



2nd Quarter 2025

THE MELTMINDER

A PUBLICATION BY BENTON FOUNDRY, INC.

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

Benton Foundry by Department: Phase 2

Our last newsletter covered the Administrative side of Benton Foundry. Phase 2 is focused on Pattern Engineering, Pattern Shop and Production Control.



Brock Smith

Our Tooling Engineer **Brock Smith** graduated from Penn College of Technology with a four-year bachelor's degree in computer-aided Product Design. Brock reviews all quotations; he also designs many of our jobs in SolidWorks. These models are then submitted to our pattern makers for the CNC machining of this tooling. These models include the tooling details required for setting up this equipment to run on our machines. Brock also operates our Magma software running trials in Magma parameters for solidification purposes. He is highly involved in these jobs from the quotation to sample approval. Brock is a fifteen-year employee, previously working in our pattern shop as the foreman.

Jason Karcher is our pattern shop foreman, and he graduated from Penn College. Jason has a bachelor's degree in Manufacturing Engineering Technology and an associate's degree in Automated Manufacturing. Jason oversees the set-up of all new jobs coming in from both our pattern makers and our customers. He makes sure these jobs are gated, rigged and ready for sampling. He also handles any items that require a gating change and/or adjustment, and any in-house changes to patterns or core boxes. The following is a list of personnel that work with Jason to accomplish this. Jason has worked at the foundry in various positions since 1996, including working in the melt department during the first part of his career.



Jason Karcher



Teo Grigas

Teo Grigas is our assistant pattern shop foreman, working with Jason to complete the above listed tasks. In addition to handling many other tasks including filling in for molders on the molding line through breaks or vacation as needed. Teo has a two-year associate's degree from Penn College of Applied Science in Engineering CAD Technology. Teo

has also worked in various positions since 1993. Teo refines jobs for efficiency by following the production of high scrap, low efficiency through all facets of robotic grinding. His insights from both his education and working in the foundry are invaluable. If he were a baseball player, he could play all the field positions.

Nathan Foust is a long-term employee working in the pattern shop for over 35 years. Prior to working in our pattern shop Nathan worked on our charging crew for the cupola. He moved to the pattern shop once we installed the first electric furnaces. Nathan had wood-working and mechanical experience from high school. He is a very talented, conscientious craftsman, and he has used his ingenuity to reverse-engineer many things over the years. He was featured in a recent newsletter for his ability to produce new legs for a vintage stove.



Nathan Foust & Dave Eveland

Dave Eveland is another long-term employee working in the pattern shop for over 38 years. Dave is also an amazing craftsman with both artistic and mechanical abilities. Dave enjoys auto-body as well and has restored several antique and vintage automobiles over the years. Both Dave and Nate are talented welders. They have worked on thousands of patterns over their careers and their talent and experience is invaluable.



Colin Jandrasitz has worked at the foundry since 2006 in various positions, previously assisting in the core room. He has attended several classes at Penn College. Colin works on setting up and rigging core boxes in the pattern shop. He is the primary operator for any CNC machining in the pattern shop.

Justin Boyer works in the pattern setup, previously working in our core room. He has worked at the foundry for several years.

(Continued on page 2)

Benton Foundry by Department: Phase 2 cont'd

(Continued from page 1)

Boane Berg started working in our maintenance department in 2021 refurbishing our air tools. He did a good job and then moved on to our pattern shop to learn various jobs there.

Joe Vanderlick, Jr. came to us with a construction background and is one of the newest members of our pattern shop team, learning various jobs.

John Andrews works between molding, automatic pattern set-up, and the pattern shop. John has been employed since 1995; he is a forklift driver and previously worked in our grinding room and on shakeout.



Tamara Mabus

Our Production Manager **Tamara Mabus** came to us from Fed-Ex. She was a long-time Fed-Ex employee filling various roles there. Tamara has a Paralegal associate's degree from Penn College, and she started at the foundry in 2022. Tamara completed a rotation throughout the foundry working in all the departments including the production office, before taking over for Aaron McHenry who moved on to the plant superintendent position. She oversees scheduling of prod-

uct from order acknowledgement to final shipment.

Theresa Kubasek has many years of experience, previously working in our core room. Theresa has worked in the production office for several years wearing a few hats, currently helping with the scheduling of outgoing shipments on both our trucks and common carriers,



Theresa Kubasek

along with the scheduling of backhauls.



