PIERCE MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATES INC

PIERCE News & Notes

www.pai.us | Employee Newsletter | June 2009

Pierce Partners with Ronald McDonald House

Pierce Associates is currently contracted with Balfour Beatty to install the mechanical and plumbing systems at the new Ronald McDonald House in Washington, DC. As part of this unique project, Pierce will be donating the sheet metal portion of our work so as to assist the charity in its unique mission: housing the families of hospitalized children so that they may all focus on recovery and not worry about lodging.

The origin of Ronald McDonald House charities dates back to the early 1970s. When Philadelphia Eagles tight end Fred Hill's daughter was diagnosed with Leukemia, everything in his life changed. He found himself sleeping on benches or chairs in the waiting rooms of Children's Hospital of Philadelphia far too many nights. Rest for the families of childhood cancer patients, he realized, did not exist. All around him parents who had traveled from far away slept, when they could, in chairs in the hospital, as many could not af-

Continued on page 3

Job Spotlight: Constitution Center

Constitution Center (0701), owned and operated by David Nassif Associates, is currently Washington DC's largest privately owned office building. The project commenced in 2007 with the goal of transforming the 40 year old former home of DOT into a state of the art office complex. Pierce Associates signed a subcontract with Davis Construction for the plumbing and mechanical scopes of work in the ten story retrofit, including typical office floor core installations, penthouse mechanical systems, and three levels of underground parking renovations. Work on all base portions is scheduled to be completed by January of 2010.

As part of architect and engineer SmithGroup's innovative design, the project has presented Pierce with its first opportunity to build an HVAC system based on "chilled beam" technology. A chilled beam is a HVAC combination grille and coil assembly that connects to duct outlets, and it is installed and used in lieu of the typical RGD and VAV systems. With nearly 7000 chilled beams due to be installed in this building once a tenant was identified, Pierce used this job as an opportunity to familiarize ourselves with this revolutionary product.

Demolition work began in June 2007 with the cutting, capping and making safe of HVAC and plumbing systems for removal by Dean Feldman (PL) and Gary Baldwin (PF). Simultaneously, Mike Stauffer and his coordination team began the arduous task of coordinating Pierce's work and utilizing the newest advances in BIM (Building Information Modeling) to allow for 3D depiction of all trades coordination in the penthouse. In the fall, coordination drawings were initially signed off for the typical office floors, and the ductwork, plumbing and fitter prefab in the shop began in earnest. On site, the presence of Superintendent Dennis Fitzpatrick and foremen Jeff Horsman (PL), Tony Davis (PF), and Al Mathias (SM) began the task of breathing new life into the skeleton structure.

By wintertime, coordination and preconstruction activities had mostly given way to installation activities, and the first hangers and inserts in the penthouse began in earnest. By the end of January, ductwork for five of the building's 10 stories, carrier assemblies for all floors, and HVAC piping risers for the NE quadrant were all on site. The first of the major equipment began arriving by mid-February, with the penthouse work proceeding as structural steel work would allow. Down below, the plumbers

Continued on page 10

"The dictionary is the only place where success comes before work."
- Mark Twain

Andrew Vogel Completes Officer Training School

In December of 2008, Assistant Project Manager Andrew Vogel left Pierce Associates to become a US Air Force officer. Selected as a Navigator in the indoctrination screening board, he and dozens of other patriots from all over the country arrived at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, AL to attend Officer Training School (OTS). Below are some of his thoughts on the experience of becoming a military officer, beginning with his first correspondence just seven days into boot camp:

We're getting screamed at, we're constantly drilling, rendering courtesies and customs, and we just had our first 3-mile "mud-run" as a squadron. Oh, and I think I could combine all of the time it took to eat the meals of the last 7 days and it would still be less time than one normal civilian meal. Every time we drill and I think of Forrest Gump, I want to laugh. That is a bad idea when a TI is screaming right next to you. But, to stay normal, my roommate and I are keeping a sense of humor about things.

Once his 14-week indoctrination was nearly over, Andrew had these thoughts:

Officer Training School was quite the challenge. It was certainly tougher than I thought it would be, but I never once wanted to quit. I will admit that there were times when I thought, "What have I got myself into?" I usually thought that as I was getting ready for my night of 3.5 hours of sleep. But I was able to press on with the end-goal in mind. After the first two weeks of OTS, things got better. So for the remaining 12 weeks, what we did directly influenced how we were treated. In the first two weeks, it was a given that you were going to get yelled at for not doing things correctly and criticized on something else if you did the task at-hand correctly. It was always more of a lose/lose or win/lose-at-something-else situation. There were some fairly exciting events at OTS. We had several training days where we went in the field and simulated operations. We were certainly not Special Forces in training, but the staff graded our

leadership & "followership" abilities on these exercises. Probably the most fun event was when the whole class packed up all of their gear and left for a simulated deployment out in the woods. I don't know if it was fun because we were able to leave the base for a week or not, but it was certainly better than marching around campus and going to classes for a week. On this "deployment" we had simulated missions, again, and then conducted Base Defense against foreign insurgents. The insurgents would try and gain access to our camp and we would have to protect and deter. We were issued paintball guns, so you can imagine that the fun-ness level of the whole ordeal increased as we could go out and pelt the bad guys.

