



From Pat's Desk...

Now that we are in the full swing of 2023 and Spring is fast approaching, why not make plans to 'save the dates' for the many activities the Oldtimers are offering: our monthly luncheons (the last Thursday of the month with the exception of the summer and winter breaks), the golf outing better known as BOGIE in June, "Scrooge The Musical" at the Fireside Theatre in November and our annual Christmas Party in December. Thanks to the committee chairpersons 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 events are included in this newsletter.

Speaking of luncheons...we have a nice line-up of interesting speakers booked for some of our upcoming luncheons: March—Dave Kieck, Project Manager of the Bucyrus Commons will give us an update on its progress and dedication date; April—Matt Weyand, a scale model enthusiast will present and demonstrate a 795-B radio controlled model; and in June, which happens to be our picnic luncheon—Debra DeBoer, the South Milwaukee Human Concerns Director will speak on their behalf. This luncheon will be benefiting Human Concerns by accepting donations in lieu of the normal luncheon fee.

Last but not least, 'Congratulations' to Dolores Page, our newly elected President and 'Welcome' Bob Jelinek to the Board of Directors.

'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 or Pat Merkovich at (414) 617-2796, preferably by the Monday before the luncheon.

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.



1919 12th Avenue
South Milwaukee



SAVE OUR LUNCHEON DATES:

March 30 • April 27

May 25 • June 29 (Picnic)

September 28 • October 26

EVENTS:

BOGIE - June 8, 2023

Fireside's "Scrooge the Musical" - November 17, 2023

Christmas Party/Dinner Dance - December 7, 2023

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.

JANUARY LUNCHEON

Our January 26th Luncheon was a great start to the New Year with 50 members and friends attending. We all enjoyed a delicious meal that consisted of Roasted Chicken with Mashed Potatoes and Gravy along with a side of Green Beans. And speaking of delicious. We had 3 scrumptious desserts donated by Dolores Page who made a Pineapple Cake, Debbie Polzin who made a Chocolate Cake and Cindy Zastrow who made an Apple Slab Pie. Many thanks to you ladies!

At every luncheon we have two door prize winners. January was no exception. Our winners of a gift certificate to a future Oldtimers luncheon were Cindy Simatic and Debbie Polzin.

Bob Jelinek was our guest speaker for our luncheon. He wowed us by giving an interesting, informative and overall awesome presentation about "Bucyrus & South Milwaukee—Early Growth Together". Did you know...that Bucyrus opened the new factory 4 years before South Milwaukee became a city? Or,

did you know that Bucyrus was given 15 acres of land plus \$50,000 to move to Wisconsin in 1892. The equivalent dollar value today would be over \$4 million! For more information about the early days of Bucyrus see page 8 in the Museum's Scoop Article on the 130th Anniversary move to South Milwaukee in this issue of the newsletter. Thank you Bob for your wonderful presentation. You are the most knowledgeable person that we know on all things Bucyrus!



Bob Jelinek



Cindy Simatic



Debbie Polzin

FEBRUARY LUNCHEON

Even though Old Man Winter decided to drop us a visit the day before our February 23rd luncheon with snow, freezing rain and icy conditions that didn't stop the Oldtimers from having a great time! Skyline Catering provided us with a fantastic dish of Pork Schnitzel along with Spaetzle and a medley of Roasted Vegetables. And for dessert, Bob Jelinek donated an assortment of Paczki's also known as the Polish version of Jelly Filled Donuts as a belated "Fat Tuesday" treat. The two lucky door prize winners were Ken Bonchek and Cindy Zastrow.

Our Guest Speaker for this luncheon was John Galewski from the 'The

Launching a Legacy' Committee. He gave an update on South Milwaukee School District's Sports complex renovation. He stated some of the main goals are the installation of synthetic turf for the track and football fields, the Galewski Baseball infield and the upper Softball infield. The new surfaces will modernize the track and field facilities which will make those areas safer for the students. The complex will be named Bucyrus Stadium in honor of the company's heritage in South Milwaukee.

Thank you John for the informative presentation.



