

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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A Lesson from an Ant...

Brenda was a young lady that wanted to learn rock climbing. Although she was scared to death, she went with a group who found this tremendous cliff of rock. Practically perpendicular, and in spite of her fear, she put on the gear and took hold of the rope and started climbing up the face of the huge rock.

About half way up the rock, she reached a ledge where she could take a breather. As she was resting at the ledge, whoever was holding the rope on up the rock made a mistake, snapped the rope against Brenda's face, and knocked out her contact lens.

You know how tiny contact lenses are and how almost impossible they are to find. Well, here she is on a rock ledge, with who knows how many hundreds of feet below and above her. Her sight was now blurry, and she was a long way from home. She knew there was no place nearby where she could get a new contact lens. She looked and looked and looked, hoping that she would be able to find the tiny contact lens; but it could not be found. So she prayed that the Lord would help her to find it.

Her last hope was that perhaps when she got to the top of the cliff, one of the others could find the contact lens in the corner of her eye. When she got to the top, a friend examined her eye, but no contact lens could be found. She sat down with the others and waited for the rest of the group to reach the top of the cliff. As she sat there, she looked out across the mountains, thinking of the Bible verse that says, "The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth." She thought, "Lord, You can see all of these mountains. You know every single stone and leaf on these mountains and You know exactly where my contact lens is."

Finally, the time came for the group to go back down. They walked down a trail to the bottom of the huge rock. As they circled around the rock to the location where the next group of climbers was about to start their way up the huge rock, Brenda heard one of them shout out, "Hey you guys! Anybody lose a contact lens?"

Well, the fact that this tiny contact lens had been found was amazing in itself. But it gets better. The reason the rock climber spotted the contact lens was because an ant was carrying that contact lens so that it was moving slowly across the face of the rock.

What does that tell you about the God of the universe? Is He in charge of the tiniest things? Do ants matter to Him? Of course they do. He made them. He designed them. Reflecting on what had just taken place, Brenda thought of what the ant might have said to God: "Lord, I don't know why You want me to carry this thing. I can't eat it and it's awfully heavy. But if this is what You want me to do, I carry it for You."

If God is in charge of the ants, don't you think He cares about you and me? We can learn a valuable lesson from this ant - trust in God. We all could probably say a little more often, "God, I don't know why you want me to carry this load. I see no good in it and it's awfully heavy. Still, if you want me to, I'll carry it for You!"

February and March Birthdays:

*February: Dwane Johnson
Steve Marth
Dave Huff
Gavin Dillow*

March: Danny Maple

*Time is free, but it's priceless.
You can't own it, but you can use it.
You can't keep it, but you can spend it.
Once you've lost it, you can never get it back.*

Preventative Maintenance Awarded By SOMC

We recently received a preventative maintenance contract with SOMC. This project consists of inspections, maintenance, and operation of the High Voltage equipment, and Main Switchgear equipment at the SOMC Main Campus. Dwane Johnson will be heading up this work within the next 4-weeks or so.

Washington-Nile Middle School Continues

Finish work has already begun in parts of the new Washington-Nile Middle School. Our crews have installed some devices and light fixtures. Most of the cable tray is installed, and the installation of data/voice cabling has begun. Temporary heat is being maintained in the building, allowing crews to progress at a good pace. Bill Mershon's crew have pulled in panel feeders, and most of the feeders in the Electrical Room. Branch circuit wiring has been going in for a few months now. AEP has already been called to begin installation of the permanent Electric Service. The generator was set on 1/28/11. Despite the bad weather, this project seems to be progressing well. Led by Bill Mershon, the following Electricians are working on this project: Dan Maple, JB Cronin, Rod Hensley, Dave Huff, Bill Holland, Will Mershon, Tucker Smalley, Kenny Stewart, Daryl Wolfe, and Jason Russell. The new Middle School building should be ready to occupy when the new school year begins in August 2011.

Copper Wire....

After having dug to a depth of 10 feet last year, New York scientists found traces of copper wire dating back 100-years and came to the conclusion, that their ancestors already had a telephone network more than 100 years ago.