We also had some fun when we became the upperclassmen. Horrible memories were shooting through our minds when we would see a newbie sweating profusely and have shaking hands, but that is all part of the in-processing for OTS. We certainly didn't "pull-rank" and abuse our power, but that doesn't mean we didn't enjoy yelling at the slightest mistake they would make. That was the point when we saw ourselves growing a little bit more, now that we were responsible for training the lower class too.

Overall, we were screamed at by upperclassmen (before we got to pay it forward), scolded by commissioned staff, and humiliated while being screamed at by the Training Instructors (Drill Sergeants). From this entire experience I have zero regrets, very little sleep in 2009 and definitely thicker skin.

Andrew graduated from OTS in April of 2009, and is now looking eagerly forward to all that awaits him.

So now where do I go? I am en route to San Antonio, TX for Undergraduate Navigator Training at Randolph AFB. I will be in UNT for 6 months before the Navigator program splits the class and sends me elsewhere for a few more months. In total, Navigator training will be around 10 months long. After which I will be assigned to an airframe and will be sent to its training facility to become operational. It should be very challenging, but at the same time very different from OTS. We will actually be treated like humans on a regular basis.

Pierce Partners with Ronald McDonald House

Continued from page 1

ford a hotel room on top of their child's treatment. Hill knew something needed to change.

Mr. Hill decided that the families of children going through treatment at the hospital needed a comfortable place to stay for little or no cost. It was hard enough for the families that their children were going through such a hard time; they should not have to worry about finding a place to stay as well. So he, along with the help of the Eagles and local McDonald's, who donated the proceeds from Shamrock Shake sales, raised enough money to purchase a house located near the hospital. With this, the first Ronald McDonald House opened its doors in 1974 to provide a place to stay for the families of patients at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

In the 34 years since this first house opened, the Ronald McDonald House Charity has grown by leaps and bounds. Today there are Ronald McDonald Houses in 52 countries all over the world. Most recently, a branch was opened in Latvia, and the charity plans to open its 300th branch in 2010. All of the houses offer a wide variety of services for the families living there, including home-cooked meals, private bedrooms for families, and playrooms for children. Many houses also offer special suites for children with suppressed immune systems, educational facilities, and both patient and sibling non-clinical support services.

Ronald McDonald houses are located near most major Children's Hospitals around the country and many hospitals all over the world. Any child receiving treatment at a hospital near a Ronald McDonald House is eligible to stay. There is no maximum time limit a family can stay at a house, and no family would ever be turned away due to their inability to pay. Each year the Ronald McDonald House helps thousands of families by allowing them to stay together and close to their child during the most difficult time of their lives. They strive to do their part to make the lives of families of a sick child as easy and comfortable as possible everyday.

Pierce Associates is proud to support this charity, and looks forward to a successful team effort on this important project.

Technical Tips

Installing Top Beam Clamps

The Top Beam Clamp, MSS (Manufacturers Standardization Society) #58 / 69 Type 19; is used as an upper attachment for many hanger assemblies. Top Beam Clamps such as the NPHC Fig 640 Ductile Iron Beam contains a clamp set screw which is to be torque to 5ft (60") lbs. The NPHC Fig 635 Jr. Top Beam Clamp is used for bar joists and according to NPHC Representatives, its torque instructions are the same for the Fig 640 Ductile Iron Beam Clamp (i.e. 5ft (60") lbs torque.

The torque value is a maximum amount, do not over torque the set screw. Industry practice is to tighten the set screw ¼ turn after the set screw is snug in contact with the beam flange. Pierce tested this method with a calibrated torque wrench and tightened a top beam clamp and as the manufacturers suggests, a ¼ turn after the set screw is snug against the steel will torque the top beam clamp set screw to approximately 60 inch pounds.

For a quick installation, Seekonk manufactures a plumbers tee handle torque wrench for no hub couplings. They also manufacture the same style wrench with a ¼ drive, so if needed, foremen can get a tee-handle torque wrench for 60 inch / pounds with the ¼ Drive and use a 3/8" square head socket (you may need a ¼" drive X 3/8" male drive adapter). This set up may increase productivity if you have many top beam clamps to install -- it will keep the crew from over tightening these attachments -- and breaking them.

Reminder: According to our project team, the Top Beam Clamp is not to be used on NCE PAI #0706.

Report any problems with these beam clamps to your supervisor or CQC technician on site.

