

THE WEST END WIRE



An Internet Publication For The Information And Enjoyment Of Our Employees
And Friends Of WEST END ELECTRIC CO., INC.

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WestEndElectricCo.com

Build Bridges not Fences

Once upon a time two brothers who lived on adjoining farms fell into conflict. It was the first serious rift in 40-years of farming side by side, sharing machinery, and trading labor and goods as needed without a hitch.

Then the long collaboration fell apart. It began with a small misunderstanding and it grew into a major difference, and it finally exploded into an exchange of bitter words followed by weeks of silence.

One morning there was a knock on John's door. He opened it to find a man with a carpenter's toolbox. "I'm looking for a few days work" he said. "Perhaps you would have a few small jobs here and there that I could help with? Could I help you?"

"Yes," said the older brother. "I do have a job for you. Look across the creek at that farm. That's my neighbor, in fact, it's my younger brother. Last week there was a meadow between us and he took his bulldozer to the river levee and now there's a creek between us.

Well, he may have done this to spite me, but I'll go him one better. See that pile of lumber by the barn? I want you to build me a fence – an 8-foot fence – so I won't have to see his place or his face anymore."

The carpenter said, "I think I understand the situation. Show me the nails and the post-hole digger and I'll be able to do a job that pleases you."

The older brother had to go to town, so he helped the carpenter get the materials ready and then he was off for the day. The carpenter worked hard all day, measuring, sawing, nailing. About sunset when the farmer returned, the carpenter had just finished his job. The farmer's eyes opened wide, his jaw dropped. There was no fence there at all.

It was a bridge – a bridge stretching from one side of the creek to the other! A fine piece of work handrails and all – and the neighbor, his younger brother, was coming across, his arms outstretched. “You are quite a fellow to build this bridge after all I’ve said and done.” The two brothers stood at each end of the bridge, and then they met in the middle, taking each others hand. They turned to see the carpenter hoist his toolbox on his shoulder.

“No, wait! Stay a few days. I’ve got a lot of other projects for you,” said the older brother. “I’d love to stay on,” said the carpenter, “but, I have many more bridges to build.”

April & May Birthdays

***Dina Fraulini Mark Thompson
Dennis Beekman***

All that I have seen teaches me to trust the Creator for all that I have not seen.

WASHINGTON-NILE Middle School

We recently received a small project to install LED lighting in the stairs and ramps to the Stage, in the new Washington-Nile Middle School. Bill Mershon and Josh Reed have completed the rough-in, and are ready to install the lights as soon as they come in. We certainly do appreciate the work from the Washington-Nile Local School District.

Manchester Local School District Work Continues

We recently received a contract with the Manchester Local School District to install access control for the office area of the Elementary School, and another contract to replace lighting in the High School Round Room with LED lighting. We really do appreciate the work from the fine folks with the Manchester Local School District.

Lighting Upgrades Performed for New Boston

The Village of New Boston recently approved the installation of security and night lighting at two of their flood pump stations. Miles Lee Ferguson and Dustin Pendleton just completed the installation of new light fixtures, receptacles, and switches at Flood Pump Stations #7 and #10. We always appreciate the opportunity to provide work for the Village of New Boston.

Iron Ridge Campground Upgrade

Work has already started on the Iron Ridge Campground in Wayne National Forest. Andy Eldridge has been performing some rough-in work at the site. We received a contract with Diaz Construction to install power to two new combination toilet and shower house buildings being constructed at the facility. Work should be completed the end of Summer 2012. We always appreciate the opportunity to work with our friends from Diaz Construction.

*Reputation is what men and women think of us;
Character is what God and angels know of us.*

Ironton-Russell Bridge Project

We recently received a contract to perform the Electrical installation on the new Ironton-Russell Bridge being built just up-river from the old bridge. ODOT awarded the new bridge contract to Brayman Construction Corp. of Pennsylvania, who awarded us a subcontract for the Electrical work. Dwane Johnson, Ed Sommer, and Kenny Stewart have been involved with the installation of temporary power and lighting at Brayman's field office trailers. Clearing has already begun for the new bridge, and we expect the Electrical work to begin later this year. This new bridge will be a beautiful addition to the Ironton and Russell areas. The old bridge will be removed once the new bridge opens in 2015.

