

THE WHITFORD QUARTERLY



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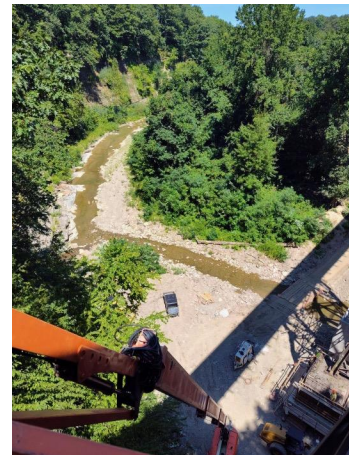
FEATURE JOB

NORFOLK SOUTHERN TWENTY MILE CREEK BRIDGE - NORTH EAST, PA

By: MATT INGALLS

The L.C. Whitford Railroad Division has been awarded a whopping 37 projects in 2023! One of those projects was the Norfolk Southern Twenty Mile Creek Bridge in North East, PA. The project consisted of various concrete repairs as well as steel repairs. The access to this bridge was going to make or break the project, we were able to construct a 1000' access road down into the gorge to get the equipment and concrete trucks closer to the work. With roughly 227 CY of concrete to be poured, it was extremely important to have access for the concrete trucks. This bridge towers over the gorge 100+ feet in the air also making access to the steel repairs difficult. Due to the size of the steel being installed it required some on rail equipment and outside the box scaffolding ideas. Jeremy Faulkner and his crew have done an excellent job sailing through the work and they will have the project completed by the end of 2023.

The entire railroad division has put together one of the most productive and successful years in recent memory. On average there are 15 field workers in the railroad division, 4 of them being superintendents. Those 15 individuals have worked their tails off completing 32 projects in 7 different states in 2023. That is a true testament to the work ethic and dedication that these individuals possess. 2023 is going to be a tough year to top, but the LCW Railroad Division loves a challenge. Let's see what our crew will make of 2024! "Work ethic is important because, unlike intelligence, athleticism, charisma, or any other natural attribute, it's a choice." – Mike Rowe



View From The Location Of The Steel Repairs



Part Of The 1000' Access Road



One Of The Existing Pedestals That Were Encased In Concrete



6 Of The 8 Pedestals That Were Encased In Concrete

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SAFETY UPDATE
THIS QUARTER
92,904
MAN HOURS WITH
1
LOST TIME ACCIDENT
KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!!!!



EQUIPMENT COMPANY – JUSTIN SNYDER

In the final quarter of 2023 the L.C. Whitford Equipment Co. Inc. has remained steady in the parts and service departments. Our crew continues to effectively serve our customers, keeping downtime to a minimum and quickly sourcing parts even if that means robbing them off the machines in inventory. I had the opportunity to fill in at the parts counter for a week along with our fleet manager Eric Neudeck and we came away with a true appreciation for all that Jeff Taylor does for our department! We welcomed in our new receptionist Amanda McCaslin, who has definitely brightened the office up with her cheerful nature and can-do attitude, not to mention her extensive seasonal decorative effort as of late! She has been a great help to Deb with all the payroll duties, etc. and her commitment to organization has really made an impact.

Joe Catalone and I were able to attend the Morbark Industrial sales training in Winn, MI. The training was informative as was my time with Joe, I came away with an assurance that we carry a top-notch product in Morbark and we employ one of the best salesmen in the business. In addition to the classroom time we were given a factory tour which included a comprehensive walkaround of the new 6400XT Gen 2. The Gen 2 is loaded with new tech including a hydraulic torque limiter and belt tensioning system and an all-new dolly system, it is sure to be a hit with our customers. Speaking of which we recently demoed two machines to potential customers in PA. A new 6400XT Wood Hog was taken down to Land Clearing Specialist in McDonald and a used 6400XT Wood Hog trade machine was demonstrated to S&S processing in West Pittsburg. The Timberpro sales were capped off with a rent-to-own deal on a new 830D Forwarder to Ironwood Heavy Highway.



