

# Webster Scale Employee Newsletter



DEC/JAN  
2023/2024  
Volume 7 Issue 9

## calendar

- Webster Scale will be closed over Christmas and New Years.
- 2024 SD AGC State Convention  
January 10-12  
Sioux Falls
- 2024 NDGDA Convention & Industry Show  
January 14-15  
Fargo, ND
- 2024 SD Grain & Feed Association Ag Expo  
January 17-18  
Sioux Falls



## 2023 - another busy and productive year for WSI

There have been projects to report on all year long, but actually seeing them listed, what an impressive year it has been!

It takes a team effort that includes the shop crews and office staff working behind the scenes to support those working on the projects. Congratulations to everyone on the WSI team!

## 2023 Project Review

### SCALE DIVISION SCALE INSTALLATIONS.

- **#2201** Concrete Materials, Sioux Falls.  
120' x 11' Rice Lake scale installation.
- **#2308** Olsen Farms, Hendricks, MN  
80' x 12' WSI pit scale built and installed.
- **#2309** Agtegra, Bristol, SD  
120' x 12' WSI pit scale built and installed.
- **#2310** Yaggies, Yankton, SD  
70' x 10' Rice Lake scale installation.
- **#2317** Glacial Plains Co-op, Degraff, MN. 80' x 12' WSI pit scale built and installed.
- **#2319** Glacial Lakes Energy, Huron SD  
120' x 12' WSI pit scale built and installed.



WSI pit scale



Rice Lake Scale

### CONSTRUCTION DIVISION PROJECT WORK SITES

- **#2111** Marshall Co. road near Eden  
Finished regrade on this job from 2022.
- **#2119** Lyman Co I-90 for BPI  
Material hauled for DOT.
- **#2212** Century Builders, Ellendale, ND  
Site work for buildings.
- **#2209** Webster School CTE Addition  
Site preparation.
- **#2214** Brown Co. Elm Lake access road  
Finished dirt work and pipe installation.
- **#2215** SD Game Fish & Parks  
Built up Ninke road.
- **#2216** Data Mine site, Jamestown, ND  
Site work.
- **#2301** Tripp Co. Highway 18  
Shoulder work.
- **#2302** Roberts County Installed 2 box culverts and built 2 traffic diversions.
- **#2304** Highway 81 south of Freeman  
Built turning lanes.
- **#2305** New Effington, ND  
Street improvements.
- **#2306** Ashley, ND  
Grain pad site for CHS.
- **#2307** Wagner Farms, Roslyn  
Cleared site and created building pad.
- **#2314** Kodoka area highways  
Thirty miles of shoulder work.
- **#2321** Ellendale, ND Data Mining Site  
Site preparation dirt work.





# Shops 1 & 2



Labels are very important for identifying ownership of equipment, especially on construction or scale jobs where there may be equipment from more than one company working on the same job. The big 'stickers' that Tannor creates in-house make it easy to identify Webster Scale equipment.

When a new piece of equipment or vehicle arrives, Shop 2 is tasked with putting the stickers on for fuel, engine oil, hydraulic oil, etc., as well as **WEBSTER SCALE**.

JD was currently adding several stickers to the 2017 906M CAT loader recently purchased. Buck was finishing up adding liners to three new blue bins for holding scrap steel. There are three of these blue bins - one for the dirt crew, and one for both Shop 2 and Shop 3 - and they each have stickers.



This bucket is labeled to be used with the CAT 906M loader.



In Shop 1, Jason is shown at right working on the block on Semi #42. He says it is about a 2-week project to counter-bore the block, allowing better crush on the head gasket. Stacey and Jason have also been tag-teaming work on the scale semi #38. This truck needs to be back on the road by Monday, December 11th. Semi #16 was overhauled this past month and is now back on the lot.

Mechanics Jonathon and Logan continue working off-site on construction projects. Jonathon is in the Presho area and Logan at Ellendale, ND.