Hillview Retirement Center to get New Parking Lot

We recently received a contract with Solid Rock Construction to install lighting for a new parking lot being constructed on Sherman Road, for Hillview Retirement Center. Materials have been ordered, and this work should start in a month or so.

Clay Work Continues In Former H.S. Building

Kenny Stewart and Dan Maple have been busy performing additional work in the former Clay High School Building. We have received several small contracts for lighting, emergency power, and HVAC equipment being installed. This building still has a lot of life left in it. While this has been going on, our crews have also been taking care of minor warranty and punchlist items. We have appreciated the opportunity to continue to work for the folks at Clay Schools.

*Thought for the day...
A married man should forget his mistakes. There's no use in two people remembering every little thing!*

Portsmouth Medical Office Building Nearing Completion

From the outside, the new Medical Office Building looks nearly finished, but work continues inside. This project is less than a month from completion, and is really looking good. Andy Eldridge and his crews have kept up with the other trades and are right on target. Once completed, this facility will be an attractive addition to the neighborhood. Led by Andy Eldridge, the following Electricians are on this project: Michael Hunt, Chance Cooper, and Chris Good. No injuries to date!

Repair Work Completed On The New Boston Flood Defense System

We recently completed repairs to circuit breakers, float switches, and 5kV cables feeding the different flood pump stations. Dwane Johnson and Kenny Stewart performed this work. We always appreciate the work that New Boston sends our way.

Service Work Continues...

Service calls and small jobs continue to keep Dwane Johnson busy. Lately, he has been working on the following: South Shore Water, Portsmouth Public Library, Shawnee Lodge, Rumpke Transfer Station, Fifth/Third Bank, Shawnee State Golf Course, Green Glen Apartments, Goodwill Industries, Portsmouth Fire Department, US Banks, American Savings Bank, PNC Bank of Ironton, PNC Bank of Jackson, PNC Bank of Sciotoville; to name a few. Dwane had some help from Kenny Stewart, Andy Eldridge, Danny Maple, Danny Beekman, and Ed Sommer.

Fluor-B & W Trailer Projects Progressing

Our crews have nearly completed the Electrical work on the Areas 1 & 2 Trailer Complexes, and work recently began on the Area 7 Trailer Complex. Workers had to endure some pretty bad weather during this project, but they have also been blessed with an early spring. We are working as a sub contractor to Geiger Brothers and Pac-Van on these projects. This project is part of the Decontamination & Demolition work going on at the former Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Uranium Enrichment Facility in Piketon, Ohio. These trailer complexes will allow workers to move out of the X-100 and several other buildings; so the old buildings can be torn down. Led by Pete Nichols, the following Electricians and Linemen have been working on these projects: Chad Hawes, Mike Cantrell, Tucker Smalley, Will Collier, Dennis Beekman, Ed Sommer, Danny Beekman, Danny Maple, Blake Darst, Rod Hensley, Dustin Pendleton, Miles Lee Ferguson, Christopher Good, Cody Breech, Nick Kingrey, and Mark Thompson. No injuries have been reported to date. Always a good thing!

This above all else, to your own self, be true.

PMHA Getting CCTV Cameras

We were recently awarded a contract with Resource One of Columbus, to install conduit & wiring for new CCTV cameras at three of the PMHA Facilities in our area. The Hudson house, Alexandria house, and Cliffside House are all getting CCTV cameras. Our crews should begin the rough-in work the week of April 16, 2012. We look forward to working with the folks from Resource One, and PMHA.

