

# KELSO-KURRENTS

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A Powerful Past. A Brilliant Future.

Since 1908

Vol.1 2007

## *Welcome to the New Kelso-Kurrents!*

Recently, a lot of exciting things have been happening at Kelso-Burnett, and we thought we'd bring back our newsletter as one great way to share our news—and our excitement—with you.

For example, did you know that our 100 year anniversary is right around the corner in 2008? It may seem hard to believe, but thanks to the dedication of our team and the loyalty of our clients and partners, we've grown from a small two-man shop into one of the oldest and largest full-service electrical contractors in the Midwest. Now that's something to celebrate!

And to help kick off the festivities, I'm proud to share with you our new 100 year logo and tagline. This honorary graphic identity was developed as a way of paying tribute not only to our deep history, but also to the direction in which we're headed.

And as a company centered on progress, we've got more great things on the horizon! In addition to our new logo, we've been at work building a new and improved website with expanded content and a more contemporary look and feel.

We'll keep you updated as to when the site will launch, but in the meantime, we hope you'll enjoy reading our newsletter. And keep an eye out—with our anniversary will come plenty of fun activities and events, and we sincerely hope you'll join us in celebrating this milestone!

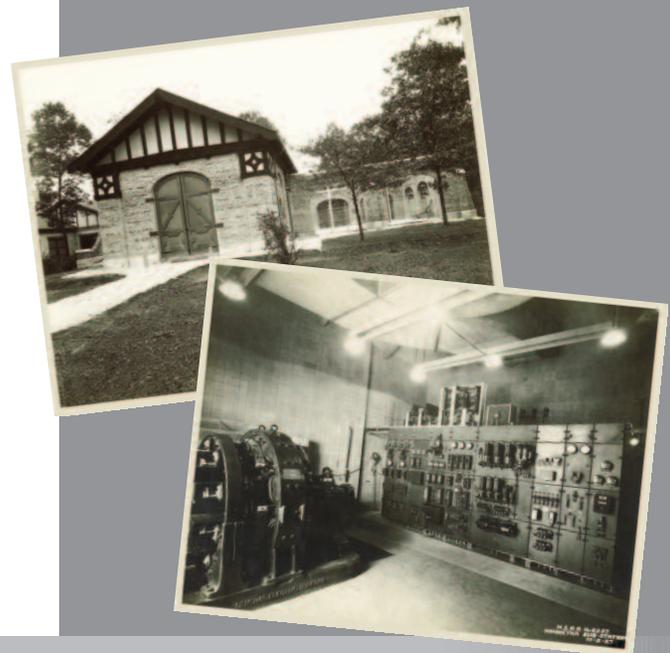
*Jim Kostek*

Board Chairman and C.E.O.



## *K-B Milestones*

80 years ago, in 1927, Kelso-Burnett was hired to install the high voltage switch gear, cabling and insulators for the Winnetka Substation and High Tension Yard.



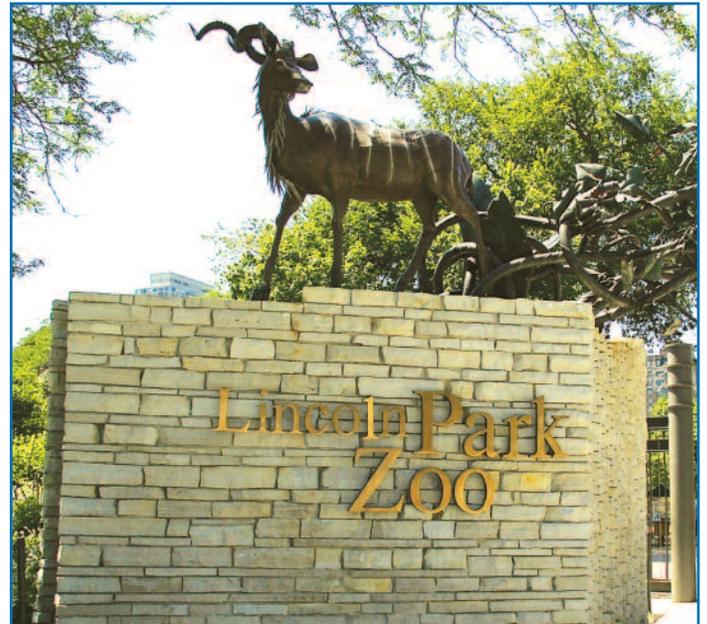
KELSO-BURNETT CO.

### *Lincoln Park Zoo—Chicago, Illinois*

It's hard to find anything today that is free—but that's not the case with the Lincoln Park Zoo. Open 365 days a year, it is the oldest zoo in the country and home to more than 1,300 animals. Established in 1868, some parts of the zoo were showing their age. So they called on Kelso-Burnett to provide the electrical contracting on many renovation projects such as the Children's Zoo, Bird House, Picnic Grove and West Gate remodel. As Project Manager, E. John Ryder was excited to begin work in April of 2004. By February 2006, Pete Formosa the Project Foreman and E. John Ryder felt a true sense of pride as they brought the project to a close.

