

# KIBART CHRONICLE

Volume I, Issue I

January 13, 2004

## GREETINGS

Greetings, from the Prez,

WELCOME to Kibart's first company newsletter. It is our intention to issue this newsletter quarterly throughout each year. We hope to keep you up to date on exciting developments ranging from new projects, promotions, awards, or anything you feel would be of interest to co-workers or clients.

We will also share news, announcements, company events, information on seminars, birthdays, anniversaries, lessons learned from the field, and we will have a Tech Korner, etc.

We hope this newsletter will also provide a source of communication, information, and employee pride.



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## HAPPY HOLIDAYS



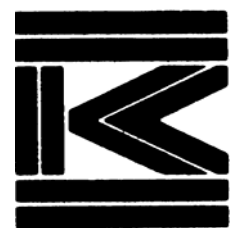
Well, it's over. The holidays certainly were both fun and at the same time exhausting. I could see how busy everyone was finishing up all of those last minute errands, running back and forth to the mall, rushing out to meet someone, or picking up a gift. Some of us were so busy, we even forgot all about our Secret Santa gift or accidentally left it at home, thus requiring another trip to the mall.

The ASHRAE Christmas Party was well attended, and the oysters were excellent as usual. From my non-scientific post party poll, our Christmas party at Patrick's

was a big success. I hear the filet mignon melted in your mouth and the crab cakes were excellent as usual. Thanks to all of you who worked so hard putting together the Christmas Party. Thanks also to Nadine for taking care of Secret Santa, thanks to everyone who helped make the office so beautiful, and thanks to everyone for your gifts to Dave, Mike, Farshad, and me.

As we all look forward to keeping our New Year's resolutions, I would like to wish each of you a Happy New Year.

Ed Abbott  
(President)



**KIBART, INC.**  
Consulting Engineers

*MAKING  
CONCEPTS  
REALITY*

## 2004—LOOKING BACK



Kibart's 1st Open House



Traditional caroling by new employees of 2004



Farshad Kassiri  
15th Anniversary

2004 certainly was an interesting and exciting year at Kibart. After 15 years of being located in the "dungeon", we finally moved up in the world to the main floor level in Dulaney Center II. Now, we are flanked on 3 sides by natural day lighting and beautiful views of Dulaney Valley. The office environment is so wonderful, we actually look forward to coming to work each day. On May 27th we held our first ever open house, which both employees and clients were able to enjoy. Here's to many more years in our new offices. Thanks to everyone who helped make the move a smooth transition especially Mike Ford and Dave Williams.

The Crab Feast was held once again at Oregon Ridge, where the weather was perfect, the burgers were juicy, and the crabs were full. Employees and their families enjoyed volleyball, football, soccer, horseshoes, some special games created by John McClain, Harvey Wofford, and Kevin O'Brien, and of course "the annual bingo contest." Winners this year took home prizes ranging from "goodie bags" for the kids to \$150 for the final blackout game.

As we mentioned before, the annual Christmas Party at Patricks was excellent this year, with everyone participating in Secret Santa, the presentation of Farshad's 15th anniversary plaque, and the traditional singing of Christmas songs by the new employees. Chris, Jim, Steve, Wsam, and Willie all did an excellent job with their rendition of "We Wish you a Merry Christmas."

Successfully completed projects in 2004 include Vane Brothers, Shepherd University Library, Helping Up Mission, University of Maryland School of Pharmacy, Riderwood Village Community Building 3.0, Tuscarora Elementary School, etc.

Kibart has been honored in 2004 for our work at St. Mary's Seminary-Raymond Brown Center Library with the 2004 Achievement Award from the American Council of Engineering Companies of Maryland, and the Technology Award for New Institutional Buildings from the Baltimore Chapter of ASHRAE.

## 2005—WHAT'S AHEAD

### PROJECTS:

We welcome Kibart's newest client—Nooralian-Nelson Associates with our first project, the South Dormitory Renovations at The George Meany College. We look forward to the success of that project and hopefully many more to come with Nooralian-Nelson Associates.

The first quarter of 2005 should be pretty busy, with several Erickson Retirement Communities and Marks Thomas projects at Anne's Choice and Maris Grove now moving full steam ahead. Both Community Building's 1.0 and 2.0 will be simultaneously underway in 2005. The next Catholic Charities Elderly Housing Project at Abingdon is also slated to begin with Marks Thomas in early 2005.

We were just given notice to proceed on the new corporate headquarters for Cowan Systems trucking operations thanks to Gaudreau Architects. This project promises to be very exciting, with many features similar to the Vane Brothers Corporate Headquarters including a high bay Operations Center, raised floor computer room, and design features that showcase the company's 78 year history. Other projects with Gaudreau will include a state of the art Bio-Level Hazard 3 research facility at Mid-West Research Institute, and our first project at the Bloomberg School of Health on the campus of Johns Hopkins Hospital.

