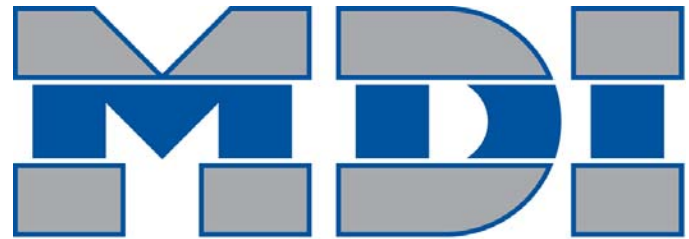


Safety Compassion Quality  
Dedication Integrity



As your "Contractor of Choice", the MDI team provides safe, creative, and quality Construction services from concept through occupancy.

## QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

We Build Your Future

# 2009

Volume 11 Issue No. 1

January 1, 2009

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## MDI IS GOING GREEN

This year, MDI, Inc. is switching our Electrical provider to Green Mountain Electric. Not only will we be saving money, but 10% of our electricity will be generated from the wind and sun! Green Mountain Electric also has electric service available for residential, and at 100% renewable.

Being "Green" will mean different things to different people, but in general, it should be understood as not causing an adverse affect on the environment, including humans.



Some ways to be green: change from incandescent bulbs to compact fluorescents or LCD lights, lower thermostat in winter and raise it higher in summer, proper insulation, plan trips and routes for weekly errands, keep vehicles tuned-up, turn off lights and appliances when not in use (especially computers and monitors), recycle, etc.

## Are you turning green?

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



**Happy New Year!** I hope everyone enjoyed the Holidays.

The Dems have it. Barack Obama is the next President of the United States. It is official; The United States of America is in a recession. The World economy is also faltering. Every time we have a bit of "good news", it is smothered by negativity. We each have a choice; the glass is either half-empty or half full. Let us realize the negative issues as they are presented to us and then turn them into our positives. Let's have a fun and productive 2009.

Even though it is a new calendar year, MDI is moving into the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of its fiscal year. The holidays were great and now it is time to get back to work.

The first projects for the Fort Worth Independent School District Bond program will start to bid in January 2009 and will continue on a weekly basis for some time. The first projects of the Dallas Independent School District current bond program is set to "hit the streets" around June 2009. We have bid several Wal-mart projects and we were successful on Store 3578 in Houston, TX. We were also successful with Greenville Electric and are building a new larger metal building to replace the previous one MDI built almost 15 years ago for GEUS. Williams Prep, although smaller, has finally restarted. MDI has previously completed work for all of the preceding ownership entities with the exception of Ft. Worth ISD. Repeat business has such a sweet sound. Kudos to all.

This was achieved by everyone focusing on our goal to deliver a quality project to the owner on schedule and in budget while maintaining profitability. Again, this requires involvement from everyone, we must put forth our best effort, and we will weather this economic downturn and see "better" days in the future.

Thank you for being a part of the change and helping me make changes at MDI for the better and remember to please assist your committee Champion during this pivotal year and let's all continue to "Make it Happen" in 2009!

Again, **Happy New Year!**

Hub-

## EMPLOYEE PROFILE

**T**ommy was born in Dallas, Texas, January 6, 1938. He graduated Sunset High School in 1956 and Texas A & M in 1962. He played weekends in a dance band to buy gas for his three morning paper routes and to buy Model "A"'s and drove hot rod club car in sanctioned drag races.

He met Carolyn on a blind date from SMU in 1959 and married in June 1960. This year will be their 49<sup>th</sup> anniversary. They have been able to travel to UK nineteen times, Western Europe three times, and Hawaii twice. They have two children, Tommy, Jr. (an attorney) and Deanna (sales), daughter-in-law, Ginger, and two grandchildren – Ben (10) and Caroline (7).

Tommy has enjoyed fishing at the Ferndale Club since 1989. Still believes in early to rise and early to bed.

He worked for Yarbrough Construction 1962 – 1985 and bought the company assets and owned it until 1996 as Tommy Carter Construction. After heart surgery in 1995 and 1996 he went to work for Steve Smith Construction until 1999.

Tommy has enjoyed being with MDI from 1999 to the present.