Retiree NEWS

Joe Miller

Joe Miller retired after working for nearly 32 years with Pierce Associates. When he retired, Joe was working for the company as a testing, balancing and commissioning superintendent. He started with Pierce as an apprentice, after receiving his training from the Sheet Metal Local #100. He then worked in the field with testing and balancing before working his way up to superintendent. Joe loves Pierce Associates and everything that the company stands for. "It never felt like I was going to work," he said, "I never had trouble getting up to go in the morning. In fact, the hardest day for me was my last day there." Joe loves the way Pierce operates as a family-owned company, and feels that the employees are all good, honest hardworking people, and that the company treats their employees extremely well. "There is no company in the world like Pierce," Joe said. He still keeps in touch with many of the friends he made in his years at Pierce, and can't stress enough how amazing his time with the company was.

Joe said it is hard to pinpoint a favorite project at Pierce because he worked on so many over the years, but he thought his work on the Charles E. Smith projects was the most rewarding. He worked on many projects for Charles E. Smith and he knew that Smith's people always appreciated the high caliber of work that Pierce Associates reliably delivered. He felt that the Smith company, being family owned and operated, shared similar values with Pierce. In his 32 years there, Joe saw a lot of change at Pierce, especially in the testing and balancing department. He saw the entire company switch from analog to digital. The work switched from hand-held tools to lasers and computers.

"The outstanding reputation Pierce Associates testing and balancing department maintains in the National Environmental Balancing Bureau and through out the industry is a direct result of the character and ethics of Joe Miller," comments Paul Thiel.

Since retiring, Joe has had more time to spend with his wonderful wife Cheryl. The two just celebrated their 43rd anniversary on April 23rd with a vacation to the Outer Banks. Joe resides with his wife in Franklinton, North Carolina. He also has three grown children Beverly, Joseph Jr., and Jeff. His two sons both worked part-time at Pierce with Joe when they were younger, but have since moved on to pursue other careers. Joe Jr., who goes by Jay, lives in Raleigh, NC with his wife and 3-year-old son, and works as chemical engineer. Jeff and his wife live in Mechanicsburg, PA, and just recently had a daughter named Sarah in October. Joe's daughter, Beverly, lives in Jacksonville, NC and works for the Marine Corps. Her son Brian is 24, and has a 3-year-old named Nathan.

Joe's favorite thing to do is visit his grandchildren. He also enjoys helping his wife garden. They have both a flower garden and a small vegetable garden at their home, and spend much of their time working outside. Joe also loves playing golf and does so about twice a week at his favorite golf course, Lake Winds.

Jim Pierce stated, "Joe Miller was one of those individuals who set a great example for others in our company to follow, and the Testing and Balancing department is faithful to that example still today."

Field Leadership Thanked at Foreman's Dinner

On Saturday, May 16, 2009, the management and staff of Pierce Associates gathered to honor and thank our unionized field leadership at Pierce's annual Foreman's Dinner. This year's event was held at the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Quantico, Virginia, a spectacular venue displaying both historic and interactive exhibits chronicling the history and tradition of the United States Marines. The museum building, whose exterior is designed to evoke the image of the Marines raising the flag at Iwo Jima, was opened in 2006 and houses a vast array of artifacts meant to allow visitors to better understand the values, mission and culture of the Marines.

While the work performed by Pierce employees obviously pales in comparison to the sacrifices and hardships endured by the Marines, it was still an appropriate venue for us to recognize the dedication, professionalism and commitment shown by Pierce foremen as they lead our field forces throughout the building of our projects. To that end, attendees were treated to docent tours, dinner, and rousing entertainment and dancing, all the while taking in the impressive design and content of the venue. An entertaining and relaxing night was shared by all, and our thanks go out again not only to the foremen who drive this company, but also to the party committee organizers whose efforts made the outing so enjoyable.

Department Corner

Sheet Metal Shop

The Pierce Associates Sheet Metal shop has been a key part to PAI's overall operations since the company was originally established in 1961. Occupying in excess of 30,000 square feet, the shop is adjacent to PAI's corporate offices at 4216 and 4214 Wheeler Avenue, and produces most of the ductwork we install in the field. Superintendent Tim Aley manages the overall operations of the shop, while Foreman Darrell Wade and Sub-Foreman Bill Turner head up direct operations. The shop routinely fabricates 1.5 to 3.5 million pounds of metal per year, with production of sheet metal measured in pounds of physical weight of the base material used to make the finished product.

To produce the ductwork, people with a broad range of experience and special skills are required to perform pick-off of coordinated drawings, ordering of materials, layout, cutting, equipment operation, welding, and duct and component assembly to loading trucks. Currently, the shop crew consists of approximately forty Journeymen, Apprentices and Specialty workers.

