



### ***From Pat's Desk...***

Now that we are in the full swing of 2022, it's time for us to make plans and "save the dates" for several of the Oldtimers events... our monthly luncheons, the golf outing better known as BOGIE in June, "White Christmas" at the Fireside Theatre in November and our annual Christmas Party in December. Thanks to the committee chairmen who have worked countless hours on these events a good time is in store for you whether you attend one or all of these events. Reservation forms for the BOGIE and Fireside event are included in this newsletter.

Speaking of the luncheons...please consider joining us. Chef Ernie with Skyline Catering at The Bucyrus Club always makes us fabulous food! And for those who attend, we need your help. Desserts are always needed as they are a tasty end to our delicious meal. Please consider making a dessert or donating a few dollars to the dessert fund so that one can be purchased. It would be much appreciated.

Spring will soon be upon us...isn't that a wonderful thought!! Can't wait to say goodbye to old man winter and hello to Spring with daylight getting longer and hopefully warmer weather. To those of you who are Irish (or Irish only on March 17th), Happy St. Patrick's Day and in April, have a Blessed and Happy Easter!

'Til Next time...

*Pat Merkovich*

**Contact info:**

Bucyrus® Oldtimers Association UA  
 Attention: Pat  
 P.O. Box 563, Oak Creek, WI 53154-0564  
 or oldtimers.newsletter@gmail.com



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### **JOIN US FOR OUR LUNCHEONS & EVENTS**

Reservations are appreciated by calling Dolores Page at (414) 768-9437, Pat Merkovich at (414) 617-2796 or Shirley Borgie at (414) 768-9750.



1919 12th Avenue  
 South Milwaukee

This will enable us to accommodate all our members and guests.

Refreshments starting at 11:30 a.m. and Food will be served at 12:00 noon **(\$15.00/person)**

All luncheons are sit-down meals except for the June picnic which is buffet style.



**SAVE OUR  
LUNCHEON DATES:**

March 31 • April 28  
 May 26 • June 30 (picnic)  
 September 27 • October 26

**OFFSITE EVENTS:**

BOGIE - June 9  
 Fireside's "White Christmas" - November 9  
 Christmas Party - December 8

**Are you missing one or more issues of our Newsletter?** In order for you to continue receiving our quarterly newsletters, please notify us of your change of address or your email address. We would hate for you to miss any of our issues. Contact us at Bucyrus® Oldtimers Association UA, P.O. Box 563, Oak Creek, WI 53154-0564 or bigmuskie@beoldtimers.org

We always welcome anything from a short note to tell us how you are doing to a Bucyrus® story that you would like to share in a future newsletter. And the Association is still seeking the help of a member or group of members who would be willing to take on the responsibility of publishing the newsletter. Please contact us if you are interested or need more information.



# LETTERS TO 'BIG MUSKIE' FROM FELLOW OLDTIMERS

January 10, 2022

*Enclosed is a small donation. We thoroughly enjoy hearing about the activities and news.*

*Happy & Healthy 2022 to all!*

Sharyn Medrow

February 1, 2022

*Thank you for all the nice work you do and your Quarterly update. A little overdue help (enclosed).*

Anonymous

## LET'S DO LUNCH...

If you haven't joined us at our monthly luncheons, please do so in the future. We always have a great time visiting with our old Bucyrus® friends and occasionally we have guest speakers. We always have two door prizes...the lucky winners receive a gift certificate for a "free" future Oldtimers lunch!

Our January luncheon was a nice get together (to ward off the winter blahs) with 39 members and friends. Our menu for this month was a choice of Chicken Dumpling Soup or Tomato Basil Soup, a Tossed Sal-

ad with choice of dressings, Meatloaf (which was the original recipe of Chef Ernie's mother), Mashed Potatoes & Gravy along with a side of Corn. Our meals always include beverages of coffee, soda or beer. Desserts are no exception. January's desserts consisted of a Chocolate Sheet Cake and a Pineapple Cake, made by Dolores Page and a New York Cheesecake made by Pat Merkovich. Lucky door prize winners were Gerald Miller and Phil Buckland.

We also enjoyed visiting with our

friends at our February luncheon. Our delicious meal consisted of a choice of Chicken Dumpling Soup or Tomato Basil Soup, a Tossed Salad with choice of dressings and Chicken Parmesan with a side of spaghetti. The tasty desserts consisted of a Butter Cake with Chocolate Frosting made by Betsy Hodson, a Banana Cake made by Dolores Page and a Black Forest Cake made by Pat Merkovich. Our two lucky door prize winners were Bob Povolo and Francis Gross.



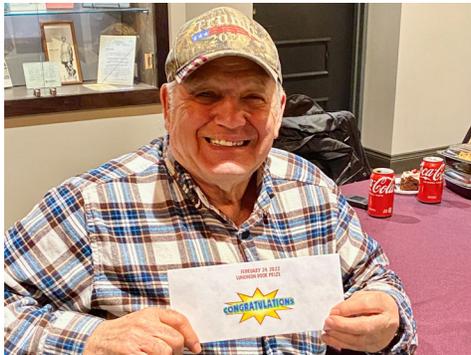
Gerald Miller



Bob Povolo



Phil Buckland



Francis Gross



## VINTAGE NEWSLETTERS NEEDED

A retiree contacted the Bucyrus® Oldtimers Association and asked if we would like newsletters from 2000 and on. We did thank him for the offer, but we do have digital copies of those. The Oldtimers would be interested in newsletters from 1981 and earlier. If you have any of these newsletters or know of someone that has them, the Bucyrus® Oldtimers Association will scan and return the newsletter(s) to them. Later this year all newsletters that the Bucyrus® Oldtimers

Association has copies will be available at the Bucyrus Museum for viewing. Below is the newsletter heading for 1980 and earlier.

