



3rd Quarter 2021

THE MELTMINDER

A PUBLICATION BY BENTON FOUNDRY, INC.

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

Congratulations - Employees of the Quarter



Congratulations to **David Yoder** (above), Benton Foundry's 1st shift Employee of the Quarter. Dave works in our Melt Department as a Furnace Operator. He has been employed since May of 2019. Dave lives in Benton with his girlfriend Chelsea and their two children. They recently had a baby girl, Ellie and they have a son Logan. Dave's little ones keep him busy when he is not at work. Dave was nominated for this honor as he always applies himself in multiple roles throughout the melt department. ***Congratulations!***

Congratulations to **Cody Bown** (below), Benton Foundry's 2nd shift Employee of the Quarter. Cody works in our Grinding Room and he is training to be a programmer for the automatic Foxall grinders. He has been employed since December of 2019. Cody lives in Dushore. He enjoys riding 4-wheelers, dirt bikes and working on cars in his spare time. Cody was nominated for this honor for his efficiency and his willingness to take on new responsibilities.

Great Job!



Annual Company Picnic at Knoebels

Benton Foundry held its 25th annual company picnic on Saturday, August 14th at Knoebels Grove. It was a perfect summer day with lots of sun and fun. We had a nice turnout, with 350 attending. There were lots of great prizes, many of which were donated. We enjoyed each others company, good food, games and rides. It was nice to be back at the park, since we were unable to have our picnic in 2020 due to the pandemic. A big **thank you to all** that participated in making this event possible.



Knoebels Picnic



Knoebels Picnic



Knoebels Picnic



Recycling

Foundries and recycling have gone hand in hand for over a hundred years. Benton takes scrap from steel punching operations, old railroad rail, and old automotive castings at approximately 10,000 tons per year. The copper we use for alloying is recycled copper wire similar to our tin. The carbon we use in the furnaces are byproducts of refineries in the form of petroleum coke. The following table shows a 5-year average of what Benton Foundry generates:

Daily Cover for Landfill (beneficial reuse)	6702	Ton/year
Garbage to landfill	60	Ton/year
Cardboard, plastic, other recycling	103	Ton/year
Hazardous Waste	526	Pounds/year

Looking at this from another perspective, over 99% of our waste materials are recycled.

Hazardous Waste

Hazardous waste is controlled tightly and specifically by (mostly federal) law. Nearly all of the hazardous waste we have generated over the years is directly related to paint. Waste paint, rags from cleaning up paint, paint chips from cleaning painting tables, and aerosol cans make up our typical hazardous waste collection. The fact that we have ended our onsite paint operations and spent aerosol cans have been reclassified as universal waste by federal law means our hazardous waste numbers will fall even further in the years to come. Our hazardous waste is currently handled by Safety-Kleen and is fuel blended for use in cement kilns when applicable or incinerated when necessary. This waste stream has a very detailed set of paperwork that follows it from cradle to grave.

Landfill Disposal

Less than one percent of our “waste” is bound for true landfill disposal. This material is almost exclusively the stuff in the dumpsters out back and is made up of cafeteria and office waste, packaging from raw materials, and spent filters – all under the category of plant trash. This material is taken by Shaffer’s Disposal to Lycoming County Landfill.

Combined Reuse

The remaining materials for which we no longer have a use are all reused in some manner. This is where the conversation gets more complex as a tremendous effort has gone into finding a beneficial reuse for everything we possibly can over the years. Also, in case you were wondering, internal recycling of cast iron pieces is not included in this list. We call this the “dream machine” and it generates several truck loads a year of usable iron.

Let us first take a look at true recycling operations.

Some things are easy to conceptualize like scrap steel from equipment repairs/maintenance, empty cans from the pattern shop, structural steel from building demolitions – all of these get bulked together and are taken by a scrap dealer to their scrap yard for proper sorting and handling. The 5-year average for this type of material exceeds 70 tons annually for which BFI is paid for recycling.

