

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

### Dear Friends and Colleagues,

First, thank you to our distributors for helping The Belden Brick Company recover from a tough 2020. While 2021 wasn't without some challenges, we are grateful that demand for our products remains strong with your determination. As we see in both our personal and professional lives, demand for many products is way up. Longer lead times and higher prices have dominated economic conversations this year. We have not been immune to the constrained supply chain either, so we're contented that we have our own clay and shale reserves for many years to come. Where feasible, we've been stocking inventory from outside suppliers to avoid any delays to our customers as well. Economists have various guesses about when the supply and labor issues will even out, but it can't come soon enough.

We've been talking about our Plant 8 project for some time, and I am pleased to say that we are currently running much of our production with the new equipment. A few highlights to mention, the Clay Coated styles have been trending in both our traditional colors and a few custom colors, and we will be adding pavers to the Price List at Plant 8 for the first time. Demand for pavers from Plant 2 has been strong but making enough stock has been a challenge with only one kiln. With the volume we can create at Plant 8, we can plan to stock more pavers there, so they are readily available. The coarse grind styles in red and gray colors are unique and attractive. It's been exciting to see what the upgraded Plant 8 can do. As we are still making tweaks with promising results that will significantly improve the quality of oversized brick, look for more updates as a few more features will be coming soon.

The Belden Brick Company has long been associated with creating custom brick solutions. We take pleasure in being a part of those conversations and creating custom blends for our customers. We continue to see creative designers come up with new looks and helpful distributors find the best match. In continuing this effort, we have put a couple of new items on the price list for 2022. The first one is Woodford Blend, Antique Colonial Molded Brick. You might say you can see hints of spice and warmth with notes of vanilla and caramel in this new blend that is kiln-aged for three days at Plant 3. Any basement bar would improve its look with this new color, available in thin and face brick as well as Belden Clay Pavers. There have long been requests for molded brick in a norman size, especially in our popular whites and grays. With that in mind, Plant 8 has created Winter Mist, a new extruded alternative with a sanded rustic texture that we can now offer in norman and other various sizes. Finally, Plant 6 has had much success with its Plank Series Pavers. The gorgeous combination of grays in our Pebblebrook Plank Pavers has been gaining popularity and, our newest blend, Denali, offering a richer darker neutral mix of hues. The Belden Brick Company is well suited to accommodate these requests to help architects and designers enrich the design of any project.

While COVID seems to linger on, the vaccine's protection has allowed more face-to-face interaction with our customers and suppliers. After so many months of staying home, it has been a highlight of the year to get back out and see the people we work with so closely. We hope that 2022 will bring forth more great projects and more personal interactions. We plan to host our annual Belden Sales Training School next year and other events to allow customers to see our operations here in Canton and Sugarcreek. Until then, please enjoy the holiday season with our best wishes; we are looking forward to seeing you in the new year.

Sincerely,



Bradley H. Belden  
President, The Belden Brick Company



Denali Plank Series Pavers

## In Memoriam Mark Britko



Fourteen years after receiving and persevering through a stage 4 cancer diagnosis, Mark Britko passed away on June 25, 2021. Mark began his career in the brick industry with Donley Brick, a distributor in his hometown, Washington, Pennsylvania. And then, after a stint with US Brick, John Belden hired him as a Regional Sales Manager for The Belden Brick Company in 1994. He was promoted to General Sales Manager and recently served as Manager/Strategic Markets, focusing on chemical resistant products, glazed brick, and providing additional support for several of our largest customers.

Mark had close and unique relationships with many of our distributor partners, including Potomac Valley Brick, Missouri Brick, and Clay-Ingels. He was passionate about his family, the brick industry, the Steelers, NASCAR, history, and golf.

And despite the stress that cancer put on his body, he always had a positive attitude. Mark is survived by his wife, Susan, his sons, Chad and Colin, and two grandchildren, Connor and Julianna. Mark, you are truly missed by us all.

## Trap Shooting Team The Belden Brick Company sponsors a Trap Shooting Team.

There were two new shooters on the team this year. It took the new guys several weeks to get settled in, but they shot as a team! Out of six teams, they finished in 4th place. They all had lots of fun and the hope to do it again next year.



Some of the members, from left to right: Riley Armstrong, Matt Hicks, Shawn Wheeler, Steve Swinderman, and Bob Keiffer. Absent from the photo - Dave Ely, Chad Smith, and Mike Reneker

## Mansfield Brick Celebrates 40 Years!



Mansfield Brick and Supply was founded in 1981, when Mike Anderson convinced his father and uncles to open a yard in Mansfield, Ohio. Pete Anderson, Mike's son, says, "Mansfield Brick has been so lucky to have the Belden Brick line, and it's a very good reason that we have been around for 40 years. We truly appreciate how you guys do business and hope to continue for many years to come. Dad (Mike) taught me from an early age about The Belden Brick Company, and now I see myself telling my 10-year-old son many of the same things. Either way, Dad and I are very proud of the 40 years accomplishment."