If you have a newsletter(s) or information about Oldtimers newsletter please contact the Bucyrus® Oldtimers Association at bigmuskie@beoldtimers.org. or you may mail information about the newsletter you have to Bucyrus® Oldtimers Association UA, P.O. Box 563, Oak Creek, WI 53154-0564.

*Author, Ken Tangen*

mind if we just  
**TALK PLAIN?**



We would like to wish Matt Glaske a very Happy Birthday! He turned 88 years old on 2.22.22! Here's "two" you Matt!!



## Make Your Reservations!!

Thanks to a very generous anonymous donor, there will be a "free" lunch at one of the upcoming luncheons. The only way you will be able to take advantage of this offer is by attending one of our future monthly luncheons in 2022. Will it be the March 31st luncheon...the April 28th luncheon, the May 26th luncheon...

the June 30th picnic luncheon?? Or maybe it will be the September 29th luncheon or the October 27th luncheon. It could be any one of those dates. It's a secret!! You can only find out if you're one of many lucky recipients of a "free" lunch by attending one or all of those dates. So make your reservations early by

calling Dolores Page (414.768.9437), Pat Merkovich (414.617.2796) or Shirley Borgie (414.768.9750) no later than the Monday before the luncheon. And, if you attend the March 31st luncheon you will have a chance to win two guest passes to the South Milwaukee Industrial Museum. How fun is that! Hope to see you there!!

# The Association Needs Your Help

We hope that every one of our 750+ Bucyrus Oldtimers Association UA members enjoys this newsletter and its stories, along with the luncheons and outside activities we host if you're able to join us locally.

The all-volunteer Board has been in office for some time now, and could really use some help from other members. Please consider running or nominating yourself (or another willing member) for one of the board positions that will be available later this year as posted in this newsletter. Or let the Board know you'd like to hold one of several available appointed Board positions. We can always use your short stories to share your experiences in the shops, offices, or travels on behalf of the company. It doesn't take that much time to help out,

and your contribution(s) in helping with the Board or writing a story will enable us to keep this legacy group going.

This year, we've been notified that both the layout and printing costs, postage costs, and distribution costs are all going up, just like everything else. We have roughly 450 members who still receive the newsletter by mail. Those copies are produced in black and white, and will cost over \$17 a year per member to print and mail. We're asking that anyone with access to an email address, to please opt in for an electronic copy of the newsletter by writing to [bigmuskie@beoldtimers.org](mailto:bigmuskie@beoldtimers.org) along with requesting to be dropped from the hard copy distribution. Not only does that help us reduce costs, but you will receive it 5-7 days sooner and it

will be in color! You can always print a hard copy at home too.

As we've mentioned in previous newsletters, the Bucyrus® Oldtimers Association UA has not had a corporate sponsor for almost a decade now. We rely solely on the free-will donations and the generosity of our Oldtimers members to help us pay for the costs of compiling the newsletter, printing and digital distribution, get well and condolence cards, postage, and supplementing costs of group activities, all of which are offered to members below cost.

Please keep us in mind in your future giving considerations, and thanks in advance for helping us to defray costs by opting in for the email version of our quarterly newsletter and boosting our Board support by volunteering to help.



## NOMINATIONS FOR PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY/TREASURER ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED.

You can nominate yourself or a willing member in good standing for one of the board positions listed. (Voting will take place at the October 27th luncheon).

Mail nominations no later than May 15th to: Bucyrus Oldtimers Association UA, P. O. Box 563, Oak Creek, WI 53154-0564; or email to: [bigmuskie@beoldtimers.org](mailto:bigmuskie@beoldtimers.org) or [oldtimers.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:oldtimers.newsletter@gmail.com)

(PLEASE PRINT)

I \_\_\_\_\_ would like to nominate the following person or persons for the positions listed below:

PRESIDENT: \_\_\_\_\_

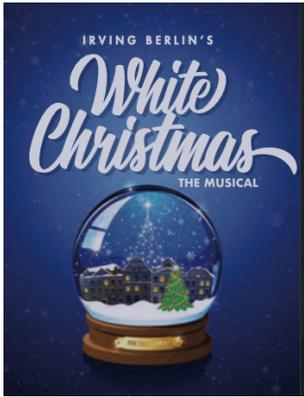
VICE-PRESIDENT: \_\_\_\_\_

SECRETARY/TREASURER: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to nominate myself for the position of: \_\_\_\_\_

I WOULD LIKE TO BE CONSIDERED FOR AN APPOINTED BOARD MEMBER

I can be contacted at: (Phone) \_\_\_\_\_ (Email) \_\_\_\_\_



**THE FIRESIDE THEATRE'S "WHITE CHRISTMAS"**  
**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2021**

Based on the beloved film starring Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye, and Rosemary Clooney, this heartwarming stage adaptation features 17 Irving Berlin songs. Army veterans Bob Wallace and Phil Davis have a successful song-and-dance act following their service in World War II. With romance in mind, the two follow a duo of beautiful singing sisters en route to their Christmas show at a Vermont lodge, which just happens to be owned by Bob and Phil's former army commander. With a series of romantic mix-ups and a dazzling score including "Blue Skies," "I Love A Piano," and the perennial title song, "White Christmas" is an uplifting musical any time of year but especially loved at Christmas.

