

## Major Renovation Prepares WPBY for the New Millennium

*The* West Virginia Educational Broadcasting Authority will be entering the new millennium in style! The 24,650 square-foot renovation to the WPBY main office in Charleston, WV, added much needed space as well as state-of-the-art equipment.

This project has it all! The challenging renovation included:

- the addition of a new partial floor to the existing building
- the addition of a new sound proof roof to the existing building
- the construction of a state-of-the-art television studio (4th floor)
- the renovation of the entire third floor into offices
- the rehabilitation of the existing heating and cooling system

All of this work was performed while the



*From the conference room to the control room, WPBY gets a new look.*

building was occupied and fully functional! With a completion date of January 1999, the employees of WPBY have already been enjoying their new 'home' for a year now.

In an evaluation at the conclusion of this project, the architect rated Pray's performance a perfect 10!

**PRAY**

**Construction Company**

General Contractors • Design-Builders

P.O. Box 3778  
Charleston, WV 25337

*Creating a Tradition of Building Excellence*



Bulk Rate  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Marietta, OH  
Permit No. 161



## Pray Dominates Design-Build Marketplace

*During* the last decade, Pray Construction Company became the preeminent provider of design-build services in southern West Virginia. As this edition of *Pray Today* goes to press, Pray has design-build projects in progress for The University of Charleston (55,000 square feet of student residences), a new regional headquarters for One Valley Bank in Parkersburg, a historic restoration of a 20,000 square foot building in downtown Charleston for the law firm of Kesner, Kesner, and Bramble, and the addition of a new Family Life Center for the Cross Lanes United Methodist Church.

*Why has design-build, as practiced by Pray, become so popular?* Pray's proven methodology allows the owner the benefit of the early identification of final costs. At the preliminary stage of a project, Pray has the ability to offer a guaranteed maximum price. Pray's preliminary service defines the owner's programmatic requirements and provides preliminary plans and specifications, construction schedules, and loan

approval packages.

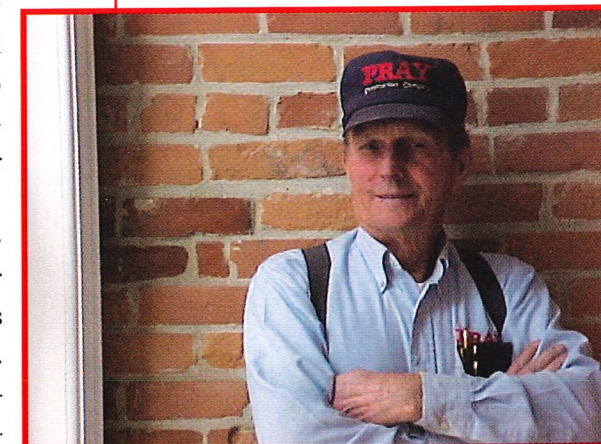
*Our process is simple.* An owner has one point of contact. We coordinate all aspects of your project. With our system, you'll not have to learn how to select and contract with an architect, engineer, interior designer, landscape architect, or how to effectively interface with municipalities and government officials. We head up the entire effort so you are not distracted from your core business or mission.

*Our process offers speed in execution.* Our projects move faster because our design-build processes set the stage for faster execution. Faster speed brings your facility on-line faster, offering many competitive benefits to your organization.

*Our processes allow for higher quality and an atmosphere that provides for continuous improvement.* We constantly seek to "tweak" our projects right up to the moment of final occupancy (and beyond), so

owners can squeeze every ounce of capacity out of their facility.

If you'd like to learn more about this exciting trend and how to gain a competitive advantage in your marketplace, call Dave Pray. Or better yet, call any of our clients!



*(Above) James Baldwin, superintendent, on-site at the Kesner, Kesner & Bramble project in Charleston.*

*(Group) The Pray Construction Team celebrated Christmas at the Coonskin Clubhouse on Friday, December 3, 1999.*

## Associate In The Spotlight: Gary McElhaney

**Success** in the construction business is a direct result of dedication, teamwork, and trust in the people and partners with whom you work. This issue of *Pray Today* would like to recognize Gary McElhaney of Nucon, Inc.

Nucon, Inc. is owned by Gary and Brenda Wagner of Barboursville, West Virginia. Its sister companies are Metro Masonry, Inc. and Eastern Masonry, Inc. They service clients in West Virginia, Ohio and Kentucky.

A native of Portsmouth, Kentucky, Gary joined Nucon, Inc. in October of 1994 as a masonry estimator and project manager. His duties include the overseeing of various projects within the West Virginia, Ohio and Kentucky regions.

Nucon, Inc. has worked with Pray Construction on numerous projects including Woodland's Wing 5 (Huntington, WV), Summit Conference Center (Charleston,

WV), and WPBY TV 33 (Charleston, WV).

"I appreciate Nucon's "old world" attention to detail," said Dave Pray. "If we have a challenging opportunity on a masonry project, I know I can call on Gary."



*Gary McElhaney  
Nucon, Inc.*

Gary and his wife, Denise, are the parents of three children. April, who is 23, graduated from Eastern Kentucky University in December of 1998. Ryan, 21, is a Junior at Eastern Kentucky University. And Ashley, 12, is a seventh grader at Portsmouth Notre Dame.

