

H A P P Y H O L I D A Y S 2 0 0 1

TO ALL OF OUR CLIENTS, SUPPLIERS, REPS, AND FRIENDS

Some luck lies in not getting what you thought you wanted but getting what you have, which once you have it you may be smart enough to see is what you would have wanted had you known.

--Garrison Keillor

2001 WE MORPHED AND EVOLVED AND PROSPERED DURING KONTEK'S 13TH YEAR! We welcomed Billy and Ben and Jeremy (not to be confused with Ben & Jerry). We held our offsite on the Mayan Riviera! Wes got a grand piano (he's promised us a concert). *Brian and Laurie got married!* We installed our first motorized curved cherry and distressed pewter media wall. BRIAN BECAME OUR FULL-TIME SERVICE MANAGER. THE CHAR-GRILL INVITED DAN TO SERVE ON ITS CUSTOMER ADVISORY BOARD. THE office FILLED up with so much art, we did an installation in the men's room. *Gigi introduced fashion-forward BLACK t-shirts at KONTEK Night at the Bulls.* We went corporate and added a 401k Plan. Frank's far-flung travels took him to Slovakia and Big Sur. ERAC did, in fact, reinvent the wheel. *Sharon was whisked away by special ops and we haven't seen her since (or before, actually).* KONTEK INSTALLED ITS FIRST PALINDROMETER ("NO, IT IS OPEN ON ONE POSITION"). *Mark and Bev bought a house and settled in.* Scott and Yin took the plunge, too, and are driving their contractor insane. Brenda became a Grandmother...again! We put "Do you look like your dog?" on a touch panel. *Jeremy introduced the silent laugh.* **Elly was inducted into the Telephony Hall of Fame for foolishly agreeing to design and implement a new phone system for the office (check out the wacky "background music" for calls on hold).**

With apologies to HARPERS we present the 2001 KONTEK INDEX:

Number of words spoken by Gigi to the IRS during tax "discussions:" 2,456,981
Number of words spoken by Gigi during her week at the Zen Monastery: 0
Number of medical procedure rooms designed by Wes this year: 13
Number of medical procedures Wes plans in his future: 0
Number of wire terminations Dan made in the Progress Energy board room rack: 1,275
Number of plumbing terminations Dan made on his home bathroom project: 0
Ben & Jeremy's average ICIA* "Fundamentals of A/V" on-line test score: 98.5%
Jeremy's top bowling score during recent KONTEK Bowl-a-Thon: 43
Average number of phone calls Brenda fields in a day: 43
Brenda's top bowling score during recent KONTEK Bowl-a-Thon: 227
Number of weeks required by Brian to learn the subtleties of CRT projector alignment: 2
Number of weeks required by Brian to learn the subtleties of wedding wardrobe protocol: 18
Number of wires pulled per typical instructor's lectern: X
Number of wires pulled per console with "Frank factor:" X+10
Number of conduit drawing revisions Scott has done on the Nasher Art Museum project: 5
Number of floor plan revisions Scott has made on his new house: 27

* Jeremy and Ben are not the only KONTEK techno-geeks to ace these tests. ICIA has honored KONTEK as one of only 40 companies nationwide (including major manufacturers) to achieve its highest level of technical certification!

KONTEK Duke fans: 5 Carolina fans: 5 Fish fans: 1 Phish fans: 1
Number of days it takes Erac to program an elaborate touch panel control system: 4
Number of months it took Erac to buy a car: 8
Number of KONTEKians who ate at McDonald's in Mexico: 1
Number of KONTEKians who returned with Montezuma's revenge: Everybody else
KONTEK Kids tote board: 13 - welcome to Billy's 3 (Ben, Anna, & Emily)
KONTEK Grandkids: 2 - welcome to Brenda's newest one (Melina)
Wattage of Exploris IMAX video projection lamp: 800 watts
Wattage of Ben's aquarium Xenon arc lamp system: 850 watts
Number of bar customers in home page photo of www.jamesjoyceirishpub.com: 5
Number of KONTEK staff included among those customers: 4
Location of this year's holiday picture: Majorca

2001 was a year of both significant change and increased stability for KONTEK. We were sad to say goodbye to Steve and Kevin, but delighted to welcome Billy and his wife Penny; Ben; and Jeremy. We were also happy to have Andy and JC return from college to work with us through the high-pressure summer season.

Our wonderful clients brought us lots of unique and challenging projects this year. We stretched beyond the Research Triangle ("Mark, road trip!") with major distance learning teleclassroom projects at Campbell University in Buie's Creek and the Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest. At times we thought we should open a branch office on Fayetteville Street Mall in Raleigh as we worked on the beautiful executive boardroom and videoconference room at CP&L (now Progress Energy), the amazing new IMAX Theater at Exploris, and classrooms at the NCSU College of Management. The Carolina fans at KONTEK were delighted when we were brought on board by the Friday Center to renovate and upgrade all of its a/v systems, and when we began another round of classroom installations at the UNC School of Nursing. We were doubly pleased when our friends at Duke Corporate Education chose to locate their new offices in a cool renovated warehouse in downtown Durham and when they hired KONTEK to equip their high-tech conference and boardrooms. The Duke campus and medical center were abuzz with KONTEK crews all summer as we finished over 30 Arts & Sciences classroom systems, spectacular auditoriums at the School of Law and the Richard White Lecture Hall, and medical presentation rooms at the Adult Cath Labs, Sports Medicine conference room (view of football stadium!), and Bryan Research Auditorium.

A major highlight of 2001 was our offsite retreat in Mexico. We flew everyone (and our significant others) to Playa del Carmen on the Yucatan Peninsula for five days. We stayed in a beautiful resort, held an all-day strategy session, played, rested, and visited Mayan ruins. One of our "exercises" revealed some unusual things about our co-workers: Frank eats lobster (is it beige?); Erac almost had a job carving tombstones; Wes reads Cosmo in line at the grocery store; Brenda has a Mormon ancestor; Billy saved someone from drowning when he was 12; Mark once bungee-jumped off an 80 foot crane; Dan is not Erac. It was an incredible experience.

We are excited to be continuing our "Technology for Teaching" program, an annual grant of a major audio/video system to a deserving area school. Our current project is an installation in the auditorium of Durham's Shepard Middle School. We also initiated a KONTEK matching program for charitable contributions. This year we donated to a local theater, a Shakespeare festival, and a Zen monastery, among others.

In the midst of its bounty, 2001 also brought a sobering opportunity for us all to reassess what really matters. Our hearts go out to those families who have suffered in ways painful to imagine. During this holiday time we all wish to express our deepest thanks to YOU for allowing us to continue our own version of the American dream and for your ongoing support of the work that we love to do. May 2002 bring joy, peace, reason, security, and prosperity to you and yours.

Frank Konhaus, Wes Newman, Dan Sanville, Eric Peters, Brian Hemler, Gigi Krapels, Mark Ray
Scott Frey, Brenda Pratt, Billy Morris, Ben Wallace, Jeremy Shaffer (and the elusive Sharon)

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