**MAKE YOUR RESERVATION EARLY!**

**There are only a limited number of seats available to members and friends of The Bucyrus® Oldtimers Association UA.**

Prior to our arrival at the Fireside Theatre, we will visit the Jones Dairy Farm Store in Ft. Atkinson where hams, sausages, bacon etc. can be purchased and held in cold storage while we enjoy "White Christmas".

**DATE: Wednesday, November 9, 2022**

**COST: \$80.00 per person. Gratuities are included (for the meal and the bus driver).  
Payment in full or a minimum deposit of \$20.00 per person is due upon receipt.  
Balance is due by Friday, September 29, 2022**

**DEPARTURE TIME: 8:30 a.m. at the Bucyrus Club & Event Center Parking Lot, 1919 12th Ave., So. Milw.  
(Please Park at the south end of lot closest to Milwaukee Ave.)**

**RETURN TIME: Approximately 6:00 p.m.**

**(Note: For a Vegetarian, Gluten-Free or other menu substitutions for medical needs, indicate on form below.)**

**Please send your reservations and payment to:**

Bucyrus® Oldtimers Association UA  
"WHITE CHRISTMAS" Reservations  
P.O. Box 563  
Oak Creek, WI 53154-0564

Any questions? Call Pat at (414) 617-2796 or email: oldtimers.newsletter@gmail.com

**RESERVATION FORM FOR "WHITE CHRISTMAS" - WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2022**  
**(Please make checks payable to Bucyrus® Oldtimers Association UA)**

Total Number of Tickets: \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) (Please Print & list contact Person's name first): Address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Contact person's Phone Number (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person's email address (used for update information only) \_\_\_\_\_

Special Dietary Needs (if yes, explain): No  Yes

\_\_\_\_\_

# Bucyrus Foundation Reinstates Matching Gift Program

The Bucyrus Foundation announced that effective March 1, 2022, it will again support Bucyrus' former employees and retirees' involvement in civic and charitable activities by directing Bucyrus Foundation matching grants to those organizations that are of the greatest importance to them. Tim Sullivan, Chairman of the Bucyrus Foundation, said "We're extremely pleased that we have been able to revive this matching gift opportunity for our former employees. Currently, due to fund regulations, we can only provide matching support in the US at this time, but will continue work to eventually make this program available to alumni worldwide." The program is currently open to those alumni employees who are making contributions to organizations within the United States that hold a valid 501(c)(3) designation by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service.

Organizations eligible for matching support are generally, but not limited to:

- Educational /Museums /Arts Institutions
- Community Service Agencies
- Environmental Causes
- Health & Welfare Agencies
- Qualified Church or Religious Organizations

The Bucyrus Foundation does not make matching contributions to politically related organizations, causes, campaigns, or any charity organizations without a valid 501(c)(3) designation by the IRS.

Other Qualifications are:

- The gift must be a personal monetary contribution made by check or credit card with a minimum amount of \$50.00. 'Cash' contributions will not be considered for matching funds.
- The contribution must actually be made and processed by the receiver, not just pledged.
- Matching gift requests must be made by the recipient within 90 days of the donation.
- The maximum reimbursement for an individuals' donation to one organization is \$2,000 per calendar year, with a maximum of matching contributions totaling \$10,000.00 per calendar year for each employee.

Matching gift forms are also available on the Bucyrus Oldtimers website link.

We are always appreciative of our Oldtimers members and Museum friend's generosity for any and all donations. The Bucyrus® Oldtimers Association UA and the South Milwaukee Industrial Museum LLC are both separate non-profit organizations, and therefore have individual accounts. Since we both rely solely on free-will donations, we have partnered in this newsletter to reduce costs for both of us, and provide everyone with the latest information on events, activities, and news updates in both groups. We hope you continue to find the combined quarterly publication enjoyable and enlightening. Thanks for your continued support of our organizations and welcome any feedback you may have.

For future reference, please keep the following addresses handy for all your correspondence and donations:



Bucyrus® Oldtimers Association UA  
P.O. Box 563  
Oak Creek, WI 53154-0564



South Milwaukee Industrial  
Museum LLC  
P.O. Box 84  
South Milwaukee, WI 53172-0084

## Officers, Board of Directors and Staff

Shirley Borgie, President • 414.768.9750  
Dolores Page, Vice-President • 414.768.9437  
Pat Merkovich, Secretary/Treasurer • 414.617.2796

**Board Members:** Bill Haag, Betsy Hodson, Ken Tangen

Newsletter: Pat Merkovich • Email: oldtimers.newsletter@gmail.com

Webmaster: Ken Tangen • Email: bigmuskie@beoldtimers.org • www.beoldtimers.org

## Retiree Newsletter & Correspondence

Bucyrus® Oldtimers Association UA • P. O. Box 563 • Oak Creek, WI 53154-0564

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# Matching Gift Form: THE BUCYRUS FOUNDATION

## Part A – TO BE COMPLETED BY DONOR

The Bucyrus Foundation will match your contributions of up to \$2,000 per recipient on a 1:1 basis with a limit of \$10,000 per calendar year per employee.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name/Division \_\_\_\_\_ Index # (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

Work Location (city) \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Exact Date of Gift \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Donation Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Gift made by: \_\_\_ Check \_\_\_ Credit Card

Organization Receiving Gift: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

*I certify that this gift meets with all the specifications as described in the Bucyrus Foundation Guidelines as it relates to the matching gifts program. I am an eligible former Bucyrus employee, retiree, or otherwise a member of the Bucyrus Oldtimers Association UA.*

Signature of donor \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

## Part B TO BE COMPLETED BY RECIPIENT INSTITUTION

1. Verify donor section. Fill out Part B Completely.
2. Mail this form along with a photocopy of the check or proof of credit card donation to:  
**BUCYRUS FOUNDATION PROGRAM – PO Box 84, South Milwaukee, WI 53172-0084**

**I certify that this institution is recognized as a tax-exempt public charity (not a private foundation) by the IRS under Section 501 (c) (3).** First time applicants must provide a copy of your Section 501 (c) (3) letter. Failure to include this letter may prevent matching gift processing.

