

From Pat's Desk...

Now that we are in full swing of 2026 and Spring is fast approaching (Yay), why not make plans to 'save the dates' for the various activities that are scheduled—perhaps you will be able to join us for one or all! Make note of this year's monthly luncheon dates. We have a great line-up of guest speakers. Check out the spring schedule on page 5. I hope you are also making plans to join in on the fun at the annual golf outing (better known as BOGIE) on June 4th or to attend this year's Fireside performance of "A Christmas Story" on November 20th (Forms are on pages 6 & 7). Last but not least the end of the 2026 activities will be our annual Christmas Gala on December 10th. (A Form will be published in the Fall Newsletter). I know many of you don't live close by to take advantage of these activities but I hope that you enjoy reading about them and all the Bucyrus stories in the 'Scoop' section of our newsletter.

This year, we again received partial funding from the Bucyrus Foundation for the Fireside outing so we were able to keep the ticket price the same as last year. We have 52 seats available, so to be fair, we are initially limiting the tickets to 4 per Oldtimer Member, first come—first serve. Should there be any remaining seats available after June 1st, they will be offered to other non-member family and friends of our alumni.

In closing, I would like to wish a Happy St. Patrick's Day to those wearing green and warm wishes to those observing the sacred Religious holidays during our spring.

'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

JOIN US FOR OUR LUNCHEONS & EVENTS

Reservations are greatly appreciated. Call or text Pat Merkovich at (414) 617-2796, Cindy Zastrow (414) 640-4813 or email oldtimers.newsletter@gmail.com preferably by the Sunday before the luncheon.



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 - cash or checks only**)

All luncheons are sit-down meals.



SAVE OUR LUNCHEON DATES:

March 26 • April 30
 May 28 • June 25 (Picnic)
 September 24 • October 29

EVENTS:

BOGIE - June 4, 2026
 Fireside's "A Christmas Story" - November 20, 2026
 Christmas Gala - December 10, 2026

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. 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.



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JANUARY 29, 2026 LUNCHEON

The typical January weather in Wisconsin was cold...very very cold, but this didn't stop 48 members on attending our first luncheon of 2026! Despite the winter freeze it was mighty warm inside as we all had a great time catching up with our 'Oldtimer' friends and enjoying a delicious meal! This month we didn't have a speaker as usual but we had the opportunity to visit the Bucyrus Museum afterwards for "free". The docents were very friendly and informative and the displays were awesome! For those who never had the chance to visit the museum, they were very pleasantly surprised. Many of the displays change often so you're always seeing something different. That's why it's a good idea to visit the Bucyrus Museum often. It does not disappoint.

This month our deliciously prepared meal consisted of a bread basket, a choice of two soups—either the Chicken Dumpling or the Pork Pot Roast Soup and the main entrée delighted us with a typical winter comfort food—Meatloaf with Mashed Potatoes and Gravy along with a side of Corn. The meal didn't end there...we had a choice of several fabulous desserts! Julia Dekker made Pecan Tassies, Cindy Nettles provided us with her famous bakery Cookies, Debbie Polzin made a Pineapple Cake and Pat Merkovich made a Black Forest Cake, a Boston Cream Cake and an Apple Slab Pie. Many thanks to these ladies!! Last but not least we held our typical Door Prize drawing. Our two Door Prize winners were Dave Austin and Brenda Derosier.



Dave Austin - Door Prize Winner



Brenda Derosier - Door Prize Winner



LETTERS TO 'BIG MUSKIE' FROM FELLOW OLDTIMERS

January 12, 2026

In Memory of Luis Veltze

During my tenure at Bucyrus Erie, I was fortunate to have the guidance and mentorship of several exceptional individuals, including Phil Mork, Bill Winter, Tom Nelson, Tim Sullivan, Dean Johnson, Jim Lettrel, Walton Palmer and Luis Veltze, among others. Each played a significant role in shaping my professional journey.

However, it was Luis Veltze who was instrumental at the very beginning of my experience with Bucyrus. At that time, Luis served as the Electrical Supervisor under Jack Car, the Service Manager. He encouraged me to consider joining Bucyrus as a Field Service Engineer. Eventually, after receiv-

ing approval from upper management at the Chuquicamata mine—where I was serving as Electro-mechanical Area Manager for Electric Mining Shovels, Electric Drills, and Mine Electrical Distribution—I accepted his suggestion and joined Bucyrus.