Equipment Company Crew Photo

MATERIALS COMPANY – KEVIN SHARPE

The Materials Company had a good year in 2023 we finished up the season with NYSDOT Barrier. We poured 213 total beams between PENNDOT and NYSDOT State funded projects along with several county jobs. We have 139 beams on the books with a very heavy bid season ahead. We have 38 New England Bulb Tee Beams to produce in 2024 along with 19 PA Bulb Tee Beams and we are looking to get started soon to expedite the production and delivery for 2024.

Our highlighted job was introduced to us by NYSDOT Structure Bureau back in late August of this year. The structures team reached out to us about a potential job in Westchester County, NY. They had a local contractor picked and wanted to propose using a NYSDOT Type F NEXT beam as the beam of choice for this project. We were contracted to start shop drawings in Mid-September and we started the production of the beams in Mid-October. Finishing out the last pour in early November. Dan Whitford, Justin Fillhart and I had discussions with NYSDOT about using LCW's Spray Applied Waterproofing for these beams due to the brackish water that would come in contact with the beams. We were approved in late October to spray the beams. We sand blasted and sprayed the first beam in late November and the last three beams in early December. The beams are to ship later in January of 2024. This project was an emergency job and NYSDOT along with the contractor worked well with us to expedite this project quickly.

Next year looks very promising and with a heavy forecast of potential work. We are going in to next year with a positive attitude to have a profitable season in producing and delivering beams. Thanks to all who have worked hard throughout the year and keep up the good work!



NYSDOT 20' Barrier



Next Beams NYSDOT Westchester County, NY

PRESIDENTS CORNER – BRAD WHITFORD

In looking at the President's Corner in the last 2 newsletters, I feel I have painted a pretty accurate picture of our 2023 work and some of the strategic planning successes we have achieved. So, I will keep my comments brief in this one! I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year!!

Probably the most notable thing right now is our work-on-hand. It is a beautiful thing! For the most part, we have our work for next year. The significance of this cannot be overstated. At this time, we are basically "full up" on local work, railroad work, Georgia work and materials company work. This is hugely unusual and a really good place to be. We will continue to cherry-pick as we always find a way to "shoehorn" a few good ones in! There is usually an unpleasant phenomenon that we deal with from about December until about March. That is, being under pressure to get work! Actually, it is the norm. It is a daunting feeling to have spring approaching and be needing millions of dollar worth of work. It has a tendency to make a contractor want / need to bid work that really isn't in their wheelhouse, bid work that is too far away or bid work with a thin margin. . . As I have said before, construction is a tough racket and succumbing to any of those usually bodes poorly for that work obtained. We are in an excellent position for 2024!

*Regards,
Brad*

COMPANY UPDATE – JUSTIN FILLHART, OPERATIONS MANAGER

2023 was definitely a fast-paced year and I honestly cannot believe that it is gone already. With so many different projects thrown at the company this year with all the emergency and JOC projects in NY, GA, and our Railroad Division it is easy to forget about some of the successes that we have had. We continue to invest in our equipment, our facilities, and our people. On the equipment company side, we will have 4 Level 2 Certified Morbark technicians, and every mechanic in the main shop will be Level 1 Certified at a minimum. The company has purchased some new equipment again this year to ensure that our construction projects flow seamlessly, and we continue to investigate new attachments to help increase productivity with the power units that we have. Our materials company is still in production with barrier as I write this letter, while we are in the process of upgrading our formwork and overall capabilities. Jobsite security has proven to be beneficial this year as jobsite theft is down dramatically. We are in the process of setting up additional winter training sessions to ensure that our people are trained in the most efficient way possible and carry the proper credentials as required by our customers. The office is also looking into more effective ways to communicate with the field and transfer data back and forth as efficiently as possible. All these things are continually moving forward while producing another solid year of work and setting us up for a great 2024 season as well. Communication and efficiency are the keys to our success. In reviewing our projects for 2023 compared to the same timeframe last year, it is worth noting that while we had a relatively small reduction in the number of projects, we had a very significant reduction in overall labor. Hats off to all of those that helped contribute to the little successes we have realized this year that ultimately will close out another profitable year and set us up for a spectacular next season.

