

This Big One Didn't Get Away

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J. C. Miller

On January 28, 2000 at Zihuatanejo, Mexico, we left port at 7:00 AM. By 9:00 AM, we had this black Marlin in the boat. It took 45 minutes and 8 men to pull the fish into the boat.

Duane McDonald, Brooklyn, gets credit for catching the fish. Members of the fishing party were (left to right); J. C. Miller, Mike Manatt, Brad Manatt, Jim Bim, Duane McDonald, and Dave Schinckel.

The captain of the fishing boat, Yellow Fin, was 21 year old Lenny Alvarez. When he was 14 years old, his father's boat caught the largest Marlin from that port, over 1000 pounds. The Marlin that Duane caught was 560 pounds and 13 feet long, and was the largest Marlin caught from this port since 1993.

Duane also caught the small fish that was used as bait which can be seen in the Marlin's mouth. Duane jokes that he caught the two biggest fish of his life, the bait and then the Marlin.



The other fish in the picture was a Mahe Mahe which weighed 35 pounds. That fish was landed by J. C. Miller of Brooklyn.

Note: Zihuatanejo is pronounced as: Z watt ten na ho.

MANATT'S MIRROR
 Manatt's Inc.

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Subsidiaries:
 Wendling Quarries, Inc.
 DeWitt
 Illowa, Blue Grass
 Marquart Block, Waterloo,
 Grand Junction, Dubuque,
 Marshalltown
 United Concrete, Waterloo
 Norris Asphalt, Ottumwa,
 Moberly Stone
 L. L. Pelling, North Liberty

Wendling Quarries

From the Desk of Tony Manatt:

I thought I would write a letter to sum up the events of last year from my point of view. Doesn't it seem like the older a person gets, the faster the year goes by? This one went by as fast as NASCAR.

Safety, quality, production; a statement we use a lot around here at WQI. We went through many changes in 1999, some good, and some bad. Wendling Quarries had a strong year. We met all production needs, and then some, and we did it without any serious problems.

Boy, the problems that we have now sure are different from those we used to have, as some of our long-time employees can tell you. Bigger, newer and better-maintained equipment has helped to change that.

I thought I would highlight some points of interest from 1999 such as: Safety, daylight for our tunneling project, zoning, sales at some of our sites (Moscow, C.R. South, Andrew, and Robins just to name a few), two large superpave asphalt projects, three large riprap projects on the Mississippi, opening a new sand pit in Cedar Rapids, personnel changes in our Robins shop. The biggest highlight was seeing you all pull together as a company and accomplish all of these things. So much has happened this year, it's tough to name them all. My apologies if

I have left anything out.

On a sad note, we also lost two of Wendling's best this year. I wanted to say a little something about each of them.

I met **Roger Huisenga** in 1990. I had heard of this guy called Buckwheat that worked for our competition prior to 1990, and being the competition, I didn't like him much. Once we were on the same team, it didn't take long to warm up to him. His loyalty was with us from the very beginning. Buckwheat was the kind of guy you could go to for the straight story. We talked a lot. He would never run anyone down and I respected that. I can still hear him in the hallway saying "Hi, Guy!?"

Buckwheat had heard that I was looking for a dog and showed up on my doorstep with a black puppy. I was upset, but of course I couldn't say no. I think Buckwheat just knew I needed a dog. I still have that dog and I can't express how much joy it has brought me. Buckwheat elevated the safety awareness of this company and so much more. I thank him for that.

Carl Johnson joined us after many years of service with Basic Materials. I was concerned about bringing someone in to work this demanding quarry and fit in with this tight knit group of individuals. The whole group was used to Steve Yerington and to doing things their own

way. It didn't take long for Carl to fit in fine. Just weeks after he started, Lloyd VanDusen asked if I would mind if they presented Carl with some elevated work boots. (Carl was a tall man in a short mans body).

Carl was also very loyal, not only to our company, but also to his family, his wife, and to the employees who worked for him. I liked that about Carl. In our arousing conversations, he would always have the company in mind. If you were to look up the meaning of the word ethic in the dictionary, you would find a picture of Carl. Safety, quality and production were three words he lived by.

He taught me a lot and yet the knowledge he shared with me still didn't compare to the amount of knowledge he had stored away during his years of experience. We will feel the loss of his experience and will also miss him personally.

I feel for those who have lost a loved one recently, as I know that it can hurt for a long time. Faith has a way of helping and time has a way of healing. To quote Forest Gump, "that's all I want to say about that."

Tony

We are, also, saddened to report the death of Chuck Kniffen. Chuck worked at Four County.

Our condolences go out to Bill and George Dahms on the death of their mother. Bill is a superintendent of a portable crushing crew and George is a member of that crew.

Thank You

On behalf of my family I would like to thank all the members of the Manatt organization who showed my family so many kindnesses during our recent loss.