Louis made significant contributions to the growth and success of the Service Department through his talent and commitment. Luis was not only a dedicated professional but also a key advocate for bringing Latin American professionals to Bucyrus. In fact, we had been collaborating to compile a list of all the Latin American colleagues we knew who had worked for Bucyrus Erie. Unexpectedly, communication with Luis ceased, and I was preparing to reach out to

him when I received the sad and surprising news of his passing on October 27, 2025.

Very truly yours,
Eduardo V. Barrera

Note: Please find attached a contribution as a small token of support for the publication of the "Old Timers".



January 2026

Greetings to All!

My very best to you with best of wishes. Enjoy the Old Timers—it brings back so many great memories!

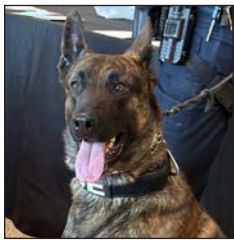
Always,
Tom Nelson

FEBRUARY 26, 2026 LUNCHEON

If you were at the February 26th luncheon, you were fortunate to have an exceptionally fun time! Not only did Captain Dan Fournier and Officer Matt Edwards give a fantastic presentation on the update of the South Milwaukee Police Department's K-9 Unit but everyone was able to meet the newest K-9 named Snoopy (Captain Fournier's partner) along with Rocket (Officer Edwards' partner) who has been with the SMPD



SMPD and K-9's



Rocket



Snoopy

for a few years. We were also fortunate to have Lt. James Rodman and Captain Chad Milow from the SM Police Department join us too. It seemed that both dogs loved all the attention of everyone's pets and scratches. And we absolutely loved them too! The K-9 Unit is fully funded by donations, not taxpayer money. As Bucyrus employees have always generously done, we helped the SMPD's K-9 Program by raising a grand total of \$5,284.00 in member and friend donations including the Bucyrus Foundation matching gifts for the amount donated. A big 'Thank You' goes to Captain Fournier & his partner Snoopy along with Officer Matt Edwards & his partner Rocket for the informative update on SMPD's K-9 Unit and to all those who generously donated to this important cause and

resource for the South Milwaukee Police Department.

As always, we had a deliciously prepared meal from Chef Connor at Skyline Catering. It consisted of a choice of two soups—Chicken Dumpling Soup or Beef Vegetable Soup, Baked Chicken, Baby Red Potatoes and Carrots. A special 'Thank You' for the delicious dessert donations goes to the generosity of the following ladies: Lois Champagne (Mandarin Orange Bars), Julia Dekker (Lemon Bars), Pat Merkovich (Snickers Cake, a Banana Split Cake and Brownies), Debbie Polzin (Texas Sheet Cake), Terri Truettner (Pumpkin Pie Dump Cake) and Cindy Zastrow (Misc. Cookies). Of course we can't forget to mention the two lucky Door Prize winners—Lori Slattery and Rod Lundell.



Lori Slattery - Door Prize Winner



Rod Lundell - Door Prize Winner

We Appreciate Your Help

For members of the Bucyrus Oldtimers Association, this newsletter remains our primary way to share updates about upcoming events and keeping everyone informed about fellow coworkers. Its value, however, totally depends on the information we receive from you.

When Bucyrus was still independent, we were regularly notified of address, email, and

phone number changes, as well as the passing of our members. That flow of information ended after the Caterpillar acquisition in 2011, so we now rely entirely on our members to keep us updated. We never share your contact information with anyone, but we do need accurate and current details to stay connected. If your contact information has changed—or if you know someone who

may need their information updated—please send us an email, a mailed note or a phone call.

We also appreciate being notified when you know of a fellow member who has recently passed, so we can honor them appropriately in our newsletter. Thank you for helping us keep our Oldtimers' members informed and connected.

Happy Birthday!

March



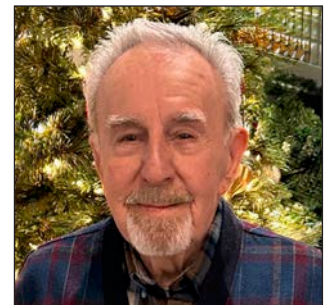
Mark Erickson - 69 yrs



Dave Kieck - 73 yrs



Jim Shelenske - 70 yrs



Harry Maass - 94 yrs

A Personal Story by Keith Haddock, P.Eng.



My interest and involvement with Bucyrus began as an enthusiast, progressed to my working career as a customer, and latterly as a historian. You could say I progressed from playing in the sand box to becoming engineering manager of three large surface coal minds in Canada, and latterly writing several books on earthmoving equipment including two on Bucyrus.

Born in Sheffield, England, toward the end of World War II, I became interested in construction equipment at a very early age. There was so much re-building going on around the city that I became enthused with excavators and earth moving equipment at a very early age. In addition to several new road projects, I was lucky enough to live near to two small surface coal mines, actually within walking distance from my home.

