

CONSTRUCTING WITH PURPOSE, PASSION AND PRIDE

LETTER FROM OUR EDITOR

Bob Weber

A Piece of History

Island Acoustics has been working at and for The Metropolitan Museum of Art (MMA) on a continuous basis since 1972. I believe the first job was at the American Wing addition. Bob Harrington was our foreman. The week before the opening Bob was asked to assist the curators in moving and hanging that famous Remington painting of Washington crossing the Delaware. You know, the one with George standing in front of the row boat on that cold winter morning. Anyhow, Bob was wearing his tool belt and his sheetrock saw punctured the rowboat. Although no one saw the accident, Bob turned himself in. The curators, impressed with Bob's honesty, performed their cosmetic reconstructive surgery - we would call it a "blow out patch". The Remington still hangs at MMA, as does Island. Since that time, Island has had the privilege of completing over 600 projects at The Metropolitan Museum of Art.

After Bob, came **John Honick**, a valued foreman, who worked for Island at MMA for nine years and was offered, and accepted, a position in the MMA's construction department. This was the ultimate compliment from this world-class museum. After we got over the initial surprise and disappointment of John's leaving, we wished him all the best and John, like Island and the Remington, are still...hanging at MMA.

Our work at the MMA is now being supervised by **Chris Corso**. Chris, now in his sixth year, is going strong, meeting the needs of this valued client. This past winter, we temporarily enclosed and heated an area at the roof garden. Our steel stud Dens glass Gold wallblock, finished with smooth plaster, has been turned over to an artist who is painting and completing an exhibit called the Lewitt Exhibition opening this summer. Check it out as, like most exhibits, our work will be demo'd to make room for yet another great showing.

Capital projects like the new Cafeteria, Egyptian Wing, Trustees dining room and President's office were done by our company. The work most rewarding for me is the on-going special exhibits. Just a sampling of exhibits done by Island...

American Wing, Pergamon Gallery, Lehman Wing, Rembrandt Not Rembrandt, Mexico, Benin African Gallery, Poussin to Mattise, Giambattista Tiepolo, French Renaissance, Pages of Perfection, Havemeyer Legacy, Goya, French Renaissance, Fireplace, Faberge, President's Office, Lautrec, Chinese Gallery, Carot Exhibit, Greek/Gold Exhibit, Cavalier Exhibit, Weber/Japanese Gallery, Arms & Armor, Egyptian Gallery, Royal Women of Armana, Dali Exhibit, Glory Days of Byzantium, Medieval Spain, Flowers Underfoot, Lautrec, King of World, MacIntosh, Picasso, Armana Gallery, Degas Private Collection,

Sacklering, European Paintings Gallery, Winslow/Homer Gallery, China, Tish Galleries, MMA Watson Library

Quite an impressive list! Which was the job I remember best? Well...Mexico where the sketches were single line like most exhibit drawings and the structural specification, particularly for the mill stone platform, was to "double sheath the top and include enough gussets to carry a Volkswagen" and, oh, "we need it in 3 days".

or...

RILIEVO DELLA NICCHIA - that was the name on the 15th century drawing. **Tom Scally** faxed over the dimensions which were metric scale: 1/10 - the language, Latin! The niche was to be set in an existing wall to display statuary sent to MMA from a museum in Italy for cleaning. The 3'x5' niche was constructed in our shop with a bird cage of wooden strips, fiber glass mesh, a bag of gypsum plaster and ½ skid of compound. We had one day to install it, as an exhibit was closing, the statuary was being uncrated and the unveiling and exhibit opening was the following day. The dimensions, fit and finish, were as shown on the drawing. The statuary, two large bronze-robed figures, was being placed. Just hours before the unveiling, we received a call to help with the placing of a 2x4 wood block to support the foot of one figure whose toes stuck out behind the niche. The curators surmised something similar had to have been done 400 years earlier at the original unveiling - a field condition?! See picture...



I could go on and on and on...like talking about the piece of sheet rock about 12" x 12" we installed to seal a light leak deep in the bowels of the tomb before the opening of the KING TUT EXHIBIT seen by millions (the exhibit not the sheetrock) some 25 or so years ago...and this may be enough Island history for this issue.