Jim Lamoreaux

Jim Lamoreaux started at the foundry in 2023 working in the core room as a forklift operator. Jim was a truck driver prior to coming to work with us. Jim handles the core room scheduling and working with the scheduling of our outside subcontracted vendors.

The production office balances our production needs, schedules in a manner to be as efficient as possible while maintaining respectable lead times and on-time delivery in meeting the needs of the customer.

The next article will cover "Outside Sales."

STRING THEORY

The man who invented history's most iconic electric guitar couldn't play or even tune it. But when Clarence Leonidas "Leo" Fender's eponymous company released the Fender Stratocaster 70 years ago, it forever changed popular music.

Fender, born in 1909, began tinkering with radios as a teenager. After college, he built sound systems for a local dance hall in California and started his own company, Fender Radio Service. He also began working with musicians to amplify acoustic guitars, just as electrified sound was becoming the fashion at concerts. Primitive solid-body electric guitars had been around since the 1930s, but Fender envisioned a mass-produced, affordable model that would be easier to hold, tune and play. In 1950 Fender released his first guitar, the Esquire, and the following year rolled out his famous design for the Telecaster.

But it was the next design, released in 1954, that would establish Fender as one of the biggest names in guitars. He began designing the Stratocaster, a model that would improve on the Telecaster both electronically and aesthetically,

adding a third pickup - the gizmo that turns string vibrations into electrical impulses that can be amplified. This addition allowed players to generate a wider and richer sound palette (think Jimi Hendrix's incendiary performance

of the national anthem at Woodstock). Fender also designed a contoured body that was more balanced and comfortable to

play - and looked like something from the future. The Stratocaster "was really well designed, in some ways a decade ahead of its time," says Andy Leach, a senior director at the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. "It had a lot of design features that became industry standard. And it basically has not changed in 70 years, which shows what a genius Leo Fender was."

The Stratocaster also had timing on its side. It came out amid two other transformative innovations: television and rock 'n' roll. Sales picked up once Buddy Holly showcased a Strat on the "Ed Sullivan Show" in 1957. For the American and English kids who came of age in the '60s - Hendrix, Eric Clapton, David Gilmour, the electrified Bob Dylan at the Newport Folk Festival - the guitar's look was as groundbreaking as its sound. "Cool" depends more on appearance than on wiring, and the Strat's double-cut profile (producing two "wings" at the top) and sensuous body lines were mind-blowing. It looked, one early '60s British pop musician recalled, like "the equivalent of a bullet-finned '59 Cadillac."

Today, the Fender Strat continues to define the look and sound of rock 'n' roll. If you're a guitarist, you either own one or you desperately want one. For everyone else, whenever you're shredding an air guitar solo to "Free Bird" or "Layla," you're shredding a classic Strat.

~ SMITHSONIAN/Sept-Oct 2024



Years of Service

Benton Foundry has many long-standing employees. See below:

40 + years

Tim Brown
Tom Foust
Ed Whitmoyer
Nathan Foust

35 - 39 years

Jeff Hall
Dave Eveland
Albert Phillips
Mike Machuga
Donna Remley
Annette Brown
Rob Bowman
Scott Vandine
Lynn Sheatler

30-34 years

Sherry Steele
Bob Little
Eugene Eckroth
Teo Grigas
Matt Kittle
Mike Schumacher



25 - 29 years

Kenny O'Brecht
Ed Evans
John Andrews
Jason Karcher
Shawn Frey
David Travelpiece
Steve Lappan
Greg Vandine
Cheri Brown
Robert Houser
John Hospodar
Terry Whitmire
Debra Clocker
Peter Gowin
Aaron McHenry

20 - 24 years

Eric Piatt
Bo Boston
Della Norton
Tim Miller
Boyd Lore
Lynn Miller
Joe Timko
Adolfo Barrientos

15 - 19 years

Myriam Mayorga
Colin Jandrasitz
Michael McDonald
Ray Campbell
Steve Fritz
Ed Posluszny
Brock Smith

10 - 14 years

Frank Packer
Eugene Ryman
David Straub
Tom Vandine
Chris Newhart
Paul Simko
Greg Woodside
Ben Gonzalez
David Emmett
Randy Kadtko
Walt Lutcavage
Jeff Jones
Amanda Hartman
Marty Pelas
Eric Malcein
Billy Green

10 - 14 years cont'd

Tim Shepherd
Kevin Trychta
Mike Shultz
Matt Shultz
Mike Modla
Ed Gill
Chad Davis
Eugene Burkhardt
Chris Madl
Theresa Kubasek