Happy 89th Birthday Matt Glaske



John Galewski



Ken Bonchek



Cindy Zastrow

MARCH LUNCHEON SPEAKER

We are pleased to announce that our guest speaker for the March 30th Luncheon will be South Milwaukee's former Mayor Dave Kieck, who is the current Project Manager of The Bucyrus

Commons. He will give a presentation about the construction and future plans that will be conducted at the newly completed site of Bucyrus Commons.

Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting will be held on May 21st, 1:00—5:00 p.m., Downtown South Milwaukee—1022 Madison Avenue.



A DEDICATION EVENT TO MARK THE NEW
SOUTH MILWAUKEE BUCYRUS COMMONS

Afternoon at the Commons

**Sunday
May 21
1 - 5 PM**

**A Family-Friendly
Event**

**MUSIC DRINKS
FOOD KID ZONE**

Schedule

- 1:00 Flag Ceremony
- 1:15 HS Jazz Choir
- 1:30 Ribbon Cutting
- 2:00 The WhiskeyBelles

Music Sponsored By:
SOUTH MILWAUKEE
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

1022 Madison Avenue, Downtown South Milwaukee
More information : southmilwaukee.gov

**NO CARRY-INS
ALLOWED**

APRIL LUNCHEON SPEAKER



Matt Weyand

We are very fortunate to have Matt Weyand from Festus, Missouri as our April 27th guest speaker.

He is a well known scale model enthusiast who builds some of the largest scale models of coal-mining equipment in the world, even though he has never been a miner. He recently constructed a radio controlled 795-B Model which he will demonstrate at the luncheon.

If you're a Facebook member, Matt has a group page called Scale Model Mining.



JUNE CELEBRATION / DONATION LUNCHEON – GUEST SPEAKER

In celebration of the 130th anniversary of Bucyrus moving to South Milwaukee, our June 29th Oldtimers Picnic Luncheon will be 'free' to all members and their guest. The luncheon is sponsored by the Bucyrus Foundation, and will be limited to a maximum of 100 guests who pre-register. We will not be able to accommodate 'walk-ins' in June, so please reserve your spot by calling Dolores Page at 414-768-9437 or Pat Merkovich at 414-617-2796. Reservations will start being accepted at the May 25th luncheon and will run through Monday, June 26th.

The donation part of this event is for South Milwaukee Human Concerns. Bucyrus employees have always been generous to support those in need, and we want to continue that tradition by asking for a donation to Human Concerns in lieu of the regular luncheon cost. Each attendee may choose to donate three of the following items at the door as 'admission' to the party, or \$10 (or more) in cash for SM Human Concerns. The items they have the greatest need for are: Shampoo, Conditioner, Bar Soap, Shower Gel, Razors, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes,

Macaroni & Cheese, Canned Soup, Ravioli, Beef Stew, and Spaghetti-O's.

Debra DeBoer, SM Human Concerns Director, will be our speaker. South Milwaukee Human Concerns is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization receiving no taxpayer funds that delivers critical help and hope to needs-based area residents by providing emergency food, clothing, and other essential services. The Bucyrus Foundation has agreed to matching 100% of the money donated that day as part of the Employee Matching Gift Program. We look forward to seeing you there!

NEW PRESIDENT ELECTED



It was a close race for the Presidential election between Dolores Page and Ken Tangen with a final count of 38-32. Because of a tie vote between the two candidates at the October Luncheon, we needed to have another election to break that tie and elect a President. Members had the voting choice of in-person at the January Luncheon or through email or mail prior to that event. Once all of the votes were counted by three members (Terri Truettner, Jeff Truettner and Jim Shelenske), Dolores Page was declared the "Winner" of our election.

Congratulations Dolores! In October Dave Kieck was elected Vice-President and Pat Merkovich was elected Secretary/Treasurer. They will serve a 4-year term. Thank you to all those who took the time to vote!

These three elected Officers along with the five Board Members form the new Board of Directors. The Oldtimers Board Members consist of Bill Haag, Betsy Hodson, Bob Jelinek, Debbie Polzin and Ken Tangen. Bob was newly appointed by President Dolores Page—her first act of duty as President.

