

THE EXCHANGE

FALL 2013

Welcome to the fall edition of our quarterly newsletter

As we reflect on our year so far, we're noticing the power of partnership, which has influenced every aspect of our company over the years and especially over the last several months. It's an integral part of our company internally, and it's first and foremost in our relationships with our clients and industry peers.

We're proud of our accomplishments, but we know they wouldn't have been possible without teamwork and collaboration. The articles in this issue illustrate the power of partnership and the role that loyalty and teamwork have played in making us the company we are today.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Our TP Mechanical Whodunit Dinner Extravaganza is right around the corner. Please help us make a difference

It's autumn. The leaves are falling and the air is crisp. It's time for Halloween costumes, pumpkin bread and cozying up to watch a movie with a warm fire glowing in the background - unless you've got a seriously ill child.

When your family is stricken with such heartrending circumstances, seasonal pleasantries fall away to the reality of hours at her bedside, IVs and beeping monitors.

The Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Ohio is there for families like these, offering a "home away from home" and a sense of normalcy for more than 3,000 families a year during these difficult times.

Unfortunately, this particular Ronald McDonald House must turn away many families because they are full to capacity. Join TP Mechanical in our efforts to raise \$25,000 to pay for one room in their upcoming building addition project.

On Nov. 1 we're hosting this year's fall gala, a Whodunit Dinner Extravaganza. Enjoy cocktails, dinner, a silent auction and murder mystery show that'll keep you guessing until the very end.

You can help in our fundraising efforts. Enjoy a fun-filled evening while taking advantage of the positive exposure your company will receive for participation. Donors will be listed in the event program, and merchandise donated will be on display throughout the event.



Please consider:

- Donating items, service or products for our silent auction
- Purchasing a table for 10 at the event
- Providing an in-kind donation of materials or services for the event
- Making a financial donation to the cause
- Becoming a sponsor

For more information or to make a donation:

Visit our website:

www.tpmechanical.com/2013_Fall_Gala_Mystery_Dinner

Call: 513-851-8881

Email: Tara Teepe: tara.teepe@tpmechanical.com

LuAnn Sheridan: luann.sheridan@tpmechanical.com

Donations must be received by Oct. 25, 2013 to be included in the event. We thank you in advance for your support, as will the families who will find shelter at the Ronald McDonald House of Central Ohio.

TP MECHANICAL: A HOME AWAY FROM HOME FOR JERRY WELTE



These days a company that treats its employees like family is hard to find. That's why when Jerry Welte, a shareholder and the lead Cincinnati estimator, began with TP Mechanical 28 years ago, he knew he'd found something special.

Jerry remembers how Bill Teepe set the tone on the jobsite by stopping by and making it a point to talk to every person on the job. His brief visits infused the atmosphere with positive energy and established company expectations that people conduct themselves in a friendly and respectful manner.

Jerry experienced TP Mechanical teamwork at its finest when he worked as the project manager on the Boonshoft Hospital project in Dayton early in his career. For that project, offices in Cincinnati and Columbus collaborated. Jerry was working for the Cincinnati office, the superintendent was in Columbus, and the workforce hailed from both cities.

"The project was a true testament to teamwork and sharing resources," Jerry says.

TP Mechanical was founded on strong core values and the powerful bonds of a family-owned and operated company. As we've grown beyond the Teepe family to become a company of more than 300 employees, the importance of sincerity, trust and of investing in the safety and well-being of others are still the hallmarks of everything we do.

Jerry believes, "A company with such a strong bond among employees can succeed on any project and overcome any adversity."

One such example stands out in Jerry's mind as his favorite memory of working with TP Mechanical -- when employees banded together to purchase the company back from AMPAM and restored itself as a family-owned and operated independent contracting company.

"TP Mechanical is my home away from home," Jerry says. "I've developed many strong relationships...this group of people has been there for me in tough times, have taught me all I know in the industry, and have helped me grow as a person. You just don't leave that type of company."