Donor \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Date Received \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_ Tax ID/EIN \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Website \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Officer (not a stamp) \_\_\_\_\_

Print or type Full Name and Title of Officer \_\_\_\_\_

# BUCYRUS FOUNDATION MATCHING GIFTS GUIDELINES

## PURPOSE

To support Bucyrus' former employee and retiree involvement in civic and charitable activities by directing Bucyrus Foundation resources to those organizations that are of the greatest importance to our alumni. The program is currently only open to those employees who are making contributions to organizations within the United States that hold a valid 501(c)(3) designation by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service

## ELIGIBLE ORGANIZATIONS

To be eligible, an organization must be a non-profit, tax-exempt entity currently recognized by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service under section 501(c)(3). Organizations eligible for matching support are generally, but not limited to:

- Educational /Museums /Arts Institutions
- Community Service Agencies
- Environmental Causes
- Health & Welfare Agencies
- Qualified Church or Religious Organizations

The Bucyrus Foundation does not make contributions to politically related organizations, causes, campaigns, or charity organizations without a 501(c)(3) designation by the IRS.

## OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

- The gift must be a personal monetary contribution made by check or credit card with a minimum amount of \$50.00. 'Cash' contributions will not be considered for matching funds.
- The contribution must actually be made and processed by the receiver, not just pledged.
- Matching gift requests must be made by the recipient within 90 days of the donation.
- The maximum reimbursement for an individuals' donation to one organization is \$2,000 per calendar year, with a maximum of matching contributions totaling \$10,000.00 per calendar year for each employee.

**Distribution of Matching Fund requests will be made through the Greater Milwaukee Foundation as soon as practical after approval.** Inquiries as to the status of the approval can be made by emailing: [bemuseum@smimllc.org](mailto:bemuseum@smimllc.org) - Include "Matching Gift Inquiry" on the subject line.



## Bucyrus Oldtimers Golf Independent Event – JUNE 9th, 2022

The 6th annual Oldtimers Golf Outing, or “**BOGIE**”, will be held on Thursday, **June 9, 2021** at New Berlin Hills Golf Course, and is open to all current or past Bucyrus or Caterpillar employees, retirees (and those who aspire to retire), their spouses, significant others, or friends. This year’s event will enlist the modified 4-man scramble format with the usual “offbeat” rules to make play fast and fun. Golfers need to arrive at the course by 8:30AM to check-in and be ready for the 9:00AM shotgun start. Thanks to our ‘generous supporters’ who subsidize the event, your cost to play is \$70 per golfer. Included in your fee are all green fees, cart fees, a sleeve of balls, buffet luncheon, beer, soda, individual hole, and door prizes. Singles, twosomes, threesomes are all welcome to sign up and will be teamed up with fellow golfers.



Those who wish to join the luncheon only are always welcome, and cost is \$20 per person in advance and mailed in by the date below. We anticipate the luncheon festivities and fellowship with tall tales of the exploits of the day and awards will start around 1:15pm.

Deadline for reservations and fees for golf or the luncheon are due **no later than MONDAY, MAY 23rd, 2022**. Reservations and checks should be mailed to Mike Adams – 13045 Woodfield Lane, New Berlin, WI 53151-8084 to reserve your spot(s).

Please call/text or email to Mike at 414-588-4638 or mike.adams20279@gmail.com if you plan to play this year. Or just mail your reservations and checks which need to **arrive before MAY 23rd**.



“**BOGIE**” will be held at New Berlin Hills Golf Course, 13175 W. Graham St., New Berlin, 53151. From I-894, exit on Greenfield Avenue to the west to 124th St. Head south on 124th St. 1 mile South to Graham St. west 1 block to the entrance. NBH is located between Greenfield Ave. on the north and Lincoln Ave. on the south.

This Golf Outing is not a part of the Association’s functions, but run by a group of independent retirees.

Participating Golfers for “**BOGIE**” on **June 9th, 2022**

Check here if lunch only

1 \_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_

**Make check payable and mail to:** Mike Adams – 13045 Woodfield Lane, New Berlin, WI 53151-8084



## THE BUCYRUS DREDGE

While still located in Ohio, one of the first machines produced by Bucyrus was a dredge. Bucyrus shipped their first dredge in 1883, one year after it manufactured and shipped the first ‘Thompson Iron Steam Shovel’, built under exclusive rights of the machine designer. Previous to shovels and dredges, Bucyrus only made small mine cars, general railroad castings, other unique foundry castings, and performed various machining and assembly jobs for other firms. As they found their calling building steam shovels and dredges, they began to run out of factory space and eventually decided to move to a new factory in South Milwaukee to focus on machine production. Upon arrival in South Milwaukee



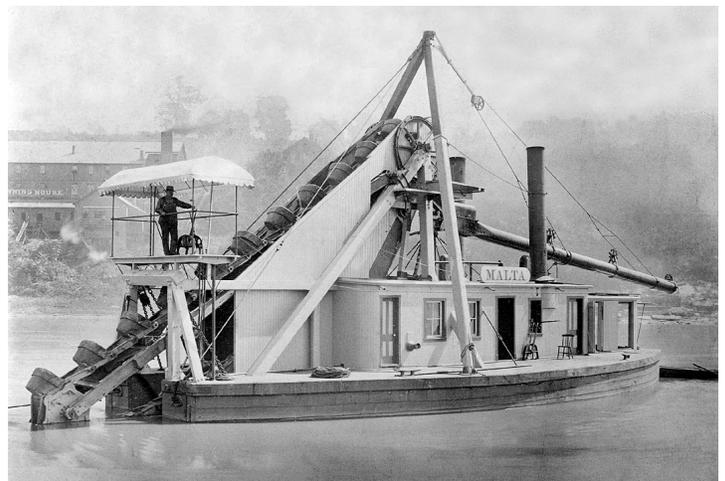
*Early Dipper Dredge*

in 1893, the company even changed their name to the Bucyrus Steam Shovel & Dredge Company to reflect these product lines. Dredges would continue to be part of the Bucyrus and Bucyrus Erie product line offering until the early 1950’s.