Thanks to the people at The Metropolitan Museum of Art for allowing us the privilege of being a small part of this world-class institution and thanks to the Island world-class craftsman - without you, this would have been a short article.

OPERATIONS CORNER

Steve Kistulinec

Hello from all of us in the Operations Department! We would like to bring your attention to a few things we are currently building at Island Acoustics...

A field team... has been assembled to create structure and bring conformity to all projects. A project being built in Manhattan with a project manager and foreman will be managed no differently than a project on Long Island with a different project manager and foreman. Expectations from both the managers and the foremen throughout the company will be the same. The Field Team will assist in assembling the foreman/lead person for new projects. Additionally the field team has completed standardizing the forms we use on a daily basis. This would include Extra Work Order tickets, Requests for Information, Accident Reports, Purchase Orders, a Skills and Certification Survey and designing a daily log/time book. We are collaborating on how to incorporate task code production tracking in this same book. These have been incorporated into a SWI (standard work instruction) binder and distributed at foremen's meetings held on June 7th & 9th. Future meetings regarding discussions around "field teaming", as well as instructions on implementation are being scheduled.

Thank you **Ryan Maher** and **Russ Demeri** for your hard work, commitment and proven leadership values in putting this together.

On the purchase order front, we're looking forward to a new process which will include beta testing a Maxwell integration of estimating and purchasing information. **Kathy Bernhardt**, our purchasing manager, will be instrumental in moving this process forward. More information to come!

Additional office space... is being built for new personnel. On our one year anniversary in our new office space we are completing a new addition consisting of two new offices and a new lunchroom. This expansion will allow us to welcome...

Frank Daloia, our new project manager who joined our team in January. Frank is currently handling: Hudson River Savings Bank in Riverhead with **Bob LaValley**, Hudson River Savings Bank(s) in Staten Island with **Scott Malozzi** and **Frank Sprock**; Goldman Sachs at One NY Plaza with **Chris Stanzione**; United Jewish Appeal with **Eric McNamara**; Homeland Security with **Doug Uneberg** and Plainview Fire House with **Bob Worth**. Please join me in welcoming Frank to our team.

Christina Amato, our new Operations administrative assistant. Christina is doing a splendid job supporting the Operations team as well as handling submittals, RFI's, drawing changes and just about anything else that comes her way...AND found time to research and implement a cost-savings program for overnight mailings!

Mike Miller, our newly hired truck driver and, **Jason Honick**, our new shop assistant. Both men are a welcome addition to our staff and are fitting in seamlessly assisting **Frank Pena**, keeping our warehouse ship-shape and supporting **Bob Dobby** with his shop fabrication.

Welcome back **Kacey Kretzmer**, who was missed during her maternity leave. We're sure Matt and Christina will have no problems handing the reins back into Kacey's capable hands. Thanks Matt and Christina - job well done!

Speaking of additions...welcome and congratulations to:

Tyler Kretzmer to **Kacey and Rob Jenna McNamara** to **Eric and Dawn Frank Bellucia Jr.** to **Frank and Christine Brianna Sheltra** to **Tom and Danielle**

Congratulations to **Matt Iacono** and his lovely new bride, **Alyssa** who were married September 2005!

Congratulations to the foremen who have completed the OSHA safety class and are now certified in OSHA safety: **John O'Shea, Ryan Maher, Eric Marques, Eric McNamara, Mike Schaffer, Sal Intoci, Paul DePalo, Keith Wessels, Ursue Lewis and Scott Malozzi.**

ESTIMATING MINUTE

Victor Campos

The estimators are running on all cylinders, putting in long hours and sometimes working through the night to get the job done. Our hard work is paying off as we have landed some good-sized projects and there's more on the burners. It looks like there's a busy summer in store for our field team, so easy on the burgers and hot dogs!

We are pleased to announce the addition of **Gabrielle Sartin** to our estimating staff. We are confident Gabrielle, along with her talents and positive attitude - will help us effectively steer the estimating ship. **Tom Booth** continues doing a great job handling a lot of the larger projects, juggling a heavy workload while taking the lead on training. Unfortunately his hunting and fishing time is diminished...seems he may have to start going to the supermarkets like the rest of us!

