

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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Where did all of the work go??? This is the question on everyone's mind. Last year, this area experienced more construction jobs than we've seen in over 25-years, but that seemed to come to a screeching halt in December. We're feeling the effects of a very slow economy. I recently read where unemployment has reached 1982 levels. Ironically, we were manning up for the GECP Centrifuge Enrichment Project at the A-plant during that time. And it looks like we will be manning up on the same project some time this year. The collateral damage from a lost construction job is greater than in many other industries. For every lost construction job, you generally lose a little over one more job elsewhere in the economy. Like falling dominoes, when construction stops, the surrounding restaurants, grocery stores, auto dealerships, and other businesses get hit. It is difficult to make any forecast for the coming year. However, with a proposed \$838 Billion stimulus package on the horizon – and State Governors asking President Obama for \$136 Billion in funds for infrastructure projects that are “shovel ready” – the Construction industry is poised to be a key player in rescuing the economy in the years ahead.

Now, lets look at the positive side. There Is no better time for the customer to build than now. With building material costs down, construction workers and contractors needing work, and interest rates low; the customer can get much more bang for the buck. South Carolina's Department Of Transportation announced that bridge projects awarded between the months of August and December 2008 were \$15-Million below estimates. This is attributed to the weak economy.

Now, more than ever, we need to put our best foot forward. Ecclesiastes 9:10 tells us “Whatsoever thy hands findeth to do, do it with thy might.” The Customer must see that he is getting the best for his investment. We must rise up and be the best. The best worker, best communicator, and most trustworthy Electrician that we can be. The weak will fall by the wayside, but the strong will survive these hard times. “Lazy hands make a man poor, but diligent hands bring wealth.” Proverbs 10:4.

The quality of a person's life is in direct proportion to their commitment to excellence, regardless of their chosen field of endeavor.

S.S.U.'s Rhodes Center Phase II Renovations Finishes Up.

Phase II work in the James Rhodes Athletic Center is completed. All we have left is a final inspection. This place looks great. Danny Beekman and his crew have done a great job. This project includes: a new wood Gymnasium floor, all new HVAC equipment throughout the building, renovated Locker and Shower Rooms below the Stage, completely renovated Public Restrooms, and new paint to brighten up the place. This was Phase II of a multiphase project. We're not sure when the next phase of work will be out for bid, but we'll be watching for it. Led by Danny Beekman, workers on this project included John Hill, Danny Maple, and Nate Geyer. No injuries were reported on this project.

ODOT'S New Pike County Highway Maintenance Facility Is Finished

Work on the new ODOT Maintenance Garage & Facility at the intersection of Routes 23 and 32 in Pike County, is finished. The dedication ceremony was held a few weeks ago. This place is a far cry from what was there before. Kenny Stewart and his crew did a great job on this facility. The next time you turn East onto Route 32 from Route 23, look to your right after you go under the railroad tracks, and you'll see what I'm talking about.

February Birthdays: Dwane Johnson
March Birthdays: Dan Maple

Work Progresses At Scioto Co. JVS

The Taylor Building now has permanent lighting, and things are coming together nicely. With some work left in the T & I building, and site work, this project is looking at an early Spring substantial completion. Led by Mike Snipes, Workers on this project include Dave Nichols, Ryan Evans, Tommy Nichols, Aaron Lore, David Shoemaker, Dick Greathouse, Brent Bostic, Aaron Johnson, Mike Cross, and Boyd Wisecup. This project continues to be injury free. Lets keep up the great work.

In the confrontation between the stream and the rock, the stream always wins. Not through strength but by perseverance.

Ripley Elementary School Punchlist Work Continues

Dwane Johnson is about to wrap up the remaining Electrical issues on the RUHL Elementary School in Ripley, Ohio. We were hired to take care of punchlist items left by the original installation Electrical Contractor who went out of business. We appreciate Mark Robinson of Ruscilli Construction for thinking of West End Electric to perform this work.

Brown's Medical Office Building Is Occupied

Jeff brown has moved his operation into one of the Office Suites in the new Medical Office building in Wheelersburg. Mark Spriggs moved the telephone system from the former office, to the new office; and has been wrapping up the loose ends on this project. Mark is just waiting on the other trades to wrap-up their work, andhe'ss return to knock out the remaining Electrical items. We really appreciate Jeff Brown allowing us to be a part of this project.

*Two Construction Workers were talking about a job when one asked,
"Say, why did your Foreman fire you?"
The second guy said, "Well, you know how the Foreman is always
standing around and watching others do all the work. My Foreman got
jealous. People started thinking I was the Foreman."*

SSU's University Center Project Pushes Forward

Despite the bad Winter weather, our crew has been getting things done on the University Center's new addition. The floor slab is roughed-in, underground feeder conduits have been installed, and the GC is planning on pouring the ground floor this week. Structural steel work is nearly completed, and the second floor decking should be going down in a week or two. This project will be humming this Spring. The new South Addition will have a new Kitchen and Cafeteria, and is expected to be completed in July. Led by Danny Beekman, this project has the following men: Ed Sommer, Adam Mullins, John Hill, Nate Geyer, Josh Blevins, Tim Literal, and Mark Spriggs. No injuries reported to date, and that makes everyone happy!

*Knowing is not enough; we must apply.
Willing is not enough; we must do.*

Task Order Work On-Hold, On The ACP Project

Task Order work on the ACP project in Piketon has nearly stopped completely. The ACP Project is still on the table, but there seems to be a struggle for loan guarantees by our Federal Government. We've had to make some extremely painful lay-offs to adjust to this situation. As of this date, we are down to three men at the A-plant. USEC and Fluor is working hard to bring and end to this situation, and get everybody back to work. As far as we're concerned, this can't happen quick enough. Currently, Pete Nichols, Mike Cantrell, and Chad Hawes are taking care of what little work there is to do. We're ready to jump when they give the word.