Shawn has already been hauling equipment back home to the north yard. The mechanics will be servicing the equipment and making needed repairs during the off-season for construction work. *No off-season for mechanics!*



*Congratulations to WSI truck driver Brett DeJong*



**Benelli Allen-Dean**

**December 4, 2023**

**7 lbs. 13 oz. - 21 inches**

*He is the cutest little baby ever!*

**Parents - Brett & Erin**

**Grandparents - Dave & Juliah**

These are the liners for the engine block.





In case you haven't been to the office recently, you probably haven't met our new Administrative Assistant. Teresa Lone has been working in the business office with Mindy now for a couple of months. Teresa graduated last December from NSU in Aberdeen with a degree in Accounting, so was looking for a job that better suited her education when the opening at WSI became available.

Teresa is originally from Forman, ND where she graduated from high school. She went on to school at NDSCS in Wahpeton for a year, then moved to Aberdeen. She worked at Mavericks Steakhouse for ten years, starting out as a waitress, then moved to manager and bookkeeper, and then ended up as a banquet manager for the Dakota Event Center.

While in Aberdeen, Teresa met her husband Corey who was from Bristol. The couple lived in Aberdeen for about six years before they moved to Bristol in 2019. Teresa found work at The Galley, and then at CorTrust Bank in Webster as a loan processor, her previous job before coming to Webster Scale.

Teresa and Corey are the parents of two beautiful girls. Karley is 10 years old and in 5th grade, and Aaliyah is 9 years old and in 3rd grade. The girls attend Webster Area School and are very active in extra curricular activities. Both girls are on the swim team. Karley likes to be in plays, but swim team is her favorite. Aaliyah is in dance, basketball and softball (her favorite).

When they aren't running around with the girls, Corey likes to go to Marion to the drag races and Teresa goes along to watch. She enjoys grilling and bonfires, and also said she would travel the world if she had the chance!

Welcome to Webster Scale Teresa!



*The Lone Family*



### Ken Popham

This past year our work in the drafting department has been varied, as is usual with the types of projects we work on. We started with setting up parts for the semi wet kits for a couple of trucks. We try to keep our set-ups the same for all the trucks. Everything is set up for pulling trains (two trailers). There are two sets of everything from electrical trailer, tarp, lift axles, belly dump controls and hydraulics for side dumps.

Some of our other drafting projects this year: \*Pallets to store drive and steering axles. \*Hydraulic hammers used on the excavators. \*Tools and equipment that would need a forklift to move it around. \*Aluminum stands for Smithco landing gear. \*Modifying fuel and water tankers so that they can be used on construction sites. \*Adding a push block to the front of the John Deere blade. \*Building a new snow dozer blade for the front of the pay loaders. We design and the Shop 2 crew builds!

New for the portable scales this year was the deck material. We are using a different material now that is purchased by the coil. We use two sizes, 5 and 6 -foot wide. Each one of these coils is a semi load. There is also the never ending task of keeping steel and other parts in front of the equipment mechanics, welders, painters, assemblers and the concrete, scale installation and service crews.

### Tannor Popham

This past year I worked primarily on the GPS side of things - building designs, figuring quantities and making machine files. The data mining sites have been a unique experience with the fast pace and number of changes during the project. I spent a bit of time using the drone to capture project progress, survey new sites for design and measuring stockpiles.

## Drafting Department



Webster High School Senior Tucker Popham has been spending some time in the office with his dad Ken and brother Tannor, the drafting department at Webster Scale.

Tucker is participating in a Youth Internship Program offered through the school. He is required to spend at least 20 hours this quarter at a job site learning about a career he is interested in pursuing. His post-secondary choices for schools at this time are Lake Area Tech in Watertown or Western Dakota Tech in Rapid City, SD.

*Reported by Rob Kading*

Work continued on the scale installation project in Huron reported in the November newsletter. The deck has been completed and was covered for the first 72 hours of curing time. If the temperature drops below 32 degrees, then the concrete must be covered to keep from freezing. The scale is ready to be put into service anytime, but Glacial Lakes Energy has some work to finish first which will take some time yet. This will be the last scale installation for 2023.

# #2319



Pouring the deck are Joey, Trent, DJ, Chris, Ray and Rob.