USEC ACP Shows Some Signs of Life

We've been told that development and design work will start back up in the X-3001 building, next month (May). USEC and DOE are committed to moving forward with the ACP project, but wanted to perform more development design research of the process, to further decrease the risk of the two billion loan guarantee we all have been waiting for. Preliminary work has been taking place over the past few months, to prepare for construction crews to begin work. We certainly look forward to continued progress with the ACP Project. We don't know how long this work will last, but we do appreciate the opportunity; and welcome anything that will keep the ACP Project active. We will continue to pray for the loan guarantee commitment.

AP Green Work To Start Back Soon

We have been awarded a contract for the Electrical on a new Employees Locker/Shower Building at AP Green's Oak Hill Site. Electrical work should be starting on this project any day now. Bill Mershon will be working on this project. It looks like the folks at AP Green want to keep our guys around a little longer, and we are OK with that. Thanks to our friends at AP Green! No injuries reported to date. Keep up the good work!

X-100 Vault Relocation Project to Kick-off Soon

We recently received a contract with Geiger Brothers to perform the Electrical work on the X-100 Vault Relocation Project at the A-Plant. This project has a very short schedule and should be very busy in the next week or two. This is part of the removal of facilities from the old X-100 Building, to allow for the decontamination and demolition of the building that has been in place since the 1950's.

SOMC Preventative Maintenance Work To Begin Soon

SOMC is in the process of scheduling time for outages so we can begin inspections, operations, and cleaning of the high voltage equipment and switchgear at SOMC's Main Campus. This work will need to be closely coordinated with the Hospital Staff, due to power outages and testing. Dwane Johnson is heading up this work.

*The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.
Psalms 33:5*

Robert Walton Industrial Site Finishes Up

We have completed the Electrical work on the Robert Walton Industrial Site in New Boston, located East of OSCO. Our contract consisted of underground conduits for power and telephone services to the existing New Boston Flood Pump Station, and a cell tower site next to the flood pump station. Infra-Metals will be constructing their new Steel Distribution Facility on this site, with construction work to begin this Spring. We have appreciated the opportunity to work with J & H Erectors on this project. There were no injuries reported on this project. Great news!!

SSU Boiler Replacement Project Finishes Up

Electrical work has been completed on the Boiler Replacement Project in the SSU Fine Arts Building. Mechanical Construction was the lead contractor on this project. Miles Lee Ferguson and Dustin Pendleton performed the Electrical work on this project. We always appreciate the opportunity to work with the folks at SSU. No injuries were reported on this project, just as planned!

*It's not what you gather, but what you scatter
that tells what kind of life you have lived!*

AEP Grid Smart Project at American Savings Bank

We recently completed replacing fluorescent lamps and ballasts with electronic ballasts and F32T8 lamps at American Savings Bank. This is part of the AEP Grid Smart Program. Dwane Johnson, Ed Sommer, and Dan Maple performed this work. We will be looking at performing this at their branch banks in the very near future.

New Boston Gets another New Traffic Controller

A new traffic signal controller was recently installed at the intersection of Lakeview Ave. and Gallia Street. Dwane Johnson and Kenny Stewart performed this work. This has improved the traffic flow in the area, despite the construction delays associated with the Route 139 closure. We appreciate the opportunity to work with the Village of New Boston, Ohio again.

SOMC Electrical Repair Work

SOMC recently acquired our services to perform Electrical repairs to equipment with thermal imaging issues. Miles Lee Ferguson and Dustin Pendleton have been making repairs and corrections to the Electrical equipment. This work should be wrapping up soon. We appreciate the trust SOMC has placed with us to perform this work.

*Today is the oldest you've ever been, yet the youngest you'll ever be;
so enjoy this day while it lasts.*

Gas Fired Boiler Plant Awarded at A-Plant

We recently received a contract with Geiger Brothers to perform the Electrical work on a new Gas Fired Boiler Project at the A-Plant. These new boilers will replace the old coal fired Steam plant that has been in operation since the 1950's. Once the new boilers are operating and on line, demolition work will begin on the old steam plant. This is part of the decontamination and demolition project headed up by Fluor-B&W Portsmouth LLC.