To celebrate the 40th Anniversary, Mansfield Brick had a great time reflecting at their first company golf outing. And what do you know, they had an engraved Regimental Red City Line Belden Clay Paver as proximity trophies! Just look who won the longest drive!

# THE BELDEN NEWS

WINTER 2021

## Distributor Spotlight Premier Brick Sales of Indiana

In 1976 Bruce Lyon started his journey in the brick industry, followed by Bill Cochran 10 years later. They began their careers in brick sales in central Indiana working for different distributors. Then in 2002, Bruce opened Indiana Brick Corporation, and Bill joined the company as a partner in 2005. Bruce and Bill continued what they had learned in their forty-eight years' combined experience in supplying quality products from the industry's top brick manufacturers like The Belden Brick Company while maintaining personal attention to their customer's needs. Closing the chapter of Indiana Brick Corporation in 2017, Bruce, Bill, and their business partners sold Indiana Brick Corporation to another industry distributor member company.

In 2021, Bruce and Bill have entered a new chapter in the brick industry by partnering with The Belden Brick Company and Endicott Clay Products to distribute brick in Central Indiana under the new company name of Premier Brick Sales of Indiana. Bruce stated, "With the recent developments in the brick industry, I felt it was important to come out of retirement in an effort to be a small part of the support for domestically owned and operated brick manufacturers and the values they represent." Bill commented, "We believe it is still important to our customers that we provide our personal attention to their business needs."

Being an owner of Custom Cast Stone, Bruce made a sensible decision to locate Premier Brick Sales of Indiana at the same office in Westfield, Indiana. This positioning allows Premier Brick Sales of Indiana and Custom Cast Stone to provide their shared masonry customers complementary products of brick and cast stone.



### In this Issue

Product Spotlight

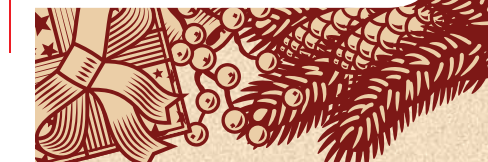
Distributor Spotlight: Premier Brick Sales

Retirements

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Letter from the President

Pop Cans for Charity



### Holiday Schedule

Closed Friday, December  
24th for Christmas Eve  
and December 31st for  
New Years Eve.

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# Expanding Our Brand



# Pop Cans for Charity

Central Maintenance decided to donate the aluminum cans they were saving for recycling to the Dover Fire Department for charity. The Fire Department collects cash from cans during the year and donates the money to several groups around the community, like the Children's Burn Unit at Akron Children's Hospital and the Local Salvation Army in Dover.

We had six super sacks full of cans for donating. It was a great way to get rid of pop cans.

- > **Children's Burn Unit at Akron Children's Hospital**
- > **Local Salvation Army in Dover**

The Belden Brick Company is proud to embark on the next phase of our expanded partnership with Belden Tri-State Building Materials to meet the maturing needs of our customers and communities. With offices in New York City, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, have been serving at the forefront of the masonry industry for over 75 years. We are excited to work closely with their superior sales team at the Trevoise Office and Showroom to deliver the highest quality brick and ensure our products' long-term distribution.

Meet the South Jersey and Philadelphia team: Tony Gambino – South Jersey Sales. Jim Michaels, Brynn Wesemann, Daniel Bagnell, Brad Saint-laurent, and Garry Duda – Greater Philadelphia Sales.



# Retirements

## Plant 2



### Tom Immel

Tom retired on June 1, 2021, at the age of 63, after 33-1/2 years of service with The Belden Brick Company. Tom was hired on October 20, 1987, into the central maintenance department. For the first 19-1/2 years with the company, he was involved with various plant projects and helped our ever-evolving company stay efficient and competitive. Tom was a big part of

the team of maintenance men that helped get The Belden Brick Company's "scrubbers" installed, operational, and keeping the company in compliance with emissions regulations today. In March of 2007, Tom came to Plant 2 and took the car cleaning and repair position, where he finished out his years of employment. In retirement, he enjoys his newly found free time to take some vacations and spend time with his family, which he greatly cherishes. All of us at Plant 2 miss him and wish him a long, healthy, and enjoyable retirement!

