

Cast Iron Collaboration Forges Arts/Industry Masterpiece

When Arts/Industry resident Joel Otterson heard the news a fire broke out in the Wisconsin cast iron foundry, he was relieved to hear no one was injured, but was left wondering what the future held for a sculpture he was so close to casting.

Fortunately, associates in the foundry had the same concern, and just a

few days after the fire, a team assembled to help pour the remaining iron salvaged from the fire into Otterson's mold.

"To extract the cast iron from the electric melts, additives were mixed in, which made the material suitable for casting this sculpture," said **John Oneson**, General Supervisor – Electric Melt. It took a heavy-duty fork truck to get the 4-ton resin sand mold to the Osborn, where Iron Foundry Operators **Tim Schultz** and **Carl Diener** hand-poured the molten iron.

Otterson said creating the Grecian-inspired piece wouldn't have been possible without **Mark Crawford**, Team Leader – Cast Iron; **Peter Betchkal**, General Supervisor – Herman Mold Operation; **Chad Kautzer**, Team Leader – Automatic Molding; Iron Foundry Operators **Gary Jaeger** and **Steve Tracy**, and the entire cast iron team, who went above and beyond to make his sculpture a reality.

After a few hours cooling, the hand-carved mold was opened to reveal a massive 4-foot-tall vessel.

"With such a large mold, I was nervous to see how the cast would turn out, but I couldn't be happier with all of the detail in the end result," Otterson said.

The Arts/Industry program is a collaboration between Kohler Co. and John Michael Kohler Arts Center to allow resident artists to explore new mediums using factory materials, equipment and processes. Otterson, who had a residency 25 years ago, returned to the program where he works with a variety of materials including glass, ceramic, textiles, metals, wood and concrete. His work is inspired by history, the home, the gender of objects and their place in culture and what it means to be an American.

Currently, his work is included in an exhibition at the Hirshhorn Museum in Washington, D.C. titled "Brand New: Art and Commodity in the 1980s," and pieces he made during his residency will be showcased at the John Michael Kohler Arts Center in August. ▢



Iron Foundry Operators Tim Schultz, (left) and Carl Diener poured molten iron into a 4-ton mold to make Arts/Industry resident Joel Otterson's large vessel sculpture a reality just days after a fire broke out in the cast iron foundry.

Support Team USA and Wear Red, White and Blue



Dust off that stars and stripes vest and your famous red polka-dot socks, for red, white and blue Friday. It's time to cheer on our friend, Kohler Co. Market Analyst **Steve Langton**, a member of the U.S. Olympic four-man bobsled team.

Wear your red, white and blue Friday, Feb. 23, then catch the competition on NBCSN or nbcolympics.com at 6:30 p.m. CT and during NBC's primetime coverage of the Olympics starting at 7 p.m.

Learn more about Steve and his journey to the Olympics on myKOHLER news and follow his Olympic experience on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @StevenLangton. ▢

Donate Blood at Kohler

Today, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
Appley Theatre – Council Room
Sign Up: bcw.edu/kohler

Friday, Feb. 23, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Engines – Mexico/Canada
Conference Rooms
Sign Up: bcw.edu/kohlereng

Donors can also make an appointment by contacting BloodCenter of Wisconsin at (877) 232-4376. For information, email Julie.Lyons@kohler.com or call ext. 72759.

TODAY IS THE BIRTHDAY of

Mark Arnhoelter, Debra Aschenbach, Jim Bilgo, Mark Brown, Michael Cotter, Christine Dvorak, Chad Gauthier, Karen Groth, Laura Hembel, Richard Hendricks, Jamie Knox, Rachel LaPlant, Gina Madrigal, Mark Marusich, Charles Mashozhera, Steven Metzner, Kurt Mondl, David Olderman, Keith Palmer, Robert Vandevrede

THIS WEEK IS THE SERVICE ANNIVERSARY of

45 years: James Simon
40 years: Ronald Smies
25 years: Ricky Nelson, Robin Richter, Brian Swetlik
20 years: Melissa Greger
10 years: Dawn Hundt, Ryan Leichty

IN MEMORIAM

Roger Yurk, 86, of Sheboygan Falls, passed away Aug. 10. He joined Kohler Co. in 1969 and retired from Technical Services in 1995. He worked as a Tour Guide until September 2016.