Not to be outdone by the New Yorkers, in the weeks that followed, a California archaeologist dug to a depth of 20 feet, and shortly after, a story in the L.A. Times read: "California archaeologists, after finding 200 year old copper wire, have concluded that their ancestors already had an advanced high-tech communications network a hundred years earlier than the New Yorkers."

One week later, a local newspaper in Ohio reported the following: "After digging as deep as 30-feet in his pasture near Circleville, Ohio. Bubba, a self-taught archaeologist reported that he found absolutely nothing. Bubba has therefore concluded that 300 years ago, Ohio had already gone wireless."

Buckeyes are such a proud bunch!

Small Projects Continue @ Manchester Schools

Kenny Stewart and Daryl Wolfe continue to take care of the Electrical needs of the Manchester Local School District. Replacing bad CCTV cameras and surge protection equipment is the next items to do. We really appreciate the opportunity to work for the fine folks with the Manchester Local School District.

Clay PK-12 School Continues

When you drive North on Route 23, and look over at the new Clay PK-12 School building, it is easy to see just how large this building is going to be. Most of the block work has been completed, and brick work has started on the South end of the building. Temporary heat has been established inside most of the building, and interior work is well under way. Work on the roof continues, as workers try to get all of the water out of the building. All of the underground conduits have been installed inside of the building, and all of the feeder wiring has been pulled and terminated. We are ready and waiting on AEP to energize the permanent Electric Service. Our crews have gotten a good start on pulling in the branch wiring. Conduit & box rough-in continues in stud walls and above ceilings. Some cable tray has been installed. There's still a large gap in the middle of the building, where the North and South ends of the building come together, but that area is closing up fast. The snow and rain has created difficult conditions around the outside of the building. Everyone is looking forward to warmer temperatures, to make outside conditions better. Led by Mike Snipes, the following workers are getting it done on this project: Ed Sommer, Justin Singer, John Messer, Steve Marth, Ryan Evans, Jeff Swords, John DeLaCruz, Paul Caplinger, Will Collier, Tim Jenkins, and Sarah Justice. This project is expected to be completed before school begins in August 2011. There have been no serious injuries reported by our Electricians. That says a lot!

*The bitterness of poor quality remains long after
the sweetness of a low price is forgotten.*

ODNR Watercraft Office Is occupied

The ODNR Watercraft Staff has moved into their new Office & Maintenance Facility, located on the Ohio side of the Greenup Dam. Danny Beekman and Ian Egbert have completed the punchlist. We installed provisions for the installation of an Emergency Power Generator and ATS on this project, and funding is pending for this installation. We hope to be returning soon to install this equipment. We have also quoted a couple of small projects to perform for the Watercraft Folks direct, but we have not gotten the go ahead on that work yet. We appreciate the opportunity to be a part of the new Watercraft Facility. Best of luck in your new home.

Anger is a condition in which the tongue works faster than the mind.

Nile Township Fire Station Wraps Up

We've completed the Electrical installation on the new Nile Township Fire Station. We got the final Electrical Inspection approval, and performed the Generator Start-up last week. The final building inspection will be done next week. There is only one or two small Electrical items to take care of. The residents of Nile Township have a lot to be proud of with this new facility. The West part of the building will house Township Trustees Offices, and the remainder of the building will house the Fire Department. This facility has a generator and automatic transfer switch that will restore full power to the facility in the event of a power outage. Emergency power was also extended to the Nile Township Squad Building next door. This can only enhance the services of the Emergency responders of Nile Township. Led by Kenny Stewart, Daryl Wolfe and Jason Russell have been working on this project. No serious injuries have been reported to date, and we are very thankful for that. We really do appreciate the opportunity to work with the good folks of Nile Township.

Wastren Gets New Office Building

We were recently awarded the Electrical contract for the new Wastren Office Building being built on Shyville Road in Pike County. This is the North Access Road to the A-plant. Geiger Brothers is the General Contractor on this project. This is a fast paced project with a completion date of early April 2011. Our Crew from the A-plant has already started on this project. Led by Pete Nichols, Chad Hawes and Nick Kingrey have been performing rough-in work.