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Adopt-A-Highway



In 2024, 23,000 volunteers belonging to 4,600 groups supported the collection of more than 39,000 bags of trash from Pennsylvania roadways through the PA Adopt-A-Highway (AAH) Program. Benton Foundry has participated in the AAH program for many years. Through the AAH program, volunteers collect litter on an approximately two-mile section of state roadway at least two times a year, typically the spring and fall. Roadways and other areas can be adopted by individuals or organized groups such as clubs, schools, churches, businesses, and families. In return for their participation, PennDOT posts signs along the roadway giving the volunteers credit for their efforts. Gloves, trash bags, and

safety vests for the cleanup campaign are provided. Interested groups and individuals can sign up for the Adopt-A-Highway program online.

~<https://www.pa.gov/agencies/pennDOT/>

**Keeping PA
Beautiful by
Miles of Two!**



Benton Foundry would like to thank the following employees for helping with the spring litter pick-up . . . Kevin Trychta, Albert Phillips, Della Norton, Francisco Rocha, Cynthia Newhart and Melida Vasquez.

KICKIN' YOUR BUTT

A single cigarette takes an average of 19.5 minutes off your life, according to a new health study. Researchers at University College of London determined women lose 22 minutes and men 17 minutes for every cigarette they smoke. But there is good news: Quitting at any age can make a difference in your lifespan. Giving up a 10-smokes-a-day habit **today** means that in 8 days, you can prevent losing a whole day of your life.

The research commissioned by the UK's Dept of Health and Social Care, offers a starker picture for smokers than before. Previous estimates were that each cigarette shaved 11 minutes off a lifetime. The new research indicates that smoking one pack of 20 cigarettes shortens a life by nearly 7 hours.

Even a single cigarette a day has a major impact. Smoking just once daily for 10 years can shorten a man's life by 2,050 minutes or 43 days. For women, life is shortened 80,300 minutes, or nearly 56 days. The math works out that quitting can buy back hours, days and even weeks of life.

**1 CIGARETTE =
20 minutes off life!**

The evidence suggests people lose, on average, around 20 minutes of life for each cigarette they smoke. The sooner a person stops smoking, the longer

they live. "Quitting at any age substantially improves health and the benefits start almost immediately," Sarah Jackson, principal research fellow, UCI Alcohol and Tobacco Research Group, said.

HURTS HEALTH & WALLET

Dr. Sarah Jarvis said smoking also contributes to health issues including heart disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes, dementia and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). And the authors of the study, which will be published in the Journal of Addiction, said this means not only a shortened life, but a shorter span of time with good quality of life.

"Thus smoking primarily eats into the relatively healthy middle

years rather than shortening the period at the end of life, which is often marked by chronic illness or disability. So a 60-year-old smoker will typically have the health profile of a 70-year-old nonsmoker," they said.

One 2022 study found that quitting smoking is as effective as taking heart attack prevention drugs for lowering heart disease risk.

In addition to impacting health, smoking also puts a big dent in your wallet: WalletHub's 2019 report "The Real Cost of Smoking by State Report" found that New Yorkers spend \$226,000 on tobacco products in a lifetime.

~Carly Stern
~New York Post, December 31, 2024



When you quit smoking, you'll start to feel the good changes right away. Here are some things you can look forward to:

- Food will start tasting better!
- Your sense of smell will come back!
- Your breath, hair, and clothes will smell fresher!
- Your teeth and fingernails will stop turning yellow!
- Everyday things like climbing stairs or doing light chores will get easier!

Benton Foundry in the Community

During the first half of 2025, Benton Foundry's community outreach included the following activities:

- Richard Kriebel and George Hasay Memorial Golf Tournament - Bronze Sponsor
- Benton Area School District - Benton Area Business Award Class of 2025 - Donor
- Boy Scout Troup 26 - Donation in Stuart Wolfe's memory
- Bloomsburg Area YMCA - Bronze Sponsor
- Benton Area Little League - Team Sponsor
- Semper K9 Assistance Dogs - Donor



Condolences



Stuart Wolfe retired from Benton Foundry in November 2024. He worked at the foundry for 30+ years. His job duties touched on a variety of departments including purchasing, payroll and IT. Stuart was from the Hughesville area. He leaves behind his wife Mary Megan and a son Coleman, who he was very proud of. Coleman interned at Benton Foundry in the environmental area and went to work at East Jordan Foundry in Michigan. Stuart was an avid sports fan. He loved Penn State, the Steelers and the Phillies. Stuart graduated from Lock Haven University, was a former Hughesville borough councilman, was active in his church and was involved in Boy Scouting for many years. He enjoyed

traveling, playing cards and family get-togethers. Stuart passed on April 7, 2025. His wry sense of humor will be missed. RIP Stuart!