Over the years, the shop has been subject to many transformations to facilitate the tens of millions of pounds of fabricated sheet metal that have run thru her doors. The shop has expanded to approximately four times its original size, and now also occupies adjoining spaces at 4212, 4210, 4208, 4206, 4204 Wheeler Ave. In addition, the shop also shares spaces at 4202 & 4200 Wheeler Ave. with other PAI operations for material storage and subassembly operations. As PAI's work load grew in the 1960s and into the 1970s, a second shop was added at 4300 & 4302 Wheeler Ave along with some welding operations being performed in a separate building which currently houses PAI's internal maintenance operation. In those days, the shop routinely operated multiple shifts to meet the demands of the workload. The second shop was operated up until the late 1990's when it was consolidated back into the main shop along with another expansion into spaces at 4208 & 4206 Wheeler Ave. This consolidation occurred concurrently with a consolidation and expansion of the Coordination, Estimating and Accounting Departments. The consolidation put all sheet metal shop operations under "one roof" and provided the space for the current Plumbing Shop. In between a couple of floods and several cycles of economic up and downs, the shop has been reconfigured and remodeled numerous times to add new technologies and increase efficiency.

The sheet metal shop houses dozens of pieces of equipment with various functions. The largest and most complex of these is the decoil line. The machine is loaded via an overhead crane system with coils of metal typically 60" wide and weighing 7,000 to 10,000 pounds. The metal is then uncoiled and cut to produce either sheets or formed and bent to produce rectangular ductwork. Other major pieces of equipment include 2- 20'x5' computerized plasma cutting tables, 4- press brakes, 2- power shears, spiral pipe machine and a cut to length coil line. In addition, an inventory of metal in coils, sheets, angles, acoustical liners, perforated metal, expanded metal and hardware is maintained in the shop.

Fabrication of ductwork, accessories and specialties in metal thickness ranging from 26 gauge to 10 gauge and metal types including galvanized steel, black steel, PVC coated steel, stainless steel, aluminum and copper is made possible with the use of shop equipment. Our ability to fabricate components such as turning vanes, spiral pipe, casings, plenums, drain pans, louvers, dampers, spin fittings and other items help us to be competitive and meet tough schedule demands. Our plumbing and HVAC piping departments benefit from our ability to fabricate sleeves, saddles, and other specialty items associated with their work. Furthermore, fabrication of equipment such as drawing tables, rod boxes, copper storage tubes and other miscellaneous items which occur in the shop facilitates our operations.

"Our lives are not determined by what happens to us, but by how we react to what happens, not by what life brings to us, but by the attitude we bring to life."

-Author unknown

EMPLOYEE highlights

Ronnie Stokes

Ronnie Stokes began his career at Pierce Associates 23 years ago, starting in the pipe shop right after graduating high school. Since then, Ronnie has worked his way up through several departments and graduated from U.A. Mechanical Trade School in 1991, where he also completed his apprenticeship. Today he is the Steamfitter foreman working on the Department of Interior Option Number Three, and he is excited to begin work on Option Number Four.

Ronnie truly feels like Pierce is family to him. He loves the people at Pierce and everything about the company. His favorite project over the years was the Gaylord Hotel where he was responsible for installing all of the fan coil units. Safety is the most important thing to Ronnie when on the job, and he liked this project because there were absolutely no injuries and he felt the whole thing was completed as quickly and efficiently as possible.

Ronnie is married to Lisa M. Stokes and together they have two children, Antonio, 19 years old, and Bridgette, 17. He also has a 2 year-old granddaughter named Lanier Roniece.

When Ronnie isn't working, football consumes almost all of his spare time. Football has always been a huge part of Ronnie's life, and he earned a football scholarship to Central State University in Ohio. Although a family emergency prevented him from attending college, Ronnie still wanted to pursue football as a career and played semi-professionally with the D.C. Stonewalls for four years while working at Pierce. He has been coaching for twenty years now and his teams have won four youth championships. Most recently, Ronnie coached a Westlake High School team to the 3A State Championship, played at the Baltimore Ravens Stadium this past December. Currently, Ronnie is an offensive line coach for the Westlake High School varsity team. One thing that Ronnie looks forward to each year is his annual trip to Dallas, Texas to see the Redskins/Cowboys game.

Ken Hollingshead

National Air and Space Museum plumbing foreman Ken Hollingshead has been with Pierce Associates for nearly ten years. His job at Pierce includes overseeing personnel, tools, material and equipment to make sure all plumbing is installed safely and to specifications. He recently transferred to the museum from Constitution Center, where he supervised nearly 40 plumbers installing systems throughout the building.

Ken is married to his wonderful wife Mindy, and together they have four children, Christina, 26, Daniel, 24, Timothy, 23, and Dawn, 8. His three older children live in Illinois, while his youngest is at home with him and his wife. When Ken isn't working he enjoys spending time with his family. When he gets a little time to himself, Ken loves riding his Harley Davidson motorcycle, and also likes to go bass fishing with his friends.