For quite a few months the estimators have been working on updating the new estimating software. This major overhaul includes better descriptions of material and new labor and material codes. Once accomplished, it will be the tool that will provide clear and accurate information for estimators, operations and purchasing, as well as provide a flow of information for job costing and accounting functions.

News from Sales & Marketing

Michael Weber

We are pleased to announce we achieved our sales milestone for 2004 defined @ our Gurney's retreat, and look forward to the challenges ahead as we continue our journey to the 98 plan.

The sales team would like to thank **Doug Uneberg** and **Michael Cuttita** for their contributions to the team over the past year and wish them well in their new roles in the operation department. We would also like to welcome **Russ Demeri** and **Laura Hamilton** to the team and look forward to their contributions in securing the Right Work, at the Right Time, for the Right Numbers.

Since our last edition, Sales and Estimating have been working together on retooling our estimating software for integration with our accounting software. It's been a

journey, to say the least, and I'm confident our commitment to succeed along with **Mike Bart's** IT skills, will prevail. We are moving toward phase II of the implementation plan and look forward to the exciting benefits that will come with integrated systems – streamlined processes, increased productivity and improved overall quality in working environments.

Some recent examples of our mission...

- NYPH Kitchen Renovation NY, NY
- NYPH Milstein 8th Floor-Neurology 20,000 s/f NY, NY
- South Nassau Community Hospital - north addition expansion. 4 story new construction.
- High School of Architecture 5 story 130,000 s/f new school (pictured below)



High School of Architecture and Urban Planning



- Hudson City Savings Bank, Riverhead, NY Forest Ave. Staten Island, NY. Richmond Ave. Staten Island, NY
- Bar American Madison Square Garden NY, NY (pictured below)



- American Museum of Natural History Genomics Lab Renovation. NY, NY
- Amityville Retail Stores LI, NY
- United Jewish Federation Appeal 18 Story core and shell NYC, NY
- Washington Mutual, Forest Hills, Brooklyn, Wantagh and Ridgewood
- 360 Motor Parkway Office building exterior metal panel system Hauppauge, NY (pictured below)



- Weil Medical 8 floors new construction NY, NY
- Exhibits @ the Metropolitan Museum of Art NY, NY Petrie Café, Fenton Lehman Exhibition, Townsend Wolf Gallery, Sol Lewitt on the Roof, Byzantium Faith and Powers, Human Resources Mezzanine, Poets, Lovers And Heroes, Italian Mythology, European Galleries, Max Ernst Tish Galleries
- Gurwin 3 story Renovation and addition Commack, NY
- Home Depot Staten Island 100,000 s/f retail space

ON ACCOUNT

Lore (Iacono) Weber

This new addition to our newsletter is designed to bring everyone up-to-date on what's happening with, in and around our accounting dept. We are the department that is affected by ALL other departments in our company.

The Maxwell software installation and integration has been keeping us...busy (to keep it positive), frustrated (to keep it honest) and hopeful (to speak the truth). When all is said and done, the flow of information to our internal and external customers will be accurate, complete and timely.

Who, do you ask, is our accounting department? For those of you who don't already know, it's my pleasure to introduce the players...

Carol Golik is our long-standing (actually impossible to knock her down) bookkeeper/accounts receivable manager extraordinaire. She single-handedly generates, coordinates and orchestrates all the paperwork, makes all the phone calls, once, twice...however many times it takes to get our bills to our customers the way they like them. Why? It's money in the bank!

Carol Powers is our payroll manager who gets the job done every week (you know what I mean, every Thursday?) and will be (OMG, hard to believe) celebrating her 2nd anniversary at Island this October.

Mary Barbato is new to our team and is learning quickly and efficiently the MANY facets of accounts payable administration.

Finally, please welcome our newest addition to the Accounting Dept. and to the Management Team. **Eva Decker** joined us in April as Controller. She has jumped into Island's waters - feet first - bringing her knowledge, superlative skills, honest perspective and enthusiasm to work daily. I'm certain that Eva's contributions to the Island team will be invaluable. I, personally, am really looking forward to her contributions to future newsletters as the new author of **On Account**...thanks Eva!