As a young schoolboy, I began to observe how machines operated and what task each type of machine could perform. I also began to notice the names of manufacturers on the various types of machines, the name Ruston-Bucyrus most prominently appearing. This company was established in the U.K. in 1930 with ownership split almost equally between Bucyrus-Erie Company and the British firm Ruston & Hornsby Limited. The latter's predecessors had been building steam shovels since 1874 in their factory at Lincoln, England.

I also began purchasing construction magazines where articles and company advertisements broadened my knowledge of earthmoving equipment. One advertisement I remember was in 1956 announcing the new Ruston-Bucyrus 30-RB excavator. At the bottom of the page, readers were invited to write for a brochure describing this machine. That's what I did, and that 30-RB brochure became the very first piece of earthmoving literature I possessed, and the start of

my personal library which now occupies one entire room in my house! [Arrangements have been made, on my passing, to transfer this library to the Reynolds Alberta Museum, Wetaskiwin, Alberta, where it will be designated 'The Keith Haddock Collection'.]

As I progressed through my education stages of high school and Sheffield Hallam University, I gained a degree in civil engineering. The four-year engineering course was a 'Co-Op' type which gave me the opportunity to be employed on construction sites during the summer period of each year.

I also took every opportunity to visit surface coal mines throughout England, Scotland and Wales, taking photographs and recording information. The Ruston-Bucyrus name was well represented on most of these sites, particularly the 110-RB, 120-RB, 150-RB shovels and 5-W walking dragline. In addition, some of the larger companies such as Sir Lindsey Parkinson, George Wimpey and Derek Crouch imported several Bucyrus-Erie machines not made at Lincoln, including 88-B, 190-B, and 1550-W. It's interesting to note that, in the case of certain models, more were built at Lincoln than in America. Two examples are: 10-B American-built 2,428, British-built 7,625. 22-B American-built 8,828, British-built 10,245.

My visits in the U.K. included Maesgwyn surface coal mine in south Wales where a British-built Rapier W1800 walking dragline began work in 1961. With its 40-yard bucket, it claimed title as the world's largest walking dragline at that time. But it held this title only for three years when, in 1964, Marion Power Shovel launched its model 8800 dragline with a bucket rated at 85 cubic yards. With a large population of Rapier walking draglines working in the U.K. and India, Bucyrus International purchased the manufacturing rights of Rapier draglines in 1987. A decade later, in 1997, Bucyrus also took over the Marion Company (Then known as Dresser Marion).

In June 1966, as a junior engineer, I began nine years employment with Tarmac Construction in the U.K. I worked on construction of sections of the M1 and M6 motorways, and also a period in the company's corporate office in Wolverhampton. In June 1971 I was promoted

to earthmoving agent (superintendent) in Tarmac's newly-formed earthmoving division. Here I managed the earthmoving on several different projects including a tank farm for North Sea oil in Scotland, motorways in Scotland and north east England, and two reclamation projects in north west England.

At the end of 1974, I emigrated to Canada where I started as project engineer for Luscar Ltd. based in Edmonton, Alberta. Here I worked on the planning of the Coal Valley Mine located in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains. The mine began production in 1978 with a long-term contract to supply Ontario Hydro with 2.4 million tons of coal per year. Coal was shipped by rail on an upgraded railway to connect with the main line across Canada. Luscar Ltd. also operated surface coal mines in central Alberta and in southern Saskatchewan.

A variety of equipment was purchased by Luscar for the Coal Valley mine. One machine that stands out in my memory was a Bucyrus-Erie 190-B shovel that was originally imported into the U.K. by G. Wimpey & Co. and which I had previously seen in operation in south Wales! Here it was beginning a second life in Alberta, Canada, just like I had done myself a few years earlier.

In 1981 I was promoted to Engineering Manager at the Coal Valley mine. Then in 1984 I moved to Forestburg, Alberta, to become Engineering Manager of the new Paintearth Coal Mine (Named by myself). This mine eventually took over the adjacent Vesta mine to provide up to 3.0 million tons of coal per year to the adjacent 750-Megawatt Battle River Generating Station. Bucyrus-Erie 1570-W and Marion 8200 draglines were the key components of overburden removal here.

In 1995, when the upgraded Sheerness coal mine near Hanna, Alberta, opened to supply the adjacent Sheerness Generating Station, I became Engineering Manager to both Sheerness and Paintearth Mines, frequently travelling between the two. The main digging machine at Sheerness was a Bucyrus-Erie 1300-W purchased second hand from ALCOA in Arkansas where it operated with a 325-foot boom and 30-yard bucket. With shallower overburden at Sheerness, we shortened the boom to 260 feet which allowed us to operate

with a 46-yard bucket. Much Bucyrus technical involvement was necessary for this major design change.