The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort, but where he stands at times of conflict and controversy.

Portsmouth WWTP Work Nears Completion

The electrical installation has been completed to the Trickling Filters, Belt Press, and small Pump Building. Andy Eldridge, Dwane Johnson, & Justin Diller installed most of the conduit for the new UV System, which should be completed in the next week or so. This project, which started more than a year ago, is scheduled for completion in February. This project continues to be injury free. Great job!

SOMC Sewage Grinder Work Starts Back Up

Work should resume in the next week or so, on the Sewage Grinder stations being installed at SOMC. Miles Lee Ferguson and Dustin Pendleton are ready to get power to these grinders. We will be working with the fine folks from BB & E, who will be doing the underground piping and install the grinder motors. Grinder motors are being installed at the two sewer lines exiting the SOMC Campus, to assure no large “objects” flow through the lines and cause blockage to the City’s sewer system.

I saw a radical Muslim fall into our lake this morning. Being a responsible citizen, I informed the Emergency Services. It’s almost 11:00 AM, and they still haven’t responded! I’m now starting to think I’ve wasted a stamp...

ACP FUTURE BEGINS THIS YEAR

Word has it the big announcement of the 2-billion dollar loan guarantee will come around July of this year. We’ve been told that USEC would be assured of the guarantee months before the actual announcement. There has been a lot of activity around the ACP Site, as work is expected to start back up in a few months. Businesses and Construction workers alike have had their eyes on this project for a long time. It is sure to have a positive impact on our local economy, and it won’t come a minute too soon. Our crew continues to perform small projects at the Plant. Led by Pete Nichols, Chad Hawes, Mike Cantrell, and Nick Kingrey have been working at the site. We are very optimistic that things will finally come together this year.

SSU’s Student Service Center Renovation Is Done

The last of the work was completed earlier this month, in the new Student Service Center at SSU. Kenny Stewart got the final items completed just in time for SSU to moved in and begin operating out of these new offices when school resumed on January 10, 2011. We’ve been working on different projects around the SSU Campus for about 5-years now, and this is the last one we have to complete. We really do appreciate the opportunities to work with the good folks at SSU, and look forward to future work to take place on campus.

*If you put the Government in charge of the Sahara Desert,
in 5-years there’d be a shortage of sand!*

SOMC Pharmacy Renovations Nears Completion

We are about to begin work in the final phase of the SOMC Pharmacy Renovations Project. The employees have moved into the areas that have already been renovated. Miles Lee Ferguson and Dustin Pendleton have been performing the Electrical on this project, which will greatly improve the Pharmacy Department. Work should be completed in late February. No injuries have been reported, and that's something we all like to prescribe to.

Rubyville Community Church, February Move-in

Temporary Occupancy has been granted for the main floor and Sanctuary areas of the new Church. Carpeting has been installed and pews will arrive this week. It looks like a February move-in will happen. Dwane Johnson, Miles Lee Ferguson, & Dustin Pendleton have performed Electrical work at the new facility in the past few months. We are excited for the congregation of Rubyville Community Church, and look forward to the move.

*You don't get to choose how you are going to die. Or when.
You can only decide how you are going to live. Now.*

AP Green Awards More Work

Andy Eldridge and Dwane Johnson have been performing Electrical work on the new Shipping Runway at the AP Green facility in Oak Hill, Ohio. We really do appreciate the opportunity to work with the folks at AP Green again. Word has it this plant is expected to be very busy this year. Great news!

Fleming County Courthouse Gets Traffic Signals

We have been awarded a contract to replace the existing traffic signal installation at the intersection adjacent to the new Fleming County Courthouse being built. We are ready and waiting on the call to begin. It's been a number of years since we did work in Flemingsburg, and we look forward to the opportunity to return.