Keep your face always
toward the sunshine,
and shadows will fall
behind you.

WALT WHITMAN



Water Safety

While shopping for a kid's swimsuit, you're probably most focused on finding a size that fits and a style they like - but there is a much more important detail you may not be giving enough attention to: the **COLOR** of your child's bathing suit. Bathing suit colors may be more important than you realize as they factor significantly into water safety. The underwater visibility of a swimsuit, and whether or not it can be immediately seen if your child goes underwater could save their life.

Alive Solutions, a company that specializes in aquatic safety, training, and risk assessment, tested 14 swimsuits in varying colors first in a pool and then in a lake and the results of the test may shock you. Most swimsuit colors virtually disappear or are not identifiable as a struggling child in only a mere 18 inches below the surface of the water. Visibility continues to decrease exponentially with any sort of water agitation, like in a moderately-active swimming pool or water park, or in a lake or ocean with any amount of wave activity.



They found certain colors can mean the difference of being able to immediately find your child should they disappear under the surface and, as we know, where potential drownings are concerned, those seconds saved could save a life. In open water, **bright, neon colors, including orange, yellow, and lime green**, fared best. As for open water, white suits were also cautioned against, as they appeared to be patches of cloud reflections. The post recommended that, no matter where you plan to swim, opt for bright and contrasting suit colors. Just like a brightly colored outfit can help you find your child in a crowd, Alive Solutions found that bright visibility was crucial to identifying a child in a body of water.

When possible, look for large chunks of color blocks or pair contrasting colors with different colored rash guards and swimsuit bottoms and trunks. For example, look for a bright orange rash guard and pair it with hot pink or day-glo yellow bottoms.

Drowning is the leading cause of unintentional injury-related accidental deaths in children ages 1 to 4: It's quick, it's quiet, and it can happen to anyone—even strong swimmers. The majority of drownings and near drownings occur in residential swimming pools and in open water sites.



But while proper dress will help improve your ability to spot a child in distress, Alive Solutions did caution that shouldn't be the only water safety measure you take. With child drownings linked to caregiver's distractions, including the use of cellphones, it's important to know that brightly colored clothes can't replace a lack of vigilance with supervision.



The group states: **"Remember...the bright and contrasting colors help visibility, but it doesn't matter what color your kids are wearing if you aren't supervising effectively and actively watching."**

~<https://www.reviewed.com/parenting/features/safest-colors-childrens-swimsuits>

Congratulations - Employees of the Quarter



Congratulations to **Theresa Kubasek** (above), Benton Foundry's 1st Shift Employee of the Quarter. Theresa has worked at the Foundry for over 10 years. She currently works in the Production Office and previously worked in the core room in assembly. Theresa is a diligent worker and she is doing a great job with her extra responsibilities. She was nominated for this honor by multiple supervisors and has received this award in the past. Theresa lives in Benton with her husband Al and their children. Her daughter, Isabella is also a Benton Foundry employee. Theresa enjoys being outside and spending time with her family when she isn't working.

Good Job!

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Congratulations to **Boyd Lore** (below), Benton Foundry's 2nd Shift Employee of the Quarter. Boyd has been employed at the Foundry for nearly 25 years. He works in our Melt Department as a Furnace Operator. Boyd is a dedicated and dependable worker. He was nominated by multiple supervisors and has received this award in the past. He lives in Benton with his wife Penny. His son, Boyd Jr. is also a Benton Foundry employee. Boyd enjoys hunting, fishing, camping and spending quality time with his wife and family when he is not at work.

Congratulations!

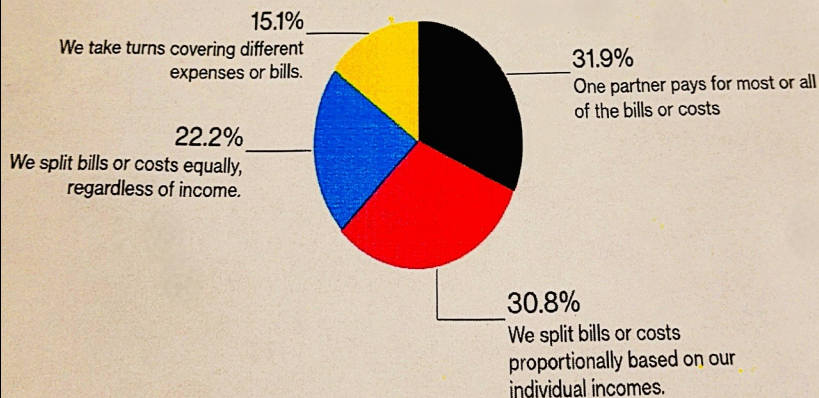


GOOD JOB

Who pays the bills?