GEORGIA NEWS

Project #22108 – Bridge Rehab @ 6 locations on I-20

LCW awaits submittal approvals from CSX Railroad to finish the remaining work on Bridges #3 and #4. We will be jacking one bent at each of these bridges and replacing the existing steel bearings. At bridge #4 we will also be replacing edge beams, performing bridge deck latex concrete overlay, resealing joints, and striping the bridge. All six bridges in the contract will also get painted. Our current schedule dictates a probable work resumption in the spring. The overall completion date is October 31st, 2024.

Project #23002 – Bridge Repairs at Snapfinger Road

LCW is replacing three pier caps at the Snapfinger Road over Snapfinger Creek Bridge, located in a western Atlanta suburb of DeKalb County. Each cap's superstructure will be raised via bridge jacking and temporarily supported with a constructed steel falsework structure. We will then remove the existing concrete caps and replace them. Once the new concrete has acquired the design strength, we will lower the superstructure onto new bearings at each of the new caps. Work just began; we hope to be complete by April.

Project #23070 – Bridge Repairs on I-95 in Liberty County

LC Whitford is repairing four bridges located on I-95 near Savannah, GA. We have performed all subsurface work including concrete patching, epoxy pressure injection and pile encasements. The remaining work is polymer overlays and bridge joints to be worked into our 2024 schedule. The completion date for this project is January 31st, 2025.

Project #23076 – Wrong Way Driving Safety Enhancements

LCW is performing another wrong way driving safety enhancement project for GDOT. The purpose is to persuade and restrict motorists from driving the wrong way when entering ramps on highways. We will be installing signs at over 800 locations. All interchanges will receive new roadway striping and many will also be upgraded with concrete curbs and medians. Layout and initial work will begin this winter. The completion date is July 31st, 2024.

Project #23091 – Bridge Repairs in District 6

LCW was awarded this GDOT project from the August Letting. We will be performing polymer overlays and bridge joint sealing on five bridges in north Georgia. Work will begin this winter, weather permitting. The completion date for this project is October 31st, 2024.

Project #23096 – District 7 Sound Wall Maintenance Project

We picked up another Atlanta sound wall maintenance project and work began in mid-November. Removal of panels, trim and trees is complete. New posts are installed. We are currently working on constructing the new panels and trim to complete the project by mid-January.

Project #23107 – Bridge Rehab near Monroe & Athens

GDOT recently awarded another bridge repair project to LCW on November 1st. We will be jacking bridges to replace bearings, replacing edge beams, overlaying bridge decks, sealing bridge joints and painting bridges. There are a total of four structures located in Monroe and Athens. Work won't likely begin until the 3rd quarter of 2024. The overall completion date is May 31st, 2025.

We have greatly benefited from a strong Georgia economy and emphasis on improving our transportation infrastructure. LCW just received the award confirmation of another large GDOT bridge rehabilitation project near Savannah, GA. We have recently been blessed with a heavy backlog of future work; our current projected schedule continues until the end of 2025. We look forward to utilizing this great growth opportunity ahead to add more good people to our Georgia team.



Project #23002 – Falsework Begun



Project #23002 – Falsework Bases



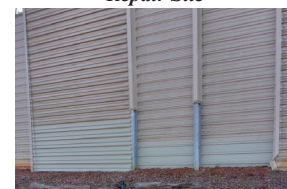
Project #23070 – Tidal Pile Encasements



Project #23070 – Pile Encasements Forms



Project #23096 – Typical Repair Site



Project #23096 – Panels Installed, Awaiting Trim

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Building Since 1916

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lcwhitford.com

FINAL THOUGHT

“Believe you can and you’re halfway there.”

