

## *Boone & Darr Celebrate 60th Anniversary*

*Congratulations to Boone & Darr, Inc. as they celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary last year. They were featured in the Construction Association of Michigan's "Company Milestones Edition". Following is the article that appeared.*



*The Founders: Bob Darr & Louie Boone  
From left: Irene Darr, Bob Darr, Marie Boone, & Louie Boone*

"In 1954 Louis Boone and Bob Darr started their company in Ann Arbor Michigan.

Boone & Darr, Inc. has since grown into one of Southeastern Michigan's premier Mechanical, HVAC, and Piping contractors serving the Industrial, Commercial and Institutional markets.



The company has proudly provided these services for any and all Industrial and Commercial clients; from engineering/design-build construction through preventative and periodic maintenance contracts with their Service Department.



They have earned the honor of being awarded the MSCA Star status as an elite mechanical contractor in this area.

Repeat customers are the reason for the company's longevity. Boone & Darr strives for customer satisfaction even when it may not be the most beneficial financially. The company is focused on long-term customer retention in lieu of short-term gain.

Boone & Darr is also committed to helping the community in which they reside, through donations to several charity organizations and a commitment to providing heating and cooling to the elderly and those in need.



Each year the company participates in "Project Heat's On," an event that offers free heating system checks and repairs for those who need it most. As a company Boone & Darr donates the use of their equipment and employees donate their time to this worthy organization."

## *Icon of the Mechanical Industry Louis Boone, Boone & Darr Passes*

Louie Boone, co-founder of Boone & Darr, Inc, died from a stroke on January 19th, 2015. The company had just celebrated it's 60<sup>th</sup> year in business.

Louie was also a founding member of our Association and an active and dedicated member until his retirement in 1984. He was President and held all officer positions. He served on numerous Boards and Committees throughout the years, including being on the Michigan Plumbing Contractors Board of Directors.

He was an accomplished equestrian and an avid sportsman. His greatest joy was being with family and friends.

Before becoming a contractor Louie was a member of UA Local 190 where he received his technical training. In accordance with Louie's wishes, his body has been donated for U of M medical research and there was no funeral or memorial service.



*Marie and Louie at a PMC Event*



Louie was a student in the first apprenticeship program with UA Local 190 and the Washtenaw County Plumbing Contractors Association commencing in 1946. The class received special recognition at UA 190's September 2004 Awards banquet.

*Pictured along with Louie (third from the right) are nine other members of the original class in attendance at the banquet along with Business Manager Ron House (first on right) and President Hoskins (second from left).*



Louie received numerous awards during his time at Boone & Darr, but the one he was most proud of was being the first recipient of the W. Nelson Vander Hyden Award outlined on the following page.



## *Louis Boone Receives First W. Nelson Vander Hyden Memorial Award*

Louis Boone, Past President and Director of the PMC Association was presented the first annual W. Nelson Vander Hyden Memorial Award at the annual meeting of the Washtenaw Contractors Association.

Louie, President of Boone & Darr, Inc., was chosen to receive the honor by the Board of Directors of the WCA.

W. Nelson Vander Hyden died this past year of cancer at the age of 54. He had been President of Jeffress-Dyer Construction Company since 1964, and came to the community with the company in 1956, during a time when that firm built numerous local buildings including the U of M's Children's Hospital, Institute for Social Research, University Hospital Outpatient Building, Phoenix Memorial Laboratory and Kresge Medical Research Facility to mention just a few. U of M Director of Physical Property, Jack Weidenbach, called Vander Hyden "always a gentleman and professional" as he spoke to the contractors prior to the presentation of the award. Local architect Don Wright called Vander Hyden 'a contractor's contractor', as he told of the background of the award. "This award will be presented annually to the individual or firm who have used the high standards of professionalism that characterized Van and contributed to the betterment or improvement of the construction industry."

The award was presented by Paul Rose, current President of Jeffress-Dyer who noted that Boone was a close friend of the late contractor and has displayed many of the ideals and professional qualities which everyone saw in Vander Hyden. Anne Vander Hyden, the late contractor's wife, assisted in the presentation and called Boone a true friend. "You can count the number of people who are willing to give their life for you on the fingers of one hand and Louie is one of them," she said. **"CONGRATULATIONS LOUIE!"**

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**A Tribute from  
Boone & Darr  
President Jeffrey M Darr**

It is with great regret that we inform you of the passing of the co-founder of Boone & Darr Inc.... *Louie Boone.*

Louie passed away early in the morning of January 15, 2015.

Even though Louie has been retired from Boone & Darr for several decades, his presence is still very much felt throughout our Company. It is very seldom that a day goes by and his name is not mentioned by someone.

Because of the vision and leadership of both Louie Boone & Bob Darr, Boone & Darr, Inc. has employed hundreds over the last 6 (six) decades.

The ripple effect of their contribution has not only influenced the direct employees but also their spouses, their children, their grandchildren and even great grandchildren. Families have been raised, homes have been purchased and/or built, retire-

ments earned, family vacations experienced, educations and degrees accomplished. The ripple is endless and un-measurable.



For that we are all very blessed by the contribution these men, their wives and families had made so many decades ago.

*Rest in peace Louie Boone. You will be missed, but never forgotten.*

*Jeffrey M Darr, President  
Boone & Darr, Inc.*

*Louie at PMC Membership Meeting 1944*



## ***MCAA 2015 Business Sessions Focused on Building for Future Success***

Approximately 2,000 members and guests came to Wailea, Maui, HI and MCAA 2015 last week to celebrate the association's best. From the opening session to the closing program, attendees experienced MCAA's best, as they learned of and honored their industry's accomplishments. And so much more...