The zoo now boasts exciting interactive features and the kids are having the time of their lives. A favorite attraction is the climbing tree located inside the main building. Another exciting new feature is the turtle stream and water play area where children are free to splash around and be in direct contact with the turtles.

According to E. John Ryder, what remains the most satisfying and unique aspect of this entire project is the Pritzker Family Children's Zoo. The original building was built in the 1950's and the style of captivity was to house the animals in large cages. They were kept in open pens and the kids would hang over the sides of the pen in an attempt to touch the animals. The old building was razed and the replacement is a wonderful, natural habitat of trees, bushes, streams and ponds. The exhibits house black bears, wolves, beavers and otters and provide

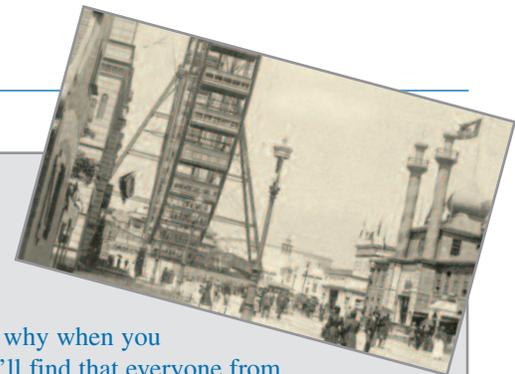


ground cover and landscaping to help the animals feel more protected and hidden. With the help of Kelso-Burnett, visitors can now observe the natural movement of these animals as they languish in an environment beneficial to their instincts.

We invite you to spend a day this year at the newly improved Lincoln Park Zoo and see the work Kelso-Burnett contributed to make the renovation a great success.

### *Did You Know?*

- In 1933, Kelso-Burnett was contracted to do the electrical work for the "Century of Progress" World's Fair in Chicago. In fact, you could say that was one of our "big breaks" in electrical contracting.
- In 1953, Kelso-Burnett journeymen received hourly wages of \$3.61 per hour including insurance. Lucky for today's journeymen, times have changed. Currently, our journeymen earn wages of \$63.40 per hour with benefits—over 17 times what they made in 1953!
- Kelso-Burnett is an employee-owned organization. That's why when you partner with us, you'll find that everyone from project managers to estimators has an interest in—and a passion for—our company and our clients.
- With nearly 100 years of experience, Kelso-Burnett is widely respected as an expert in our industry. Our core group of electricians has an average of 15 years industry experience.





## *Around Chicago*

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*This regular feature showcases unique entertainment and exciting things to do in the Chicago area.*

### **Body Worlds 2**

From now until April 29th, The Museum of Science and Industry is offering another opportunity to investigate the mysteries of human anatomy and physiology with their anatomical exhibition of real human bodies. See more than 20 new whole-body plastinates and 200 fascinating human specimens that demonstrate how our bodies respond to physical challenges and the importance of a healthy lifestyle. Don't miss this world-renown exhibit.



### **Chicago Critical Mass Bike Ride**

Just because the temperature is still a little chilly and the snow is just starting to melt, doesn't mean you can't enjoy a scenic bike ride. On the last Friday of every month you can meet up with other bike enthusiasts for a ride regardless of the weather. Rides depart from Daley Plaza at Dearborn and Washington at 5:30 p.m. This unique bike ride is organized by the Chicago Critical Mass and all you have to do is show up with your bike and be ready to have fun!

## *Kelso-Burnett Awards & Achievements—Congratulations to all Kelso-Burnett team members!*

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### **Pablo Albuja**

Special thanks to Pablo, of the Rolling Meadows office, for helping coordinate the Christmas Toy Drive.



### **Rocky Bartucci**

Special thanks to Rocky, of Contech, for also helping coordinate the Christmas Toy Drive.



### **Tim Hoover**

Tim was recently hired as an Estimator at the Rolling Meadows office.



### **Stefan Lopata**

Stefan, of the Rolling Meadows office, recently won the Presidents Award from the Electric Golf Club of Chicago.



### **Kris Murray**

Kris was recently hired as a Contract Manager at the Lake County office.

## K-B's Reader Review

### Inside Baseball: The Best of Tom Verducci

Are you a baseball fan? This is the kind of book that once you're done, you'll pass it along, and they'll pass it along, and on and on!

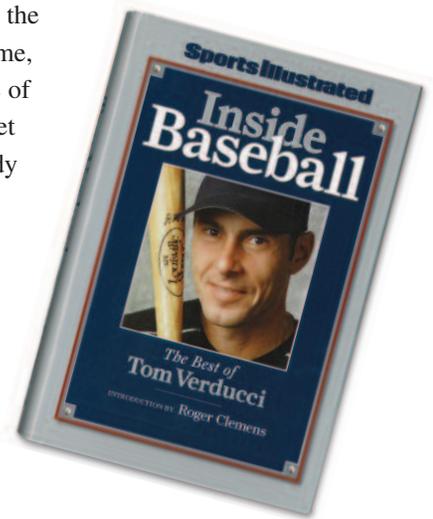
Each of us forms opinions regarding athletes based on the evening news, an ESPN segment, the daily newspaper sports section. But these are all limited by the time or space allowed. Oftentimes the presentation is a mere snippet of information. And usually we don't get the "other side of the story," the perspective of the athlete.