Throughout my career in earthmoving and surface mining, I was always impressed with the service we received from Bucyrus International and former Bucyrus-Erie Company. Bucyrus senior management personnel would often visit our operations to answer questions, solve problems or just to keep in touch. It didn't matter whether we were in the market for a new machine or not, Bucyrus personnel would continue to call on us to make sure all was running well.



This is the Bucyrus-Erie 190-B shovel that began life in south Wales for G. Wimpey and followed Keith to Canada to work for Luscar Ltd. at the Coal Valley Mine in Alberta.

Sometimes a problem would be solved with a phone call to South Milwaukee. Unlike most other equipment suppliers, you could actually speak to the engineer who designed the machine!

In 1999, I retired from Luscar Ltd. to work on my own as a writer and earthmoving consultant. Since then, I have written 11 books on earthmoving and surface mining equipment, including two on Bucyrus. One of these commemorated the 125th anniversary of Bucyrus in 2005. An earlier book celebrated Marion's 100th anniversary in 1984. I also assisted with, or took part in six TV shows on the History, Learning and



This Bucyrus-Erie 1300-W originally worked for ALCOA in Arkansas with 325-foot boom and 30-yard bucket. In 1994 it was moved to Luscar Ltd.'s Sheerness Mine with shortened boom to accommodate a 46-yard bucket.

Discovery channels. From my childhood days through my working career, Bucyrus-Erie has been and will always be a part of my life.

About the Author: Keith Haddock, P.Eng. is an expert authority on earthmoving equipment after a 35-year career in the earthmoving and surface mining industries. In 1985, he co-founded the Historical Construction Equipment Association based in Bowling Green, Ohio, where for seven years he edited their house magazine "Equipment Echoes". He is a Fellow of the Canadian Institute of Mining and is a registered Professional Engineer in Alberta, Canada. Since retiring from Luscar in 1998 Keith has been a full-time author and freelance writer on heavy equipment and is known for his TV appearances on the History, Discovery and Learning Channels.



This Bucyrus-Erie 1570-W, along with a Marion 8200, were the two draglines that handled most of the overburden at the Paintearth Mine until closure in 2021.

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Dave Kieck, Vice-President
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414.617.2796

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Bill Haag, Bob Jelinek, Cindy Nettles,
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Bob Jelinek

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Ken Tangen
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www.beoldtimers.org

Alumni Newsletter & Correspondence

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

SCHEDULED LUNCHEON SPEAKERS

MARCH 26th: Did you know that the Quarter Century Club will be celebrating its 101st year Anniversary? Bob Jelinek will be giving an informative presentation about this Club.

APRIL 30th: Who doesn't love BINGO..with prizes? That's what we have scheduled for April. Maybe you'll be a lucky winner!!

MAY 28th: Marcia Wayer, Marketing & Public Relations Director, City of Oak Creek will be our May's guest speaker. Find out what's new and currently happening in our neighboring City of Oak Creek.

JUNE 25th (picnic): So. Milw. Human Concerns Fundraiser—our yearly event to help out the SM community. More information in the Summer Newsletter.

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Bucyrus Oldtimers Golf Independent Event – JUNE 4th, 2026

The 9th annual Oldtimers Golf Outing, or “**BOGIE**”, will be held on Thursday, **June 4, 2026** 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, buffet luncheon, beer, soda, individual hole, and door prizes. Singles, twosomes, threesomes, foursomes 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 18th, 2026**. 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 18th**.



“**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 4th, 2026**

Check here if lunch only

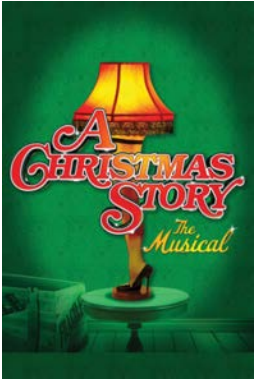
1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

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



FIRESIDE THEATER'S "A CHRISTMAS STORY"
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2026

Ralphie wants only one thing for Christmas: An Official Red Ryder Carbine-Action 200-shot Range Model Air Rifle. "A Christmas Story The Musical" is the hilarious account of Ralphie's desperate quest to ensure that this most perfect gift ends up under his tree. Based on the classic 1983 movie, the musical features a funny and heartfelt score by Benj Pasek and Justin Paul who wrote music for the hit movies "La La Land" and "The Greatest Showman" and the hit Broadway show "Dear Evan Hanson". "A Christmas Story The Musical" captures holiday wonder with such deliciously wicked wit that it is sure to delight children and grown-ups alike!