- Theodore Roosevelt

RECENT CONTRACTS
AWARDED

Georgia

- GDOT – Bridge Rehabilitation near Monroe & Athens
- GDOT – Sound Wall Maintenance, District 7
- GDOT – Bridge Rehabilitation I-95/SR 405

New Hampshire

- New Hampshire NE Corp – Substructure Repairs, Milton, NH

New York

- NYSDOT – D265097, Rt 54 Bridge Replacement, Milo, NY
- NYSDOT – D265119, Region 6, Highway Repairs on Demand
- National Fuel – Bridge Deck Replacement, Bennington, NY
- City of Corning – Dome Roof Replacement
- Finger Lakes RR – Bridge Repair, Shortsville, NY
- NYSDOT –D265157, Bridge Rehabilitation NY 248 over Bennetts Creek, Town of Canisteo
- Norfolk Southern – Bridge Replacement JY-192.09, Binghamton, NY

Ohio

- Norfolk Southern – Bridge Repair Brooklyn, Ohio

Pennsylvania

- PADOT – ECMS 97669 Rt 6 over Marsh Creek

Virginia

- Dominion – Saini Substation, North Western Substation, Nimbos Sustation, Fentris Substation, King & Queen Substation, North Hannah Substation, Garrisonville Substation, Bristers Substation, Young Branch Substation

BLATTNER ENERGY UPDATE – BY AARON WASHBURN

You never know when a little project is going to explode into something tremendous. For the past two years, Next Era has been tackling the construction of a new wind farm with approximately 30 turbines outside the Andover / Rexville area of New York. L.C. Whitford tried to get involved with the project early on, but they decided, perhaps not the best decision, to go with a big out-of-state contractor they’ve used before on other wind projects.

In August, Steuben County recommended L.C. Whitford to Next Era’s general contractor, Blattner Energy, to complete a timber bridge deck repair on a small bridge owned by Steuben County. The bridge had a massive crack in the timber deck, presumably from the sheer weight of those trucks hauling turbines and gear for the wind project. Kevin Chesner and his crew, fantastic people, did an amazing job reinforcing that timber deck. They slapped a steel cover plate right over the cracked area – problem solved!

Blattner Energy and Next Era were impressed with the quality and timeliness of our work. At this point in the project Blattner Energy and Next era were tired of quality issues from their site contractor. They asked if L.C. Whitford would take over the remaining site work for the project. The site work generally consisted of fixing access roads, sprucing up the grading around the turbine areas, improving ditches and culverts, and restoring the right of way for the collection lines.

Joe Friar and his crew jumped in for the site work part of the project. What started as a simple bridge rehab project, quickly ballooned into site work at over 21 different locations. The contract increased from an initial \$188 thousand to a whopping \$2.6 million in just two months.

We lucked out with some beautiful weather in November, allowing us to work straight through to after Thanksgiving, with just a few weather hiccups. Joe and the team did an incredible job – efficient, forward-thinking, handling all sorts of changes thrown at them by the owner, landowners, state officials – you name it.

We’ve completed all the work contracted to us and look forward to more work come spring to wrap up the project.



Steuben County Bridge Repair



Henckle Hill ROW Restoration



Access Road & Ditch Repairs

SAFETY UPDATE – COLTON SAULTER

As 2023 comes to an end I believe it’s best to focus on the accomplishments we have made throughout the year when it comes to safety. Our total injury count for the year was down 46%. That is a great improvement, and it all starts with the people on the ground. I believe that if we keep on the path, we are on we can reach our goal of zero injuries. There have been a few upgrades throughout the year to ensure safety throughout the company. We have purchased a new rebar bender that is equipped with a sensor to prevent hand injuries, vented hard hats have been purchased to reduce the risk of heat related illness, and numerous repairs have been made around our shop and precast facility. Many more upgrades are to come throughout the next year as new technologies and products are being released onto the market. If anyone has any suggestions or sees where we need to make improvements, please let me know.

“For safety is not a gadget, but a state of mind.” -Eleanor Everet

CHUCK’S CHUCKLE

Christmas Panic

I don’t mean to be a grinch however to those of you who are placing Christmas lights/ decorations in your yards, would you please avoid anything that has Red or Blue flashing lights together? Every time I come around the corner, I think it’s the police and I have a panic attack. I have to brake hard, toss my wine out the window, fasten my seat belt, throw my phone on the floor, turn my radio down, and push the gun under the seat. All while trying to drive.

It’s just too much drama, even for Christmas. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.