



# kontek

**Happy Holidays to all of our wonderful clients, suppliers & friends!**

**2013**, despite containing two supposedly unlucky digits, was a record breaking year for us at KONTEK. We hit the ground running in January and still haven't slowed down, leaving a legacy of projects that show off the creativity & craftsmanship that mean so much to us. Every year should be so "unlucky!" In the midst of this hyper-busy year...

**Brenda & Jan dreamed of golf, Caribbean cruises, and beach music – but spent their summer chained to the operations desk. Pete and Holli found time to plan a wedding, honeymoon in the Caribbean, and buy a house. Sammy and Danette welcomed KONTEK's newest programmer, baby Maria Lillian. Frank and Ellen traveled to Finland to see lovely houses, trees – and sailboats. Kim took the trip of a lifetime to visit the family homeland in Australia.** Wes & Elizabeth achieved their 15 minutes of Facebook and TV fame when Sophie, their Yorkshire terrier, was dognapped - but the story had a happy ending. Michael got his FCC amateur radio license, along with Sammy – meaning 66% of KONTEK's programming staff are licensed hams. Lone holdout Jonathan was too busy taking Icelandic language lessons (watch for more news in this space next year). Joel turned 50, but you'd never know it – he still has the body of a 49-year-old. Despite all those months spent in Lillington leading the Campbell School of Medicine crew and staying at the "Hot Plate Hotel," Brian found time to get engaged to Gina. Cameron was promoted to lead field engineer. Dan became the first KONTEK staffer to reach 20 years with the company, and was elected to the Order of the Giant Tweaker. *Erik organized our cycling team for the annual Bull Moon Ride to benefit Habitat for Humanity. Linda, Kim and their families joined, but complained about the strict anti-doping tests.* Jeremy returned to Kontek in a new role after a 10 year hiatus. **Proud dad Tim snuck away from Duke Law just long enough to see his daughter Rebecca graduate at the head of her class from US Navy basic training.** Monica is feeling much better after suffering through back surgery. Gigi is feeling much better after suffering through managing the office without Monica. DJ didn't let a little thing like his wife Susan's emergency appendectomy stand in the way of their vacation plans. JC experienced his first KONTEK installation "road trip" – at Lees-McRae College in Banner Elk. *Not content to spend all his working hours in AV, Julian spent his weekend and vacation time on the road with Newsboys, Casting Crowns, MercyMe, and TobyMac. Billy says "Buon Natale, y'all" – immediately after signing this letter, he's headed to Rome with his family for Christmas.*

Nearly everyone at KONTEK can now pronounce "osteopathic" (and can find his or her way blindfolded to Lillington, NC) following the completion of our biggest project since 2004 - the Jerry M. Wallace School

of Osteopathic Medicine at Campbell University. Installing over \$2 million of AV equipment in 58 rooms equipped for every aspect of medical instruction, from lecture halls to anatomy and simulation labs, took six months of engineering and nine months of on-site work before opening in August. It was a special honor to be part of a project dedicated to improving health care access in the rural areas of our state.

One of our most creatively challenging projects of the year was the James and Connie Maynard Children's Hospital at Vidant Medical Center in Greenville. Vidant envisioned a colorful, entertaining under-sea design concept for the whole hospital that would keep seriously ill kids and their families engaged and diverted while receiving advanced medical treatment. The Interactive Wall, Seascape Theater, and Diversion Experience Rooms use colorful video, immersive sound and hands-on interactivity to reduce the anxiety that's so often part of the hospital experience for children and families.

Advertising and public relations companies have provided KONTEK with some of the most out-of-the-box creative projects in our history, and this year's office renovation project for Raleigh client Capstrat continued that tradition. Capstrat's new office space was designed around a dazzling 3x3 plasma video wall, a two story Town Hall atrium space for company meetings and presentations, a state of the art videoconference boardroom, and a collaborative "brainstorming" room with wireless laptop video sharing.

At the American Tobacco Campus, close to our downtown Durham home, we upgraded the Bay 7 video presentation system and created a unique digital cinema space at the new Full Frame Theater. Headquartered in the historic Power House building, Durham's Full Frame Documentary Film Festival now has a high tech home that will host film events during the annual festival and throughout the year.

Our loyal Triangle university clients - Duke, UNC, NCSU and NCCU - always keep us busy, and this year was no different. Duke's campus was an AV hotbed this summer, with large projects underway at the Bryan Center, Gross Hall, Penn Pavilion, JH Franklin Center, and the next phase of upgrading Duke Law's classrooms & control room with the newest digital technology. UNC was also noteworthy, with projects at the School of Nursing, Law School, Kenan Flagler Business School, and a number of hospital and medical research facilities.

2013 was an extraordinary year on so many different levels - but most of all because we got to share wonderful experiences with our good friends, old and new, who make this work such a joy. We are grateful for every one of you, and wish you and your families a wonderful holiday season and a New Year filled with peace and prosperity.

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Frank shot this year's holiday card photo at Turku Cemetery while on vacation in Finland

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Frank Konhaus, Wes Newman, Dan Sanville, Gigi Krapels, Brenda Pratt, Billy Morris, Sammy Truong, Tim Rabalais, Jan Stutts, Jonathan Danforth, Cameron Powell, Julian Milano, DJ James, Linda Guzynski, Erik Benson, Kim Durack, Peter Rehm, Brian Peters, Monica Ellis, Joel Johnson, JC Stevens, Michael Martin, Jeremy Shaffer