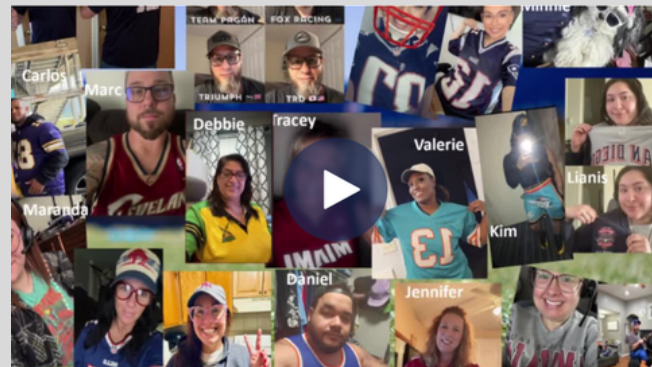


ABB was proud to be one of the sponsors for The Lighthouse of Broward at their 10th Annual Dining in the Dark: Mesmerizing Metamorphosis! ABB employees Robert, Cathy, Colin, Aaron, and Rukiyah, had a wonderful time celebrating the amazing and beautiful work of this organization. The Lighthouse of Broward is the only private, non-profit In Broward County that provides comprehensive educational and rehabilitation services and counseling to blind and visually impaired children and adults - serving more than 2,500 people each year.