

The Compass



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The View from the Top by Jim and Bill Viox

The winter of 2006...what winter?! Normally, many of our clients go into hibernation during this time, but this year it was full steam ahead. On many nights, our lights remained on until the wee hours of the morning to provide sufficient time to complete projects. Our design teams will always provide the needed services, regardless of the day or the week or the time of day!

The 'Design Team' concept is working very well for us. Our newest staff member, Kris Curry, is getting settled in. Kris was formerly a staff member at Atlantic Land Design, a firm based in Port St. Lucie, Florida. Kris will work primarily with Jonathan Brown, E.I. We are also using the team concept to make public presentations which allows for better concentration on the different issues.

The Marketing Division has made significant progress in the last year thanks to the excellent efforts of Caroline Weltzer. Caroline Weltzer, our Director of Finance, has also taken on the

duty of Marketing Director. Several new clients have come on board thanks to her hard work.

During the past few months, we completed the site design for the Dixie Heights High School Campus, working with Piaskowy & Cooper, PSC Architects and Planners. Construction of the campus will be on the fast track to get the athletic fields ready for next season.

We have also completed the grading design for the new high school campus on Longbranch Road in Boone County. This campus will include a high school, elementary school, and all athletic facilities. R.E. Hayes and Associates is the architectural firm heading this project. In addition, our designers are beginning work on the reconstruction of Raintree Drive in Florence. This improvement will include a new street and public sidewalk.

The New Uri Watershed Study in Florence is underway. Our environmental sub-consultant, XCG Consultants, Inc., has started stream monitor-

ing and rain event monitoring. In the next few months, our staff will be interviewing residents and collecting field data. We plan to complete the study by August 2006, provided sufficient rain data can be obtained.

The Landscape Design Team has completed preliminary design for Lakemont Park in Erlanger. Lakemont Park is a 32-acre park, adjacent to Drees' Lakemont residential development.

Our Surveying Teams are coordinating several topographic surveys throughout the region, along with GRW aerial surveys. It has been a crash program trying to get the aerial photography in before the leaves come out. Boundary surveys and topographic surveys are usually an indicator of future projects. It looks like it will be a very busy year!



Kris Curry

Northern Kentucky to Host KSPE

The Northern Kentucky Convention Center and Marriott RiverCenter will soon be filled with talk of bridge construction, sewer design, and storm water controls. Yes, that's right, hoards of engineers will be converging into the area for the 71st Annual Kentucky Society of Professional Engi-

neers (KSPE) Convention on April 19, 20, and 21st.

This year's convention will feature many insightful and locally relevant lectures and tours. A special pre-convention seminar is planned on Wednesday entitled "A Day with the Corps of Engineers". A golf

outing at Lassing Pointe is scheduled for Thursday afternoon. Thursday evening's festivities include "An Evening at the Newport Aquarium". In addition, an Awards Luncheon and President's Dinner and Reception is on the agenda for Friday. For more information, go to www.kyengcenter.org.

Florence's Stringtown Park Pathways Under Construction



Playground at Stringtown Park

The City of Florence will soon be officially introducing their newest park to the public. Stringtown Park, located on KY 18 and Kathryn Avenue will celebrate its grand opening this summer. Although the park's playground and basketball courts have been in use for some time, the park is not quite complete. Construction on a bike/ pedestrian pathway began in April and future amenities include a shelter and restroom facility.

Viox & Viox provided the design and engineering for

the park's pathway system. The project was headed by Carter Dickerson, landscape designer with Viox & Viox. The pathway system will be 8 feet wide; large enough to accommodate both bike and foot traffic. The path is a 1/4 mile loop which will connect to the existing sidewalk system. The trail will also allow walkers and bikers to use a continuous connection route between Stringtown Park, the Florence Skate Park, and the trail which surrounds the Florence Government System.

The pathway will wind along the park's rolling hills, through wooded areas, around existing mature trees, and through open fields. The pathway will include seven new park benches and trash receptacles.

The pathway project was awarded to Len Riegler Blacktop in September 2005 and is currently under construction. The project is expected to be complete by early summer.

"With the changing technological capabilities that we are now able to offer and the great team we have here, I feel we truly have the edge over our competitors."

**-Caroline Weltzer
Viox & Viox Marketing
Committee Chair**

Viox & Viox Gets Serious About Marketing

Although Viox & Viox recently celebrated its 60th year in business, the firm is not resting on its laurels with regard to promoting its wide array of services. Viox & Viox recently formed a Marketing Committee to oversee promotions and advertising, as well as to construct a working Marketing Plan for the future of the firm.

The committee, which meets monthly, targets those services and projects that demand special attention. Re-

cent improvements introduced by the committee included: Viox & Viox construction site signs; new website; new marketing brochures; and new promotional products such as pens, folders, and employee apparel.

Caroline Weltzer, Viox & Viox's Financial Director, heads the Marketing Committee. She prepares marketing sessions for Viox staff meetings which include tips on improving client services. According to Caroline, market-

ing is important because it is a way to not only gain new clients, but to keep current clients updated.

Caroline stated, "It is an exciting time to be marketing Viox & Viox. With the changing technological capabilities that we are now able to offer and the great team we have here, I feel we truly have the edge over our competitors...we are able to provide a greater level of overall service in one place than what can be found elsewhere."