ACCEPTING NEW MEMBERS

Do you know a former, current or retired steelworker or office worker of Bucyrus® or Caterpillar® who would like to join the Bucyrus® Oldtimers Association but doesn't know how? If you do, please spread the word and let them know that we would love to have them join our group. It's 'free' to join and all the members old and new receive the quarterly Alumni Newsletter.

Membership forms can be obtained from the Oldtimers website—www.beoldtimers.org or request a form by contacting Ken Tangen at bigmuskie@beoldtimers.org or Pat Merkovich at oldtimers.newsletter@gmail.com. No access to the internet? No problem...contact Pat at 414.617.2796 and she'll mail you a form.



Board of Directors--from left: Pat Merkovich, Bob Jelinek, Debbie Polzin, Dolores Page, Dave Kieck, Betsy Hodson.
Not present are Ken Tangen and Bill Haag.



Bucyrus Oldtimers Golf Independent Event – JUNE 8th, 2023

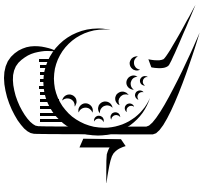
The 7th annual Oldtimers Golf Outing, or “**BOGIE**”, will be held on Thursday, **June 8, 2023** at New Berlin Hills Golf Course, and is open to **all** current or past Bucyrus or Caterpillar employees, retirees (and those who aspire to retire), their spouses, significant others, or friends. This year’s 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 22nd, 2023**. 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 by MAY 22nd**.



“**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 8th, 2023**

☐ 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



LETTERS TO 'BIG MUSKIE' FROM FELLOW OLDTIMERS

December 19, 2022

Oldtimers,

I do receive my Newsletter by email AND want to continue to get the electronic version. Hope this donation helps keep hard copies to those that prefer that method.

I do appreciate all the work that goes into creating and sending the Newsletter. It is encouraging to hear how well the museum is doing. Wish I was close enough to help as one of the docents. Keep up the good work.

Ted Willgrubs



December 28, 2022

Bucyrus Oldtimers Association,

We are enclosing a small contribution to defray expenses. Even after 24 years, Roy and I both enjoy keeping up with the Bucyrus Oldtimers news. We are quite willing to have the Oldtimers mailings be changed over to emailing to cut publishing expenses.

Lastly, I am enclosing my vote ballot for the upcoming election. Thank you, we appreciate your continued support of the many retirees of Bucyrus.

Barb Schweitzer

December 31, 2022

Bucyrus Oldtimers Association UA: Concerning the quarterly Bucyrus Newsletters, please be advised that I would like to continue receiving the print version by mail. I do not have an email account.

Enclosed is a contribution to cover the mailing costs and your efforts of handling and distribution. Keep up the good work and encourage you to be bold to celebrate Christmas and the freedom we still have to worship God for which our country has so boldly fought and defended and so imbedded in our Constitution also.

Sincerely,

Robert Baker



January 3, 2023

Hi Everybody,

Sorry I waited so long to send this donation. Hope it helps a little. Keep up the good work.

Lillian Buchholz

Officers, Board of Directors and Staff

Dolores Page, President
414.768.9437

Dave Kieck, Vice-President
414.840.5184

Pat Merkovich, Secretary/Treasurer
414.617.2796

Board Members:

Bill Haag, Betsy Hodson, Bob Jelinek,
Debbie Polzin, Ken Tangen

Newsletter:

Pat Merkovich
Email: oldtimers.newsletter@gmail.com

Webmaster:

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

Alumni Newsletter & Correspondence

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

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

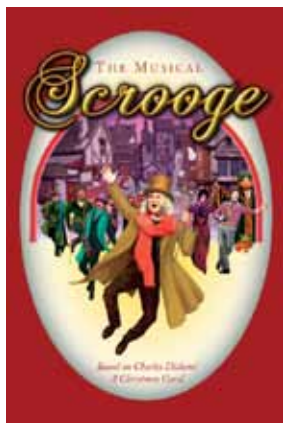


South Milwaukee Industrial
Museum LLC
P.O. Box 84
South Milwaukee, WI 53172-0084

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FIRESIDE THEATRE'S "SCROOGE THE MUSICAL" **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2023**