Lawrence County Depot Project Nears Completion

Work has been progressing on the Lawrence County Depot Project over the past few months. As of this date, all underground conduit and wire has been installed, and we are waiting on the canopy to be painted so we can install the conduits, wires, and lights. Electrical panels and enclosures have been installed and are ready to be powered up. The completion date is April 30, 2012. Led by Dwane Johnson, the following men have been working on this project: Ed Sommer, Kenny Stewart, Dan Maple, Miles Lee Ferguson, and Dustin Pendleton. No injuries reported to date, and that is a good thing!

Observations on Growing Older

- Your kids are becoming you...and you don't like them...but your grandchildren are perfect!
- Going out is good... Coming home is better!
- You forget names... but it's OK because other people forget they even knew you!!!
- You realize you're never going to be really good at anything... especially golf.
- Your spouse is counting on you to remember things you don't remember.
- The things you used to care to do, you no longer care to do, but you really do care that you don't care to do them anymore.
- Your husband sleeps better on a lounge chair with the TV blaring than he does in the bed. It's called "Pre-Sleep".
- You miss the days when everything worked with just an "ON" and "OFF" switch.
- You tend to use more 4-letter words... "What"... "When"... ???
- Now that you can afford expensive jewelry, it's not safe to wear it anywhere.
- You notice everything sold in stores is "sleeveless".
- What used to be freckles are now liver spots.
- Everyone Whispers!!!
- Now that your husband has retired... you'd give anything if he'd find a job!
- You have 3-sizes of clothes in your closet... two of which you will never wear.
- But old is good in some things: Old songs, Old movies, and best of all; Old Friends!!!

What we've bid, and will be bidding...

- We turned in a bid on the Electrical package for the new Greenup County Library in early April, but came in second to JMK.
 - We will be bidding the Electrical on a Health Clinic being built at the Manchester School Facility, on April 19, 2012.
 - We recently turned in a bid for the Electrical installation on the new Track Field being constructed for the Portsmouth Local School District. We have not heard anything on this project yet, but I have seen some Electrical work going on at the site.
 - We turned in a proposal to the Scioto County Parks Dept. to replace the area lighting at the Earl Thomas Park, with LED lighting. The County is applying for a grant for this work.
 - We turned in a bid on April 13, 2012 to B&W, to perform isolated grounding work at the DUF6 Conversion Facility at Piketon. We should hear something next week.
 - We recently turned in proposals to perform testing and repairs to Electrical equipment at the ACP Project. We received a purchase order for some of the work, and are waiting on a response on the rest.
 - We recently submitted a proposal to the Portsmouth Filtration Plant, to install VFD's on the high service and river intake pump motors. This project will save the City of Portsmouth close to \$100,000.00 per year on the power consumption at the plant. We are waiting to hear back on this project.
 - We recently turned in a bid for the X-744G New Power Distribution at the A-plant. We have not heard the results of this bid yet.
 - We recently bid the Electrical grounding on the X-100 Fence Project at the A-plant. We have not heard the results on this bid yet.
 - We will be bidding the 13.8kV Electrical Distribution Project with Fluor B&W at the A-Plant, later this month. This project was bid late last summer, but is back out again.
 - It's been months since we turned in a price for the Infra-Metals Steel Distribution Facility to be built in New Boston. The last word on this project was there are some property issues to be resolved before they select the contractor to build their facility.
 - We recently turned in a bid for installing power to some relocated and new equipment at the SFI Steel Facility in New Boston. We are waiting on a response to our proposal.
 - We bid the Electrical package on the Portsmouth KDMC Medical Facility Expansion in early January 2012, and came in a close second. The contract was awarded to Ready Electric of Dayton.
 - We rebid the Electrical Package on the Wheelersburg Athletic Complex, on December 22, 2011; and came in second. The low bidder was Mullins Construction Co.
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