

Point of interest:

See how Anderson Concrete reacted to COVID-19, including response plans, a task force committee, paid time off, cleaning, mask mandates, and event cancellations.

# Anderson Concrete Newsletter

Volume 6, Issue 2

Summer 2020



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# **Remaining Resilient and Navigating COVID-19**

A lot has changed since our last newsletter, written earlier this year about record breaking production in January 2020. That seems like such a long time ago! Since then, we have all witnessed a worldwide pandemic, massive shutdowns, unemployment, rioting, unrest, illness and loss. It has been more than anyone could have anticipated, and at times it is very hard to process. Here at Anderson Concrete. we have reacted as swiftly as possible, trying hard to keep everyone employed and safe. Fortunately, construction was deemed to be essential during the "Stay at Home" order issued by the

governor, so Anderson Concrete was allowed to continue working throughout that time and since then, all the while following proper safety guidelines. As you can see on the COVID-19 timeline on page 7, we have gone through a lot as a company, a state, and as a country. The first confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ohio were discovered on March 9, and by March 13, we developed our first pandemic policy, which included a hiring freeze, limiting visitors into our office, cancelling inperson meetings, truck and office cleaning protocol, and asking employees to stay at home if sick. Soon

after, we issued a new paid time off policy, granting all employees 5 extra PTO days. In order to process all of the fluctuating information, we formed a "COVID Task Force," which meets daily to discuss our response plans and procedures. Some cleaning changes included installing hand sanitizer stations and implementing a professional weekly spraying of sani-guard/virus vaporizer in the office, as well as new truck cleaning methods, described on page 5. Thank you to everyone for your help navigating the challenges. It has not been easy, and it's not over yet. We are all in this together.

by: Doug Anderson

## A Word from the President

We are in the middle of our busy summer season, and everyone on the Anderson Concrete team should be proud of what we have accomplished so far this year. We are living through a worldwide pandemic with many unknowns facing each of us every day, and our team has met this challenge while continuing to provide outstanding service to all of the contractors that depend on us. I have been so impressed with our entire team's effort during these unprecedented times. The safety and wellbeing of our team members will continue to remain our top priority as we continue to work this year. Our country is in a marathon fight against this virus, so we need to remain vigilant to protect our customers, our families and our fellow team members. The best way to do this is to wear a mask when you are



not at home, and whenever you cannot socially distance. Please respect others and wear your mask.

We were fortunate that back in March, the construction industry was deemed to be essential, and all of us have been able to continue working. With all the challenges we have faced this year, our production is ahead of last year, and our backlog remains strong for the rest of 2020. It is hard to predict the economic impact the COVID-19 virus will have on construction in 2021 and beyond, but as the country recovers from this pandemic downturn, I think that Columbus will rebound quickly. Jobs that we are currently working on that will continue into next year include the new Crew Stadium and the Hilton



Downtown expansion. We also have a big project for our own plants. As Rod Jenkins explains in his article on page 10, we will be adding several liquid nitrogen cooling systems, which will enable us to cool concrete when needed, without having to use ice. It is state of the art technology, and we are excited to add this service for our customers.

We will continue to be very busy throughout the next few months! As always, Stay Safe!

We are all in this together,

Doug

### Page 3

# Welcome New Hires



Estephaun Coplan— Driver



Farrah Shalosky— Driver



Jon Baxter— Driver



Donald Hodge— Driver



David Duffy— Driver



Terry Smith— Driver



Michael Combs— Driver



Larry McDaniel Jr.— Driver



Donald Berkhouse— Driver



Jacob Berry— Plant



Mary Katie Jenkins— Quality Control



Shaun Porter— Dispatch

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# PELOTONIA®



Anderson Concrete and Buckeye Ready-Mix have participated in the Pelotonia annual bike ride for five years. This legendary event and organization, which has raised more than \$214 million for innovative cancer research since 2009, is close to our hearts. In the past four years, our team alone raised \$280,000 for cancer research at The Ohio State University, and we have added \$23,000 more to that total so far in 2020.

A lot has changed over these past few months due to COVID-19, so this year, Pelotonia will look different. While there will not be an official event, Pelotonia has always been more than a bike ride. This movement is about conquering a personal challenge and coming together to raise critical funds for a disease that impacts us all. So instead of biking and volunteering, we will be joining the "My Pelotonia" movement where we'll define our own personal goals. This year, our corporate goals are to walk, bike or swim 7,500 miles before September 1, and participate in a food drive to donate food to the communities we serve in Central Ohio. Labeled cardboard boxes for food drive donations are located throughout the office and plants. And we have completed 6,349 miles! Contact Brandon Double or Shawn Anderson to add your miles to our tally!