Join us for this merry, sparkling, tuneful, boisterous Broadway musical version of the world's most beloved Christmas story of Dickens' "A Christmas Carol". Based on the popular musical movie starring Albert Finney, "SCROOGE THE MUSICAL" tells this time honored tale of redemption and love as only The Fireside can – with a beautiful and rousing musical score (including the well-known "Thank You Very Much"), breath-taking dancing, beautiful period costumes, uproarious comedy, and heart-warming drama.

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 "Scrooge the Musical".

DATE: **FRIDAY, November 17, 2023**

COST: \$85.00 per person. Gratuities are included (for the meal and the bus driver).

Payment in full or a minimum deposit of \$40.00 per person is due upon receipt.

Balance is due by Friday, September 29, 2023

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.**

Choose your main entrée and indicate below: Supreme Cut Chicken (seasoned with Lemon Pepper and seared to perfection), Sliced Beef Tenderloin (Chef carved Medallions of Roast Beef Tenderloin glazed with a Red Wine Sauce), Grilled Atlantic Salmon (a seasoned, grilled filet of Fresh Atlantic Salmon, accompanied by a creamy Lemon Velouté Sauce), or Global Vegetarian Medley (Farm Fresh Vegetables, Mushrooms, Grains and Pasta).

Please send your reservations and payment to:

Bucyrus® Oldtimers Association UA
"Scrooge the Musical" 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 "SCROOGE THE MUSICAL" - FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2023

(Please make checks payable to Bucyrus® Oldtimers Association UA)

Total Number of Tickets: _____

Name (Print & list contact Person's name 1st): **Address:**

Menu Choice:

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

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 ☐

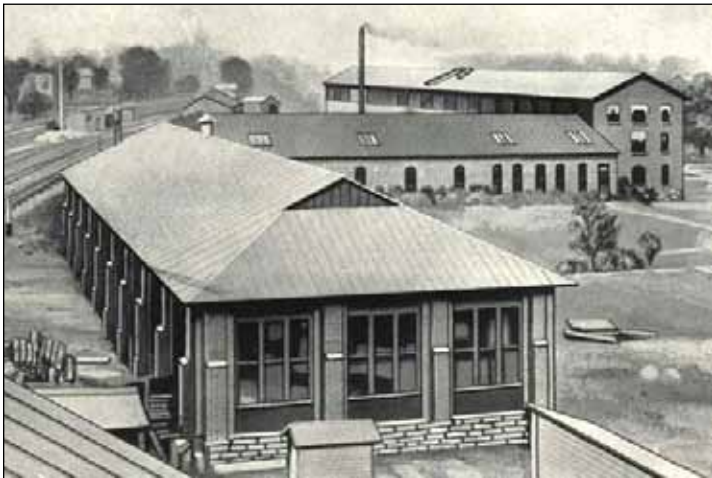


Operated by the **South Milwaukee Industrial Museum LLC**

Bucyrus' 130th Anniversary in South Milwaukee

April will mark the 130th anniversary of the start of Bucyrus factory operations in South Milwaukee which began in April of 1893. Let's explore the how and why of the move from Ohio to Wisconsin, the new purpose-built factory, and the early struggles the company had with employees, housing, and finances.

