

THE WHITFORD QUARTERLY

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SAFETY UPDATE This Quarter

74,946

Man Hours
With

0

Lost Time
Accident.

Keep up the
good work!!!!

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THE L.C. WHITFORD FEATURE JOB

Toledo Swing Bridge

By: Rob Faulkner



The feature job this quarter is the Norfolk Southern swing bridge repair project over the Maumee River in Toledo, Ohio. Like most projects that Dave and Chuck thrive on, this one had many challenges. Track time was minimal. The bridge is over 100 years old, and the work space was extremely limited.

The first item of work was to clean the inside of the drum girder area. Over 40 barrels of rust and debris were collected. We had to perform various repairs on the center bearing that the bridge rotates on. One of the repairs on the center bearing consisted of removing 16 nuts that were 3 3/4 inches across and had been on there for over 100 years. With oversight by Dean Ingalls, the crew was able to get all of them removed without damaging any. The nuts threaded onto two-inch rods about four feet long which ran up through the lower rotating support casting and a top drive plate sandwiching sixteen spring sets (32 total springs) between the two plates. In addition to the center bearing repairs, star angles were bolted to the cross girders with connection plates tying the cross girders together at the center bearing.

One challenge in connecting the steel was that there was not a lot of room between the center bearing and girders to bolt the star angles at the bottom of the cross girders. Our skinny crew (excluding Dean and myself) was able to climb in and under and then bolt them together. We also had to place 20' long by one inch thick cover plates on the cross girders. The hole layout had to be obtained from the existing girders and transferred onto the new plate, and field drilled. With 50-75 trains per day, track time had to be carefully coordinated to take the fabricated cover plates out to the drum girder. The cover plates had to be lowered under the bridge and through a small space between the drum girder and the bridge. Weighing nearly 900 lbs each, the cover plates

had to be maneuvered onto the cross girders making sure the bolt hole alignment was accurate. The crew fulfilled what seemed like a daunting task with ease. The project could not start before January 15, 2017, and had a completion deadline of March 1, 2017 because the Coast Guard needed the bridge open to boat traffic. Despite having last minute change orders, the bridge opened on February 22, 2017 without a hitch, one week ahead of deadline.

I want to thank Keven Chesner and crew for helping with the cleaning and lead abatement. I would like to thank Dean Ingalls for his expertise. I spoke with my brother Dave Faulkner, and we both agree that this job would have been very difficult to do without him. I also want to acknowledge our crew that always does a great job: Jeremy Faulkner, Adam Daley, James Wieszczyk, Bill Delaney, Jeff Getman, and Jeff Winterhalter. GREAT JOB!!!!



PRESIDENT'S CORNER - BRAD WHITFORD

It seemed fitting that LCW's 100th year (2016) was a good year! I am happy to say that 2017 appears to be on track to be the same.

Any given construction season is comprised of "work-on-hand," or backlog, and new contracts from bids won during the winter and early Spring. We are fortunate to have a significant amount of both. It has not been uncommon over the years, to be scrambling to pick up work right through April and May. It is an unsettling feeling to be short on work when Spring rolls around. I'm happy that we aren't in that boat this year.

The market is especially strong in PA right now, where the P3 work and PENNDOT's normal letting schedule are going on concurrently. This is also the primary reason that the Materials Co. is so busy, and has been in production for two months! The GA Division has had two years back-to-back with record volume, and the market continues to be good.

Our annual safety seminar for NY was held this past Saturday. I was happy to see one of the largest turnouts we have ever had! Thanks to those of you who made it.

*Regards,
Brad*

MATERIALS COMPANY - DANIEL WHITFORD & RICK SMITH

The Materials Company has a very busy season lined up. As of April 1, we have over 325 beams on the schedule to be produced in the 2017 season. This work is comprised of various prestressed bridge girders including NEXT beams, NEBTs, box beams both for NYS DOT and PENNDOT and arch beams with ornamental panels. This work load has and will present various challenges from scheduling, shop drawings and purchasing to storage, finishing, and delivery.

We got an early start on the season producing 85 beams by the first of April. In an effort to increase our storage capacity, we have started a major crushing operation of the leftover precast product in the yard. Full production will begin the second week in April.

We pride ourselves on the quality of our product and meeting the demands of our customers while working safely. Hats off to all the guys working to make this season happen.



SAFETY UPDATE - DAVE SHIELDS



The New York Division Safety Day was held on March 25 at Moonwink's with 88 people attending. The State Police were well represented with the "DOT" guys doing their usual, exceptional presentation of "Vehicle and Traffic" and Commercial driver issues. New with us were Troopers Dean Nolte and Sean Price (with their partners) who gave a terrific show regarding the New York State Police K-9 Program. Paul Cook from Scio, New York gave a very moving and enlightening account of an injury he suffered on his farm, giving us something to contemplate regarding starting equipment from the ground, and safety practices in general. Rounding out the day, Gus Leysens and Dwayne Burt of Willis Insurance presented a thorough and scary overview of Silica dust and the new OSHA regulations coming into play this year.

Jeopardy was a fun and very competitive success. Our workers have a very good grasp of safety issues, and finding more varied questions and answers will be a serious challenge for next year.

The President's Award was presented to Dan Ferris. Dan, who is from Bath, NY, is a long-term employee of the New York Division who has been driving truck for us for over 15 years. Thanks, Dan for your everyday "above-and-beyond" efforts. The Georgia Division will be holding our annual Safety Day on May 6 at the shop in Alpharetta.