Sincerely,
Eric Johnson

Thanks from Illinois DOT

It has been a pleasure working with all of you over the past 7 years. You have always been one of my favorite producers to work with and you have always been very responsive to do whatever I ask of you, which makes my job a lot easier and I appreciate your cooperation.

I hope that the coming year is very prosperous for you company. We wish all of you and your families a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Thanks Again
Terry Wendel, Illinois DOT

Stork Club

Warren Gaede has a new grandson born 8-22-99. This is his 2nd grandchild. Bailey Douglas was welcomed home by his sister, Kimberly and his Mom and Dad (naturally).



Bonnie Gusso, who worked at our Ames office this past summer has a baby boy, born December 1, 1999. His name is Dustin Gregory.

Amy & Jeremy Holland became the parents of a daughter, Kaleigh Jo, 7 lbs 14 oz born November 17th. Grandparents are Bob and Donna Kalinay, and Dixie Holland (1st time grandma). Great grandparents are Mr. & Mrs. Jim Manatt and Mr. & Mrs. Kenny Alexander (1st time great grand parents). Kaleigh's uncle Craig Kalinay, great aunt Diane Kilmer, and great uncle Kenny Alexander, Jr., also, work for Manatt's.

Jonathan Fisher, Ames Ready Mix Division, is the proud father of a daughter, born October 30. Her name is Harley Joy.

Norm Wear, oil tanker driver, has a new granddaughter. Her name is Kirsten Cheyenne.

Harry Kilmer is grandpa again. Kyle Amos was born December 2, 1999, to Dana and Trish Kilmer. He has a brother, Kevin. That makes Diane Kilmer an aunt again.

A Note from Gene Manatt (Now one of those "snowbirds" in the deep south.)

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. As you read this, Nancy and I will probably be in McAllen, Texas. We are planning on being there the month of January. February we will be in Apache Junction, Arizona. I plan to be back to work the 13th of March. The trucking side of the business has had a good year. I have enjoyed all of the years I have managed that department and have really enjoyed all of the people that I have been involved with.

Manatt Airways has had a good year, also. We were just a couple of tenths short of 200 hours this year. We had trips to Florida, Arizona, Nevada, Virginia and a late trip to Washington, D. C. to see cousin Charles receive an ambassadorship to the Dominican Republic. It's very interesting how they spend your tax money.

I'm looking forward to being gone for the winter, but will also be looking forward to being back in the spring. I'll see all of you in March.

Thanks

from Patty Miller

Once again “a great big Thank-You” to the employees of Manatt’s. Deb did your Christmas shopping with the money from your pop fund for the poor and homeless at the Dingman House in Des Moines. They had a list of needs and wants and you sure made a big dent in their list; toilet paper, tooth brushes, tooth paste, deodorant, diapers, soap, baby wipes. Some of you even cleaned your closets and donated clothes.

I just love to go there. They come scurrying out to meet you at your car to see what you have brought. One trip there was a lot of women’s clothes. I told a couple of the girls sitting in the living room about the clothes and they jumped right up and started going through the sacks. I wish all of you could see what you are doing to make someone’s life a little easier. To us a diaper or even a bar of soap is no big deal, but to them it is a treasure.

I told you before that they finally did get their roof re-shingled. I remember the first time I went to help cook their evening meal and it was raining. One of the many leaks was just missing our batch of spaghetti on the stove. Recently, they even did some painting inside and outside of the house.

The blankets you sent last year were a great present for many. Some of the homeless sleep under the porch of the

house. Dingman House relies on the generosity of people like you for the funds and materials needed for the hospitality they are able to offer. The house was founded in 1976 and practices the works of mercy in their daily life by opening the house for those in need; food, clothing, a shower, or just conversation. They serve one meal (supper) a day. They feed anywhere from 40 at the beginning of the month to 60 or more at the end of a month. Any money the people make or receive runs out by the end of the month and you see families and their little ones come in for a free meal.

It is amazing how you feel like one big family and everyone belongs. You hold hands and have a family prayer before you form a line to eat. Different people volunteer for dish washing, etc. (Dishes need to be washed while serving because of the shortage of plates and silverware.) But it’s a lot, lot better because of your donations of kitchen supplies. A lot of lively talk and sharing of daily living goes on in the kitchen. For me to listen to the struggles of their daily life makes me appreciate what each of us has.

Thank you again for opening your hearts and remembering the less fortunate.

From the Newton Golf Team:

Elmer Anderson and Frank McDonald were responsible for this:

The Newton Golf Team greatly appreciated your support of Newton athletics by having your business provide a semi to transport the golfers in the parade.

Thank you.

Sincerely, (Signed) E C Nelson



Frank McDonald

This picture and letter were received by Tim Manatt, at Waterloo:

Tim

Thank you so much for helping us save on the cost of our playground construction. I appreciate the time you took to see me, and to give of your Company to help us.