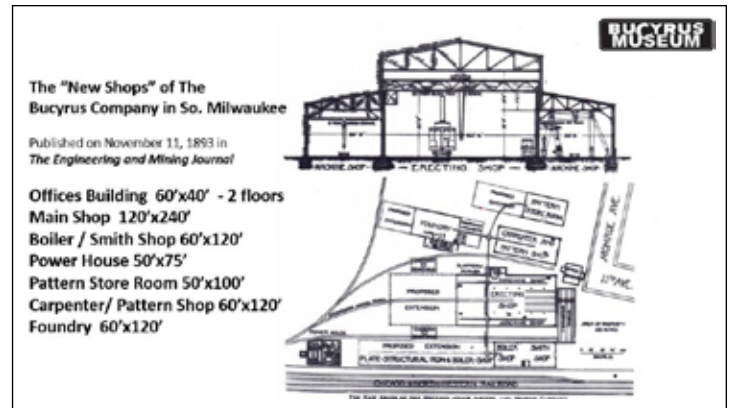
The idea of a move began between 1889 and 1891 when business for the Bucyrus Foundry and Manufacturing Company was doing very well and company officials realized they were landlocked and could not expand on their current site. The industrialization of Bucyrus, Ohio and surrounding areas drove local land prices higher, so they sought alternatives in order to meet projected increased production needs for the larger machines that they had begun producing. Eventually they answered an ad placed by the South Milwaukee Company in late 1891 and inquired about new land for a factory.



Bucyrus Ohio Plant 1889

The new area was just a few miles south of Milwaukee. It had railroad and water shipping access, and a perceived adequate skilled workforce nearby. The South Milwaukee Company was formed by four partners who bought most of the area farmland as part of a scheme to kick starting a 'manufacturing land boom' and profiting from other factories that would follow a move by a major manufacturer. They decided to make some concessions to Bucyrus after considerable negotiations to become the 'anchor' factory in the village. Bucyrus was offered 15 acres of land at no charge and

\$50,000 in cash toward building a new factory. They signed a contract to build and eventually move to South Milwaukee on October 3, 1891. The land offer included an 8-acre site next to the rail siding, 5 acres of building lots for new homes, and 2 acres of dock area on Lake Michigan to eventually be connected to the factory by a belt-line railway. The port was never built, and those 2 acres were eventually abandoned.



New Bucyrus Plant Layout

Detailed plans for the new plant were drawn and the construction firm of Whitney & Starrett of Chicago began construction in July of 1892. Other factory construction in South Milwaukee was already underway, including a three-story building just west of the Bucyrus plant for the Schulz Brothers Furniture Company. They opened as the first factory in South Milwaukee in October of 1892 manufacturing wooden extension tables. This building would change hands twice, eventually becoming Bucyrus' West Shop in 1907. After all manufacturing was consolidated into the main plant in 1919, it was converted into the Bucyrus Club in 1920 and was owned by the company until 1994.

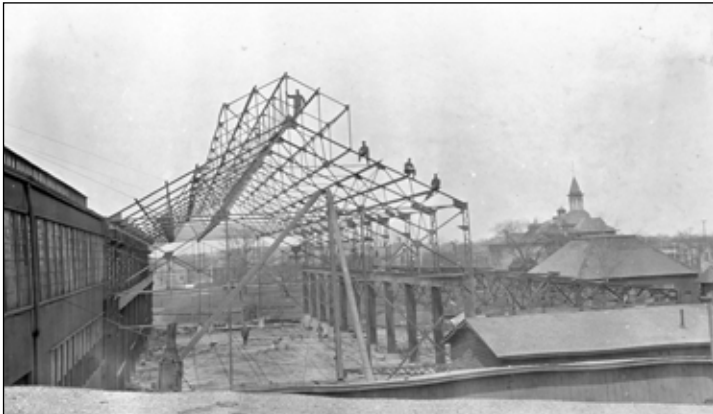
The new Bucyrus factory was hailed as one of the most modern in its day. It was an all-electric plant, no steam driven shafts, which was very unusual for the time. There was a two-story office building, power-house, main shop, foundry, plate and boiler shop, and carpenter and pattern shops built. Here is an excerpt from the November 11, 1893 Engineering and Mining Journal with a description of the new factory:

Continued on next page



"The buildings are all heated by the hot-blast ventilating system. A complete system of standard-gauge tracks connects all the buildings with each other, and there is also a narrow-gauge track for hand trucks as indicated on the plan; a transfer table provides access to the construction track in main building. The distinguishing features of the plan are that all the buildings, except for the offices, are ground floor only, and that electricity furnishes the sole means of distributing power throughout the entire plant. The reasons for adopting electric distribution of power were that it permits a complete isolation of the boiler and power plant from all of the buildings; it gives a ready and convenient distribution of any desired amount of power to any desired place and at any desired speed; it avoids the wear and loss of power on machines that are used occasionally or intermittently; the system lends itself to a variety of subsidiary uses such as electric lights, electric welding, electric traveling cranes, electric portable drills, etc."