HOURS UPDATE

Man hours worked without a lost-time accident, as of August 9, 2013: 2,543,364

BUILDING BRIDGES

The light bulb. The airplane. Chanel No. 5 Perfume. Bugs Bunny. The laser jet printer. McDonald's. Microsoft. Apple. Chunky Monkey Ice Cream. Google.

What do all these things have in common? They were born in collaboration. Two heads are better than one, so they say, and each of these influential companies, products or inventions could not have come to fruition without two powerful minds finding a way to meld their expertise to turn one amazing vision into reality.

We recently enjoyed a powerful strategic partnership when we had the opportunity to pair with PEDCO Engineering and Architecture to meet an aggressive schedule and overcome a few challenging project circumstances (like locating the sleeves in a post-tensioned cast concrete deck, for example) on four dormitory projects at the University of Kentucky.



When facing tough projects like this, we at TP Mechanical are always looking to develop the best strategy to complete the assignment. In the case of the UK dorms, we made the decision to join forces with PEDCO. Together, we created an efficient and streamlined building and design process that brought out the best in each of us.



PEDCO's outstanding plumbing engineering design services, Building Information Modeling, shop drawing review, and equipment selection all proved to be vital contributions to the quality of our work. After combining these efforts with our mechanical engineering application and expertise, we were able to tackle complex design-build tasks and utilize the latest technology, such as CAD and in-the-field Trimble units to fast-track the project.

Encouraging teamwork and connectivity both internally and externally helps our business thrive and allows us to offer the best possible service to our customers. Our project for the University of Kentucky could not have been the amazing success it was without the innovative and effective cooperation we shared with PEDCO.

It pays to play nice in the sandbox. Together we built quite the sandcastle - well, several, actually - and we're looking forward to all we can accomplish together in the future. That's why we're proud to utilize PEDCO as a resource.



RIISING TO THE CHALLENGE

Project Profile: Ohio Wesleyan University Stuyvesant Hall Renovation

Like flipping over an hour glass, the renovation of the Ohio Wesleyan Stuyvesant Hall dormitory resurrected the building with modern updates that will give it a “restart” for another 100 years of housing college students in state-of-the-art comfort.

Once a model for the dormitories of its time, Stuyvesant Hall set a high standard for residence halls constructed in the 1930s. Today, the building is considered an “architectural jewel” and is one of 11 Ohio Wesleyan buildings on the National Register of Historic Places. After housing students for more than 70 years, the building needed a little work to restore it to today’s high-standards of modern-day college living.



Cosmetic updates included:

- Turning the former “Stuy Smoker” and Willa B. Player Black Resource Center into renovated, smoke-free common recreational areas for students
- Reconfiguring old dorm rooms into suites and installing all-new, private adjoining bathrooms throughout the building
- Adding a new entrance to the south as well as a courtyard terrace and a coffee bar
- Restoring the building’s bell tower and chimes

Internal renovations required demolition of existing mechanical and plumbing systems and the redesign and install of all-new:



- Plumbing
- HVAC
- Fire protection sprinkler systems
- Air devices
- Boilers
- Chillers
- Hydronic pumps
- Fancoil units
- DOAS units
- Unit heaters
- Public restroom facilities
- A new health center
- Kitchen facilities

A project with a list this long requires many people to get it done. But, as they say, “many hands make light work,” and we couldn’t have brought this renovation to a successful close without extensive internal collaboration among TP Mechanical departments. The teamwork and dedication we experienced while working with other companies and tradesmen on the project was second to none. Internally, our designers, engineers, fabrication teams and craftsmen and women brought their expertise to the table to get as much of the job designed out and prefabricated in-house, shortening the construction timeline.

By working together, we delivered an energy-efficient, state-of-the-art dormitory under budget and on time, with minimal disruption to campus life.

AT YOUR SERVICE: TURN UP THE HEAT

It may be 95 degrees outside as you read this article, and the health of your furnace may be the farthest thing from your mind. But here at TP Mechanical we’re planning ahead.