The “Malta” was the first Bucyrus elevator or ‘ladder’ dredge built. Introduced to the market in 1888, it wasn’t a very large dredge, but was an efficient design that became the basic platform for development of larger elevator dredges. In 1889, total dredge sales amounted to \$96,500 which surpassed steam shovel sales at \$58,800. This made the dredges Bucyrus’ primary revenue product. It would continue that way for a couple more years before steam shovels eventually took over

as the main product for good. The Bucyrus Museum has the original engraved brass nameplate from the “Malta” on display in our early years case.

The Isthmian Canal Commission ordered three Bucyrus 15-yard dipper dredges toward the end of the Panama Canal project. They were needed to help with the finishing work on the project, and would be moved to doing maintenance work along the waterways to keep the shipping channels clear once the canal opened. The ‘triplets’ were named “Parasio”, “Gamboa”, and “Cascadas” and started working in 1913, 1914, and 1915 respectively. They were on the job for decades, with the “Parasio” being the last one to be decommissioned and scrapped in 1972. They all operated on steam power and were instrumental in cleaning up the massive landslides along the banks of Gatun Lake that would often block the canal in the early days. In the Bucyrus



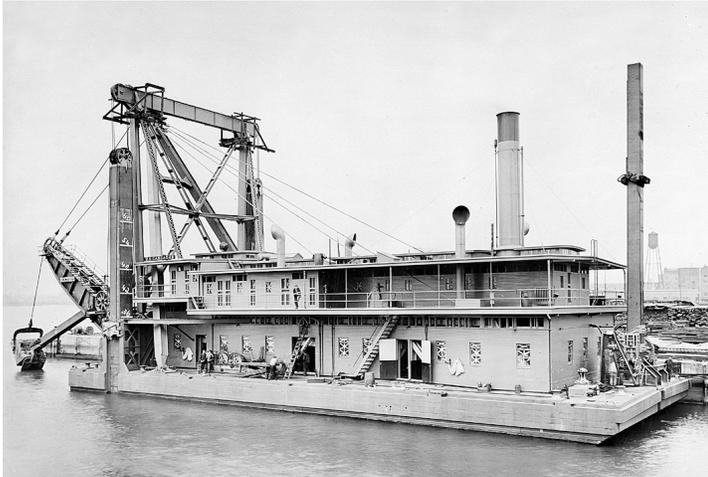
*The Malta*

Museum’s Panama Canal display case, there is a scale model of the “Parasio” built by the Atlas Model Works of Chicago in 1914. This detailed brass and wooden model traveled the world and was presented at machinery shows to demonstrate Bucyrus’ dredge designs to prospective buyers.

At the turn of the century, Placer Mining Dredges were in big demand by large scale gold mining companies located all throughout the world. These large mining



dredges would be assembled in a man-made pond and would then float along a designated path while continuously digging the ground in front of it. The digging mechanism was a beltline of small buckets that brought the material on board. They would empty onto the on-board screen decks, trommels, and sluice runs that would wash the excavated material and capture the gold. The rocks and other large spoils would exit the back of the dredge on a conveyer belt and fill in the pond behind the machine as it moved forward. Contracts for placer dredge machines came from all over the world, including the US, Klondike, Yukon, Sweden, Asia, South America, and Africa.



*Panama Canal Dredge - "Cascadas"*

A December 31, 1917 Milwaukee Journal article describes the journey of one very large Bucyrus Placer Dredge sold to The Lenskoie Gold Mining Co. of Russia. It details the shipment from South Milwaukee on 80 freight cars to the west coast where it was placed on board ships. The ship was offloaded at the port of Vladivostok, Russia, where it was re-loaded onto train



*Placer Mining Dredge*

cars and shipped to the end of the line in Irkutsk, Siberia. The components were then placed on large sleighs and drawn by horses and oxen another 200 miles to Kachugi on the Lena River, then re-loaded onto barges. The barges were towed another 1,000 miles to Bodibo where it was finally assembled and went to work. No reports on the gold output in the article, but it must have been really good to go through all that transportation trouble!

Suction Dredges were also produced by Bucyrus for specific applications. They used big pumps and long metal snorkels to extract material. They were very useful in removing silt and muck to keep canals, waterways, and irrigation channels open. They also found work excavating sand used in glass making, and in the mining of tin and gold ores. They were efficient and highly productive machines, keeping a steady flow of material moving through the powerful pumps while operating. There was no need to take time to swing a boom or empty the dipper, so they covered a lot of ground quickly. However, these powerful dredge snorkels also sucked up anything else that may be in front of the intended material, which often led to unintended consequences and damage to the dredge machinery, underwater life, and ecology of the mined areas.

