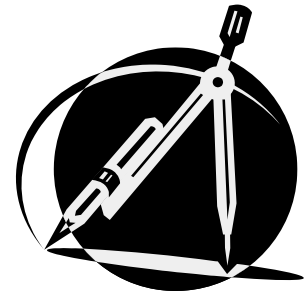


The Compass



Volume V, Issue 3

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Inside this issue:

- Florence Moves Forward With Projects **2**
- Viox Landscaper Claims Top Prize at National Convention **2**
- NKSPE Plays a "Round" For Scholarships **2**
- Employee Happenings **3**
- Viox Staff Has Fun and Gets Healthy **3**

From the Desk of Bill Viox

The summer of 2008 was an exciting time for our staff. New projects; new customers; new challenges; new employees.

The opportunity to work with Bruce D. Robinson (BDR Design) and K4 Architects on the City of Florence Golf Center has been great. A single principle motivates everything BDR is involved with: "How simple can we achieve amazing?" BDR has worked on various national high-profile projects. K4 is one of the premier architectural firms in the Cincinnati area. Look for big changes at the old World of Sports complex.

We were recently appointed City Engineer for Crescent Springs. We are excited to work with the neighborhoods and people that make up this great suburban community. In addition, the Engineering Department has



City of Crescent Springs

been busy with commercial shopping centers, industrial facilities, and municipal projects.

We are now providing interior design services in three No. KY counties (Boone, Kenton, and Campbell). Our interior design specialist has helped several homeowners who are seeking improvements and updates to their homes.

Our Landscape Architecture staff has been involved in creating landscaping plans for private homeowners, as well as for commercial projects. Brock MacKay has joined our staff full time as a landscape designer. Brock is originally from Birmingham,

Alabama and brings a new perspective to our landscaping team. Bryan Grome also joined the staff as a landscape architecture co-op. Bryan is a full time student at Purdue.

Our Sales/Marketing/Innovation Committees have kept us all hopping with an array of new ideas and methods. Jim Viox and I have let them go in whatever direction necessary to achieve our goals. At the same time, our "Voice of Customer" has been a real help with quality control.

Most recently, Aaron Duesing, designer/draftsman, created a new marketing DVD that will be mailed out in our marketing packets to potential clients. In addition, we are currently working on updates to our website which includes new project pictures, new information on Fox Interiors, and overall improvements to the appearance of the site.

Erlanger's Flagship Park Opens for Business

On September 27, 2008, the City of Erlanger dedicated their newest and largest park in the City's park system. Flagship Park is located in Lakemont subdivision off of Richardson Road.

The new 32-acre park was donated by the Drees Company, the developer of Lakemont subdivision. The park was designed by Carter Dickerson with input by many City of Erlanger citizens and

staff members. The park features shelters, a playground, walking trails, and sand volleyball courts.

This past summer, the City announced plans to dedicate the park to the Viox Family based on Jim Viox's 40 years of service as city engineer.



Members of the Viox family attended the official dedication of the park. From left: Megan Viox de Sola, Christian Viox Craddock, Nancy Viox, and Jim Viox.

Below: 3-D Model of Merchants, Fuller, and Bankers Streets landscape islands.



Florence Moves Forward With Projects

Viox & Viox is working with the City of Florence on several street improvement projects. Most notably, the City is preparing to bid the resurfacing and beautification of Merchants, Fuller and Bankers Streets. The project will include alternates for landscape islands on Fuller and Bankers Streets.

The City and Viox & Viox are coordinating with the local businesses to insure that any changes to the street will not affect their operation. In order to facilitate this cooperation, Viox & Viox has produced

a 3-D model of the proposed landscape features. This model will allow businesses to visualize the finished product. Additionally, Viox has extensively studied all the turning movements in the area to insure there will be no access issues.

The City is also on the verge of bidding two water main replacements on Wallace Avenue and Miriam Street. The projects are part of the City's long-term process of replacing existing break-prone 6" mains with new 8". The projects are scheduled to bid on November 21, 2008.

This year will also mark the first time that Viox & Viox has taken over responsibility for the inspection of bridges and culverts under City streets. Previously, these inspections were done by City Staff and reviewed by Viox & Viox. Inspections will begin this month and will be completed by the end of the year.

In addition, Viox has also begun work on the resurfacing priorities for the 2009-2010 fiscal year. Florence plans to bid these projects in March and begin construction in July 2009.