## Ever-Changing Technology Nothing New To Pray Construction

**The** NASDAQ is soaring, and e-commerce is the business topic of 1999 and promises to be the buzzword for years to come. How has the technology revolution impacted Pray and, more importantly, how has it impacted the service we provide our customers?

At Pray, we have always been fascinated with technology and have invested in it

through the years. We had e-mail throughout our office over ten years ago! We were one of the first businesses in the Kanawha Valley to use voicemail, construction accounting software, and electronic scheduling and estimating. We've had Internet access and e-mail on everyone's desktop for over two years. We've recently converted all our handheld telephones to digital devices. And we'll continue to stay abreast and on the leading edge.

Our investment in technology has added speed to our execution and has reduced our "general conditions". Our general conditions are the costs we experience to skillfully and effectively administer your project.

It's hard to say what future impact technology will have on our industry. We suggest we will see much more business to business e-commerce. We envision a day when our material estimates will link up

*Perseverance is not a long race;  
it is many short races  
one after another.*

§

*Many people aim at nothing -  
and hit it with remarkable precision.*

§

*Those who make the worst use  
of their time are the first to  
complain of its brevity.*

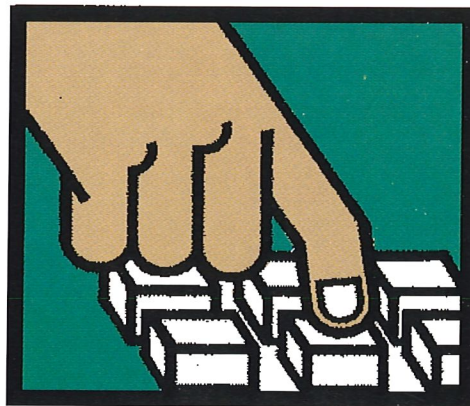
§

*Don't pay a compliment  
and expect a receipt.*

§

*There's more to life  
than crossing things off  
your To-Do list.*

with electronic vendors and our purchasing will be faster, simpler, and consequently less expensive for you. Best practices will



be spread more quickly throughout our company and the industry. Buildings will be built faster with higher quality.

It is the year 2000. What an exciting time to be in business! And . . . we are happy to be at the forefront!



(far left) Polo Ralph Lauren, La Quinta, CA  
(left) Ken Cooper and Glenn Payne  
(top) Woodlands, Huntington, WV

### In the Field

#### *Kesner, Kesner & Bramble*

Pray just wrapped up an incredibly successful historic renovation of the former Dondale Furniture Building in downtown Charleston for the law firm Kesner, Kesner, and Bramble. Pray designed and constructed this beautiful 20,000 square-foot project in about four months. We were able to add value by designing the renovation to meet historical restoration specs and achieve a significant tax credit for our customer.

#### *Resort Construction*

Pray completed three world class projects this fall for retailer Ralph Lauren/Polo and Greg Norman Golf at The Breakers in Palm Beach, Florida and La Quinta in Palm Springs, California. We had the Palms covered!

#### *McCabe/Henley/Durbin's Offices*

In record time, Pray completed construction for McCabe/Henley/Durbin at the KB&T Center. The KB&T Center, in downtown Charleston, is a beautiful building and worth a visit if you are in town.

#### *American Freightways*

Pray is wrapping up a new trucking terminal

for American Freightways in Nitro. This 16,000 square foot building will be ready for truck traffic on February 1 of 2000.

#### *Cancer Treatment Center*

Pray broke ground on another expansion for Princeton Radiologists in Bluefield. This is the second technical project we have performed for this client. It involves the construction of a vault to house a linear accelerator. Imagine a room with a nine-foot thick concrete roof . . . and you'll have the picture!

#### *Woodland's Retirement Center*

Pray wrapped up a \$7,000,000 addition to the Woodland's retirement community in Huntington. This beautiful addition is sold out and almost completely occupied!

### On the Boards

Virtually all of our work is negotiated and so much of it repeat business, that we hesitate to discuss it before news is released by our clients. However, it's public knowledge that we are about to break ground on the following projects:

#### *University of Charleston*

Pray was awarded the design and construc-

tion project of new Student Residences for The University of Charleston in November. This project will house approximately 225 students and will be a major improvement to UC's infrastructure. Look for a groundbreaking ceremony soon.

#### *McJunkin Warehouse*

McJunkin is an on-going customer of Pray Construction. We are designing and constructing a 16,000 square foot metal warehouse for them at their Nitro facility.

#### *Regional Banking Center - One Valley Bank*

Pray is designing and constructing a regional banking facility for One Valley Bank in Parkersburg. This bank will position One Valley to enhance their service offering in the marketplace while improving their efficiency.

#### *Backlog*

Our "unpublished" backlog is the strongest it has ever been. So is our capacity. If you have a facility need, we likely have a solution or two for your consideration. Call Dave Pray (304-755-4944 X30) or e-mail him at praydp@prayconstruction.com.

**PRAY**  
today

**PRAY** today is published for friends and associates of Pray Construction Company.

David Pray, President  
Jodie Campbell  
Editor and Design/Production

P.O. Box 3778, Charleston, WV 25337  
(304) 755-4944 (304) 755-7679 fax  
VISIT US ON-LINE: prayconstruction.com