Today, the best-known remaining example of a complete Bucyrus Erie Dredge is the Yankee Fork Dredge. Bucyrus dredge serial number 338 is located in Yankee



*Bucyrus Suction Dredge*

Fork State Park, near Challis, Idaho. The dredge was built for Silas Mason of New York in 1940 and operated through 1952, with a stop work period during WWII from October of 1942 until January of 1946. It was one of Bucyrus' largest dredge machines weighing in at 998 tons, and cost \$428,000 to build, about \$8.6 million today. The Yankee Fork is 112' long, 54' wide, and stands 64' tall. It was donated to the U.S. Forest Service by J.R. Simplot in 1966 and is now a local tourist attraction providing visitors with an opportunity to explore the dredge on a self-guided tour.

*Continued on next page*



The last dredge was produced in South Milwaukee in 1953, and Bucyrus Erie officially sold its remaining dredge and parts business interests to Ellicott Machine Co. in 1957. All totaled, Bucyrus and Bucyrus Erie manufactured about 340 dredges of various types.

Today, dredges no longer come to mind when the name Bucyrus or Bucyrus Erie is mentioned. But at one time they were a very important part of the company's early success and a major part of revenues. They are iconic machines that worked in historic places, like the gold fields of the Yukon and on the Panama Canal. The Bucyrus Dredge Loop near Breckenridge, Colorado, was named for the Bucyrus dredges that once worked in the valley. It is a major jumping off point for several well-known mountain bike trails in the area, and is designated as a historical site. The trails run through what was once the home to several 500-ton Bucyrus Placer Dredges operating near Breckenridge gold mines at the turn of the century. The remains of one of the Bucyrus



*"Yankee Fork" Dredge*

dredges can still be found trapped in the pond it created in its gold-hungry wake. The machine originally sold for \$90,000, was 137' long and 37' wide. It averaged \$1,000 in gold production every day from July 14, 1905 until it ceased operations in late 1920. It produced a total of \$5.4 million in gold, equal to \$76 million today.

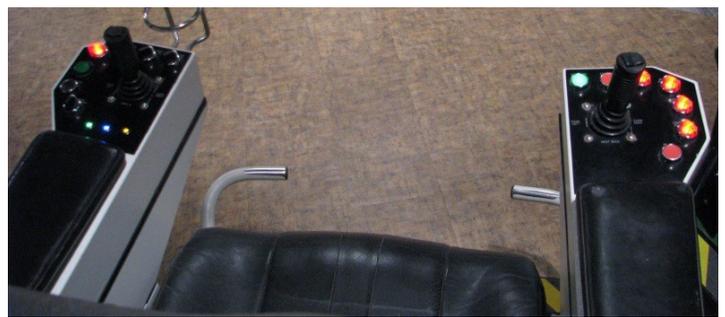
## MUSEUM'S 1570W OPERATORS SEAT "UPGRADED"

If you've ever had the opportunity to sit in the 1570W dragline operator seat in the Bucyrus Museum before, you sort of know how it feels to be at the controls of a Bucyrus machine. You may have noticed that the left and right control panels/arm rests had a variety of non-functional switches, push buttons, and thumb buttons on top of the joysticks.

After hours of planning, modifying, and rewiring, we now have an interactive seat display, thanks to Kenneth Tangen of the Bucyrus Museum, Mark Thoreson, and Cornell Stroik, both retirees from Bucyrus. They spent several 'work' days in the Museum getting all the switches to light up, horns to sound, and alarms to beep. All of the controls on both sidearms, including the thumb buttons on top of the joysticks, either light up or make a unique alarm or warning noise now. If you have not gotten a chance to sit in the seat, take a tour of the Bucyrus Museum and try it out. We've witnessed how these enhancements make it fun for 'kids' of all ages to try, and the seat makes a great photo opportunity for our visitors.

We're constantly adding new items and changing displays every week, so even if you've been here once, you'll always find new things to see and do on your return visits. And while you're there, be sure to try your hand at loading virtual rocks into a virtual truck in our 495HR mining shovel simulator.

The Bucyrus Museum Board would like to thank Ken, Mark, and Cornell for volunteering their time, skills,



and dedication in keeping the Bucyrus legacy alive by installing these exciting interactive upgrades to our operator seat display.



## RARE EARLY WATCH FOB ADDED

In the early 1900's, pocket watches were the prevalent way we kept track of time. It wasn't until after WWI that wristwatches began to gain in popularity. Pocket watches often had an attached chain to allow them to be secured to a waistcoat, lapel, or belt loop, and to prevent them from being dropped. Watches were also mounted on a short leather strap with a fob and used in place of a chain to prevent from getting it snagged on things. The watch would slide inside your pocket, and the fob would hang just outside the vest or pants pocket to assist in pulling the watch out to check on the time.

Bucyrus Company". These versions of the 1914 fobs are identified in the Hoover's Watch Fob Guide Book, second edition, as BE1 and BE2. An example of this fob is on display in the museum.