How Couples Split Their Bills and Expenses

In roughly one-third of relationships one party primarily foots the bill



~Source: Self Financial

Note: January 2025 survey of 1,048 American adults

For some couples, money is treacherous territory. In close to one third of couples, one partner pays for most expenses while a slightly smaller share split everything proportionally, according to a survey conducted by *Self Financial*. The remaining respondents either split everything equally regardless of income or take turns covering different expenses. But that's not a key to happiness. Nearly half say their partner is creating a negative financial impact or that their partner was a bad influence on their spending and saving habits. A similar share said they would or would be more likely to, break up with their partner if it would have no financial impact, or in other words, they can't afford to break up. One-in-six say they have broken up with someone for financial reasons in the past.

~Alex Tanzi

Knoebels - 99 years of Fun, Food and Fantasy!

Knoebels Amusement Resort in Elysburg, PA is America's Largest Free Admission Amusement Park. Knoebels opened on July 4, 1926 and continues to be a hotspot for affordable family fun, featuring over 60 rides and attractions for people of all ages. Drop, spin, or splash your way around the park, take a dip in the Crystal Pool, then catch a live musical performance at the Hawaiian Bandshell. Taste the award-winning food (USA Today 10 Best, Amusement Today's Golden Ticket Awards and the National Amusement Park Historical Association!)

With eco-friendly practices across the park, they ensure fun and nature go hand in hand. They demonstrate their commitment to community through local partnerships, charitable activities, and educational outreach.



Take a ride on their 100-year-old carousel and try catching the brass ring. Every ride is guaranteed to have one brass ring with the winner receiving a **FREE RIDE**.



CRYSTAL POOL

900,000 gallons of liquid refreshment!

For the adventurous type, they have several roller coasters. Phoenix and Twister (both wooden), Impulse (steel coaster with a 98 foot drop), Flying Turns (wooden bobsled coaster), Black Diamond (steel indoor coaster) and Kozmo's Kurves (steel kiddie roller coaster).



TWISTER

Speeds up to **52** mph!

If you like to be frightened, take a tour through the darkness of the Haunted Mansion, filled with suspense and surprise that'll have you jumping right out of your seat in fright! The traditional haunted ride has been named a favorite for over 10 years by Dark Ride and Fun-house Enthusiasts!



GRAND CAROUSEL

Perfect for all ages!



PHOENIX

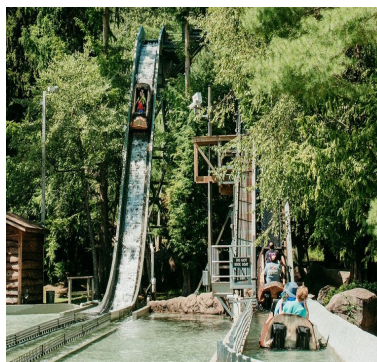
Named the **#1** wooden roller coaster in the world since **2018**!



CAMPGROUND

(Over **600** sites!)

Their family campground is tucked away in a quiet forest setting, so you can get away from it all and wake up refreshed and ready for more fun! Pitch your tent, park your RV or camper, or stay in one of their rustic log cabins.



GIANT FLUME

A family favorite!

They know how to make a splash with the Giant Flume! Travel along a rolling river through tranquil wooded areas, gentle rapids and a dark cavern. Two thrilling drops are sure to cool you off on a hot summer day!



HAUNTED MANSION

Constructed in **1973**!

Take an epic voyage on Knoebels' wettest ride - The Sklooosh. One massive boat and a 50-foot drop create a massive tidal wave that'll soak you (and the spectators on the observation deck) to the bone! Just how wet is that? Let's just say you'll hear the sklooosh of shoes as riders run to get in line again!



THE SKLOOOSH

A quick way to cool off!