## Plant 3



### Larry Shetler

After 34-1/2 years of working at Plant 3, Larry Shetler has traded his work boots for hunting boots. Larry started in 1987 as a Kiln Fireman, drove a lift truck for a short time, and then back to being a fireman. Larry was always willing to help, doing many different jobs during Plant 3 shutdowns. Besides being a great fireman, his main claim to

fame was that he is only one of a few hunters and fishermen that never lied! Happy retirement, Larry!

## Plant 4

### Henry Erb

Henry retired on June 1, 2021, after 51-1/2 years of service. Traveling to begin his first day on the job at Plant 8, Henry was stopped and rerouted to Plant 4 instead. At Plant 4, Henry spent most of his years processing shapes in the Shapes Shed and the Sample Department before transferring to Plant 5 in 2009. There, he performed various duties, including driving a forklift to load trucks, sorting and gluing wood frames, and gluing mini panels. Henry is an avid reader, an Amish ancestry authority, and an active participant in many Amish community organizations. There is no doubt that Henry will be busy catching up on his reading book and magazine collections. We will miss his dedicated service and wish him all the best during retirement.

## Plant 6



### Abe Miller

Friday, June 4, 2021, was Abe's last day of work at The Belden Brick Company's Plant 6. Abe has been operating our ADA press machine since July of 2012. Belden won with an employee dedicated to putting out the best product possible, keeping the device clean and in good working order. If there was a strange noise or performance issue,

Abe quickly got attention to the problem. Belden wins because we kept our ever-growing ADA paver selection in stock and ready to sell. We thank Abe for his service.



### Cliff Yosick

On Friday, July 9, 2021, Cliff Yosick ended his 44-year career at The Belden Brick Company. The name Clifford is usually associated with the vision of a big red dog. For us here at Plant 6, Clifford is our version of a true BRICKYARD DOG. Cliff's 44 years were full, and he was a great help and a Jack-of-all-trades. Cliff did it all! When

asked to come out on different shifts to help the kiln department, he would. When called out to help with kiln wrecks, he did. On June 20, 1977, Cliff started with the "stripping crew" and packaging department, where he gobbled up brick like dog biscuits! After his piecework days, he helped operate the packaging machine, worked the glaze booth, and served 12 years in the kiln department with helper and fireman duties. Cliff helped out at Plant 2 with the kiln department for several months and last served us with lift truck operation, helping keep our current ever-flowing glaze operation running.

He always said yes, worked hard, and did everything we asked of him. Cliff was loyal to his company, a true "Brickyard Dog"! Congratulations, Cliff Yosick! Job well done. We will miss him.

# New Hires Belden Welcomes



### Brittany Spears

Brittany has nearly a decade of skills and experience in manufacturing to bring to her new role as Plant 5 Customer Service Coordinator. Brittany lives in Baltic with her husband, two children, and their Doodle, Luna. They live for softball season and spend most of their spring and fall at the ball field. She is excited to learn and grow as a part of The Belden Brick Company family.



### Lisa Reiger

There's a new voice for The Belden Brick Company! Welcome, Lisa Reiger, our new Receptionist at the corporate office in Canton. While Lisa is new to the brick industry, she is not new to adapting to crises over the phone, as she spent the last 17 years as an emergency medical services (EMS) dispatcher. Lisa is very excited to be on board and looks forward to learning more. She resides in Perry Township with her husband, her puppy, and three kitties

# 31st Annual Belden Brick Golf Outing

On July 31, 2021, The Belden Brick Company held its 31st Annual Belden Brick Open. We had 28 players competing in a fun-filled scramble format at the Zoar Village Golf Course. This year's winners, pictured below, with a low score of 56, were Jeremy Maurer, Robert F. Belden, Charlie Belden, and Jim Piteo.



Second place, with a team score of 60, went to Kelly Schrock, John Belden, Bob Lindsay, and Wayne Schrock. Our third-place team, with a score of 61, included Brian Belden, Tim Brown, Gary Ley, and Jim Leahy. Closest to the pin winners were John Belden - Hole #4, Charlie Belden Hole #6, and Bill Belden, Jr. - Hole #15. Longest Drive on Hole #7 was Jeff Schrock, Hole #11 was Brian Belden, and Hole #18 went to Wayne Schrock. This year, we had one skin, the team of Jeff Schrock, Todd Yoder, Dusty Braun, and Russel Dixon on Hole #12, Eagle on the par 5! Congratulations to all our winners. And thank you to all those who participated.

# Product Spotlight New Winter Mist Extruded Face Brick

Bring the refreshing effect of nature to your next project with Plant 8's New Winter Mist, extruded face brick. This gray-bodied extruded face brick with its white sand coating, rustic texture, and unique neutral color will lend itself to many architectural styles. Winter Mist is available in Modular, Norman (pictured here) Ambassador, Modular Economo, Utility, and Monarch sizes.

