



# NEWS & VIEWS

. . . . your annual update on what's happening at Wick

4<sup>th</sup> Quarter, 2001

## Year in Review

In last year's issue you may remember that the Pierce County Environmental Services Building was listed as an upcoming bid. Wick won that contract and it will soon be "in the dry." Other new projects are the Greenwood Elementary School in Seattle and completion of the Navy's Medical/Dental Facility in Everett. Qwest projects continue to keep some of our best people fully occupied in locations including downtown Seattle, Yakima, Bonney Lake, and Port Orchard.

Our Accounting Department has put a great deal of energy into changing over to the Bidtek software system, and is now just ironing out a few small bugs.

Wick has undergone a slight change in leadership roles, with Kit Bratlien now functioning as our CEO, allowing more time for insurance consulting work, and Bruce Myers handling all management functions as President.

## Passages

November 9, 2001, Andrew P. Wick peacefully passed away at his home in Bellevue, Andy, his cousin, Peter, and Peter Wick, Sr. started Wick Construction Company in 1953. Andy soon became president and under his leadership Wick Construction grew from a two man office into the organization it is today. Andy's charisma brought out the best in people, and his willingness to provide opportunities for his employees provided an environment for success. Although many of you did not have the pleasure of working closely with Andy, those of us that did, relish our memories of this wonderful man, friend and leader.

## Completed Projects

- *Maplewood K-8 School - Edmonds S.D.*  
This \$12 million, 76,000 SF facility includes construction of a K-8 School & Special K-12 Education Center, which are now being occupied by the owner.  
The Wick jobsite team includes George Mason, Superintendent, and Patty Paulsen, Field Engineer; with Steve Hansen, Sr. Project Manager, handling main office responsibilities.



- *Athletic Facility & Fields at Rainier Beach H.S.*  
This \$6 million facility includes a new football field with grandstand & support building, utility field, track & baseball areas. The Rainier Beach Vikings had a winning season and the community is fully utilizing and appreciating these new fields. Wick's superintendent was Joe Defronzo, assisted by Sandra Rogers, Field Engineer. Miles Haupt was Sr. Project Manager.



### Completed Projects, continued

- *Hazen High School - Renton S.D.*

This \$15+ million project for the Renton School District is due for completion in January, 2002. Terry Lavin, Sr. Project Manager, and Gordon Lemberg, Project Manager, are to be credited for seeing through a challenging contract which involved numerous design changes along the way. At the jobsite, Paul Kocharhook, Project Engineer, and Roy Brown, Superintendent, made it all come together.

The facility includes a new 700 seat, 2-story auditorium and Commons, as well as renovated swimming pool & administration areas.



*Hazen High School - Auditorium Addition*



*Hazen High School - Commons Area*

### Ongoing Projects

- *Pierce County Environmental Services Office Building, University Place (near Tacoma), WA*

This \$10+ million project is being managed in the office by Shane Woytko and Miles Haupt, with assistance from Kelly Connolly.

It includes construction of a new 2-story office building, 1-story support building, and associated site improvements. Kevin McClay, Superintendent, and Sandra Rogers, Field Engineer, represent Wick on-site, with Nate Kirstein as Project Engineer.



- *Greenwood Elementary School* is a challenging project involving demolition and construction of two wings, while totally gutting and reconstructing the central 1909 structure. This \$11 million job is being run by Terry Lavin, Sr. Project Manager, Ryan Rudolph, Project Engineer, and Dan Kirkland, Acting Superintendent.



### Ongoing Projects, continued

Completion of the *Medical/Dental Clinic at the Everett Naval Station* is a different sort of contract, as Wick was called in to finish this job by the original contractor's bonding company. Joe Defronzo, Superintendent, and Ian O'Reilly, CQC Manager, are heading Wick's efforts at the site, with Miles Haupt, Sr. Project Manager, and Dan Kirkland, Sr. Project Engineer, handling the main office responsibilities.

### QWEST PROJECT REPORT

Wick has an ongoing contract with Qwest (formerly U.S. West Communications) to perform work in the State of Washington. This year, our office team of Duane Baker, Matt Williams, Kathie Wood, and Kelly Connolly, together with field personnel - Dana True (at the main Bell Plaza Building), Joel Chriscaden, John Carlson, Rico Andrade, Tony Call and regular crew members - have completed over 130 projects ranging in size from under \$10,000 to over \$2.5 million.