Charity Dunk Tank Nominations Due Tomorrow

Kohler Stewardship is looking for 10 charities to be involved in the annual Kohler Associate Picnic dunk tank July 14 and 15. Nominate your charity (must be a 501c3 nonprofit) and include the organization's mission statement by emailing janine.chesebro@kohler.com by Friday, Feb. 23. Associates whose charities are selected will be contacted and are responsible to coordinate fundraising. Top fundraisers will receive a company donation to their charity.

Innovation for Good Film Festival

This film series focuses on UN Sustainable Development Goals including water, sanitation and hygiene, alternative and clean energy and more. Films begin at 11:30 a.m. and reservations can be made by searching IfG Film Festival in KCM. For more information, contact **Brigitte Dillman-Cruce** at ext. 70488 or **Nona Beining** at ext. 72020.

March 7: "Great Lakes, Bad Lines, Kenyan Water Women" at the Beacon

March 21: "Power Surge" at Cast Iron

April 19: "Here's to Flint" at Building 83

MDA Shamrock Sales Begin

March 1-16

Kohler kicks off its annual Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) fundraiser Thursday, March 1. The fundraiser runs through March 16 to benefit research, care and services for people with MDA through the sale of \$1 and \$5 shamrocks, which can be purchased at The Beacon reception desk and Woodlake Market. The goal is to raise at least \$2,000, enough to cover MDA summer camp expenses for one Wisconsin child. For more information, contact **Susette Kolberg** at ext. 74110.

Engineering Group Inspires Women at Kohler



The Women In Engineering group of female engineers from Kohler businesses take a facility tour of Kohler Power Systems during National Engineers Week.

Whether you work in an electrical, mechanical or civil engineering role, collaborating with fellow associates in the field helps establish a strong network and foster innovative thinking. That's the foundation of the Women In Engineering group at Kohler.

On Wednesday, members of the group met to experience Kohler Power Systems product development engineering, electronics test lab and manufacturing operations firsthand on a tour of the facility during National Engineers Week Feb. 19-23.

"Women In Engineering brings together a mix of engineers who work in a variety of disciplines across Kohler businesses," said **Megan Wehmeier**, Manager – Engineering, Current Product, Global

wastewater treatment and, most recently, an interest in facility tours.

"Kohler is such a large company. Being part of a smaller group of motivated individuals helps create an environment where you feel comfortable sharing ideas and asking questions," said **Cambria McLeod**, Staff Engineer, who works on the Codes & Standards team.

According to McLeod, kicking off their first facility tour during Engineers Week is great way to celebrate the group's continued success, and she is excited to see how this collaboration will evolve throughout the year.

For more information about Women In Engineering at Kohler, contact Wehmeier at ext. 76734. □

the way in quality and capacity," said **Christopher Donlon**, Associate Communications Manager – Print Production.

Printing Services is member of IPMA and has been recognized by the organization with 10 In-Print national awards for outstanding print quality. □

For more information, contact **Christopher Donlon** at ext. 74147.

Get a Behind-the-Scenes Look at Print Services

For more than 50 years, Kohler Co. has relied on the Print Services department to produce quality pieces internally. In honor of In-Plant Awareness Month, created by the In-Plant Printing and Mailing Association (IPMA), we look at how the department has evolved over the years.

In 1963, the Print Services department rolled out a new 26-page Kohler telephone directory on an off-set press, a job previously sent to an outside printing firm. The company's first full-color plumbing catalog was released in 1985 after nearly 18 months of cross-business work selecting photos, writing copy and producing final layouts.

Today the department is equipped with state-of-the-art industry machines and technology. On average, the team produces about 13 million pieces a year for Kohler businesses in the U.S., Canada and Latin America. Combined, its machines can print 490 sheets of 8.5-by-11-inch paper per minute, or 8.16 sheets per second.

"We have the most robust digital printing facility of any of our vendors, and we are leading

the way in quality and capacity," said **Christopher Donlon**, Associate Communications Manager – Print Production.

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Print Shop Open Houses

Tuesday, Feb. 27, and Friday, March 2
11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Building 5N (South of Gate 1 and the Power House)

The Print Services department invites associates for a behind-the-scenes look at how printing operations work at Kohler. Stop by one of the open houses to learn about the capability of the equipment and services, meet the associates who run its operations and enjoy sweet treats and refreshments.

For more information, contact **Christopher Donlon** at ext. 74147.