Recently the Bucyrus Museum obtained a very rare 'Bucyrus Revolving Shovel' fob, shown in the photos, through an auction. We estimate the manufacture date of this fob to be 1912 or 1913, which predates the fobs identified as BE1 and BE2. In fact, it is so rare that the Hoovers Guide does not even show it listed as available for collectors. It is made from nickel-plated brass



*Bucyrus Revolving Shovel Fob*



*Reverse Side*



*1914 Steam Shovel Fob*

Bucyrus, Bucyrus Erie, and Bucyrus International all produced fobs until 2007. They are well known by both collectors and customers. In 1914, Bucyrus commissioned a steam shovel silhouette watch fob for the annual picnic, with the event and date imprinted on the back. It was produced to honor the work done by Bucyrus Steam Shovels on the Panama Canal which opened the same year. For the picnic, the fob medallion was attached to a ribbon and pinback which was worn as your ticket for entry, food, and beverages during the event. It also came with a leather strap, and after the picnic, one removed the ribbon and made it into a watch fob by fitting it with the strap. The same steam shovel design fob was also produced as a customer handout, except the reverse side reads "Complements of the

and boasts a tiny celluloid photo insert of the Bucyrus 14B Revolving Shovel surrounded by red enamel lettering on the face. The design is very similar to the early employee photo ID badges issued around the same date range. The reverse side reads, 'Revolving Shovels for Cellar, Street, Railroad, and Ditch Work. Brick and Gravel Plants, Stone Piles, Etc.', and is encircled by the words 'Bucyrus Company South Milwaukee Wis'. It looks to be well used, but is still in great shape for being 110 years old!

Please make sure you make a point to see these rare fobs in person, along with many other interesting items and displays related to Bucyrus' history next time you visit the museum.

The South Milwaukee Industrial Museum LLC is a 501c3 educational non-profit operating the Bucyrus Museum and is dedicated to the historic preservation of documents and artifacts relating to Bucyrus International and its merged companies.

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# PATTERN SHRINK RULES

Shortly after the Bucyrus Museum opened, Harold Pauers donated his complete tool box to the museum for display. Harold began working for Bucyrus Erie in 1947 as an apprentice. He completed the 5-year patternmaker program and worked as a journeyman patternmaker for the South Milwaukee steel foundry until retiring in 1984. Making patterns is a skilled trade that is related to the trades of tool and die making, but also incorporates elements of fine woodworking.

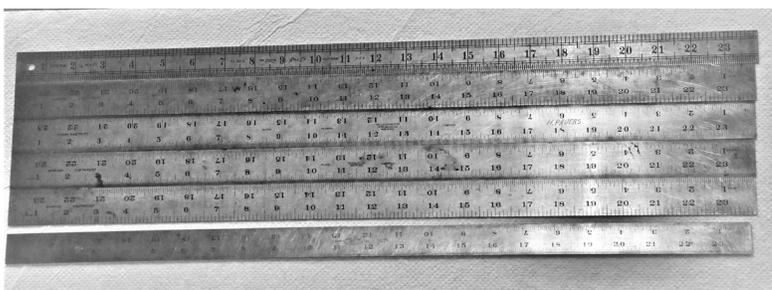
Wood patterns were made in house at the South Milwaukee, Erie, and Glassport plants. Bucyrus Erie owned two steel foundries along with an iron and brass foundry that produced the component castings for both mining and construction machine products. The pattern is essentially a replica of the object to be cast, and most of Bucyrus' were made from hardwood. Patterns are used to create the cavities in foundry molds. It is through the pouring of molten metal into these molds that the castings are created. Pattern-



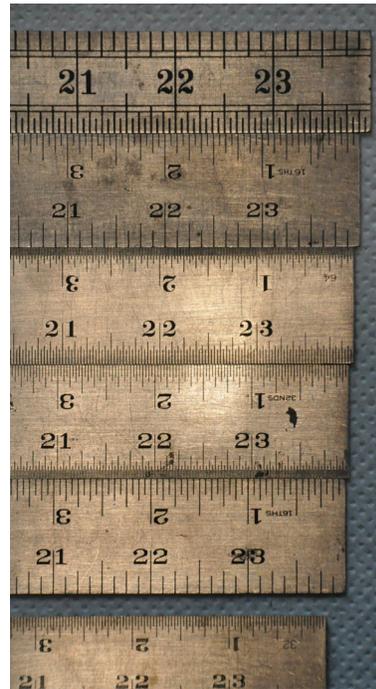
*H. Pauers Journeyman Tools*

makers also made the wooden boxes used to contain the sand molds, along with the core, gate, riser, and other molds used in the foundry process.

Among the many interesting specialized tools found in his journeyman's tool box are a confusing set of multiple 24" steel scales. Although all clearly marked as 24" scales, only the bottom scale shown in Figure 1 and Figure 2 is actually 24". The rest are all slightly different lengths. It turns out that this is a set of pattern shrink rules.



*Figure 1*

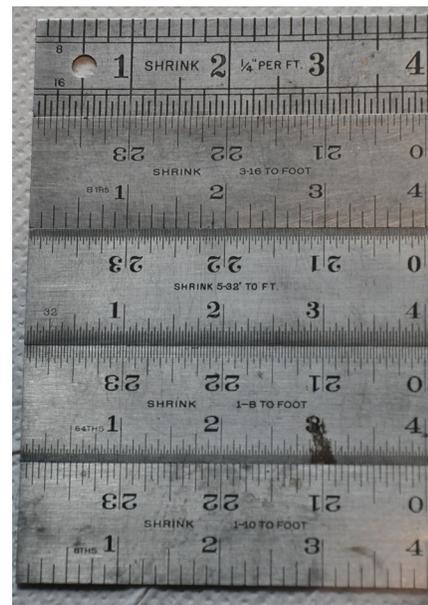


*Figure 2*

Shrink rules are used when building a pattern so that it is slightly larger than the finished casting. This compensates for the shrinking of the molten metal that occurs as it cools while solidifying in the mold. Shrink rules come in various sizes, since the amount of shrinkage depends on the material, volume of metal, and casting shape. Typical examples, for the materials Bucyrus foundries poured, would be 1/8" per foot for grey iron, 3/16" per foot for bronze and 1/4" per foot for steel. All rules have the amount of compensation per foot clearly marked

near the 1" line, as shown in Figure 3.

