



PIPELINE

IT'S WHAT'S INSIDE THAT COUNTS

WINTER 2014



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA NORTHROP AUDITORIUM

The University of Minnesota will experience a revitalized Northrop Auditorium in the spring of 2014. The renovated Northrop Auditorium will serve as a centerpiece for students, artists, faculty, and audiences. Demolition of the Northrop Auditorium began in 2011 and the grand opening is scheduled for April 4th, 2014. MMC worked hand in hand with the University of Minnesota, JE Dunn, and HGA for the length of the project. The main attraction is the redesigned auditorium space. The two significant changes within the auditorium include downsizing the capacity from 4,800 to 2,700 and increasing the number of balconies from one to three. With these two fundamental changes, the auditorium now provides better sightlines, state-of-the-art acoustics and an up-close and personal experience during performances.

Beyond the auditorium, the most noteworthy feature of the building is the additional academic space that surrounds the main auditorium. A state-of-the-art recital hall on the top floor of Northrop is designed for lectures, music, or film. An intriguing Founders Room provides a space to accommodate visitors during conferences. These spaces, along with many other spaces, provide a perfect opportunity for students and faculty to interact.

MMC installed four air handling units with a capacity of 172,000 CFM to heat and cool the majority of the building. A chilled beam system conditions the basement and a few spaces on ground level. Other mechanical systems include VFDs, a desiccant energy wheel, heat recovery wheel, steam heat exchanger, and fan coil units.



IN THIS ISSUE

- Project Spotlight.....1
- Mark's Message.....2
- Fun Facts.....2
- New Year Seminar.....3
- Field Holiday Party.....3
- Charity Corner.....3
- New Year, New Goals.....4
- Employee Spotlight.....4





MMC FUN FACTS

Please join us in welcoming the following new employees to MMC:

Tea Manthey
Assistant Project Manager

Katie Rendahl
Receptionist

Kristine Strebel
Receptionist

Kerry Nicholls
Service Dispatch Coordinator

Lily Xiong
Project Accountant

Amy Dykstra
Project Accountant

Congratulations to CFO Kristin Schultes and her husband, Ben, on the birth of their son Mack Frazier who was born on December 22nd. He weighed 8 pounds, 3 ounces and was 20" long.

Congratulations to Keith Leier, Mike Murphy, Brandon Shaw, Chris Dent, Brent Thompson and Derek Fong who were recently promoted to project managers!

One of MMC's traditions is our annual chili contest which was held in mid-January. Congratulations to Lily Xiong, project accountant, who won first place for her famous chili.

MARK'S MESSAGE

A Bright 2014

I feel very optimistic about MMC and our people in 2014. Our backlog on the construction side of the business is very strong and our service maintenance base is at an all-time high. In addition, I feel the changes we have made to align ourselves with our 2014 strategic goals will pay dividends in 2014.

Some things of note going on around MMC:

As stated above, the service maintenance base is at an all-time high. A good maintenance base is extremely beneficial to everyone at MMC. Every dollar of service maintenance base translates into additional service work and also helps generate construction projects. Thanks to all the service project managers and technicians for working so hard on selling new contracts and keeping strong existing customer relationships.

The sheet metal shop is completely moved back to Eden Prairie. All the guys in the plumbing, pipefitting, and sheet metal shops did a great job. This move brings all three fabrication shops (plumbing, pipefitting, and sheet metal) back together under one roof with the project managers and BIM group.

Our mobile time entry technology is completely implemented. I appreciate the field's willingness to learn the new remote time entry system. Our commitment to being an industry leader in the area of technology is demonstrated through this initiative.

I also want to thank the field for always keeping a "safety first" attitude while at work. The last few months of the year typically see an uptick in injuries and accidents. If we are all aware of this fact we can do our best to prevent accidents and injuries.

I am really looking forward to 2014. MMC is again in a great position! Thanks to all our employees and customers!

HEAR IT FROM OUR CUSTOMERS

"Thanks for all your good work on our account. We appreciate all that your staff and MMC have done for us and that you continue to perform in a professional manor. MMC is certainly one of the best I have worked with in my 41 years in the business. We are looking forward to a continued productive partnership in the coming year, achieving and maintaining a flourishing and progressive healthcare venue here at the University of Minnesota Medical Center and Amplatz Children's Hospital/Fairview."



NEW YEAR SEMINAR

With the new year, comes new year's resolutions. MMC started this year out by holding a seminar on ways to stay on track with financial management and healthy living.

Curtis Carstens, VP/Financial Advisor at RBC Wealth Management spoke about how people don't plan to fail, they just fail to plan. Curtis talked about how to set your plan by defining, quantifying and keeping it.

Wendie Pett, Owner/CEO of Wendie Pett Enterprises, spoke about motivating and encouraging people to make fitness and nutrition part of their daily routine. Her business consists of wellness coaching, personal training, motivational speaking and creating new products and tools to assist clients through their wellness journey. She teaches the balance of mind, body and spirit to help others learn the importance of reaching their full potential through her Visibly Fit™ wellness program. Wendie has a nationally syndicated television program that airs every Thursday and Saturday on Direct TV channel 378. She contributes weekly on KTIS radio as 'Coach Wendie' and is a featured columnist in the Total Wellness Newsletter, Best Ever You, Your Excellency and Diet.com online magazines.

We hope to see you at many of our future seminars!