MAKE YOUR RESERVATION EARLY! There are only 52 seats available for members of the Bucyrus Oldtimers Association (limit 4 tickets). Should there be any remaining seats available after June 1st, they will be offered to other non-member family & friends of our alumni.

We will not be stopping at the Jones Dairy Farm Store this year due to time constraints. We will depart at the same time which will allow additional time to browse and shop the Fireside Theater Gift Shops.

DATE: FRIDAY, November 20, 2026

COST: \$75.00 per person. Gratuities are included for the meal and the bus driver. Does not include alcoholic Beverages. Payment in full is due at time of reservation.

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: Chicken Parmesan (Boneless Chicken Breast pressed with Seasoned Breadcrumbs, served on a bed of Fettuccini Noddles, topped with Italian Tomato Sauce) Grilled Salmon (6 oz. filet served with a Creamy Dill Sauce), Sliced Roast Beef Tenderloin (Carved Medallions with a Béarnaise Sauce) or Vegetarian Puff Pastry Pot Pie (A variety of Seasonal Vegetables, Fresh Herbs, Potatoes, Onions, Peas & Carrots, stuffed in a purse of Puff Pastry served with a Hearty Vegetable Reduction Sauce)

Please send your reservations and payment to:

Bucyrus® Oldtimers Association UA
"A Christmas Story" Reservations
P.O. Box 563
Oak Creek, WI 53154-0564

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

RESERVATION FORM FOR "A CHRISTMAS STORY" - FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2026
(Please make checks payable to Bucyrus® Oldtimers Association UA)

Total Number of Tickets: 1, 2, 3, 4 (Circle one)

<u>NAME</u> (PRINT & list contact person's name 1st)	<u>ADDRESS:</u>	<u>MENU CHOICE:</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Contact person's Phone Number (home) _____ (cell) _____
Contact person's email address (used for updating information only) _____
Special Dietary Needs (if yes, explain): No Yes _____

Are you interested in additional tickets after June 1st? Yes No



Oldtimers Association Turns 101 Years Old

In the early decades of the 20th century, Bucyrus was rapidly expanding, innovating, and establishing itself as a world leader in heavy industrial manufacturing. The Panama Canal project had placed the Bucyrus name on top as a global leader of heavy equipment. Yet even as the company grew, its leadership recognized that its greatest strength lay not in its machines, but in its people. In 1925 president William Coleman authorized the creation of a new organization dedicated to honoring long-serving employees to reward their loyalty. What began as a simple gesture of appreciation soon evolved into one of the most enduring traditions in Bucyrus history: the Quarter Century Club.

The Birth of a Tradition

On February 16, 1925, the Quarter Century Club (QCC) was officially formed in South Milwaukee. Its headquarters, fittingly, were located in the Bucyrus Club—a gathering place that would become synonymous with camaraderie, celebration, and shared history. Membership was exclusive, reserved for employees who had dedicated twenty five years or more to the company.

The club met several times a year, most often for dinner at the Bucyrus Club. These gatherings were more

than social events; they served as an important bridge between employees and management. As Bucyrus expanded, these informal conversations helped maintain a sense of unity and open communication across the organization. The idea proved so successful that it spread beyond South Milwaukee to the other plants.

A Growing Network of Clubs

As the Quarter Century Club model resonated in South Milwaukee, across the Atlantic, the tradition also took root: Ruston Bucyrus Ltd. in Lincoln, England launched its own QCC in 1930, initiating the global reach of the Bucyrus culture. Then in April of 1938 the Erie, Pennsylvania plant established a chapter, followed by Evansville, Indiana in 1945. The Chicago plant—formerly Monighan Dragline—formed its club in December 1949.