Employee Savings and Retirement Plan

Contribution Source

	Balance As Of 01/01/2025	Contributions	Withdrawals	Gains/ (Losses)	Balance As Of 6/30/2025	Vested Balance
EMPLOYER PROFIT SHARING	\$88,732	\$0	(\$4,976)	\$7,862	\$91,618	\$91,618
EMPLOYER MATCH	\$3,746,055	\$79,248	(\$205,949)	\$371,042	\$3,990,396	\$3,961,422
EMPLOYEE 401(k)	\$10,517,029	\$223,862	(\$845,833)	\$1,012,438	\$10,907,496	\$10,907,496
EMPLOYEE ROLLOVER	\$243,984	\$0	(\$45,386)	\$17,004	\$215,602	\$215,602
BENEFICIARY	\$0	\$0	(\$2,120)	\$2,120	\$0	\$0
TOTAL	\$14,595,800	\$303,111	(\$1,104,264)	\$1,410,464	\$15,205,112	\$15,176,137

Activity By Fund

	Balance As Of 01/01/2025	Contributions	Withdrawals	Exchanges	Gains/ (Losses)	Balance As Of 6/30/2025
American Funds New Perspective Fund A	\$844,355	\$13,280	(\$4,438)	(\$44,419)	\$102,524	\$911,302
American Funds Growth Fund of America A	\$1,500,569	\$34,187	(\$6,748)	(\$81,477)	\$152,503	\$1,599,034
American Funds Fundamentallnv A	\$1,298,624	\$21,483	(\$8,720)	(\$86,721)	\$144,507	\$1,369,174
American Funds American Mutual Fund A	\$1,180,383	\$13,064	(\$1,043)	(\$264,800)	\$90,518	\$1,018,122
American Funds American Balanced Fund A	\$1,593,534	\$26,083	(\$36,632)	(\$337,458)	\$108,903	\$1,354,430
American Funds Bond of America A	\$371,298	\$5,628	(\$9,871)	\$47	\$15,401	\$382,504
American Funds SMALLCAP World Fund A	\$367,546	\$9,990	(\$4,615)	(\$12,591)	\$26,142	\$386,473
American Funds New World Fund A	\$266,060	\$4,581	(\$3,235)	\$4,307	\$42,232	\$313,946
American Funds Capital Income Bldr	\$388,318	\$6,205	(\$535)	(\$24,772)	\$46,302	\$415,519
American Funds Cap World Growth IncA	\$192,525	\$6,310	(\$673)	(\$2)	\$25,478	\$223,637
MFS Mid Cap Growth R3	\$156,292	\$4,541	(\$4,178)	(\$19,330)	\$9,822	\$147,147
Invesco Gold And Spec Minerals R	\$797,104	\$17,435	(\$8,868)	(\$99,362)	\$334,065	\$1,040,374
Vanquard Materials Index Adm	\$221,928	\$11,254	(\$5,821)	(\$662)	\$10,480	\$237,179
Vanquard Mid-Cap Value Index Adm	\$16,285	\$1,577	\$0	\$0	\$531	\$18,392
American Funds Money Market Fund A	\$3,037,650	\$35,111	(\$353,430)	\$176,657	\$74,789	\$2,970,778
American Funds Trqt Date Ret 2020A	\$11,354	\$1,680	(\$2,336)	(\$4)	\$859	\$11,553
American Funds Trqt Date Ret 2025A	\$250,131	\$3,045	\$0	\$0	\$20,210	\$273,386
American Funds Trqt Date Ret 2030A	\$636,249	\$9,650	(\$611,863)	\$752,245	\$48,669	\$834,950
American Funds Trqt Date Ret 2035A	\$137,580	\$7,756	(\$2,419)	\$0	\$13,001	\$155,918
American Funds Trqt Date Ret 2040A	\$748,944	\$14,370	(\$2,457)	\$0	\$77,518	\$838,375
American Funds Trqt Date Ret 2045A	\$158,058	\$19,602	(\$3,249)	\$15,385	\$19,180	\$208,976
American Funds Trqt Date Ret 2050A	\$205,959	\$8,632	(\$1,362)	(\$7)	\$22,231	\$235,453
American Funds Trqt Date Ret 2055A	\$26,090	\$2,047	(\$1,896)	(\$874)	\$2,797	\$28,164
American Funds Trqt Date Ret 2060A	\$118,713	\$12,527	(\$3,036)	(\$264)	\$13,323	\$141,263
American Funds Trqt Date Ret 2065A	\$70,251	\$13,073	(\$2,695)	(\$44)	\$8,480	\$89,064
TOTAL	\$14,595,800	\$303,111	(\$1,080,119)	(\$24,145)	\$1,410,465	\$15,205,112

