



# THE MELTMINDER

A PUBLICATION BY THE BENTON FOUNDRY, INC.

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Web Site: <http://www.bentonfoundry.com>

## Benton Foundry 2010 Annual Picnic at Knoebel's Grove

The Foundry's annual event was held on August 14. As usual, the people at Knoebel's Grove prepared some great food and had the park in tip-top shape. The weather turned out warm and sunny and added to everyone's delight.

Thanks to the following Benton Foundry vendors that donated prizes: Inductotherm Corporation, Central Penn Oil, Friedman Electric, Smith & Richardson, Inc., American Paper & Supply, Inc., Airgas Safety, The Central Hotel, Nivert Metal Supply, Steve Shannon Tire Center, Woodruff Corp., Airgas East, I.D.G. Industrial, Fastenal, Applied Industrial Technologies, Ashland, Inc., IFS Industries, The Asbury Graphite Mills, Inc., & American Colloid Company. A special thanks to Annette Brown who spends much time throughout the year ensuring this event is successful. (More pictures on pp. 6-8).



## Congratulations Employees of the Quarter



### Bob Green - 1st. Shift

Congratulations to Bob Green, Benton Foundry's 1st shift Employee of the Quarter. Bob has worked at the Foundry for 38 years. He is a stalwart of the first shift melt department and many people have benefited from his training over the years.

Bob received a certificate of merit and a paid personal day.

### Mike Mengine - 2nd. Shift

Congratulations to Mike Mengine, Benton Foundry's 2nd shift Employee of the Quarter. Mike has worked at the Foundry for the past 5 years. Mike currently works in our molding department. Mike has recently married. He and Caroline live in Benton.

Ed has received a certificate of merit and a paid personal day.



**Congratulations** also to those who were nominated: Pete Gowin, Jr., Mirian Magorga, Brian Mohr, Ed Whitmoyer, Stuart Wolfe, Dave McLucas, Chris Betz, Tony Dubravski, Ray Katz, Tom Toporcer and Lonnie Bailey.

## Working Safely with Chemicals

When at work (or at home) we use chemicals daily. Some common-sense practices can prevent any problems while using these materials. Some are: assume all chemicals are hazardous, store chemicals away from food or drinks, store flammable materials in approved, secure containers, dispose of used material in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations (not down sinks or sewer drains), practice good housekeeping at all times.

In industry, the hazard communication standard addresses chemical use and can be summed up in two phrases: labeling and MSD sheets. Labeling simply means that every product container used in the workplace must be labeled so any user immediately knows what chemical is present in that container. Secondary containers must also be appropriately labeled. MSD sheets refer to the data provided by the manufacturer that consists of item-specific information. Some information in an MSD sheet is first-aid, spill response procedures, PPE required to be used when handling that item, storage requirements and physical data such as the flash point. The purpose is to ensure that people using chemicals are educated and can use the products safely and in accordance with the manufacturers' design.

Put "common sense" to work whenever you use any chemical and make safety part of every day.

## Fall 2010 Birthdays

October	November	December
Steele, S.	Gower, B.	Provine, K.
Bartlow Sr., P	McHenry, A.	Eckroth, E.
Moore, M.	Higley, D.	Bonath, B.
Lewis, G.	Beck, L.	Quick, B.
Katz, R.	Leljedal, D.	Grenewich, J.
Thoen, D.	Crawford, G.	Green, W.
Edkin, T.	Freed, M.	Burleigh, S.
McDonough,M.	Betz, C.	Farver, G.
Fritz, B.	Rankin, C.	Brown, S.
Long, R.	McDonald, M	Newman, W.
Schumacher,AF	Fritz, S.	Mohr, M.
Reyes, R.	Whitmire, T.	Remley, D.
Castruita, M.	Moore, T.	Bell, J.
Rita-Mills, J	Gowin, P.	Adams, B.
Wilson, R.	Lemelin, E.	Winn, M.

## Happy Retirements



**Charlie Hamilton** recently retired. Charlie worked at the Foundry since 1974 and has been a fixture in the pattern shop. He has served Benton Foundry well on the many special projects he's completed over the years. Charlie's planning to expand his interest in auctions and is hoping to make more use out of his auctioneers' license. We wish you a long, healthy retirement.

## Well Done

**Job well done to** - For all those working in the following areas that achieved scores above 90% on the latest 5-S audit: Core Assembly, Disa 1, 10C2, Welding Area and Cleaners.

