



Maple-Leaf News

Summer 2013

Laugh a little, learn a little & take a break from the daily grind

Approaching Middle Age

As Maple-Leaf Construction approaches its 50th year in business, one has the tendency to reminisce a bit, so we're taking a detour down memory lane to look at some of the projects and people that played an important part in our company history.

When friends Ernie Dubois and Paul St. Laurent started the business in 1964, operating from a basement office, they focused on residential remodeling and small commercial projects, but over

the years, the company expanded into almost every segment of the construction industry.

Projects ranged from gas stations in the 1960s and 1970s, leading to dozens of Midas Muffler Shops and CVS store remodels in the 1980s. In addition, more than 50 supermarket additions and renovations were performed for the likes of Alexander's, Purity Supreme

and Shaw's during the late 1970s and 1980s.

Industrial and office projects also mushroomed, with Maple-Leaf providing services for Lockheed-Martin Corporation, Nashua Corp., Kollman, Teradyne, and Sturm, Ruger & Co., among others.

As a young man, current president Loren Dubois began working with the company while being mentored by his father, Ernie, and St. Laurent. When Ernie passed away in 1987, St. Laurent took over the firm and continued to mentor him in the art and science of construction.

During this time, Maple-Leaf became an authorized builder of Butler Manufacturing's pre-engineered buildings, allowing the company to provide a lower cost commercial building alternative to owners.

When St. Laurent retired in 1999, Loren purchased the company and gradually transitioned the firm from a self-performing general contractor to a firm that also provided construction management services.

Projects expanded to include work for



Friends Paul St. Laurent and Ernie Dubois (seated) started the business in 1964.

BAE Systems, Bishop Guertin High School, Best Ford/Lincoln/Mercury and Harvest Market. Work was also completed for mall owners and their national clientele, such as L.L. Bean, Starbucks, Hallmark and Radio Shack.



On the financial track, Maple-Leaf handled the Nashua Bank and the expansion of Pentucket Bank of Haverhill, Mass., and Hampstead, N.H., as well as the Hampshire First Bank in Londonderry, N.H.

And an assortment of retail fitups followed, including Fletcher's Appliance, Quiznos Subs at the Manchester-Boston Regional Airport, plus Converse Inc. and Frederick's Pastries in North Andover, Mass.

Other projects that progressed from conception to ribbon-cutting included Leda Lanes, MacMulkin Chevrolet and Reeds Ferry Small Buildings, not to mention the company's most recent construction of Hampstead Animal Hospital, F.W. Webb and Toyota of Nashua.

A construction firm that survives the test of time can only attribute that success to its clients, subcontractors, suppliers and its employees. The loyalty and dedication of our staff is exemplified by the lengthy tenures of our people.

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Maple-Leaf Construction's home since 1972.



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Above left: New steel plates were bolted on each side of the repair. Right: After repairs were made to the column.

Project Profile

St. Philip Greek Orthodox Church

Nashua, N.H.

Scope of Work: Remove and repair a deteriorated column to match other existing columns within the church. Temporary column supports were used as the column was raised one inch. The deteriorated portion of the column was cut out and new Southern Yellow Pine slats were laminated in place. New steel plates were bolted on each side of the repair and two additional columns were also reinforced.



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Middle Age...

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After 45 years of service, the company's first employee, Ron Marois, retired in 2010. Playing a key role through the years, he maintained relationships that he established with companies such as Nashua Corporation, W.R. Grace and Sanders Associates.

In 2005, former project manager Jeff Decker joined our company, bringing more than 28 years experience in the construction market and playing a vital role in the company's growth. When Jeff passed away on March 1st, he became our inspiration to write this newsletter. Jeff's legacy lives on in the projects he completed.

Looking back, we realize the company has benefitted from an accumulation of wisdom and we've handled a broad range of projects. So, we are remembering the good times and enjoying the feeling, giving us a sense of meaning and purpose as we go on to the future.