Viox Landscaper Claims Top Prize at National Convention



Above: Brock MacKay (pictured second from right) holds the 2008 ASLA award for Community Service presented in Philadelphia, PA.

A collaborative study by University of Kentucky Landscape Architecture students and the Northern Kentucky Area Planning Commission won a national award at this fall's American Society of Landscape Architect's (ASLA) Conference in Philadelphia.

The project entailed a study of Northern Kentucky's hillsides and included several public participation meetings. The students used the public

input and their research of existing watersheds and land features to develop a vision for the future of Northern Kentucky's hillsides.

Brock MacKay, a 2008 graduate of U.K.'s Landscape Architecture program, was elected as the project manager of the study and led a team of 14 students. Brock is now a full-time landscape designer with Viox & Viox. The project won the Community Service Award at the national conference, as the students and

NKAPC's free services were estimated to be worth approximately \$150,000 to \$200,000. Brock attended the award ceremony in Philadelphia in October with several other members of the team.

U.K.'s Landscape Architecture Department hopes to publish the study for public distribution to continue NKAPC's efforts regarding hillside development and preservation issues.

NKSPE Plays a "Round" for Scholarships

Even this fall's wind-storm did not deter 125 golfers from attending the 15th Annual NKSPE Golf Outing on September 15th at Triple Crown Country Club. Many of those attending the outing were still awaiting the return of electricity in their homes from the storm the previous day. However, this year's function raised more money than any of the other prior 14 events.

Once again, the Northern Kentucky Society of Professional Engineers (NKSPE)

outing was organized by Jim Viox (Viox & Viox), Jim Berling (James Berling Engineers), and Rick Kelly (Viking Supply). The event raised over \$13,500, almost a \$4,000 increase over last year! The money raised will help fund NKSPE scholarships, which are awarded each year to students who will be attending engineering schools.

The money raised was, in part, thanks to the 81 sponsors who participated this year. The sponsors donated money and many gift bag and

door prize items. One highlight was the donation of two Ryder Cup tickets by Colin Browning with Site Supply. The tickets were raffled off for a total of \$330.

The winning foursome was a repeat of last year: Steve Price, Larry Brossart, Tom Schomaker, and Roger Wafford. They were sponsored by Hilltop Stone, LLC. The winners each received gift cards to the Triple Crown Pro Shop. Thanks to all for making the golf outing a success!



Above: A handsome foursome: David Hahn, Jim Viox, Pat Crilley, and Bobby Taylor; Vince Kahmann and Michael Miller prepare to tee off.

Employee Happenings

Viox & Viox Employment Anniversaries

The following employees are celebrating employment anniversaries this fall.

4 years

Kenny Courts (Hired on Sept. 27, 2004)

Carter Dickerson (Hired on Oct. 11, 2004)

5 years

Sandy McMillan (Hired on Oct. 13, 2003)

12 years

Megan de Sola (Hired on Oct. 1, 1996)

13 years

Tim McNeely (Hired on Oct. 9, 1995)

18 years

Pat Jones (Hired on Nov. 12, 1990)

29 years

Chuck Faeth (Hired on Sept. 4, 1979)

Fall Birthdays

Bill Viox - Sept. 14

Jason Thorwarth - Sept. 17

Caroline Weltzer - Sept. 27

Mike Utz - Oct. 1

Dean Tanner - Oct. 5

Sandy McMillan - Oct. 13

Nancy Viox - Oct. 13

Megan de Sola - Oct. 30

Jimmy Viox - Nov. 5

Kenny Courts - Nov. 6

Andie White - Nov. 10

Christian Craddock - Nov. 30

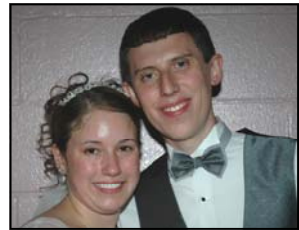
Announcements

- Congratulations to **Sandy McMillan** on the birth of her newest granddaughter, **Sydnee Grace McMillan**, born on August 6th.
- Congratulations to **Will Klayer** on his marriage to Pam DePaoli on September 6th in Cincinnati, OH.
- Congratulations to **Matt**

Bogen on his marriage to Beckie Witt on October 11th in Cold Spring, KY.