Some of the larger Qwest projects underway are:

- Bonney Lake Building Addition
- Bell Plaza Security Upgrade
- Bell Terrace Security Upgrade
- Cherry Central Office Alterations

Congratulations to Joel Chriscaden, who received a commendation letter from Qwest for his work on the 1122 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. Generator project.

### Safety Issues

George Mason, General Superintendent, is now in charge of safety issues, and you may have noticed a few changes in the area of Safety and Risk Management over the last two months. More are coming! You have some new contacts and more frequent site visits, as well as tighter procedures for accidents and injury reporting. These may seem burdensome at first, but let us tell you why.

It is a widely recognized fact that the most valuable asset any company has is YOU, its employees; each bringing their own unique talents to the mix. We ask each of you to examine your personal commitment to protecting this asset every day. Without this, no safety program, procedure or rule can succeed. You may make this commitment for many reasons – for yourself, on behalf of your family, or to ensure achievement of your life goals, whatever they may be.

We are refocusing the spotlight on safety awareness and education, starting with a class on January 16. This 4-hour class (8:30 am-12:30 pm) @ Boeing Machinists Hall), geared for supervisors, will address accountability in the realm of jobsite safety. Our hope is that education will renew our enthusiasm for protecting each other's asse(t)s.

In the meantime, remember that safety is really a core value; not to be left at the job shack or in the office. The little things like fastening a seatbelt, checking a smoke detector battery, or taking a taxi home, make all the difference.

### “New” Employees:

Wick Constructors welcomed some new members to our team this year:

- Kristin Betancourt, Acctg. & Office Assist.
- Maria Christensen, Accounts Payable
- Kelly Connolly, Admin. Assistant
- Joe Defronzo, Superintendent
- Nate Kirstein, Project Engineer
- Ian O'Reilly, CQC Manager
- David Pitt, Estimator
- Sandra Rogers, Field Engineer
- Janie Ross-Johnson, Insurance Manager
- Ryan Rudolph, Project Engineer
- Laura Rupert, Assistant Controller
- Matthew Williams, Qwest Assistant P.M.
- Kathie Wood, Qwest Accountant

## Bidding Activities

Current upcoming bid:

- 01/10/02 – New Mason Middle School, Tacoma, WA

**On 12/13/01, Wick Constructors bid the Federal Way High School project and was awarded this \$20+ Million project on 12/17/01!**

## Message from the President

This year has seen a substantial increase in Qwest work and insurance consulting, which were two primary goals for Wick Constructors at the beginning of 2001. Congratulations to our Qwest and insurance groups on making this occur and for your continued diligence in furthering our opportunities with these clients.

Wick also entered a new market with our Navy Medical/Dental project in Everett. We are representing the surety on this contract, and it is our desire to continue this role as new opportunities present themselves.

The outlook for public bid work looks a bit tenuous given the current competitive market and state of the overall economy. One company goal remains from last year – to improve our operating results on the competitive bid side, we must increase labor productivity and return to previous levels of efficiency. I am optimistic that this will occur very soon, and the tightening bid market reinforces the need for us to improve. With the Federal Way High School bid, our estimating staff has shown their ability to generate more opportunities in this sector.

While Wick Constructors will be faced with a challenging work environment in 2002, I am confident that our construction team will adapt as required to succeed, and overcome these challenges. I wish you all the very best for the holiday season and continued prosperity in the new year.

## Personal Notes

Nate Kirstein and Jacque, were married in Iowa this past July. They honeymooned by driving to Seattle with all their belongings!

Nicole Smith became Nicole Batchelor when she married Justin in August. They honeymooned in California.

*New Parents during 2001:*

Dan Kirkland and Catherine (Natalie)  
Matt Williams and Andrea (Grace)  
Shane Woytko and Patty (Anna)

Allison Quiggle, Field Engineer, who helped get the Greenwood Elementary project off the ground, is working for Ski Patrol this Winter.

## Miscellaneous

You may have noticed that this newsletter has not been issued quarterly, as first planned. This second issue makes it at least an annual event. Thanks to some volunteers by the name of Ryan Rudolph, Nate Kirstein, and Ian O'Reilly, we plan more frequent issues starting in January. Dare we say monthly? At least quarterly.

## Word Corner

Some words that sound alike but are spelled differently for different meanings:

"plain" (clear, simple, without embellishment)

"plane" (implies something level or flat)

It is plain to see from the way light hits that surface, that the trim was not planed smooth.

"patience" (endurance, calmness, composure)

"patients" (people receiving medical treatment)

The emergency room nurse used great patience when dealing with the increased number of patients seeking treatment during the holiday weekend.