Operations in South Milwaukee began in April of 1893, with about 50 employees. The company continued to finish two dredges and three shovels in Ohio, and finally closed that facility in late summer that year.



Building the new plant 1892

They immediately found difficulty in local hiring and keeping workers. Most of the employees who came from Ohio in spring returned citing 'a lack of housing and social life, cold damp climate, and unpaved streets hub deep in mud'. Access to South Milwaukee from the metro Milwaukee area was difficult, and all the other new factories built in South Milwaukee were competing for the same workforce. Thus, the local workforce they had were mainly single men and relatively unskilled. Only about 10 percent of the Ohio employees who came north during the initial move stayed on in Wisconsin. The company found that the benefits of the greatly improved facility were quickly offset by the loss in efficiency of the new workforce.

Just two months later, in June of 1893, the country

was entering into an economic downturn known as the 'Great Panic'. Over the next two years, railroads went bankrupt, the stock market lost value, and 15,000 businesses and 500 banks collapsed. Orders for machinery fell and the overall financial health of the company



Bucyrus Company Shop and Main Office 1896

faltered. Several factories that were just built in South Milwaukee had catastrophic fires and closed for good, and most were believed to be set intentionally to collect the insurance. It was hard to prove back then.

The move to South Milwaukee proved to be ill-timed and costly for many reasons, and by the end of 1894, the company lost \$189,000 during the calendar year and was on the verge of bankruptcy. On January 28, 1895 the company entered a structured receivership with the First National Bank of Milwaukee who appointed Howard Eells as Chairman. Eells had attended Harvard, was with Bucyrus since its inception, and had the trust of the bankers. His legs were badly crippled since childhood, resulting in his directing of the company from Cleveland. He did however, make a point to visit South Milwaukee once a month.

Over the next 18 months, he worked through their immediate cash issues and reorganized its debt, and on May 9, 1896 applied for a new charter as The Bucyrus Company. That was the hand painted name we chose to replicate on the museum's main entry door, along with the very first logo the company used. The first shareholder meeting as a reorganized company was held on August 14th of that year, business eventually recovered, and production requirements grew.

Bucyrus now needed a second round of new employees, so they reached out to attract several immigrant groups to find and hire the skilled workers to build the

Continued on next page



expanding product lines. Polish, Armenian, Bohemians, and Germans were the first to answer the call, followed by Swedes from Northern MN and Serbians two decades later.

They also formed the Liberty Mortgage Company, purchased land, developed infrastructure, and sold lots to employees for cost and guaranteed their mortgages. They encouraged building multi-family or homes with boarding rooms to accommodate new workers. If you drive around the 6-8 block radius of what was the main Bucyrus plant in South Milwaukee today, you will predominantly see duplexes and multi-family units in these neighborhoods, along with a multitude of ethnic churches.

The area continued to grow, and in 1897 the village of South Milwaukee became a city with over 2,500 residents. George C. Bush was elected as the first mayor (no relation to the Texas George Bush's – LOL).

As for Bucyrus, total sales increased in 1897 to nearly \$600,000, with an annual payroll of some \$250,000 for the 400 employees working for the company - nearly the total employment of all the other South Milwaukee manufacturers combined. If you do the straight-line math on the reported wage numbers, the average worker earned \$650 annually. Quite a change from the



corn fields and scrub land that existed along both sides of the railroad tracks just 7 years prior.

Bucyrus would go on to operate continuously in South Milwaukee for 118 years as The Bucyrus Company, Bucyrus-Erie, and Bucyrus International, Inc. until July 2011, when the merger with Caterpillar that had been announced in November of 2010 was finalized. The Bucyrus name was then consigned to history forever.