FIELD HOLIDAY PARTY AND RECOGNITION OF 2013 RETIREES

MMC held its annual field holiday party on Friday, December 20th at our shop in Eden Prairie. It was a great turnout! MMC was able raise over \$2,000 during a raffle, where all the money was donated to Toys for Tots.

During the party, we recognized MMC's 2013 retirees:

Jill Heim, Payroll Administrator
 Milo Haarklau, Project Manager
 Bruce Carothers, Plumber
 Jack McGuire, Plumber
 James Wilhelm, Tinner
 Jim Ischer, Tinner
 Steve Parent, Tinner
 Scott Lindholm, Tinner

Congratulations on your retirement!

Pictured below (from left to right): Chad Nelson (VP), Jill Heim, James Wilhelm, Joe St. Martin (VP), Jim Ischer, Dennis Solberg (Project Manager), and Mark Anderson (President).



CHARITY CORNER

For over ten years, MMC has had the tradition of participating in the Toys for Tots Program. The Toys for Tots Program is to collect new, unwrapped toys during October, November and December each year and distribute those toys as holiday gifts to less fortunate children in the community. In early November, we place a donation box in the front lobby for employees to make a toy donation. We also hold a raffle during our field employee holiday party where proceeds go towards purchasing toys. It has always been a huge success here at MMC and this year was no exception.

Thanks to all who participated this year and we look forward to continuing our tradition for many years to follow.



NEW YEAR, NEW GOALS

CONSTRUCTION

The MMC Construction Group has a strong backlog and we are focusing on our 2014 goals of preplanning and productivity. All project managers and assistant project managers will be participating in a workshop to review, understand and provide input to the MMC Project Management (PM) Process Map. MMC's PM Process Map is used to help guide all MMC team members through the construction process and maximize project value for our customers. We look forward to a successful 2014.

TECHNOLOGY

Temperature controls has been an expertise of MMC for the last two decades. Knowing the importance of being ahead of the curve for sustainable building technology, MMC added Matt Gardner as the General Manager. After working fervently for the last several months, Matt and his team are pleased to announce the MMC Technology Group.

With years of experience consulting and providing and installing a variety of control systems, the Technology Group will continue to leverage the partnerships of our long-standing, open protocol systems. This year will bring growth as we are adding another account manager to the team. We will focus our efforts on to being the premier provider of building automation, lighting control, enterprise level security and energy services.

SERVICE

The "polar vortex" has had the MMC Service Group stretched to the limit this winter. Unfortunately, spring is right around the corner and we are anticipating a record breaking cooling season. We will be preparing for the upcoming busy spring and summer by doing a total department technology upgrade that will give every MMC customer and employee a better line of communication to get emergency situations resolved quickly. Our goal for the coming year is to continue to be the top service provider in the metro area. Commitment to the newest cutting edge technology will help us stay on top.

DESIGN

For 2014, the Design Group strives to be an ongoing resource toward acquiring design-build projects for MMC. It is our goal to provide the engineering support, due diligence and attention to detail that will result in successful design-build projects, both from a financial perspective as well as from a system performance perspective. Having an interactive relationship between the Design Group and the Project Managers is an essential step in the design-build process for any given job. Part of our responsibility is to ask the questions needed to ensure a smooth transition from scope and pricing documents to construction plans. At the same time, we must work efficiently to provide a final product that meets the project budget.

BIM

MMC's BIM Group has always been committed to uncompromised product quality, technical and trade knowledge, and project efficiency. In 2014, we are striving for improvement to an already great team by honing our team's individual skills and optimizing knowledge through specific and itemized training—making the best BIM team in the region even better!

SAFETY

In 2014, we all have the opportunity to help create a safe and incident free workplace for everyone. MMC has always been committed to promoting a safety culture that helps us achieve our goal of "ZERO" injuries. We understand that accomplishing this task requires commitment from all levels. It starts at the beginning of the project in the preplanning stages where we can design systems that can be safely installed. We need to look at all phases of a project—from the drawing board to the end product. Also, employees in the field can help by making an extra effort to ensure all tasks are completed incident free. One way to achieve this is through the committed effort by the foremen to plan risks for each task. Creating a safe work environment does not happen by chance, it happens with hard work from everyone.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

JIM VALKEVICH
Project Manager

Jim Valkevich has been with MMC since 2004. Jim is a project manager for our service group.

Where did you grow up?
Lynnfield, Massachusetts (a small town about 10 miles north of Boston)

If I wasn't doing this I'd be...
on a beach somewhere warm.

The thing I am most afraid is?
Heights. Even though I was a pilot for the Navy, getting near the edge of a roof or climbing even a short ladder always makes me very uncomfortable.

The world would be a better place if...
tolerance and compromise were part of all societies.

If you could be anywhere in the world, where would you be?
On the beaches of Tulum, Mexico. If you ever go there, you will understand.

What is your worst pet peeve?
Bad drivers. They always bring out the "Navy talk" from within me.

What is your favorite quote? "Get your head out of the cockpit." It's a Navy flying term used to emphasize that you need to know what's happening all around you. Good advice for work and life.

What is the best advice you ever received?
Always answer your phone and if you can't, call back as soon as possible.

Something that most people don't know about me? I love going to movies. I average 40+ per year. Thank you senior discounts!



METROPOLITAN MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS, INC.

7450 Flying Cloud Drive, Eden Prairie, MN 55344 | Ph: (952) 941-7010 | www.metromech.com