Now more than ever, the need for cancer research funding is vital—COVID-19 is very dangerous to patients with cancer and those who are immunocompromised. Pelotonia has created a research fund, with an initial pledge of \$1 million to The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center and Solove Research Institute (OSUCCC–James), in order to spearhead investigation of the impact of COVID-19 on the cancer community. With continued support, we believe this will result in significant advancements and improved patient outcomes for our community members and loved ones.

Check out our Facebook page @accbrmpelotonia to see our 2020 Pelotonia Fundraisers:

Anthony Thomas Candy Bars/Country Meat Snack Sticks—\$1 each Anderson/Buckeye Pelotonia Hats & T-Shirts—\$20/hat minimum donation NRMCA "Build with Strength" bumper stickers—\$10 each Load of Concrete Raffle—\$20/ticket drawing date: October 16, 2020 \*\*100% of proceeds go to Pelotonia.

You can help us raise money by donating to our peloton at: <u>www.pelotonia.org/ACCBRM</u> So far in 2020, the ACC/BRM Pelotonia Team has raised \$23,000. We have several months to go! Fundraising ends on October 31, 2020.

## Keeping the Fleet Clean

by: Shawn Anderson, Assistant Shop Supervisor

The garage has taken a leading role in keeping our mixer fleet clean during COVID-19. All trucks that are pulled into the garage have not only seen a mechanical inspection, but a cleanliness checkup as well. A steady income of disinfectants and personal protective equipment from our suppliers has helped keep the cleanliness checkup going on a regular basis. We have everything in stock from hand sanitizer and disinfectant sprays to gloves and masks. Anyone is welcome to these products, just ask Stan or myself. We have plenty of it!

There are two different kinds of disinfectants used on the truck, each targeting a specific area. The first disinfectant is a dry deodorizer that is sprayed into the inside of the cab. It is a quick drying spray that neutralizes the air and the surface it's applied to. We also use this spray on the interior of vehicles getting an oil change, upon request. The second product is a wet spray that is applied to all the highly touched areas outside the truck. This includes: handles, valves, controllers, and handrails. This disinfectant is also being sprayed on all the fuel stations. Both kill multiple kinds of bacteria and viruses, including COVID-19.

The acid truck wash also plays a part in keeping our trucks disinfected. Groundskeeper Steve Deskins has operated and maintained the truck wash (amongst numerous other things) on and off for the past 10 years. He has recently settled into this position full-time. "Keeping a clean truck is keeping a safe truck," says Deskins. He goes on to say, "I'm proud to be a part of the process." The truck wash is open every Tuesday and Thursday throughout the summer.



31-year veteran employee, Steve Deskins at his post operating the acid truck wash station.

"Keeping a clean truck is keeping a safe truck," says Deskins. He goes on to say, "I'm proud to be a part of the process."

## Anderson Concrete Centennial Calendar Contest

In 2021, Anderson Concrete will enter its 100-year anniversary!

To start off the celebration, we are encouraging our employees and their family members to be a part of a calendar contest. This calendar will feature drawings of concrete related items, which will be chosen by a committee, and then published and distributed.

A different drawing per month will be featured on next year's calendar. Some ideas include: a drawing of the Anderson Concrete logo, a mixer truck, plant related equipment or an employee at work.

Please submit all artwork to Jessica Anderson or Shawn Anderson by October 31, 2020.

Stay tuned for more information about other centennial anniversary festivities!

## We Are All in This Together! Thank you for Wearing your Mask!



# **COVID** Task Force

#### by: Jessica Anderson

When it became clear that COVID-19 was going to be here for a while, and it was going to be an "all hands on deck" situation to manage it internally, we formed a COVID Task Force committee, made up of managers from both Anderson Concrete and Buckeye Ready-Mix. The Task Force meets (virtually) everyday to discuss national and local news updates, response plans and policy changes, and cases where an employee has been (or could have been) exposed to COVID-19. The collaborative team approach has helped tremendously in the decision making process because, as we've learned, every single case is different and there are countless scenarios to think through. For example, when we learn of a new case, we immediately have to evaluate the contact tracing, potential exposure to other employees, office/truck cleaning protocol, testing results, payroll implications and return to work guidelines, just to name a few. Then comes the equally daunting task of tracking and documenting all of the continually evolving information.