Lots in Airpark West Quickly Filling Up

Three more lots at Paul Hemmer Companies' Airpark West Industrial Park in Hebron, Kentucky have been sold. The three new businesses, Tenryu, Bonfiglioli USA, and Hebron Animal Hospital, will all be under construction this summer.

Airpark West is located on KY 237 and Langley Drive. The three new businesses are being constructed on lots on Hargrave Drive,

between Langley Drive and Wright Boulevard.

Tenryu is a global company, based in Japan, that makes industrial saw blades. The Hebron facility will act as a distribution center. Bonfiglioli USA is a leading manufacturer of power transmission equipment. The worldwide company will make the new facility at Airpark West their U.S. headquarters. Hebron Animal Hospital has been operating at

their Ernst Lane facility in Hebron since 1977. As Boone County has grown, so has the demand for veterinary services. Therefore they plan to build a larger, state-of-the-art facility at Airpark West.

Construction on both Tenryu and Hebron Animal Hospital began this spring and completion is expected in early fall. Construction will begin on Bonfiglioli USA this summer.



Airpark West

Employee Happenings

Viox & Viox Employment Anniversaries

The following employees are celebrating an employment anniversary with Viox & Viox this spring:

2 Years

Ryan Hartig (Hired on April 7, 2004)

5 years

Jonathan Brown (Hired on

May 7, 2001)

Aaron Duesing (Hired on

May 7, 2001)

Justin Verst (Hired on March 13, 2001)

8 years

Michael Miller (Hired on

April 30, 1998)

10 years

Michelle Bollman (Hired on

March 25, 1996)

18 years

Mary Etingher (Hired on

April 4, 1988)

21 years

Bill Matteoli (Hired on March

11, 1985)

35 years

Mike Utz (Hired on May 5,

1971)

Congratulations to everyone - Viox & Viox appreciates your hard work and dedication!

Spring Birthdays

Pat Jones - March 7

Justin Verst - April 2

Ricky Faulkner - May 20

Michelle Bollman - May 29

Announcements

- Welcome to **Kris Curry**, designer/draftsman, who began work on Feb. 6th.
- Congratulations to **Sandy McMillan** on the birth of a new granddaughter, **Rosalie Hope Powers** on February 22nd. Rosalie is the daughter of Pat and Wendy Powers.



Rosalie Hope Powers

- Congratulations to **Jason and Kathy Thorwarth** on the birth of their daughter, **Ella Rose** on April 1st.
- Congratulations to **Bill and Linda Viox** on the birth of their 8th grandchild, **Lillian Grace McGlasson** on April 5th. "Lilli" is the daughter of Matt and Margaux McGlasson.

Staff Welcomes in the New Year German-style

It turned out to be a mild winter, however there was enough snow to cause problems for Viox & Viox's annual Christmas Party. The party, originally scheduled for December 8th at the Hofbrauhaus in Newport had to be rescheduled for January 26th because of an unexpected snow storm.

The party, which became a New Year's celebration, included a German buffet dinner, polka music, and lots of good German beer. Attendees

were treated to several German tunes and sing-alongs, highlighted by everyone's favorite - "The Chicken Dance."

The rescheduling of the party turned out to be a positive turn of events. Most employees agreed that December is always a very hectic month and the January party was much more agreeable with everyone's busy schedule. Therefore, it was decided to continue this new tradition of holding "New Year" parties every January. *Sehr Gut!*



Ella Rose Thorwarth



Lillian Grace McGlasson

Spring Spotlight Employees: Jason Thorwarth and Carter Dickerson

This spring, Viox & Viox is spotlighting two of the firm's newest employees. Jason Thorwarth began working for Viox & Viox in 2005; he returned to the firm after formerly working as co-op from 1997 to 2000. Carter Dickerson began work at Viox & Viox in 2004.

Jason graduated from Cincinnati State in 2000 and currently works in the Surveying Division at Viox & Viox. Jason is planning on taking the SIT examination this spring.

Jason enjoys hunting and fishing and playing golf. He currently plays in a Golf League at Hickory Sticks Golf Course. Jason and his wife, Kathy recently (very recently!) celebrated the birth of their first child, a daughter named Ella Rose on April 1st. He and his family are planning a vacation to Destin, Florida this summer.

Carter Dickerson is a 2004 graduate of Mississippi State University. He received his degree in Landscape Architecture and has worked as a

landscape designer with Viox & Viox since October 2004.

Carter and his fiancé, Mandy Dennis, are currently busy preparing for their June wedding in Jackson, Mississippi. They are looking forward to their honeymoon in Ocho Rios, Jamaica.

Carter is an avid fan of the local music scene and enjoys spending his weekends attending concerts. In his spare time, he enjoys practicing the mandolin.



Jason Thorwarth



Carter Dickerson



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

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We're on the Web!
www.vioxinc.com

Important Dates and Upcoming Events:

- **April 14** - Good Friday
- **April 16** - Easter Sunday
- **April 19-21** - KSPE Convention
- **May 14** - Mother's Day
- **May 29** - Memorial Day (office is closed)
- **June 18** - Father's Day
- **July 3** - Viox & Viox floating holiday (office is closed)
- **July 4** - Independence 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.