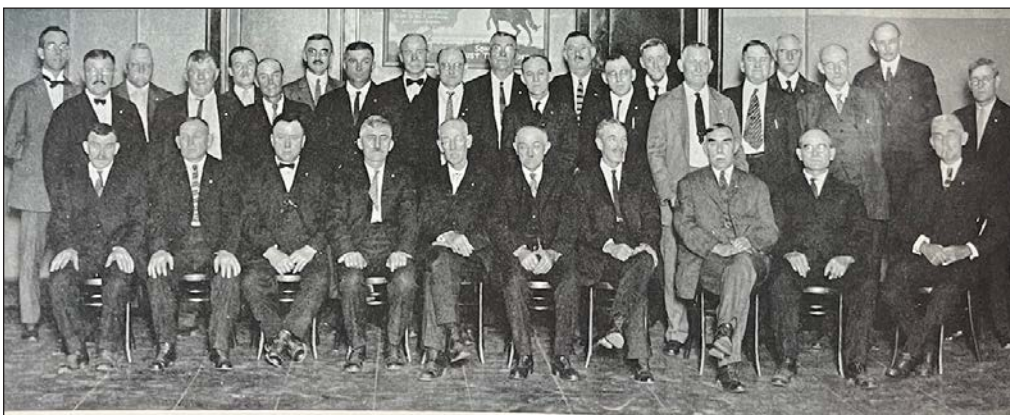
An early glimpse into the club's spirit comes from a December 1926 issue of SCOOP magazine, which described a gathering of forty two members at the Bucyrus Club. Fourteen additional members were unable to attend, indicating a total membership of fifty six. The article noted that while this number might seem small compared to the more than 2,000 employees then on the payroll, it represented a remarkable testament to loyalty. Twenty five years earlier, the company employed only

300 to 350 people—meaning that more than one sixth of that early workforce was still with Bucyrus a quarter century later.

Expanding Recognition: The Service Association

As the company continued to grow, so did the desire to recognize employees at earlier milestones. In 1934, the original Quarter Century Club became part of a broader organization known as the Service Association. This new structure included clubs for employees with 5, 10, 15, and 20 years of service, culminating in the prestigious Quarter Century Club.

The Service Association helped foster a culture of appreciation and continuity, ensuring that employ-



First Quarter Century Club

FOUNDED FEBRUARY 1925

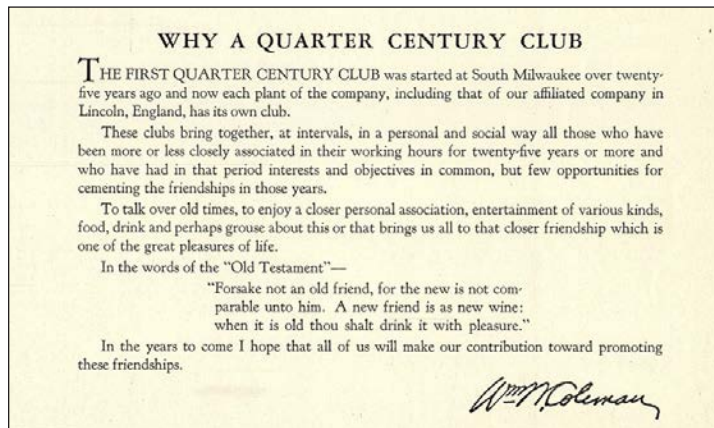
FRONT ROW, FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Mike Hoffa, John Radomski, Max Dinkelman, Jacob Schwartz, Henry Peak, W. Jansen, Ed Margetts, James Millard, Fred Wolff, John P. Cummings.
SECOND ROW, STANDING: Basil Jankowski, Chas. Friedhoff, Nels Pearson, John Jobst, Phil Knoll, Bill Knoll, Chas. Paterson, George Wilms, Ed Laufenberg, Clayton Wisner, George Swanson, Bill Lawler, Peter Hammel, Art Tommer, Richard Moore, Marion Gladfelter, W. H. T. McClellan, A. J. Schubring, N. E. Trabeau, E. K. Swigart, and Otto Dinkelman.

The Original "Oldtimers" Group from 101 years ago



ees felt valued throughout their careers—not only upon reaching the 25 year mark.

Upon the 25th anniversary of the Quarter Century Club, President William Coleman penned this message to all the members of the various Service Clubs:



the B-E Quarter Century Club and Old-Timers totaled 1,357 members, 695 of whom were still active employees. Fifty had served more than forty years. That same year the annual report noted that more than 2,200 retired employees and beneficiaries were receiving pension benefits worldwide—a reflection of the company's long-standing commitment to its people.



The Old Timers Association: Honoring Retirees

With the Quarter Century Club expanding, Bucyrus created another group to honor those who had retired after 25 or more years of service: the Old Timers Association. This organization provided retirees with a dedicated space at the Bucyrus Club in South Milwaukee, where they could gather to play cards, share stories, read, and enjoy cigars in a relaxed, private setting. The company continued to subsidize the group's activities, reinforcing its commitment to employees long after their working years had ended.