The Task Force is led by our Human Resources & Safety Manager, Brandon Double; other members include Jessica Anderson, Mike Anderson, Rick Compton, Rod Jenkins, and from Buckeye Ready-Mix, Dan Hunt, Ted Bunting and Cress Jenkins. If you have any COVID-19 questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to one of us.

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#### Anderson Concrete Newsletter

















Doug and Andy Anderson on the bridge.

## **Dublin Pedestrian Bridge**

The Dublin Pedestrian Bridge is the longest single span, single tower, and S-shaped suspension bridge in the world! This bridge links the east and west sides of Dublin over the Scioto River. The bridge tower stands 169 feet above the river, or about 14 feet shorter than The Ohio Stadium press box, and the deck is 760 feet in total length. The 14-foot wide deck passes through a concrete "keyhole" in the



main tower. The main center tower also stands over 100 feet above the concrete deck. The suspension cables (43 in total) were fabricated in Redaelli, Milano, Italy. Since there are only a couple of companies in the world that fabricate these cables, the cable delivery accounted for almost all of the project construction delays. In December of 2019, just before the bridge opened, the shoring towers were removed, which officially suspended the bridge. The total cost of the project was just under 25 million dollars!

Construction of the bridge started in early 2017, although we really didn't start making concrete deliveries until early 2018. There was only about 1,600 total yards of concrete in the project, the last of which was delivered earlier this year. About half of the yardage followed Ohio Department of Transportation concrete design and control specifications. The remaining concrete consisted of a 6,000 Psi air-entrained, self-consolidating concrete mix that was specifically designed for this project. This high strength, mass, self-consolidating concrete mix used a large amount of slag cement to slow initial heat of hydration and significantly lighten the color of the bridge which was required by Endrestudio, the project architect. Endrestudio is located in Emeryville, California and we sent many samples to their office prior to construction to gain aesthetic approval. The mix also had a combination of admixes that improved pumping, increased flow for self-consolidating, and considerably slowed the concrete set for placements that took several hours. The amount of time we spent on design, production, temperature control, air control and nighttime deliveries is astonishing considering the total yardage. This mix has since been utilized in other projects and will continue to benefit us in the future.

After this project was completed, Anderson Concrete teamed up with Kokosing Construction and Skyway Cement to submit the project to the Slag Cement Association for consideration of an award. We found out a few months ago that the project was awarded the Slag Cement Association 2019 Green Design project of the year! Every mix that was used on the project utilized slag cement with the specially designed mass mix using 65% slag. It is special for all of us at Anderson Concrete to be involved in such a landmark project that will be visible in the Dublin skyline for many decades to come!

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by: Rod Jenkins, Quality Control Manager

# **Technological Advances in Production**

### by: Rod Jenkins, QC Manager

The Anderson Concrete production department is in the middle of three significant advances in technology. Some of the goals of these advancements include making our product more consistent, providing employees with additional tools to make their job easier, and to offer the latest technological advances to our customers in order to stay ahead of our competition. We are constantly looking at making improvements!

## Mix Maintenance Software

Alkon Corporation supplies ACC with our plant automation software. Integra is a division of Alkon and supplies our dispatching software. We are nearing the completion of installing an Alkon Corp. Mix Maintenance package, which is software that integrates our plant's Alkon Command Batch software with dispatching Integra software. Instead of manually entering mixes into our plant computers, new mixes will now be "pushed" from the office into plant computers. This will eliminate data entry and save our plant operators valuable time that they can spend concentrating on plant management tasks. Mixes will now be able to be turned on or off at any plant. We have spent several years discussing this upgrade and began work on its installation around the first of the year, and are now finally within a few weeks of completion!

## **Cement Silo Radar Systems**

The ever increasing demand for cement led to ACC installing several new silos at Plants #1, #2 and #6 over the past few years. While this increased cementitious capacity has been extremely valuable, it made managing cement inventories more challenging. At plant #2 in particular, the additional silos transfer the material into the overhead bins via elevator or vane feeder. We know the total plant inventory by what has been delivered minus what has been batched; but we do not know how much is in each silo. Rick Compton and I found a solution to this problem with VEGA Corps. radar inventory systems. Inventory measurement of silos using ultrasonic techniques was the technology of yesterday, while using radar is the latest method in reliable inventory management. This new system will work flawlessly in our dusty cement silos and offer inventory levels in real time to our plant operators, dispatchers and production team! The purchase of this system is being finalized and should be installed at Plants #1 and #2 in the coming weeks.