Price Per Share By Fund

	12/31/2020	12/31/2021	12/31/2022	12/31/2023	12/31/2024	6/30/2025
American Funds New Perspective Fund A	\$60.49	\$66.41	\$47.31	\$55.90	\$62.11	\$69.78
American Funds Growth Fund of America A	\$67.54	\$74.30	\$49.49	\$63.16	\$74.46	\$82.20
American Funds Fundamentallnv A	\$69.15	\$75.96	\$60.25	\$71.49	\$80.72	\$87.85
American Funds American Mutual Fund A	\$44.61	\$53.15	\$48.43	\$51.00	\$55.18	\$59.41
American Funds American Balanced Fund A	\$30.20	\$33.47	\$28.76	\$31.99	\$34.34	\$36.69
American Funds Bond of America A	\$13.79	\$13.39	\$11.38	\$11.49	\$11.14	\$11.36
American Funds SMALLCAP World Fund A	\$79.55	\$80.03	\$56.10	\$66.25	\$67.39	\$72.41
American Funds New World Fund A	\$87.95	\$86.03	\$66.46	\$75.03	\$77.07	\$88.93
American Funds Capital Income Bldr	\$63.01	\$70.16	\$62.99	\$66.22	\$68.96	\$76.38
American Funds Cap World Growth IncA	\$59.39	\$63.67	\$51.58	\$60.12	\$63.56	\$71.14
MFS Mid Cap Growth R3	\$28.02	\$30.71	\$21.95	\$26.56	\$28.26	\$30.63
Invesco Gold And Spec Minerals R	\$26.63	\$24.82	\$20.55	\$21.67	\$24.24	\$35.11
Vanquard Materials Index Adm	\$89.04	\$100.26	\$86.74	\$96.81	\$95.71	\$99.26
Vanquard Mid-Cap Value Index Adm	\$61.61	\$77.84	\$70.08	\$75.08	\$83.79	\$85.20
American Funds Money Market Fund A	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00
American Funds Trqt Date Ret 2020A	\$13.75	\$14.26	\$12.17	\$12.97	\$13.40	\$14.45
American Funds Trqt Date Ret 2025A	\$15.39	\$16.09	\$13.46	\$14.57	\$15.10	\$16.30
American Funds Trqt Date Ret 2030A	\$16.80	\$17.79	\$14.53	\$16.14	\$17.20	\$18.65
American Funds Trqt Date Ret 2035A	\$17.85	\$19.53	\$15.46	\$17.55	\$18.93	\$20.66
American Funds Trqt Date Ret 2040A	\$18.57	\$20.61	\$15.92	\$18.47	\$20.42	\$22.49
American Funds Trqt Date Ret 2045A	\$19.00	\$21.21	\$16.21	\$18.94	\$21.05	\$23.25
American Funds Trqt Date Ret 2050A	\$18.72	\$20.98	\$15.84	\$18.62	\$20.75	\$22.91
American Funds Trqt Date Ret 2055A	\$23.45	\$26.32	\$19.75	\$23.38	\$26.10	\$28.84
American Funds Trqt Date Ret 2060A	\$15.72	\$17.75	\$13.38	\$15.87	\$17.76	\$19.62
American Funds Trqt Date Ret 2065A	\$14.58	\$16.81	\$12.98	\$15.46	\$17.38	\$19.20

* Share price does not reflect fund dividends.

Knoebels

Picnic: Saturday, August 9, 2025

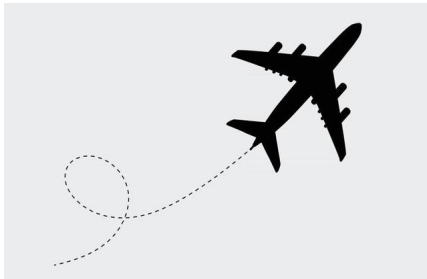


Benton Foundry participated in the Iron Casting Research Institute's (ICRI) round 56 of Spectrometer Proficiency Testing this spring. This testing measures repeatability and consistency between various technicians within a lab and reproducibility and consistency between different labs. Certified reference standards with unknown concentrations of numerous elements are analyzed and results forwarded to the ICRI. For this last round of testing, Benton Foundry's Lab has had no statistically significant differences for repeatability and reproducibility. The Benton Foundry Laboratory has continually been recognized for consistently high performance in these exercises. Thanks to Jackie Showers, Ramiro Pomares, Xenia Ponce, Isabella Kubasek, Bill Simback, Chad Davis, Ana Ponce, Randy Kadtke, Steve Lappan, and Cody Snyder.