One memorable moment in the Old Timers' history occurred on September 3, 1954, when William Coleman presented the group with a grandfather clock that he personally purchased as a token of appreciation. Speaking with humor and warmth, he remarked that the clock would not only beautify their club room but also remind them of the time of day—especially since, as he joked, "Many of us have bosses at home and they expect us to return at certain hours." That clock lives on and still chimes every 15 minutes in the Bucyrus Museum's Welcome Center.

A Culture of Commitment

By 1968, Bucyrus was celebrating the 40th anniversary of its merger with the Erie Steam Shovel Company. This milestone year highlighted the extraordinary dedication of its workforce. More than 700 active employees were members of the Quarter Century Club—representing roughly 20 percent of the entire company. Even more impressive, eighty six employees had surpassed forty years of service. Their careers stood as powerful examples of loyalty, craftsmanship, and pride in the Bucyrus name.

Membership continued to grow. By the end of 1981,

The Final Decades

The mid-1980s brought significant changes. The closure of the South Milwaukee Foundry, Erie and Evansville plants, and reductions in the workforce in 1984 led to the consolidation of Quarter Century Club activities. Erie and Evansville chapters were discontinued with the sale of those plants, and the South Milwaukee club reduced its meetings to once per year. The Old Timers Association, faced funding challenges but continued its mission for another decade, finally concluding its long run as a Bucyrus Club resident in 1994 when the club building was sold. But by then, it had touched thousands of lives and created a legacy of recognition that remains an important part of Bucyrus history.

A Legacy Worth Remembering

The remaining employees took control of the organization and received some resource support (with minimal financial aid) from the company until Caterpillar purchased Bucyrus in 2011. Cat continued to provide some token resource support, but abandoned any help for former Bucyrus employees in 2016.

The Quarter Century Club was more than a social organization. It was a symbol of mutual respect between the company and its employees—a recognition that the success of Bucyrus was built on the dedication of the men and women who devoted their careers to it.

Today, The Bucyrus Oldtimers Association UA continues this nearly 101 year tradition of camaraderie with more than 650 members worldwide. We not only honor the original Quarter Century Club and Old-Timers, but the generations of our co-workers whose commitment to Bucyrus shaped the company's identity. Their stories remind us that loyalty, craftsmanship, and community are values worth preserving, celebrating, and passing on.



Presidential Footprints in Bucyrus

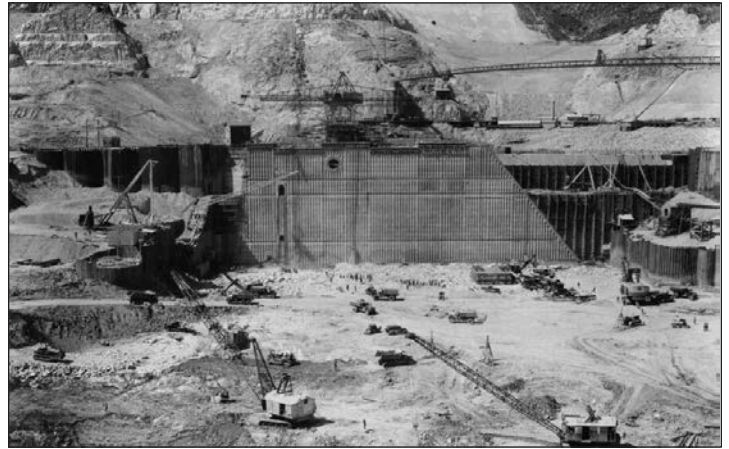
Bucyrus has always punched above its weight class, and nowhere is that clearer than in its surprising long-time ties to various U.S. Presidents. From iconic photographs on the Panama Canal to modern speeches on American manufacturing, Presidents have crossed paths with Bucyrus in ways that still echo today. In February we celebrate our Presidents, so it seems like an appropriate time to recap some of the many links we've had with the White House.

One of the most vivid connections comes from Teddy Roosevelt. In November 1906, during his inspection of the Panama Canal, Roosevelt famously climbed onto and sat on a Bucyrus steam shovel at the Culebra Cut. The image of the first US President to leave the country while in office perched on a massive Bucyrus machine became a symbol of American grit, engineering, and determination. Bucyrus had supplied 77 of the 102 steam shovels used on the canal, and Roosevelt's visit turned that machinery into a backdrop for one of the most enduring photographs of the Progressive Era—linking the company directly to a defining moment in U.S. and world infrastructure history.



Teddy Roosevelt on a Bucyrus Steam Shovel - 1906

As the 20th century unfolded, Bucyrus Erie emerged as a heavyweight in earthmoving equipment, and presidents took notice. During Franklin D. Roosevelt's administration, Bucyrus Erie shovels, Bulldozers, cranes, and draglines were central to New Deal era public works projects. From dams to large scale earthmoving, the company's machines helped turn federal policy into concrete (and steel) reality. FDR may not have visited Bucyrus in person, but his programs fueled demand for the kind of large scale equipment Bucyrus Erie excelled at building.