Please come sometime to Fairbank and enjoy our nice park.

Thanks again

(Signed) Melaine Buzynski and "Fun for Everyone" group



The following came to the Company and especially to Kurt Kelly.

Dear Sirs:

Just wanted to express my appreciation to your company and especially Mr. Kurt Kelley, who in time of need went beyond the call of duty to help me get my vehicle operating, so I could clear the road. I was stranded and couldn't get my RV out of park and he found the fuse box and replaced the fuse. It has an electronic gizmo in the transmission and without this fuse you cannot get it out of park. This was on Hwy 2 between Bedford, Iowa and Mt. Ayr. Many thanks to Mr. Kelley and to Manatts for the assist.

Sincerely,

(Signed) D. B. Logan

USING THE TELEPHONE

Frank Heinen

If you are using a phone at any of the Manatt's Concrete plants or offices, you should dial the number 1-(area code)-000-0000. This saves the Company money. Manatt's DO NOT have any 10-10-000 numbers in use at this time. For all plants, offices, etc., please check your speed dial numbers and make sure they are not still programmed to a 10-10-000 number.

If you are at any of the Company plants or offices and need to call the Brooklyn office, you will also save the Company money by dialing the 515-522-9206 number instead of the 800 number. We pay less per minute on the 515 number than on our 800 number.

ALWAYS use 800 numbers when calling companies other than Manatt's, if they have one.

bulletin in some things from the IRS:

You may need to check your Form W-4 Withholding Form.

Since you last filed Form W-4 with your employer did you...

Marry or divorce?

Gain or lose a dependent?

Change your name?

Were there major changes to...

Your nonwage income (interest, dividends, capital gains, etc.)?

Your family wage income (you or your spouse started or ended a job)?

Your itemized deductions?

Your tax credits?

If you answered "Yes" to any of these questions or you owed extra tax when you filed your 1998 return, you may need to file a new Form W-4 for 2000. Call Diane for a copy of the 2000 Form W-4

Diane Kilmer received this

Good Job!!

Chico & Steve

The following article is from the "Iowa Asphalt Report" about the City of Lynnville Paving. As Brad stated, "This was a job well done by Chico Illingworth and Steve Ranfeld."

In the summer of 1999 the City of Lynnville, population 393, paved their entire town! Using bonds as the funding source, the City negotiated a contract with Manatt's Inc., Newton.

Prior to this season's work, Lynnville, located 9 miles south of I-80 in Central Iowa, had mostly seal-coated roads throughout their town. The City had been doing their own seal coat work for years, but had decided it was time for hard surfaced roads. Manatt's came in with a milling machine first to lower the elevation at the intersections, match existing highways, and profile the base. They also had to do work at manholes and make water valve adjustments. Following that, 4" to 6" of hot mix asphalt was placed throughout the town, with the thicker sections being near the granary and where heavy truck traffic traveled. Throughout the town, all sections were rural, so no curb and gutter work was involved. Drainage, however, does not appear to be a problem.

The City had also just built a new golf course, so the contractor paved the road leading to the golf course as well as the parking lot. The road had consisted of 6" of rock, so it

was a good, stable base to place the hot mix asphalt on.

When all was said and done 6700 tons of hot mix asphalt had been placed. Using 3/4" Type A base mix and 1/2" Type A surface mix one paving crew breezed through the town in just over one week. This is a great example of how quickly an asphalt paving contractor can mobilize in a town and complete a quality project.

In Sympathy

The Company would like to extend their sympathy to the following people in the recent deaths of their loved ones:

Gary Behaunek, seal coat crew, in the death of his brother-in-law;

Angie Hawkins, Brooklyn office, in the death of her nephew;

Monte & Ron Hurst in the death of their father. Monte is superintendent of the underground crew and Ron is a dump truck driver at Brooklyn.

Susan Kriegel, payroll clerk, in the death of her grandfather;

Dale McCammant, Malcom and Newton asphalt plants, in the death of his grandmother;

Gary Nichol, Brooklyn dump truck driver, in the death of his mother;

Darwin Niehaus, Waterloo ready mix plant, in the death of his father-in-law;

Tommy Shaul, Brooklyn ready mix plant, in the death of his father in law.

Best wishes and a "Speedy Recovery" to Rita Babinat and to her sister. Rita recently donated a kidney to her sister. We wish them both well.

Winners of the December

And the Winners Are

safety drawing for \$1,000.00 each were:

Danny Clark, Dump truck driver out of Brooklyn

Steve Ledvina, ready mix driver at Traer/Dysart

Herman Sellers, with the concrete paving division.

Congratulations to these winners for an incident free year!



These pictures and the ones on the following page, were taken at the Vinton Ready Mix Plant.