In just a few short weeks the temperatures will fall with the leaves, and it’ll be time to turn on the heat. Is your system ready to get back to work?

Before you fire up the furnace, it’s essential to get your system checked out and take care of any necessary routine maintenance. This will ensure that your system is running safely and efficiently and promote better indoor air quality to keep you healthy during flu season.

Here are some common problems that can be easily avoided with our TP Mechanical Fall HVAC Check Up:

- Dry air irritates the sinuses and causes nosebleeds, coughs and itchy skin. A humidifier can add necessary moisture to the air and improve your energy efficiency. Moist air holds heat better than dry air - meaning you can turn down the heat and still maintain a comfortable temperature. We’ll check to make sure yours is running smoothly and, if your system doesn’t have a humidifier, we’ll recommend the most cost-effective solution for you.
- Exhaust fans pull heated air out of a building, which makes your system work harder and spikes your heating bills. They can also cause negative pressure inside the system that can lead to back drafts from your flues, walls, windows and un-insulated outlets. We’ll make sure yours are turned off for the winter and keep your bills down where they should be.
- Ice and snow accumulate around flues and combustion intakes, trapping corrosive combustion gases, creating cracks in cement, and attacking metal components. We’ll check for signs of corrosion and show you how to keep the area clear.
- The heater’s on, but no heat is produced. In gas systems, this may mean a malfunctioning pilot light. In electric systems, your heating strip may be broken. These are two easy things a technician can identify and fix. We’ll check your pilot light, heating strip, the alignment of your burners and check for obstructed air flow. Sometimes this problem can be fixed with a simple change of a filter.
- Your thermostat doesn’t match the actual air temperature. This can be due to a low battery or a clogged filter, which are two things we check during our inspection.

Of course, these are just a few sources of these common problems, but with a thorough system check, we can proactively identify potential problems before they impact your system or your wallet. In addition to examining the mechanical components of your furnace, we’ll inspect it for cracks and rust that could lead to a carbon monoxide leak. We’ll also perform a combustion analysis to fine-tune your burner fuel-to-air ratio, which will increase your system’s efficiency and decrease your utility bills.

Because we believe so strongly in the value of preventative maintenance, we’re offering a free service assessment from Sept. 1 - 30.

Sign-up today.

Call our service department today at 1-800-829-1989 to schedule your appointment.

MECHANICAL MUSINGS

What's Servant Leadership? What projects are we working on? How can you keep your workplace safe this fall? Check out our Blog (<http://tpmechanicalblog.com/>) to find out.

Are allergies wreaking havoc on your work force?

Are you and your employees suffering from incessant sneezing, coughing and wheezing? Have you noticed a reduction in productivity due to sick days caused by secondary infections and fuzzy allergy-medicine-soaked brains?

Believe it or not, the air contaminants that cause allergies to flare are actually more prevalent indoors. It's a common misconception that outside air is the culprit. In fact, the constant recirculation of inside air within a building causes microns and chemicals to build up and makes it difficult for the filtration system to keep the air clean. Studies suggest that 50% of illnesses are caused by polluted air - and have shown that air is 70% more polluted inside a building than outside.

RECENT GIVEAWAY



Did you know TP Mechanical gave away a pair of great Reds tickets on Facebook recently?

Congratulations to our contest winners
Shane Bastin and
Elizabeth Goff Chipman.

Don't miss out on our next promotion!

Like us on Facebook now so you can always be in the know.

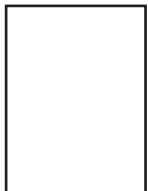
SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

Give us a shout out!

What do you think of TP Mechanical? Please let us know.

Take a moment to comment on our profile on MANTA.

Visit our web site at www.tpmechanical.com to sign up for our e-newsletter.



TP Mechanical
CONTRACTORS | SERVICE | FABRICATION

1500 Kemper Meadow Drive
Cincinnati, Ohio 45240