## Need

### \$150.00?

#### Company Referral Plan

Refer a potential employee to Lou  
(before they come in)

If hired, after  
6 months of employment  
You get \$150.00



**Joe Grenewich** retired in July. Joe worked at the Foundry since 1973. He worked in the melt department and has used his experience to train many pourers. Joe can still be found in the shop a few days/week. He prefers to keep busy in his retirement and works his part-time work around his hunting and fishing schedule. We wish you a long, healthy retirement .

**“The Wisdom Well”**  
**Anger is the only thing to**  
**put off till tomorrow.**

**- Slovakian Proverb**

The Benton Foundry Newsletter is written for the purpose of keeping employees updated on the events surrounding the happenings at Benton Foundry. The intent is to inform and to a certain degree entertain. The foundry in no fashion wishes to demean or embarrass. If anyone has been offended by this publication, please accept our apology. We will be diligent in an attempt to avoid any situations. We hope you enjoy the newsletter and are happy to hear any recommendations to improve it.

## What's New at Benton Foundry



**Mike Mohr** (to the left) is shown with the Kenworth (1999 T2000) he has driven for the past 11 years. Although it still looks new, Mike has put over 1,300,000 miles on it.

Since Fritz hired Mike in 1976, Mike - has driven over 4,250,000 miles for Benton Foundry. He currently travels through 22 states.

The image (to the right) shows Mike with the new Kenworth (T700). This brand-new vehicle was put into service on October 8, 2010.

One benefit of the new Kenworth is an increase in fuel efficiency estimated to provide annual fuel cost savings in excess of \$17,000.

In addition to the recognition Mike has earned from Benton Foundry over the years, he also received Mack Trucks million mile award. We look forward to many more miles/years with Mike and the Kenworth.



## Another Birthday !



**Fritz Hall** recently celebrated a birthday here at the plant. Shown above are some of the staff showing off their decorating skills in Fritz's office. (Thanks, Sue for the hats.)

## Social Security Options

- from [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov)

### What is the best option for you?

Everyone's situation is different. That is why Social Security has created several retirement planners to help you decide what would be best for you and your family. Social Security has a new online calculator that can provide immediate and accurate retirement benefit estimates to help you plan for your retirement.

The online Retirement Estimator is a convenient, secure and quick financial planning tool. It uses your own earning record information, thereby eliminating any need to manually key in years of earnings information. The estimator also will let you create "what if" scenarios. You can, for example, change your "stop work" date or expected future earning to create and compare different retirement options. To use the Retirement Estimator, go to the website at [www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator).

## PA Game Commission News

- from Times-Leader

**Urban bears & wildlife habitat** were on the agenda during a recent meeting of the Pennsylvania Game Commission in Wilkes-Barre.

### Black Bear Study

In May, PGC black bear biologist Mark Ternent launched a three-year study to learn more about the travel patterns of bears living in urban and suburban environments. Wildlife Conservation Officers trapped bears in three different regions, including the northeast, and they were fitted with GPS collars so their movements can be monitored.

- ◆ 21 bears were captured & collared in the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton area
- ◆ 11 bears were collared in the State College area
- ◆ 9 bears were collared in the Johnstown area
- ◆ 22,000 locations collected so far
- ◆ 9 collars fell off male bears
- ◆ 5 collars malfunctioned
- ◆ 3 bears were killed by vehicles (2 in the northeast)

Of the 21 bears fitted with collars in the northeast, one originally trapped in Avoca traveled more than 300 miles from May 22 to Sept. 23.

Mr. Ternent said they've weighed nearly 60,000 bears statewide and 8 were in the 800-pound range. All of those 800+ pounders were from the Poconos. He stated that Pennsylvania continues to have the highest reproductive rates and there's not another state close to the number of bear hunters Pennsylvania has.

### Wildlife Habitat

The PGC manages more than 1.4 million acres of State Game Lands on nearly 300 separate tracts throughout the state. 369,000 of SGL's in the northeast region include:

- ◆ 8 shooting ranges
- ◆ 594 miles of roads
- ◆ 3,781 acres of herbaceous openings
- ◆ 31 Food and Cover employees

This year the agency conducted controlled burns on 140 acres on game lands in the northeast with another 163 acres scheduled to be burned this Fall.

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