## Automated Nitrogen Systems

For a few years, ownership and management at ACC have discussed the increase in high performance concrete in Columbus and the possibility of several large mass concrete placements taking place. Rick Compton and I started discussing the possibility of using nitrogen to replace ice a couple years ago, and our conversations became more serious this past spring. We took our thoughts on how to tackle concrete cooling to Mike Anderson and gained his approval just before COVID-19 hit. Our plan then took a back seat until the Hilton Downtown Columbus was awarded several weeks ago. The Hilton Downtown project has about 6,500 yards of mass concrete and ACC is looking at several more large projects that could have thousands of additional yards of mass concrete. Over the past few weeks, the ACC plant department employees have loaded around 7,000 22-lb. bags of ice into concrete loads. ACC has signed a contract with Nitrocrete to install automated nitrogen systems at a yet to be determined number of plants. Plant #1 should be up and running with this new system within a couple weeks. These systems will communicate with our Alkon Command Batch software and automatically add nitrogen to any mix. This will reduce the amount of employees needed when we have mass placements and allow us to produce this concrete on demand without preordering ice, which is costly and logistically challenging. Our customers will have the added luxury of being able to move placements without additional ice storage issues and costs. These systems will give us a greater capacity for cooling without any negative impacts on slump or air entrainment. While there are over 100 of these systems from Texas to Canada, ACC will be the first producer in Ohio to utilize this technology.

# Summer Sales Report

The second half of the year is already upon us, and even though we are tired of the pandemic and wearing masks, we are fortunate that construction was deemed essential and we have been allowed to keep working. We have had a few projects that have been put on hold because of the pandemic, but as busy as we have been, that will probably work out in our favor and turn into wintertime work.

Highway construction deliveries continue on Frank Road and the I-70/71 split, and since the last newsletter, we have started work at I-71 and East Broad Street with Kokosing Construction and Complete General Construction.

The Arena District has a lot of activity with both Kokosing Construction and Igel & Co. working on the Crew Stadium and road infrastructures. Just east of the stadium, we are servicing Messer Construction on the Parks Edge Condos, and west of the stadium, we are delivering concrete to Dugan & Meyers at the CoverMyMeds project.

## about 2,500 yards of concrete. The new Hilton Downtown expansion is underway next to the Convention Center and we will be delivering concrete to Goettle Construction, Igel & Co. and a new customer, Donley's Inc. from Cleveland. The Franklinton District, which is just west of COSI, is about to become as busy as the OSU District. The Scioto Peninsula and Gravity II projects have seven buildings and two parking garages designed for construction. We will be delivering to Foor Concrete on the first office building in September.

To date, we have poured 29,000 yards at the OSU Wexner Parking Garage (left), which is wrapping up with The Walsh Group. Hopefully by this coming winter, we will be starting the next phase, which is the new Wexner Medical Tower with The Walsh Group as well. The new tower will sit east of Cannon Drive, southwest of the existing tower that Anderson Concrete supplied in 2012.

Out east, at the CONRAC Airport Rental Car Garage with Dugan & Meyers (left), we have poured 46,500 yards so far, and will continue pouring concrete there into the fall. We also picked up a small warehouse with Unlimited Concrete Solutions at Sunbury Road and Maryland Avenue. ALD Precast also did the precast for the Sunbury Road project, which amounted to

We are very fortunate that there are a lot of projects in the design stage in Central Ohio right now. With a bit of luck, these projects will move forward, despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

by: Art Marchi, Vice President of Sales







#### Anderson Concrete Newsletter



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## **Congratulations 2020 Retirees!**

The 2020 retiree class is made up of some of our most senior employees, including the most senior driver (Robert Hollingsworth) and most senior employees in the plant department (John Estes), quality control department (John Fairchild), accounting department (Juanita Langbein), and garage (Dave Dickinson). These five retirees make up 149 years of service!



Dave Dickinson 31 years



John Estes 35 years



John Fairchild 30 years



Rob Hollingsworth 34 years



Juanita Langbein 19 years

Thank you for your years of service and dedication to Anderson Concrete!

# Thank You Employees

Since we cannot get together for our traditional summer outing due to COVID-19, we provided a boxed lunch and gift cards to all employees in August. While we know that does not replace the fun and camaraderie of a summer event, please accept this as a token of our appreciation for all of your hard work this year. ~The Anderson Family