Grand Coulee Dam construction - 1937

In Harry S. Truman's time, Bucyrus Erie's wartime and postwar contributions stood out. The company's equipment supported U.S. military logistics in Europe and the Pacific theaters, and were instrumental in post-war reconstruction efforts. Truman's broader emphasis on American industry and labor resonated strongly in manufacturing communities like those where the three Bucyrus Erie plants operated. Bucyrus-Erie was even mentioned in his famous "whistle stop" style of campaigning from the back of trains across the Midwest. He often highlighted the importance of industrial workers and companies who built the machines that powered the nation.

Under Dwight D. Eisenhower, Bucyrus Erie's fingerprints appeared again—this time on the construction of our Interstate Highway System. Massive earthmoving projects required exactly the kind of heavy machinery we produced. While the connection was more infrastructural related than personal, Bucyrus Erie's role in carving out roadbeds and moving millions of cubic yards of earth tied the company to one of the most transformative domestic initiatives of the 20th century.

Fast forward to the 21st century, when Barack Obama brought the story full circle. In 2010, he hosted a town-



hall in Racine, Wisconsin, spotlighting the company as an example of advanced American manufacturing and export strength. Obama's visit was accompanied by good news for USW local 1343 at Bucyrus International in nearby South Milwaukee, who had come in mass to the event to persuade Obama to make a change in policy affecting hundreds of jobs. Our message to the White House evidently succeeded, with the federal Export-Import Bank reversing its initial decision to turn down a \$600 million in loan guarantees for the building of a coal-fired power plant in India. His remarks underscored how companies like Bucyrus International sustain good jobs at home while competing for machinery contracts on the global stage.

From Theodore Roosevelt sitting on a Bucyrus steam shovel in Panama to modern presidents' engagement with our products and jobs on the factory floor, the story of Bucyrus, Bucyrus Erie, and Bucyrus International has been woven into the broader narrative of American



Obama speaking at the Racine Town Hall meeting - 2010

leadership, infrastructure, innovation, and global presence—proof that our company and the community of our worldwide co-workers left their marks that reach all the way to the presidency.

The Story of Bucyrus Erie Blvd.



If you've ever driven through North Las Vegas, Nevada and stumbled upon Bucyrus Erie Blvd., you're not alone in wondering how a very short road in the Mojave Desert ended up sharing a name with our

company. As it turns out, this quarter mile stretch between East Colton Avenue and East Cheyenne Avenue carries a small but charming slice of personal history.

The street first appeared around 1979, during a period of steady residential and commercial development in the area. Its developer, William Edward Hoppe, had recently relocated from Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Hoppe chose the name as a nod to his roots, bringing a unique touch of Milwaukee's industrial legacy to the Nevada desert.

Bucyrus Erie Blvd stands as a reminder of how personal connections and hometown

pride often shape the character of growing cities. We recently acquired a street sign with that name that is now hanging in 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.

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: bucyrusmuseum@gmail.com

Board of Directors: Bob Jelinek-Chairman, Gerry Miller-Treasurer, Mike McKean-Secretary, Bill Zolandz, David Austin, Mike Haws



"A BIG THANK YOU"

TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Eduardo Barrera
Julia Dekker
John Hittman
Andrzej Karpowicz
Tom Nelson
Scott Streich



In Loving Memory

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

Luis Veltze - October 27, 2025
James C. Jaycox Sr. - December 31, 2025
Albert P. Vance - January 3, 2026
Walter C. Prodoehl - January 7, 2026
Cara R. Rogers - February 3, 2026
Carol Spencer - February 5, 2026
Shockey T. Shoman - February 12, 2026
Donald E. Gray - February 15, 2026
Lawrence D. "Larry" Larson - February 21, 2026

2026

LUNCHEONS & EVENTS

The Bucyrus Club & Event Center
1919 12th Avenue, South Milwaukee
(For Reservations call or text Pat Merkovich at
(414) 617-2796, Cindy Zastrow (414) 640-4813 or
email oldtimers.newsletter@gmail.com)

Luncheon Cost \$15.00/person (Cash or checks only)
Opens 11:30 a.m. • Food served at 12 noon

March 26 • April 30
May 28 • June 25 (Picnic) • September 24
October 29 • BOGIE - June 4
Fireside's "A Christmas Story" - November 20
Christmas Gala - December 10

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