Leonard Richards

Leonard Richards has worked at Pierce Associates for 27 years. He started with Pierce in Delaware as a time-keeper, and when he transferred to Virginia, he worked in the warehouse for four years. He then moved to the trucking department as a driver, and after two years driving he was appointed general foreman of the Trucking Department, a title he has held ever since. In this position, Lenny works on all of Pierce's projects, and as such he is responsible for scheduling trucks, getting permits for oversized loads, and handling all of the rental equipment for the company.

Before coming to Pierce, Lenny graduated from Henderson High School in West Chester, PA in 1970, and was drafted into the US Army. He spent 2 years serving in the army and then an additional 6 years with the National Guard. In 1973, Lenny married his beautiful wife Linda Richards, and in 1975 he began attending

Continued next page

the University of Delaware as an entomology, biology, and wildlife major. He left college when his second child was born, and Lenny and Linda were blessed to have three children named Dawn, Denise, and Lenny. All of his children are now married and have children of their own, giving Lenny ten wonderful grandchildren, eight boys and two girls.

Since he was 15, Lenny has had a love of kickboxing, and pursued this love until the age of 31. In 1981, Lenny won the Mid-Atlantic kickboxing title, but in 1982, after his son was born, he retired from the sport because of the toll it had taken on his body. Throughout his years of kickboxing Lenny received two broken jaws, four broken noses, a broken finger, two torn quads, and in 1999, he had to have a plate put in his neck from fighting for so long. Today, Lenny pursues some slightly less dangerous activities such as deer hunting and fly fishing for freshwater trout.

Matt Hopkins

Matt Hopkins has been working for Pierce Associates as an assistant project manager for one year in the Project Management and Engineering Department. In just a short time, he has worked on the FDA Project closeout, assisted with the creation of the budget for the New Campus East project, and worked on the pricing of change orders, project scheduling, and writing RFI's at NCE.

Before joining Pierce Associates, Matt received a B.S. in Finance from Old Dominion University in 2000. After graduating, he worked in plumbing, obtained his master plumbing license, and started his own company.

Matt has been married to his beautiful wife Joanna Hopkins for nearly two years, and they have a nine month old daughter named Taryn who loves everything except sleeping at night. Matt spends most of his free time with his family, and is very excited that his daughter recently began crawling. Though Matt has an extremely busy life with a new baby, when he does get some free time he enjoys riding his motorcycles. He also enjoys deer hunting, and although he doesn't have much time to play sports anymore, he still loves watching his favorite football team, the Redskins, play.

Cody Cain

Cody "Buckethead" Cain has been with Pierce Associates for a total of 17 years. Currently serving as both sheet metal foreman and site superintendent for Pierce, Cody manages labor, materials, and equipment rentals for the sheet metal field and acts as the main field liaison with the GC. Of his dual duties, Cody says, "I have a big head so they let me wear two hats."

Before coming to Pierce, Cody received his training at the Sheet Metal Workers Local #100, and graduated from there in 1993. Cody started at Pierce as a journeyman mechanic, then served as a sub-foreman and foreman before assuming his current position. He is now working at The National Air and Space Museum UDVAR Hazy Center in Chantilly, VA.

Cody is married to his "beautiful and wonderful" wife of 16 years Sue Cain, and they have a 13 year-old daughter named Taylor. When he is not working, Cody enjoys cooking and baking, but more than either of those things, he likes to eat. Cody also enjoys working out in the gym he has in his basement and spending time with his daughter. Taylor is a gifted musician and plays the violin, piano, and alto saxophone. Much of Cody's time is spent taking Taylor to lessons and going to recitals, but he wouldn't have it any other way. Cody loves listening to his daughter play at both the College Park Youth Orchestra and UMD Band Camp, both of which she has been involved in for the last four years. Cody's daughter's musical talents are rubbing off on him, as he has recently started learning to play the piano himself. When not spending time with his daughter, Cody loves his two English Bulldogs, Winston and Roxy, and enjoys taking them for walks with his wife and daughter. He even likes to spend his time helping around the house, cooking , cleaning and doing laundry, as well as completing all the usual "honey do's."

Job Update

Arlington County Water Pollution Control Plant (0704)

Owner: Arlington County Government

GC: Alberici Constructors

Architect: Malcolm Pirnie, Inc.

Engineer: Malcolm Pirnie, Inc.