New Boston Shopping Center Finishes Up

Our contract work is completed on the New Boston Shopping Center's building. There are a few quotes for work out there, but we've not heard anything on them for over a month now. We appreciate our friends at J & H Erectors, for giving us the opportunity to work on this project. Josh Blevins has led our crew on this one, and has done a great job keeping everything on track. There are still a few unoccupied spaces, but we've been told there are businesses interested in being a part of this shopping center. We wish nothing but success for these shops, and are grateful for being a part of the construction.

SOMC Work Is Wrapping Up

SOMC has taken on a whole new look, and it's fantastic! Not only does this place look great, this hospital is able to do things that they only dreamed of before. I've been told that heart Surgeries have been frequent, and with great success. The heart Doctors that have been hired are some of the best in the Country, and have bragged at how SOMC has state of the art equipment and services in place. This puts SOMC on the Heart Services map, and we were fortunate enough to play a part in this work. SOMC is now occupying the entire South Addition, and two floors of the North Bed Tower. They are expected to move onto the third and fourth floors in the next week or two. Our crew is down to a few minor extras and remaining punchlist items. We are all very proud to have been a part of this major expansion, and are grateful to our friends at SOMC for the opportunity. The past 20-months have been a real challenge, but the end result makes it worth the effort. The overall project has been led by Bill Mershon. Current Workers on this project include: Danny Maple, Will Mershon, Miles Lee Ferguson, and Dustin Pendleton.

We want to congratulate to Mike Lee, on the birth of his first Grandson, Connor Aden Needs. Parents and grandparents are doing just fine.

Manchester Local School District Gets Walkway Lighting

Kenny Stewart and Tim Literal recently completed several small projects at Manchester School. New walkway lighting, magnetic door holders, and unit heater connections were among the work completed. We are grateful to the folks at the Manchester Local School District, for allowing us to perform Electrical work on their facilities. Kenny has done a great job making these folks happy.

Don't find fault. Find a remedy!

Wheelersburg's New K-12 School Is About Punched-Out

Dwane Johnson has been completing warranty issues and punch list items, on the K-12 School Building. If you haven't had the opportunity to drive by this place, this is a "Must See". There's not a school building of this size for at least 75-miles away. It definitely makes it easier to spot Wheelersburg from outer space.

PHS Athletic Complex Is On...

J & H Erectors have nearly completed the steel on the new Fieldhouse / Concession building, and the block work is coming out of the ground. Dirt is moving, despite the foul Winter weather, and the footprint is starting to look like the plans. Andy Eldridge is heading this project up for us. He and Mike Hunt have been pre-fabing conduits and boxes for the big push, and things are starting to pick-up. Kenny Stewart will be joining this crew next week. Plans call for the Football Field and Fieldhouse / Concession building to be ready by this August, so the Portsmouth Trojans can play Football in their new facility this Fall. We are excited about being a part of this project, and will give it our best!

Two blonds were working on a house. The one who was nailing down the siding would reach into her pouch, pull out a nail, and either toss it over his shoulder or nail it in.

The other blonde, figuring this was worth looking into, asked, "Why are you throwing those nails away?"

The first blonde explained, "If I pull a nail out of my pouch, and it is pointed TOWARD me, I throw it away 'cause it's defective. If it points towards the HOUSE, then I nail it in!"

The second blonde got really upset and yelled, "You MORON!!! The nails pointing towards you aren't defective! They're for the OTHER side of the house!!!"

Small Jobs At SOMC

Although not as frequent, we continue to pick-up small projects at SOMC. Miles Lee Ferguson and Dustin Pendleton have been performing this work. We appreciate the work SOMC has provided us over the years.

Service Work Continues

Dwane Johnson has been busy taking care of service calls and small projects. Things always slow down after the Holidays, and this year is no exception. But, Dwane manages to get things done for the Customers, and keep them happy. We appreciate the work he does!

We want to express our condolences to the Tim Keyser Family, on the passing of Tim's Wife, Rose Keyser. Our Prayers and thoughts are with Tim and his family during this difficult time.

A Contractor dies from a fishing accident on his 40th birthday and finds himself greeted at the Pearly Gates by a brass band. Saint Peter runs over, shakes his hand, and says "Congratulations!"

"Congratulations for what?" asks the Contractor.

"Congratulations for what?" says Saint Peter. "We're celebrating the fact that you lived to be 160-years old."

"But that's not true," said the Contractor. "I only lived to be 40."

"That's impossible," Says Saint Peter. "We added up all of your time sheets."

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

- We have been negotiating the Electrical work on a Steel Plant coming to New Boston, Ohio. Infra Metals is planning construction in early 2009, for a new Distribution Facility in the area behind the former Wal-Mart Shopping Center, East of OSCO. We have been working with our friends at J & H Erectors as part of this design/built/bidding Team. A decision is expected very soon.
 - We bid the Electrical on a small building being built at the new Sunoco Coke plant, in Franklin Furnace. We are waiting on a response to our bid.
 - We are watching for plans for a new K-12 School facility, for Clay Local School District.
 - We submitted quotes for several small projects at SOMC, and are waiting to hear back on the status of these projects.
 - We are watching for plans for a new K-12 School facility, for New Boston Local School District.
 - We are watching for plans for a new Middle School facility, for Washington-Nile Local School District; expected to be out some time this year.
 - We're waiting to hear back on a bid we submitted for a new Kidney Dialysis Center being installed in the lower level of SOMC's One West.
 - We are looking forward to plans for Renovations of the SOMC Cafeteria and Kitchen areas, due out around the first of March.
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