*Stay Safe!!!
Dave Shields*

EQUIPMENT COMPANY - BRUCE STRAIGHT



The Equipment Company just received the honor of being named a Morbark Gold Tier Dealer for 2017! Every year dealers are reviewed and scored on their business plan and their equipment and parts sales. Dealer's service and warranty processes are also reviewed for timely paperwork submissions and overall customer satisfaction. Being a Gold Tier Dealer gets LCW additional discounts on the purchase of new machines and also higher warranty reimbursement rates. Everyone worked hard to achieve this award and should be very proud of their efforts.

The Equipment Co also just attended a dealer meeting at the TimberPro factory in Shawano, WI. TimberPro invited all of their dealers to come to a meeting to discuss the development of the new "D" series machines. The requirements of using the new Tier 4 Final Emission Engines will make many design changes necessary. TimberPro explained all of their planned improvements and went over the design of the new cab. The founder of the company, Pat Crawford, was even on hand to celebrate his 91st birthday with everyone



GET TO KNOW LCW'S SHOP FACILITY



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Building Since 1916

FINAL THOUGHT

“Don’t set compensation as a goal. Find work you like, and the compensation will follow.”

~Harding Lawrence

RECENT CONTRACTS AWARDED

Georgia Jobs

- GADOT - Effingham County
- Pennsylvania Jobs**
- Starrag SU 18,19&20 Machine Foundations Naval Foundry & Propeller Center, Philadelphia, PA.
- PADOT/ECMS 97575 - SR 4017 Box Culverts, Tioga Co PA.
- PADOT/ECMS 88941 - SR 219 Lewis Run Bridge.
- Norfolk Southern - Rehab Br LR-21.60, Huron, PA.
- Cherry Hill Sub - PADOT/ECMS 62880, I83 exit 18.
- PADOT/ECMS2673 - SR 155 Cameron County.
- Potter County - Atkins Road Bridge.
- GOH Sub - PADOT/ECMS 87913, Lycoming SR405.
- AL Blades Sub- PADOT/ECMS 78770, Br Pres., SR 549.
- PADOT/ECMS 4376- SR 4004 Bradford, McKean Co.
- Don Bower Sub - PADOT/ECMS 107765 SR 1003 Lycoming Co.
- Norfolk Southern - Pier Cap Repair Easton, PA.
- GOH Sub - SR 1003 Lycoming County.
- WNYPRR - Bearing Repair Mill Village, PA.

Virginia Jobs

- Norfolk Southern - Pier Re placement Pulaski, VA.

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GEORGIA UPDATE - KARL YOUNG

Status Summary of Current Projects

Project #15059 – GDOT Bridge Rehab on I-95 over Little Satilla River

GDOT has given LCW a change order adding an additional 12 pile encasements. Once the pile jackets are received we’ll mobilize to complete the work. This should occur in late April and work completed by the end of May.

Project #16017 – GDOT Bridge Rehab on 14 Bridges near Rome, GA

This was the featured project in the December newsletter. All major work items are finished at the 14 bridge locations. We are finishing bridge joints, guardrail and a change order for epoxy headers. All work items will be completed by the middle of April.

Project #16027 – GDOT Railroad Signs and Striping in District 3

All sign locations are complete and the striping subcontractor will begin work shortly. The project will be completed by the end of May.

Project #16028 – GDOT Highway Signing Upgrades on I-16/I-75 in Macon

All structures and signs were completed ahead of schedule and under budget. All items are finished as of the end of March.

Project #16041 – GDOT Highway Sign Upgrades on I-20

This is a lengthy sign project stretching 110 miles from Covington, GA to Augusta, GA. We’ll be constructing one Type 1 overhead sign structure along with seven Tp III butterfly structures in Augusta. The majority of the work is constructing special roadside signs and structures at 210 locations along the I-20 corridor. Most of the 381 rebar cages have been tied for the structural shape post foundations. Due to the project’s location along the I-20 corridor, foundation drilling and concrete placement won’t begin until after the Masters Golf Tournament. Multiple crews will start on April 10 and continue working on the project through the summer and into the fall.

Project #16061 – GDOT Highway Sign Upgrades on GA 400

This project is very close to our Alpharetta office/shop location. We’ll be replacing eight overhead signs and constructing a new Type 1 overhead sign structure on GA 400 near Holcomb Bridge Rd. The layout, survey and concrete barrier demolition

work is now complete. Structure foundation work and overhead sign replacements will begin in April/May and be completed by the end of June.

Project #17001 – Emergency GDOT Sign Structure on I-95 at SC

LCW was invited as one of a few selected contractors to bid on this emergency sign structure replacement project located on I-95 north of Savannah near the South Carolina border. Shop drawings are approved and anchor bolts are currently being tested by GDOT. Once the structure is manufactured we’ll mobilize to perform the work. This project will be completed by the middle of June.



CHUCK’S CHUCKLE

Tom applied for a job as a signalman for the local railroad and was told to meet the inspector at the signal box.

The inspector decided to give Tom a pop quiz, and asked, “What would you do if you realized that two trains were heading toward each other on the same track?”

Tom answered: “I would switch one train to another track.”

“What if the lever broke?” asked the inspector.

“Then I’d run down to the tracks and use the manual lever down there.”

“What if that had been struck by lightning?” challenged the inspector.

“Then,” Tom continued, “I’d run back up here and use the phone to call the next signal box.”

“What if the phone was busy?”

“In that case,” Tom argued, “I’d run to the street level and use the public phone near the station.”

“What if that had been vandalized?”

“Oh, well,” said Tom, “in that case, I would run into town and get my Uncle Leo.”

This puzzled the inspector, so he asked, “Why would you do that?”

“Because he’s a photographer for the local newspaper.”