Currently, Pierce Associates is in the process of starting newly installed equipment in various areas of the plant, and the recent Milestone No. 1 , "Joint Operation", was successfully achieved. Additionally, Pierce continues to perform work in the Operations Control Building, Blower Building and Surface Waste Pump Station, though some design issues have slowed our progress. Our controls subcontractor, Pritchett Controls, has performed admirably in the past few months. Their knowledge, willingness to assist, and performance under pressure in order to meet deadlines has really impressed both the GC and other various subs. In house, Tim Aley and the sheet metal side are gearing up for a major installation of foul air duct piping, supplied by Metropolitan Equipment Group, Inc. Meanwhile, Brian Sonon and John Groenwoldt have been working on all areas of the project doing various plumbing work for the GC, often on short notice. Tom Croce is involved with the start up and training of Arlington County personnel on all equipment that Pierce has installed thus far.

NCE (0706)

GC: Clark/Balfour Beatty – NCE, A Joint Venture

Architect: RTKL / Kling

Engineer: RTKL / Kling

Work at the New Campus East project is really starting to take off, as the 2.4 million sq ft facility starts to take shape. Slated to open in September 2011, this base reallocation and closure project (BRAC) will one day house 8,500 employees. According to an article from the Mid Atlantic entitled "Agent of Change," it is estimated that the entire building will have 23,000 tons of steel, with about half of that total amount having been erected for segments E, F, G, and H. Right now, precast is going up and the windows are going in. Per Pierce superintendent Dave Raulerson, "The Pierce trades have manned up with a total of 180 men onsite to date."

Work is well on its way in the basement through the 8th floor in both segments G and H. The pipe for the chilled beams has been installed and tested across the first floor of both segments, and the first shipment of chilled beams has arrived and is being installed. The riser shafts are nearing completion through segments G, while H has already been completed. The piping and sheet metal trades have successfully completed a large crane lift of two massive custom air handling units for segments G and H.

Dept. of Interior Modernization Project & Operations Center (0801 & 0805)

Owner: GSA/Dept. of Interior

GC: Grunley Construction

Architect: Shalom Baranes Associates

Engineer: GHT Limited

The Department of Interior Modernization Project is progressing as planned. This phase is more than 65% complete. The expected completion date is still early 2010. The Mezzanine Level Mechanical Services are nearing completion. The mechanical rough-ins are complete on Floors 3 thru 7. We have just been awarded the Cafeteria Build-out which will start immediately. The fast pace project will be utilizing "Building Informational Modeling-BIM" for coordination and planning.

The new work associated with the Cafeteria includes the following:

- (7) Air Handlers, (1) Make-up Air Unit, and (4) Exhaust Fans
- New Kitchen Exhaust System, consisting of Factory Fabricated Double-wall Insulated Grease Duct
- New Domestic Water, Sanitary Waste & Vent Systems for Full Service Kitchen
- Natural Gas Booster System and Associated Piping
- Chilled & Heating Water Piping
- Controls & Insulation

The DOI project is currently being coordinated and managed by Project Superintendent/Sheet-metal Foreman, John Cumberland, HVAC Piping Foreman, Ronnie Stokes, and Plumbing Foreman Brian Sonon.

FDA Building #130 (0804)

Owner: General Services Administration

GC: Unicon Development Corporation/ AND Contractors, Inc.

Engineer: RTKL/Kling

FDA personnel have moved into the FDA Building #130 Machine Shop on the White Oak, MD campus. Pierce's work is substantially complete with the exception of some remaining punch list work. We look forward to beginning work on substantial tenant fit-out scope of work on the upper floors of the building with Unicon/AND and the GSA, Heery-Tishman group.

Continued on page 9

Job Update

Continued from page 8

NASM Air & Space (0806)

Owner: Smithsonian Institution

GC: Hensel Phelps Construction Company

Architect/Engineer: HOK

At NASM, a "lull in the action" is about to end and mechanical/plumbing work will start in earnest within the month. Since completing the deeper portions of underground work, Pierce has seen a brief respite as the structural steel contractor has primarily taken over the site installing the steel supports, first in the collections/archives area and now moving over to the restoration hangar. We will soon get started making connections to the existing utilities primarily in the existing CUP and prepare to extend them into the new facility. The coordination department completed the coordination process with Ennis Electric and Reliance Fire Protection and all drawings are now signed off and submitted! A great job done by all! Now, Charlie Miller and Kathy Livingstone are hard at work with the spooling and hook-up details.

Once again, we thank Mike King as he steps back into the world of the retired after helping lead the coordination of Air and Space. His work was highly regarded by our clients, namely, Hensel Phelps, HOK Architects and the Smithsonian.

One Skyline Tower Addition (0807)

Owner: VORNADO Charles E. Smith

GC: Davis Construction

Architect: WDG Architecture

Engineer: GHT Limited

The building roof was completed last week which allowed the sheet metal workers to hang the first floor duct and start on the second. Plumbers are setting the rough in for the two core restrooms and the fitters are completing the coil hook ups on the equipment. The project is on schedule to be completed by the beginning of August.

Inova Alexandria Lab Fit Out (0808)

Owner: Inova Alexandria Hospital

GC: Dominion Construction

Architect: RSg Architects

Engineer: Leech Wallace Associates, Inc.