Panama Canal Opening Medal

For the inauguration of the Panama Canal formal opening on August 15, 1914, a commemorative medal, about the size of a US Half Dollar coin, was issued. The first steamship through the Canal was the Cristobal, and it carried all 50,000 of these medals issued for the event, each punched with consecutive serial numbers

on the reverse. There are a few known in the world with the word "specimen". The example we recently added to our Panama Canal display case in the museum has a very low sequence number of 1192. These are still highly sought after by collectors worldwide today.





Bucyrus-Erie Desk Tray

The Bucyrus Museum just acquired this rare Bucyrus-Erie desk tray depicting 3 early draglines. Not 100% sure the timeline for this piece, but from the machine images we think it's likely late 1950's or so. It's 17" long and has depictions of an old steam dragline, a large B-E electric dragline, and an early walking Bucyrus Monaghan dragline painted onto a smoked glass tray with gold trim! How cool is that? Our 'experts' believe the middle dragline is an early version of a B-E 1260W. It's on display along with a group of other desk/ash trays, and is the largest example of either in the museum.



Next Month: Atlas Chain, Missing Cranes, and Evel Knievel

Many of us remember Evel Knievel's Snake River Canyon jump on September 8, 1974. It was one of the highlights of the year. If you worked in South Milwaukee in '73 or '74, you were probably aware that Evel made a few visits to the plant arriving in a Cadillac station wagon once. If you didn't see him in person, you certainly heard about it from the old rumor mills. He did take a tour of the shops and offices, and ultimately used our cranes for the big jump. Ever wonder how Bucyrus-Erie got to be a part of that iconic event? Missing cranes? There's a wonderful back story as to how this all unfolded and ended. Stay tuned for the true story in the Scoop section of the next Oldtimers Newsletter!



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.

The Bucyrus Museum is located on the 2nd floor of the Bucyrus Club – 1919 12th Ave – South Milwaukee
Regular hours are every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday from 10am – 3pm

PO Box 84 • South Milwaukee, WI 53172-0084 • 414.671.3850 • Email: bemuseum@smimlic.org

Board of Directors: Bob Jelinek-Chairman, Gerry Miller-Treasurer, Mike McKean-Secretary, Joe Jankowski, Bill Zolandz



"A BIG THANK YOU"

TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Robert Baker • Bob Brudnicki • Lillian Buchholz
Julia Dekker • Gary Dillon • Nancy Hartshorn
John Hittman • David Homan • Terry Honek
Bob Jelinek • Delbert Mahn • Leroy Passehl
Barb Schweitzer • Carol Stolpa • Ted Willgrubs



In Loving Memory



With Heavy Hearts

we said "Goodbye" to:

Reuben Finstad - April 10, 2021
Joy Sahagian - June 4, 2022
Bill Gleason - July 2, 2022
Donald F. Watson - November 14, 2022
Alan D. Ours - December 8, 2022
Carl "Sonny" Nix Jr. - December 16, 2022
Walter H. Evans - December 22, 2022
Louise C. Nichols - December 23, 2022
Mary L Lutz - December 30, 2022
LaVerne "Sonny" Swoboda - January 11, 2023
Eugene E. Hanoski - January 12, 2023
John J. Harrick - January 16, 2023
Jane G. (Wright) Baggett - January 18, 2023
Janet E. Pfister - January 29, 2023
Grant D. Gregory - January 29, 2023
Theresa C. Baniszewski Swanson - January 31, 2023
Rock R. Brandner - February 8, 2023

2023

LUNCHEONS & EVENTS

The Bucyrus Club & Event Center

1919 12th Avenue, South Milwaukee

(For Reservations call

Dolores Page at 414-768-9437 or

Pat Merkovich at 414-617-2796)

Luncheon Cost \$15.00/person

Opens 11:30 a.m. • Food served at 12 noon

March 30 • April 27

May 25 • June 29 (Picnic)

September 28 • October 26

WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

PLEASE SUBMIT ALL
WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE TO:
Bucyrus® Oldtimers Association UA
P.O. Box 563, Oak Creek WI 53154-0564
or Email: bigmuskie@beoldtimers.org
or oldtimers.newsletter@gmail.com