Well done!

Fun Fact

The longest regularly scheduled nonstop passenger flight in the world is Singapore Airlines Flight 23, which departs from Changi Airport in Singapore for John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York with a scheduled length of **eighteen hours and fifty minutes**.



Good Job

Sergio Aguilera	Highest Foxall Uptime
Eric Barnes	Highest Grinding Efficiency
Tom Foust	Highest Molding Efficiency
Tom Foust	Highest Molds per Hour
Mike Machuga	Lowest Molding Scrap Rate
Otilia Miranda	Highest Core Production Efficiency
Irlanda Aviles Palma	Highest Core Assembly Efficiency

Awesome Job to **Olin Covington** and **Jim Tumolo** for attending ASK Casting Academy in Ohio.

Great Job to **Randy Kadtke** and **Chad Davis** for being re-certified in UT (Ultrasonic Testing) and PT (Liquid Penetrant Testing) through WTTI.

Congratulations to **Ryan Keeler** for completion of Inductotherm Safety and Maintenance Training.

Great Job to **Ed Cole** for organizing the stock room, along with other areas in the maintenance department. He is detail-oriented and catches issues before they become problems. Ed has smoothly transitioned into his new job.

Good Job to **Ryan Keeler**, **Kyle Hall** and **Greg Vandine** for completion of OSHA 30 Training through NEPIRC.

Thank you to **Gilberth Mayorga** for his help in the Molding and Melt departments.

Good Job to **Tim Shepherd** for the completion of MAEA Supervisory Certificate Program.

Great Job to **Sheila Vansock** for earning her ASCM Supply Chain Procurement Certificate.

Thank you to **Izzy Kubasek** for helping with times and alloys on ductile days.

Awesome Job to **Ben Hatch** for earning his Society for Maintenance & Reliability Professionals Certificate.

Good Job to **Kyle Hall**, **Chad Davis** and **Eric Malcein** for completion of AIAG Core Tools Overview course.

Thank you to **Trevor Kinsey** for his help during special circumstances.

Good Job to **Cassandra Shoemaker** and **Gabriel Lopez** on their automatic molder training.

Thank you to **Chris Newhart**, **Jeff Jones**, **Adolfo Barrientos**, **Gilberth Mayorga**, **Gabriel Lopez**, and **Jordan Winn** for their help with Maintenance.

Good Job to **Lesbia Vargas** and **Francisco Rocha** for adjusting to their new roles in the Core Dept.

Thank you to **Andy Spencer** for helping out in molding.

Awesome Job to all the **2nd shift iron pourers** for your extra efforts.

Great Job to the **Benton Foundry employees** who have taken approximately 400 AFS e-Learning courses in the past year!

Birthdays

August

Dale Engle
Kevin Martinez
Adolfo Barrientos
Kyle Hall
Steve Lappan
Glenda Briones
Geremias Osorio
Dustin Burke
Bryce Dodson
Eric Piatt
Stefany Torrealba
Reyna Rodriguez
Boyd Lore, Jr.
Nate Steinruck
Ed Evans
Isabella Kubasek
Walt Lutcavage
Tomas Scott

September

Julia Guiso
Dave Travepiece
Jim Lamoreaux
Jose Martinez
Ramiro Pomares
Kurtis Hunsinger
Eric Malcein
Ruth Dawson
Brian Bedosky
Tracey Kindler



October

Sherry Steele
Carlos Perez
Yordi Garcia
Aaron Nunez
Dave Gangle
Ana Ponce
Teresa Rodriguez
Tim Schechterly Jr.
Chris Newhart
Ed Cole
Tom Vandine
Luis Cruz
Caleb Temple
Jorge Serrano



**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY!**



Trivia Question???

What is the longest river in the world?

Answer will be in 3rd Quarter 2025.

Answer from 1st Quarter 2025 question:

What color is an airplane's black box?
Orange



Want



\$500?

Company Referral Plan

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

If Hired,

After 90 days of Employment

You Get \$250.

After 6 months of Employment

You Get Another \$250.

Work Humor



Why yes, I'm a bit stressed.
Why do you ask?

"The Wisdom Well"

**"The man who has confidence
in himself gains the confidence of
others."**

~ Hasidic Proverb