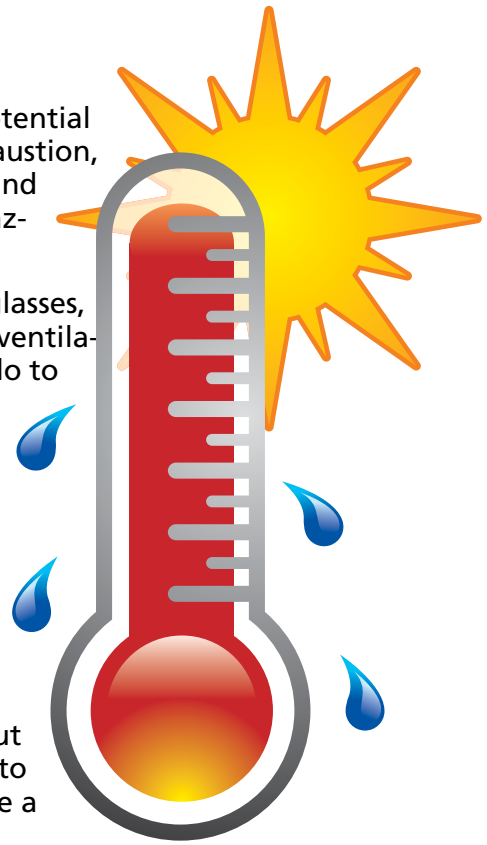
The project is winding down with only finishes, TAB and start up left. The plumbers are setting the last of the fixtures, and the sheet metal workers are installing the RG&D's. TAB is going to start the second week in June. The building is set to be turned over to the owner in the beginning of August.

BEST practice

One of Pierce's own has come up with an innovative solution to a long-time problem involving sleeve setting by masons in block walls. John Tatro, a Pierce steamfitter foreman, was working in the basement area of NCE and was having problems getting his pipe sleeves set by the masons at the proper location and elevation. He had placed clear labels on both the floors and existing masonry walls, and even tried placing an apprentice in the area with the sole responsibility of ensuring they were installed correctly. Despite these efforts the mason was still either not putting the sleeves where they belonged or at times missing them completely.

Mr. Tatro remedied this problem by hanging the sleeves from the structural steel at the correct elevation and location, now before the block layer can lay block above the sleeves he must contact someone from the steamfitter crew to remove the rods holding the sleeves in place. Not only did this eliminate the time an apprentice must monitor the mason's progress, but it ensured the sleeves were where John and his crew wanted. Good going John, on the double benefit of labor savings and better quality!

Summer Safety



Temperatures are creeping up again and as the mercury rises so does the potential for heat exhaustion. American workers almost never die from heat exhaustion, but don't be fooled. Heat exhaustion can lead to fatigue, bad decisions and falls caused by fainting. The summer's high temperatures are a serious hazard, and we are all exposed.

Workers wearing PPE should be especially conscious. Hard hats, safety glasses, gloves, and harnesses protect us from a variety of hazards. They also limit ventilation and raise body temperature. The PPE has to stay on, so what can we do to stay cool?

Here are the top 5 ways to stay cool:

- Wear cotton based shirts and pants and limit exposure to sunlight
- Be sure to use fans in areas with limited ventilation
- Rest for 15 - 20 seconds periodically throughout the day
- Remember that alcohol causes dehydration
- Drink 5 ounces of water every 15 - 30 minutes

Pierce Associates has water delivery plans in place for all of our job sites, but you have to drink the water for it to work. If you wait until you're thirsty to get a drink, you've waited too long! Follow these tips to stay cool and have a great and safe summer with Pierce Associates.

Job Spotlight *continued from page 1*

continued to modify the building's antiquated garage drainage system and prep the building for the extensive storm system overhaul.

Once spring arrived, installation work had hit full stride. Typical floor construction was well underway, with ductwork installed from floors 2 through 10 and plumbing core bathrooms roughed in and awaiting close-in. HVAC and duct risers likewise had been installed in the four main building cores, while virtually all plumbing risers throughout the building had been piped out. In the penthouse, large equipment like chillers, cooling towers, and heat exchangers had been rigged in place, and May of 2008 ended with the successful placement of three 40,000 lb plus boilers on the north side with the assistance of our rigging sub, Crane Rental.

During the summer, Pierce field personnel had their work cut out for them to install the bulk of the infrastructure in the penthouse with limited access and significant layering of MEP systems . Down below, the plumbers were gearing up for the return of permanent city connections to the gas and water services. By autumn 2008, Constitution Center's work level had reached a fever pitch, with all trades working full bore to complete the vast majority of construction prior to the New Year. In just three short months the entire penthouse had been transformed into a maze of ductwork and pipe, and it was through the diligent efforts of field folks like Ted Cumberland, Scotty Sisk, Perry Ford, and Woody Newell and their crews that the plant started coming together. All major pieces of equipment were in place, and on the floors below, fan coil units and smaller assemblies were being installed. On typical floors, core bathrooms are being built out under the direction of Ken Hollingshead (PL).