In association with Bushey Feight Morin Architects, in the first half of this year, we will be working on the new housing wing of the Clifton T. Perkins Hospital, as well as the new Western Maryland Crime Lab/Barracks "O" in Hagerstown, Maryland. Furthermore, design for renovation of the Careers Building at Hagerstown Community College will occur during this calendar year.

We also have quite a few pans in the fire with both established familiar customers and some promising new clients.

George Meany College



Cowan Trucking Systems



## TECH KORNER

Since this is our first newsletter, I thought it would be best to discuss the importance of "quality." Each and every one of us is responsible for the quality of our product. Autocadd and e-mail has forced us to do more in a shorter period, so the first thing that could be sacrificed is quality. Quality is something we cannot afford to sacrifice.

Each one of us from clerical to cadd to design and management have an obligation to pay attention to what we do and how we do it. We all need to remember to stop and take the time to look at what we just drew, or what we just wrote, or what we just said, and make sure it is right.

All too often in this electronic age, we take short cuts to save time. We can easily copy sentences and notes from other projects. The same can be said for drawing notes, details, schematic diagrams, specifications, etc. When doing so, we need to double check what we've done, and make sure its applicable to the current project. We must take that extra effort to review our work and keep producing a quality product.

We have implemented many standard master specification sections. They must be used on all projects. These specs are being updated continuously, so we cannot just copy specs from old projects anymore. Also, new specification sections are being added to the mechanical division each month.

A much overdue new standard detail book will be completed in the first quarter of 2005. When issued, the new details will need to be used on all projects. Copying details from an out of date project will no longer be acceptable, if a more current detail is located in the new detail book.

A new standard mechanical legend was issued in the fall of 2004. That legend must be used on all new Kibart projects. Autocadd standards will be revisited in 2005, with the goal being the creation of a new AutoCadd Standards Book issued in 2005.

These type of efforts along with the offering of various training classes, and strong participation in the local engineering organizations, etc. will assure that we produce quality work, and the long term viability of the company will remain strong.

### Seminars/Training

January 12th: Roof-top Units and Special Applications

February 6th - 9th: Annual ASHRAE Convention - Orlando, Florida: Dan Gardner & Kevin O'Brien represent Kibart.

February - March: Steam System Design

## MIKE'S FIELD NOTES

### Did you know?

- The 2003 International Plumbing Code prohibits deep seal traps. Water or drainage type trap primers are required. See Section 1002.4
- The cost of steel has increased almost 80% and the cost of copper has increased almost 40% in the past twelve months.
- Every day taken to answer an RFI or process a shop drawing costs the Contractor productivity and money.

### Who would have guessed?

- That scanning drawings can reduce a building footprint by 10% - 15%. After scanning a drawing, it must be re-scaled back to its original size before we use the scanned image for ANY reason
- Every day it takes to issue a memo or a field report confirming a verbal directive given to a Contractor is...a day that never contractually existed.

### This month's thought:

- **BELIEVE EVERYBODY— VERIFY EVERYTHING.**





*K*ibart's mission is to provide quality professional engineering services with a commitment to client service and response time, producing economical, energy efficient, and user friendly designs, delivered on time and within budget.

901 Dulaney Valley Road, Suite 301  
Towson, Maryland 21204

Phone: 410-494-1111  
Fax: 410-494-1112  
Email: [info@kibart.com](mailto:info@kibart.com)

**We're on the web!**  
**Kibart.com**

## YOU ARE KIBART'S NEWS

The Kibart Chronicle is **your** newsletter. It is a source of communication and information not only from management, but from employee to fellow-employee. We hope you will contribute any interesting tidbits of information you would like to share.

Also, is there a specific topic you would like to see in a future issue? Let us know. E-mail your topic suggestions to [kml@kibart.com](mailto:kml@kibart.com).

### BIRTHDAYS

Jan 01: Steve Brzezinski  
Jan 10: Dave Fuller  
Jan 21: Christina Gedeon  
Feb 19: Toni Watson  
March 13: Mike Walker  
March 16: Joe Del Pilar  
March 19: Rob Undiemi

### KIBART ANNIVERSARIES

#### **5 YEARS**

Mike Walker  
Christina Gedeon  
Kevin Cullison

### NEW MEMBERS OF THE KIBART FAMILY

Congratulations to Mike & Valerie Walker on the arrival of their daughter, Alexis Cate on August 6, 2004, and to Kathy Liberatore on the arrival of her first grandchild, Dylan Michael born on January 10, 2005.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Great Job!!! Steve Brzezinski, E.I.T. - Steve passed the examination for Engineer-In-Training in January.

### CHARITIES

Kibart was fortunate to be able to contribute to the following non-profit charitable initiatives in 2004:

Children's Wish Foundation  
American Cancer Society  
RWV, Ann's Choice, and GSV Benevolent Funds  
Oakland & Lutherville Volunteer Fire Departments  
Special Olympics  
ACE Mentor Program Scholarship Fund  
Catholic Charities