- Congratulations to **Jonathan Brown** who was promoted to Partner and head of the Viox & Viox Engineering Department on Sept. 1st.
- Welcome to **Brock MacKay** who joined the Landscape Architecture Dept. on September 2nd. Brock graduated from U.K. in May with a B.S. in Landscape Architecture.
- Welcome to **Bryan Grome** who joined the Landscape Architecture Dept. on August 18th. Bryan is a landscape architecture co-op from Purdue.

From Top: Sandy McMillan and Sydnee Grace; Will and Pam Klayer; Matt and Beckie Bogen; Brock MacKay and Bryan Grome



Below: Carter Dickerson, Biggest Loser - Before (left) and After (right); Winning Javelin Team - Dean Tanner, Jonathan Brown, Michael Miller; Jonathan recreates his wayward toss.

Viox Staff Has Fun and Gets Healthy

During the months of August and September, Viox & Viox promoted "Health Awareness" by encouraging the staff to become more conscious of the state of their health. In addition to weekly emails with healthy eating and exercising tips, two 8-week long contests were held for all employees willing to participate.

The first contest was the Viox & Viox "Biggest Loser" contest. Ten employees agreed to pay \$5.00 to enter the contest and took part in weekly weigh-ins. The winner of the contest was the employee with the largest percentage of weight loss. The competition was fierce, but in the end, **Carter Dickerson** took home the top prize of \$200.00. Carter lost a total of 40 pounds—congratulations Carter! In order to encourage

participants to continue with their healthier lifestyle, Viox & Viox offered each person one free consultation with a certified nutritionist.

In addition to the "Biggest Loser" contest, many of the Viox staff members participated in weekly fitness challenges. The challenges included a cornhole tournament, a pedometer challenge, a Wii tournament, a scavenger hunt, and a javelin throw. Different teams were formed each week and the teams went head-to-head vying for that week's gold medal. The employee who had acquired the most gold medals at the end of the 8-weeks was declared the overall Fitness Challenge winner. After answering a tie-breaker final question, the overall winner was **Michael Miller**. Michael was awarded a \$50.00 Kroger gift card and passes to Cocoa

Key Water Resort in Cincinnati.

It was very encouraging to see the enthusiasm from all who participated in the Viox Health Awareness programs. In fact, their enthusiasm was somewhat underestimated during the opening week of the Fitness Challenges. Week one required the teams to create a javelin using items found only in the office. The teams were judged both on their creativity and the overall distance traveled. The winning team was Jonathan Brown, Michael Miller, and Dean Tanner. The javelin which was made out of a coat rack and the tip of a surveying prism, traveled the farthest, albeit at the cost of one of Viox & Viox's surveying vans. The challenges which followed the javelin throw were devised to be much less of a hazard to people and property!





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We're on the Web!
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Important Dates and Upcoming Events:

- **Nov. 4** - Election Day
- **Nov. 11** - Veteran's Day
- **Nov. 27 & 28** - Thanksgiving Holiday (office is closed)
- **Dec. 16** - Viox & Viox Christmas Luncheon
- **Dec. 25** - Christmas Day (office is closed)
- **Jan. 1, 2009** - New Year's Day (office is closed)

Viox & Viox began providing engineering and surveying services to Northern Kentucky in 1945. The firm, originally founded by James H. Viox, Jr., P.E., L.S. and George Rassenfoss, P.E., is now owned by Mr. Viox's two sons, James H. Viox, III, P.E., P.L.S. and William R. Viox, P.E., P.L.S.

Viox & Viox has grown and expanded their services over the years and currently employs approximately 35 employees. Viox & Viox currently offers services in municipal engineering, commercial, industrial and residential planning, public utilities, surveying, Global Positioning Systems (GPS), and landscape architecture. With over 70% of its employees from Northern Kentucky, the firm is closely connected to the local residents and the issues and challenges that face the community. It is our intent and hope to continue to progress and produce the high quality of professional services for which we are known.

Our Mission Statement:

To continue to serve a diverse spectrum of clients in an accurate and timely manner.

To make Viox & Viox a positive work environment that will enable employees to grow both professionally and personally.

To continually progress in the area of technology so as to serve our clients by the most advanced methods available.

To be the premier Civil Engineering / Surveying / Landscape Architecture firm within the Tri-State area with a solid reputation of delivering excellent service from a professional staff in the most cost effective, timely, and accurate way possible.

Creating innovative pathways through progressive design...one client at a time.