By this spring, the project was in the homestretch with all trades and all crews working tirelessly to finish the constructive work in anticipation of system start-ups and commissioning activities. Under the direction of Richard Cherba (SF) and Trey Singletary (SF), the fitters had the boiler plant ready for light off, while the chill water plant and other system equipment were having their equipment drops installed and final connections made. Meanwhile, our controls contractor, Johnson, and our insulator sub, TBN, worked constantly to install their work in an effort to maintain pace with Pierce's crews. During the first week of June, the first chiller came to life, and by month's end it is anticipated that the rest of the plant will be up and running. Down below on the plaza level, the plumbers and sheet metal workers are now leading the way throughout the lobby areas, finishing work as finish trades set stone and woodwork trim. As Paul Thiel's TAB group and the commissioning team take over, we are hopeful that we will finish out the next few months with all systems performing per design and our clients pleased with our performance.

Pierce Associates: Employee Notes

Please join us in welcoming Keith Gauthier to the Pierce family. Keith recently joined Pierce Associates as a Project Manager at 0706 New Campus East. Keith was born and raised in Vermont and still maintains a home there. He has four children, a son and three daughters, ranging in age from 17 to 33. When not spending time with his family, Keith loves skiing and working for the National Ski Patrol. When he can't hit the slopes, he spends his free time playing tennis and golf. Keith is very excited to begin what he hopes will be a long and fruitful relationship with Pierce Associates.

Congrats to Terrence McCall (Sheet Metal) for his new baby girl, Ava Jiali McCall born a healthy, happy 8lbs 3oz on February 27, 2009.

Lenny Richards' 12 year old grandson recently shot a doe and a 8-point buck. The next day he then shot a 13 point buck with a 24 inch inside spread.

Congratulations to Sandy Hunt's daughter Meaghan, who was accepted to the University of West Virginia. She will major in sports management/marketing.

Christy Moriarty's 20 year old son Ryan Moriarty joined the U.S. Army on January 23, 2009. He is a Private First Class Infantryman. He completed his Basic Training and AIT (Advanced Individual Training) in Ft. Benning, GA and graduated May 8th. On June 1st he left for Korea where he will serve a one year deployment. He plans to eventually continue his training to be in the Special Forces.

Congratulations to Dennis and Lori Dryman on the birth of Addison Marie Dryman, who weighed 7lbs, 6oz, and measured 21" long when born on May 4. Dennis is a plumber currently working at 0705.

What an accomplishment! Andrea Kendall, daughter of NCE CQC Lead Reed Kendall, has received her J.D., cum laude from Georgetown Law Center. She is the outgoing Executive Editor of the American Criminal Law Review and will be moving to California to work in the Office of the Public Defender in San Diego.

On April 13, the Estimating Department welcomed its newest member to the team, Joe Novak. Joe began his career in the Plumbing and HVAC trades in 1972 as an apprentice for his father's residential HVAC business. He began estimating projects in 1986 while working for Ace Plumbing & Heating and since that time, Joe has estimated projects ranging from Plan & Spec to Design Build and has put together pure Conceptual Budgets for Energy Feasibility Studies. Please stop by Joe's office in the Estimating Department and extend a warm welcome.

Congratulations to Sarah Griffith, daughter of Mike and Jayne Griffith, who was recently accepted into Lambda Pi Eta, the communications honor society at Salisbury University. She is also a member of Pi Gamma Mu, the social sciences honor society at SU. Sarah is scheduled to graduate in December 2009 with majors in Communication Arts and Psychology.

Please join us in extending congratulations to Steve & Syndy Kucner!! They welcomed a son, Andrew Steven Kucner, on Friday, March 27, 2009.

WOW! Congratulations to Hannah Smearman, daughter of Mike and Shannon Smearman, who graduated from high school this month a FULL YEAR early!

Matt Corrigan Named Outstanding BC Young Alumnus

Matt Corrigan (Mgr. of Project Management & Engineering at Pierce Associates) was recently named the Outstanding Young Alumnus at the Myers-Lawson School of Construction Annual Awards and Recognition Banquet. The award was presented to Matt in recognition of his outstanding service to the Department of Building Construction at Virginia Tech and his successful career in the construction industry since graduation from the Building Construction program at Virginia Tech in 2002.

Pierce Associates, Inc.
4216 Wheeler Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22304

Celebrating Our Administrative Professionals

On April 23, management joined our administrative professionals for lunch at The Chart House to celebrate Administrative Professionals Day and thank them for all they do on a daily basis to keep this company running!