We can assume that this set of scales would cause a great deal of confusion if they ever got into the Finishing Shops. Many thanks to Harold and his daughter Barbara Bridgewater for donating this special tool box to the Bucyrus Museum. It's a great display, conversation piece, and learning tool for our visitors, and we're honored to be chosen as caretakers of it.



*Figure 3*



# BUCYRUS CLUB GRANDFATHER CLOCK



*Oldtimers Grandfather Clock in the Museum*

William Wheeler Coleman was a great visionary for Bucyrus and served as President and Chairman for 46 years, from 1911 to 1957. Coleman stood out as a leader who never lost focus on the people who worked for Bucyrus and manufactured the machines that moved the earth.

Coleman was a trained engineer and metallurgist, and started his career with Bucyrus as foundry superintendent in 1905. He was promoted to works manager in 1907 and to second vice president in 1909. During 1910, he gained experience in sales and promotion, engineering, manufacturing, and purchasing. By 1911, only three years after 77 Bucyrus shovels had played a major role in the building of the Panama Canal, he became President and Chairman of Bucyrus at the age of 38. He served in that capacity for Bucyrus through both World Wars and the Great Depression. He later became a member

of the Bucyrus Executive Committee, and in 1962 he became Honorary Life Chairman.

Coleman always had a passion for caring for the people of Bucyrus. He was the force behind turning what was the 'West Shops'



*Coleman Clock Brass Inscription Plate*

into the Bucyrus Club in 1920. In 1922, Coleman saved jobs by overruling the decision of his Board of Directors to close the Evansville plant, and instead initiated measures to raise the plant's efficiency and modernize its product line. Within a short time, the plant returned to profitability and became an essential manufacturing base for the following 60 years.

In 1954, he purchased and presented the members of what was then called The Bucyrus Retired Employees Club with a Revere Monticello Grandfather Clock as a token of his appreciation for their service. The wooden clock case is made from Honduras Mahogany and has a



*1954 Revere Clock Ad*

Westminster Chime feature at each quarter hour. At the time it retailed in the US for \$665, which is the equivalent of \$7,000 if purchased today. He added an engraved brass plate to the base which reads "Presented to members of the Retired Employees Club – September 3rd, 1954 – by William W. Coleman in recognition of our long association in the interests of Bucyrus-Erie Company".

It stood in the Oldtimers Room at the Bucyrus Club for many years until a remodel eliminated the room. Many of us remember it after it was moved alongside the fireplace during the 1970's remodel, where it remained until the Club became the South Milwaukee Community Center in 1997. Soon after, it was placed into storage at the Club while the building changed hands several times. Eventually the Bucyrus Museum was able to take ownership of it in February of 2020, from the City of South Milwaukee, after they became the new building owners. The beautiful mahogany case was cleaned and restored, and the works were carefully dusted, oiled, and rewired. Today it proudly stands tall in our Welcome Center, chiming every 15 minutes as a salute to all who have ever worked at any of the Bucyrus-Erie and Bucyrus International facilities. Make sure you stop and see it when you visit.

William Coleman passed away in January of 1966 at the age of 92. His vision and leadership was instrumental in forging the positive 'family feeling' that Bucyrus and Bucyrus-Erie held for so many employees who were fortunate to have had the opportunity to work there.



## "A BIG THANK YOU"

### TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Three Anonymous  
Robert Burgoon Family  
Gary Dillon • Zack Hittman  
Dick Janswig  
David Lynch  
Sharyn Medrow • Ken Roth

## *In Loving Memory*

*With Heavy Hearts we said "Goodbye" to:*

Raymond H. Boucher 1/10/21  
Stuart D. Stewart 4/14/21  
Ivan E. Ricks 6/14/21 • Bryant L. Lawrence Jr. 9/14/21  
Gertrude "Gert" M. Dvorak 9/16/21  
Kathleen A. Henderson 10/1/21  
Marvin L. Zwahlen Sr. 10/16/21  
Margaret "Peggy" A. Knight 11/28/21  
Howard "Howie" E. Peterson 12/1/21  
Sam W. Mobley Jr. 12/2/21 • Harold "Bill" Parker 12/8/21  
Ronald R. Evans 12/23/21 • John E. Norris 12/23/21  
David "Brooksea" Brooks 12/30/21  
James D. Brinkmeyer 1/5/22  
Thomas A. Dlugopolski 1/7/22  
Wayne D. Curtis 1/16/22 • Jack D. Davis 1/16/22  
Thomas J. "Tom C" Czerniejewski 1/21/22  
Jacqueline "Jackie" A. Johanneck 1/22/22  
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Glenn N. Klopp 1/27/22 • Conrad J. Basterash 2/1/22  
Franklin R. Yeany 2/1/22  
Kenneth Fisher 2/8/22 • Louise Naugle 2/12/22  
Bob Burgoon 2/16/22

**2022**

## **LUNCHEONS & EVENTS**

**The Bucyrus Club & Event Center**  
1919 12th Avenue, South Milwaukee  
(For Reservations call Dolores Page at  
414.768.9437, Pat Merkovich at 414.617.2796  
or Shirley Borgie at 414.768.9750)

Luncheon Cost \$15.00/person  
Opens 11:30 a.m. • Food served at 12 noon  
March 31 • April 28 • May 26 • June 30 (*picnic*)  
September 26 • October 27

### **WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

PLEASE SUBMIT ALL  
WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE TO:  
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Oak Creek WI 53154-0564  
or Email: [bigmuskie@beoldtimers.org](mailto:bigmuskie@beoldtimers.org)  
or [oldtimers.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:oldtimers.newsletter@gmail.com)