## News from Robin

### Make it Happen!

The end of the year is always a busy time but 2008 seemed to be even busier than any year I can remember. Starting a Wal-Mart in mid December was challenging but we were able to get it off the ground. Hopefully more jobs will start pouring in as we bid several projects for Fort Worth ISD.

We missed our 2<sup>nd</sup> “mini” retreat and would like to schedule another one soon. With some people at out of town jobs, that will prove to be a little difficult but we hope to work something out soon. If you haven’t met with your team in a while, please do so and get caught up on your goals!

We had a lot of fun at the “Back to the Basics” Christmas party. Playing games that were played at MDI parties 30 years ago brought back memories and hopefully made some good memories for those that were not around that long ago. The decorations were great thanks to our interior designers Jerry, David and Randy McCord. I never knew they had that hidden talent – great job guys!

As 2009 begins, we all need to remember the basics and what has gotten us this far. Being a small company that has grown is something we should all be proud to be a part of. Only a strong team can make things happen. It is said that a chain is only as strong as its weakest link. Let’s all be strong and put our best foot forward so that we can keep everything together during these trying times. And as I always say, **Together Everyone Achieves More.**

## COMPUTER TIP

### Measurement units and rulers in Excel

Unlike Microsoft Word, Excel does not provide a horizontal or vertical ruler, and there is no quick way to measure the width or height of a worksheet in inches. Excel uses characters, points, and pixels as units of measurement.

- ◆ The width of cells is displayed in characters and pixels rather than in inches. When you drag the boundary of a column heading to adjust the width of a column on the worksheet, a ScreenTip displays the width in characters and shows pixels in parentheses.
- ◆ The height of cells is displayed in points and pixels rather than in inches. When you drag the boundary of a row heading to adjust the height of a row on the worksheet, a ScreenTip displays the height in points and shows pixels in parentheses.

An approximate conversion of points and pixels to inches is show in the following.

Points	Pixels	Inches
18	24	.25
36	48	.5
72	96	1
108	144	1.5
144	192	2

## Celebrations



### Birthdays First Quarter

Tommy Carter—January 6, Dee Cotton — January 26, Randall Hubbard — February 8,  
Daniel Oropeza— February 13, Robin Hubbard — March 12.

### MDI Anniversaries First Quarter

*Nick Venezia, 1 year; Jim Sullivan, 7 years.*

## We would like to hear from you!

- ◆ We apologize if we missed anyone or an event.
- ◆ Please notify Kay Fox with your exciting news.
- ◆ If you have any ideas, stories or suggestions for our MDI Newsletter, please let us know.

### MDI Vision

We Build Your Future

### MDI Mission

As your "Contractor of Choice", the MDI team provides safe, creative, and quality construction services from concept through occupancy.

### MDI Values

Safety  
Compassion  
Quality  
Dedication  
Integrity

## Remember

- ◇ Always practice safety!
- ◇ Keep tools and equipment locked up when not in use.
- ◇ Tell others about the great happenings at MDI. They may want to work here also.
- ◇ Remember, keep eyes and ears open for possible new leads.
- ◇ Don't forget to wear your I.D. badge.
- ◇ Be part of the **MDI T.E.A.M.**



## Did You Know?

David and Linda Richie became grandparents 11/21/08. Their son and daughter-in-law had a baby girl, Aislinn.



Zach Watters will be leaving for Basic Combat Training January 13, 2009. BCT will be at Ft. Jackson, Columbia, SC for nine weeks. After BCT graduation, he will remain at Ft. Jackson for his Light Wheeled Mechanic School for 14 weeks.



Elyse Hubbard was named to the Stephen F. Austin College Dean's List for the fall 2008 semester.



## QUOTES OF THE MONTH

- ◆ Think P.I.G. -- that's my motto. P stands for persistence, I stands for integrity, and G stands for guts. These are the ingredients for a successful business and a successful life." **Linda Chandler,**
- ◆ The most successful people are those who are good at Plan B." **James Yorke, mathematics and physics professor**
- ◆ "Even if you are on the right track, you will get run over if you just sit there."
- ◆ The trouble with life isn't that there is no answer, it's that there are so many answers."- **Ruth Benedict, American anthropologist**



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