Additionally, items like plastic/glass bottles, corrugated cardboard, aluminum cans, and other recyclable plastics are taken by Shaffer’s Disposal to Lycoming County Resource Management who operate a large single-stream recycling outfit that is quite high-tech if you ever get the chance to see it. This comes to roughly 25 tons per year for these types of materials.

Two of the more unique recycling operations in which we participate address spent pallets/crates and shredded paper. As long as the scrap wood is not painted, we are allowed to give it away to foundry members or other people to burn in wood stoves. We manage to distribute about 26 tons per year of good hardwood in this manner. Additionally, those bags of shredded paper you sometimes see by the production office go to a local farmer to use as biodegradable animal bedding. We see a surprising 6 tons of material used this way each year. These materials would be easier to landfill, but it is more important to us to limit our landfill impact to the extent feasible. This material makes some cows very happy.

We have partnered with Wayne Twp. Landfill, who use our material as “alternative daily cover” at their landfill. Since our material is heavy and spreads so nicely it makes a perfect material to cover up everyone else’s trash in the landfill. Not only does it prevent other paper, plastic, etc. from blowing away, it also serves as a buffer material that mitigates the effects of acid rain and also conditions landfill leachate water so it is easier for the landfill to manage. These materials come out to a whopping 6600 tons per year. Without our material, the landfill would have to continuously excavate fresh soil to use for cover – not an easy job to do when the

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How to Block Annoying Spam Calls

If you have a mobile phone, there's a good chance you've received calls pitching a renewed warranty for your car, say, or warning you that you owe money to the IRS. By now, you're probably well aware that many of the calls are scams, and you avoid picking up if you don't recognize the number (a good move, because answering the call may indicate to a robocaller that your phone number is legitimate, resulting in more calls). Still, when your phone buzzes with them multiple times a day, it's just plain annoying.

Use your phone provider's tools. One step designed to cut down on robocalls: By June 30, the Federal Communications Commission is requiring that phone providers implement in a certain portion of their networks a technology called STIR/SHAKEN, through which the providers can verify whether a call truly derives from the number it claims. Robocallers often spoof legitimate phone numbers to make the calls appear authentic or to match your area code.

Check whether your provider offers other tools to mitigate

spam. The major carriers all have free services that block or flag suspicious calls: Call Protect from AT&T, Scam Shield from T-Mobile and Call Filter from Verizon. For a few bucks a month, each service offers the option to upgrade with extra features, such as advanced call-blocking capabilities.

Use apps or your phone's technology. There are third-party apps that blocks spam calls, such as Hiya (free for the basic Verizon; \$3.99 monthly or \$24.99 yearly for Premium), Nomorobo (\$1.99 per month for mobile devices; free for landlines) and RoboKiller \$6.99 monthly or \$39.99 annually). If you have an iPhone (iOS 13 or later), you can send calls from numbers that aren't in your list of contacts or recent calls directly to voice mail with the "Silence Unknown Callers" feature.

Another tip to reduce unwanted calls: Sign up for the National Do Not Call Registry (www.donotcall.gov), through which you can opt out of telemarketing calls. (But it won't stop scammers from contacting you.)

KipTip Kiplinger's Personal Finance 07/2021

Benton Foundry recently supported Patrick Lobos in his Eagle Scout project at his local fire company. Patrick is the son of our Quality Engineer Matt Lobos and his wife Caroline. Patrick is 15 years old and a sophomore at Southern Columbia High School. He also enjoys playing in the high school band as well as scouting. Patrick is looking forward to getting his driver's license.

We wish Patrick well in his future endeavors.



Recycling

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ground is frozen.

While the above items comprise the majority of materials by weight, they barely scrape the surface of our recycling complexity. They say the devil is in the details – here is some of the devil we manage:

State and federal law prevent us from landfilling any of the following materials so recycling options make the most sense. We use Safety-Kleen to recycle fluorescent and HID lamps along with parts washer solvent, waste oil, oily solids (spill cleanups), and electronic scrap. Batteries (alkaline, nickel-based, and lithium-based) are sent to a battery recycling firm called Battery Solutions.