Deck covered with concrete blanket.



Completed installation



Four members of the scale crew boarded a Rice Lake jet in Wauertown on a recent Thursday morning for the 45 minute flight to Rice Lake, Wisconsin as guests of Rice Lake Weighing Systems. The crew was updated on any changes to the Rice Lake scales and given a tour of the manufacturing plant. They were treated like royalty during their two day visit by owners Mark Johnson and his son, Mark Jr. This annual trip is something that Rice Lake has offered for many years, but the scale crew typically goes every couple of years. This was the first trip to Rice Lake for Joey and Trent.

The other photo is from one of the early trips to Rice Lake back in 2006, and includes Roger, Rob, Jason, Joel and John with the sales rep on the left.



Above L-R: Jamie, Rob, Joey and Trent with Monte, Mark Sr. and Mark Jr. with Rice Lake.



*Gone but not forgotten...*

**JASON SHOEMAKER**  
**Vice President Scale Division**  
**July 22, 1973—Dec. 20, 2017**







*Faith Shoemaker, Project Coordinator*

In this photo, Logan is welding on a cutting edge of the CAT 305 mini excavator. We are digging around the pile caps on the building pad of this additional Ellendale data mining site. Tim is sitting in the excavator.

*Tim Woods, Project Coordinator*

Below are photos of the pile driving and then another of the concrete pile caps that are being placed on the pilings after they are driven in.

Working with Faith and me here in Ellendale are Logan, Tommy, Cade, James and Elizabeth, and we also had Baxter here last week to help us for a few days before Thanksgiving.

# #2321



## Data Mining Site



### *A near miss....*

Jasmine was driving #27 pickup to the job site in Lyman County early one morning recently when she saw two deer in the ditch. One deer then decided to cross the road in front of the pickup. Her quick reaction kept her from taking the ditch to avoid the deer, so she ended up running over the deer.

A quick check of the pickup revealed there was only a small dent. Had she swerved to miss the deer, she would have ended up in the ditch. The damage would have been much worse, as well as the possibility of injury to Jasmine and her two sleeping passengers, who woke up when she reacted verbally to the deer on the road!





# SAFETY TIPS FOR DRIVING IN WINTER

## PREPARE for the TRIP

### Maintain Your Vehicle

Check battery, tire tread and windshield wipers. Keep your windshield clear. Put no-freeze fluid in the washer reservoir and check your antifreeze.

### Have an Emergency Kit

Flashlight, snow brush and ice scraper, blankets, snacks and water, shovel, cell phone or 2-way radio, first aid kit, traction aides (sand or kitty litter), jumper cables and warning flares.

### Plan Your Route

Allow plenty of time. Check the weather and leave early if necessary. Be familiar with directions and let someone know your route and arrival time.

### Stopped or stalled?

Stay in your vehicle. Don't overexert yourself. Put a bright marker on antenna or windshield. Shine the dome light. If you keep the engine running, clear exhaust pipe and run only enough to stay warm. Don't idle for a long time with the windows up or in an enclosed space.

## PROTECT YOURSELF

Wear your seat belt and make sure any passengers are buckled up as well. Children 12 and younger are much safer in the back seat.

## PREVENT CRASHES

Slow down and increase distances between vehicles. Watch for pedestrians walking on the road. Avoid fatigue by getting plenty of rest before the trip. Stop at least every three hours, and rotate drivers if possible. If you are planning to drink, designate a sober driver.

*The Three P's of Safe Winter Driving  
**Prepare, Protect, Prevent***

*Merry  
Christmas*  
& **HAPPY NEW YEAR**

## Seasonal & Temporary Employees...

When your work is finished for this construction season, it will be time for you to enjoy some well-deserved time off. Thank you for your dedicated and safe work throughout the busy construction season. We look forward to seeing you again when it is time for the 2024 construction season.

*Please keep the office updated with any changes in your contact information.*



Webster Scale, Inc.  
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- Family owned business since mid 1960's
- Full line of scale products, services and parts
- Wide variety of heavy construction services
- Committed to providing superior products and services at a reasonable cost