*Blessed are those who can give without remembering
and take without forgetting.*

Ironton Middle School Site Work Completed

The original contract work on the Site Lighting has been completed. Miles Lee Ferguson and Dustin Pendleton will be returning to prepare a new Electric Service to an existing out building at the site of the former Middle School. This will complete all of the work at this site. The Ironton Local School District has a beautiful Elementary and Middle School Facility, and it has been great to have a small part in the work. No injuries were reported on this project.

Campbell Elementary School Gets New Cafeteria & Kitchen

We were recently awarded the Electrical work with Trace Creek Construction, on the New Cafeteria and Kitchen Addition being installed at the Campbell Elementary School; in Raceland, Kentucky. Danny Beekman and Ian Egbert have already started work on this project, and will be seeing it through to the end. It's good to work with Trace Creek Construction again.

SOMC East Campus Gets Chiller Replaced

Work was completed last week, on the East Campus Chiller Replacement project for SOMC. Dwane Johnson & Andy Eldridge completed the work on this project. Miles Lee Ferguson and Dustin Pendleton will be returning to perform some additional control wiring on the new chiller.

New Boston Gets New Traffic Signal Controllers

We were recently awarded two contracts to replace the aging traffic signal controllers at two intersections in New Boston, Ohio. The Village has been working on this for some time now, and has had to replace these old controllers one at a time. We appreciate the opportunity to work with the Village. Dwane Johnson will be performing this work as soon as the equipment comes in.

Death and Taxes

*Tax his cow,
tax his goat,
Tax his pants,
tax his coat.
Tax his crops,
tax his work,
Tax his tie,
tax his shirt,
Tax his chew,
tax his smokes;
Teach him taxes
are no joke.
Tax his tractor,
tax his mule,
Teach him taxes
are a rule.
Tax his oil,
tax his gas,
Tax his notes,
tax his cash.
Tax him good
and let him know,
After taxes
he has no dough.
If he hollers,
tax him more;
Tax him 'till
he's good and sore.
Tax his coffin,
tax his grave,
Tax the sod
in which he lays.
Put these words
upon his tomb:
"Taxes drove me
to my doom."
And after he's gone,
he can't relax;
They'll still be after
the Inheritance tax.*

Service Work Continues...

Service work and small projects continue to keep Dwane Johnson busy. He has performed work at the following locations: Village of New Boston, City of Portsmouth, The Counseling Center, Rubyville School, The Briarpatch, Ohio Valley Regional Development, Scioto County Jail, Portsmouth Public Library, Party Pros, PNC of Rosemount and Jackson, Rumpke, and Wheelersburg Life Center; to name a few. They must like him because they keep calling back. Keep up the good work Dwayne!

Emergency Contract With New Boston

We received an emergency contract to replace a bad transformer, repair medium voltage switches, and repair high voltage wiring associated with the New Boston Flood Defense System. Dwane Johnson and Andy Eldridge have been performing the work on this project, which is expected to be completed this month.

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

- We will be bidding the Electrical work on the new Russell, Ky. Field House, on 2/01/11.
- Word has it that T.L. Blackburn will be receiving a contract for construction of the new Medical Office Building being constructed on the former McKinley Middle School property on Kinney's Lane. We submitted bids for the Electrical on this project, months ago. We are expecting to revisit the bids on this project. Work is planned to begin this Spring.
- We recently received the approval on two small projects we bid to Wheelersburg School District. Work should start on this project as soon as the materials come in.
- We recently bid the Pike County Transit Authority Facility in Waverly, Ohio. We have not heard anything on the bid results for this project yet. This was a rebid.
- Bids were submitted in December, for a large project at the ACP, in the X-3001 and X-3002 Buildings. We should be hearing something on this bid in April 2011.
- We recently turned in a bid to install an Electrical Panel on the Third Floor of the Scioto County Courthouse, to provide power to new HVAC equipment. No word on these prices yet.
- We recently quoted a small Electrical project at Golden Years, for work in their Kitchen. No word on this bid yet.
- We recently quoted Electrical testing for the Flood Pump Stations in the Portsmouth Area, to an independent Contractor performing other inspections on Portsmouth's Flood Defense System. No word has been received on the outcome of this quote.