As should be clear by now, getting rid of something in a place like this is not nearly as simple as tossing it in the trash to be handled like at your home. As always, if you are looking for more information on how something should be treated when no longer useful or what happens to certain items when they leave our site, you can ask Kevin Trychta.

Good Job

Congratulations to the following personnel for their efficiencies and helpfulness in the 3rd Quarter 2021.

Cody Bown - Highest Grinding Efficiency
Maria Higgins - Highest Core Operator Production
Mirian Magorga - Highest Assembly Production
Dave Straub - Lowest Auto Molding Scrap Rate
Chris Newhart - Highest Molding Operator Production
Core Room - Highest Overall Department Efficiency for the Quarter

A **thank you** goes out to **Ana Ponce Contreras** who generously travels outside of her job responsibilities, when needed to help with employee communication and actually takes the initiative to ensure that any needed follow-up happens as well. *This is greatly appreciated.*

Eric Malcein and **Andy Spencer** were added to the auditing team and they are doing a great job!

Thank you to **Shawn Nevel** for going to 2nd Shift and helping out.

Thank you goes out to the **Maintenance Department** for doing a good job moving the Quality/Inspection Area as part of our construction project.

Great Job and Keep Up the Good Work!

Condolences

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to the following families.

Our condolences to the family of Joe Gower Sr. Joe worked in our core room and was a supervisor on second shift for several years, prior to his retirement in 2005. He worked at the foundry for over 34 years.

Our condolences to Beth Ann Gough's family. Beth Ann worked in both our grinding room and core room over the years, retiring in 2012. She was employed at the foundry for over 38 years.

Our condolences to the family of George Morris. George worked in our Maintenance Department for 21 years from 1973 to 1994.

Our condolences also go out to the Bors-Koefoed family. Sophia Bors-Koefoed recently passed away. Her husband John was a pattern maker and an owner of KW Pattern in Belleville, New Jersey. From the pattern shop, you could see the New York City skyline. KW made all of the Garden Way and Taco patterns in the 1970's and early 1980's. John sold the pattern shop in the mid 1980's and retired. John and Sophia enjoyed spending time with family and friends, often while snow skiing near their home at Windham Mountain in New York. John and Sophia were very close friends for several decades.

Congratulations

Congratulations to John Harvey, Direct Sales for Benton Foundry. John covers the Midwest and recently completed several E-Learning courses through AFS. John was interviewed by AFS and is promoting the E-Learning courses offered by AFS. *Way to Go John!*

Congratulations to Brittan Kittle, son of Matt Kittle our first shift molding supervisor for playing in the MLB Draft Baseball League with the Williamsport Crosscutters. Also congratulations on his recent engagement to Emily Tripoli.

Trivia Question???

What was the first advertised toy?
 Answer will be in the 4th Quarter 2021

2nd Quarter Question & Answer:

What country has the most tornadoes by area?

England

Birthdays

November

Yesslan Barrientos
Gene Burkhart
Warden May
Aaron McHenry
Dustin Higley
Patrick Packer
Robert Feliciano
Mary Freed
Nick Shovelin
Mike McDonald
Steve Fritz
Ed Gill
Terry Whitmire
Peter Gowin

December

Meranda Weaver
Bill Simback
Gene Eckroth
Shane Eddinger
Billy Green
Tim Antoniello
Dave Buma
Ben Hatch
Maria Higgins
Greg Woodside
Noelle Myers-Saxe
Jeff Garrison
Donna Remley
Joe Tabor
Mike Mitchell
Paul Wakely

January

David Bonczek
Jason Karcher
Mirian Magorga
Rich Miscavage
Gabriel Keller
Aric Strauch
Mike Kimble
Ruben Nerio
Tim Miller
Teo Grigas
Lori McAndrew



Happy Birthday!



Oxymoron

I'll give you a definite maybe

\$ Want \$
\$500?

Company Referral Plan

Refer a Potential Employee to Lou
(Before They Come In)

If Hired,

After 90 days of Employment

You Get \$250.

After 6 months of Employment

You Get Another \$250.



Irony

Reddit/CLxJames

“The Wisdom Well”

“Any fool can know. The point is to understand.”

~ Albert Einstein