I have never read so many brilliantly written stories about the sport. As *Sports Illustrated's* lead baseball writer since 1993, Verducci has witnessed the achievements of the game's modern heroes and told their stories with unmatched passion and sophistication.

In one story he will describe the tragedy of steroids in the game, and in the next the brilliance of a Roger Clemens, or the quiet reclusive post-career of Sandy Koufax. He treats every subject with reverence, but also honesty.

As another season is upon us, buy this book for yourself or someone who loves the game. Make sure you have an open afternoon when you start it.

—Tim Padgett, *The Pepper Group*



*If you've read a great book recently, we want to know about it. In each issue of Kelso-Kurrents, we'll publish a review from one of our readers. Don't miss out on your opportunity to get published! Simply visit [www.kelso-burnett.com/books](http://www.kelso-burnett.com/books) to submit your review.*



#### Jason Pore

Jason recently transferred locations from the Rolling Meadows office to the Loop office where he continues to work as a Division Manager.



#### Jeff Weir

Jeff was recently hired as a Division Manager at the Rolling Meadows office.

#### Jennifer Soldo

Jennifer, of the Rolling Meadows office, was married on February 17th. Her married name is now Jennifer Black.



#### Tim Weidman

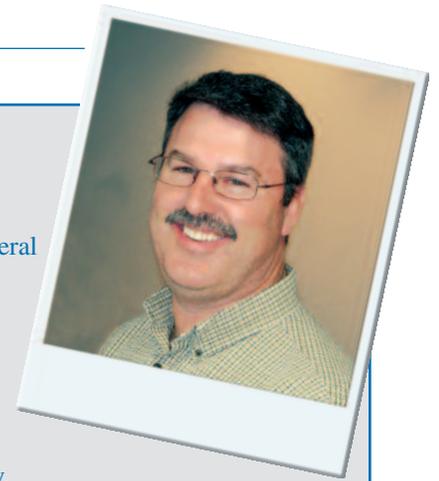
Tim, of the Loop office, won the 2006 Outstanding Achievement Award from the IFMA Chicago Chapter.



#### Brad Weir

Brad, of the Rolling Meadows office, was recently elected as the new incoming president of the Electrical Contractor Association of Chicago and Cook County.

## 7 Questions About Tim Callanan



Each member of the Kelso-Burnett staff is a dedicated and hard working individual. But what else do you know about us? Below are seven questions we asked Tim Callanan. Tim is the General Superintendent of the Lake County Division and also serves a dual role as Contract Manager responsible for estimating and managing projects.

Tim started with Kelso-Burnett in 1977 as an electrician's apprentice. After operating in the field for 28 years, he was promoted to the current position of General Superintendent. Typically, Tim juggles about ten projects at one time. But when the work load accelerates, he finds himself responsible for supervising up to 200 men.

### *What one thing do you like most about your job?*

I spent 28 years working in the field, and now I am learning the other end of the industry, so I am enjoying that.

### *How do you like to spend your free time lately?*

My wife and I spend most of our time right now with our daughter. She is a Junior in high school and a pretty good athlete. She plays both volleyball and softball and we are going through the college selection process with her now. She wants to play softball in college.

### *If you could have dinner with any famous person, who would it be?*

Ron Santo. I think he's terrific and he belongs in the Baseball Hall of Fame. I would love to sit and listen to all of his stories from his playing days.

### *If you could live anywhere on earth, where would it be?*

I could see myself living in Hawaii. What a great place to be able to live year round.

### *What three words would others use to describe you?*

That depends on who you're asking. I would say most people that know me well would say I am organized, dedicated and hard working.

### *If you won the lottery, what would you do?*

I would retire now while I can still enjoy it, and I would use the money and my time to help out senior citizens in my community that need it. I would do house repairs and things like that for them.

### *What is your favorite line from a movie?*

"I'll have what she's having" from When Harry Met Sally.

*For true success ask yourself these four questions:*

*Why? Why not? Why not me? Why not now?*

—James Allen



## KELSO-BURNETT CO.

Chicago • Rolling Meadows  
Rockford • Zion

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**[www.kelso-burnett.com](http://www.kelso-burnett.com)**



KELSO-BURNETT CO.

**Electrical Construction • Voice & Data Communication • Life Safety**

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**We are an employee-owned company that combines advanced technologies with superior workmanship to provide the highest quality design, construction and project management available in the electrical contracting industry.**

*Since 1908*

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The safety department at Kelso-Burnett offers OSHA 10

and 30-hour classes. For more information or to schedule a class, contact Scott Johnson at (847) 483-3826 or Cathy Kay at (847) 483-3827.



### **NFPA 70E Training**

Kelso-Burnett continues to train employees and clients on the NFPA 70E requirements. Only an employee who is certified as an “Electrically Qualified Worker” may approach and work on live systems. They must also utilize an Energized Work Permit. Contact Cathy Kay at (847) 483-3827 if you would like to schedule a training session.