

ACEC Oregon

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
OF OREGON

Serving the business needs of engineering companies
in Oregon and Clark County, Washington
for more than 50 years.

JUNE 2008

NEWS

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Member of the
American Council of Engineering Companies
Washington, D.C.

LOCAL FIRMS AND ACEC OREGON MAKE \$2,500 DONATION TO ACE ACADEMY

Local firms **CH2M Hill, David Evans and Associates, Parametrix, Peterson Structural Engineers** and ACEC Oregon recently contributed \$500 each to the new Architecture, Construction and Engineering (ACEC) Academy.

ACE Academy, scheduled to open this fall, focuses on providing hands-on, project-based learning in the areas of architecture, construction and engineering.

The program also pairs each student with an industry professional for a deeper understanding and connection to the building community.

The program is geared toward high school juniors and seniors and is open to all students who have completed the requirements to enter 11th grade.

ACE Academy expects to enroll 150 juniors for the 2008-2009 school year.

“We are a part of the community and pleased to financially and professionally support young adults interested in pursuing engineering as a career.”



Dick O'Connor, center, president of the ACE board of directors, accepts a check from, left to right, **Alison Davis**, executive director, ACEC Oregon; **Terry Belunes**, Parametrix, Inc.; **Mel Sears**, Parametrix, Inc., and ACEC Oregon president; **Jay Lyman**, David Evans and Associates, Inc.; **David Simmons**, CH2M Hill; and **Erik Peterson**, Peterson Structural Engineers, Inc. For more information about the ACEC Academy, please visit their website at www.acecharterschool.org.

REGISTER FOR THE JOINT FALL CONFERENCE WITH ACEC WASHINGTON, SEPTEMBER 25-27

at the Hilton Tucson El Conquistador
Golf & Tennis Resort, Arizona

Save \$\$! Register before August 26.
For conference agenda & registration
form, go to www.acecOregon.org.

Reserve your room today!

- Call by August 26, 2008:
Toll free (800) 325-7832
- \$159 single or double occupancy + 14.05% taxes & fees
- Group name: ACEC Oregon & Washington



Hilton

Tucson El Conquistador Golf & Tennis Resort

FROM THE PRESIDENT by Mel Sears, P.E., PMP

Greetings to all ACEC Oregon members. My term as your President has come to an end, and it has been one heck of a ride. With the support and efforts of all of you, the Board, and the staff at ACEC Oregon; we've had some great accomplishments this year. To name just a few:

- Engaged in small group meetings with key state legislators including **Rep. Jackie Dingfelder** and **Rep. Dave Hunt**.
- Initiated a very successful ACEC "Future Leaders" program for the first time in Oregon
- Collaborated with the University of Portland and Oregon State University on recruiting and retaining engineering students
- Graduated our first scholarship recipient from OSU, **Jill Bartholomew**, and we just learned that she is headed to University of Utah to earn her PhD in biomedical engineering
- Held an outstanding Engineering Excellence awards dinner with more than 285 members, clients and guests in attendance
- Held our third annual ODOT/ACEC Oregon workshop event with hundreds of attendees from both ODOT and ACEC Oregon firms
- Collaborated with the Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs (OAME) and ODOT at a well attended breakfast meeting
- Held a very well attended annual Business Dinner meeting at the Oregon Zoo
- Held several meetings between the ACEC Oregon Board and Senior Executives at ODOT to resolve key issues

URS Corporation hosted an ACEC Oregon legislative breakfast with state **Rep. Dave Hunt**, House Majority Leader. Rep. Hunt, a Democrat, is considered the front-runner to serve as the next Speaker of the House. Pictured at right is **Gregg Scholz, R&W Engineering, Inc.** and Rep. Hunt.



Mel Sears
Parametrix, Inc.

"Thank you so much for all your help these past four years, I am so grateful for it all!"

—Jill Bartholomew
first ACEC Oregon scholarship recipient to graduate college

- Led an effort on "lessons learned" from the ODOT OTIA Program Management experience
- Initiated a customer outreach program to ensure we are providing the value and services our member firms want and need
- Continued to sustain a substantial state-level PAC to stay engaged in political activities to protect and promote the council's interests
- Have a seat at the table in the key committees formed by the Governor to develop a 2009 transportation funding package
- Have "re-invented" our ACEC Oregon website (*please visit it at www.acecoregon.org*)

The part I'm personally most proud of is how many people are engaged in making the above, and more, happen. It truly is a very large collaborative team effort. There are many passionate people wanting to make a difference in our community and in our industry. I'm confident the momentum will continue and our association will only grow stronger and more influential.

I believe as we develop more and more "engineers" that are effective leaders, listeners, communicators, facilitators, and activists, we will evolve our industry from the perceived "quiet technical engineers" to the "societal influencers" that we are.

I look forward to handing the reigns to Gregg Scholz, your new President, and serving him effectively in the Past-President role.

NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS ANNOUNCED FOR 2008-2009

ACEC Oregon is pleased to announce its new board of directors for 2008-2009. The officers will be sworn in June 25 at the Networking Day dinner.

PRESIDENT

Gregg Scholz, R&W Engineering, Inc.

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Gayle Harley, OBEC Consulting Engineers

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Mel Sears, Parametrix, Inc.

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Andy Vessely, Cornforth Consultants, Inc.

VICE PRESIDENT

Troy Bowers, Murray, Smith & Associates, Inc.

VICE PRESIDENT

Erik Peterson, Peterson Structural Engineers, Inc.

VICE PRESIDENT

Dave Simmons, CH2M Hill

VICE PRESIDENT

Kay Van Sickle, Otak, Inc.

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Scott Wallace, Kleinfelder



AMONG OURSELVES...

The ACEC Oregon Board of Directors is pleased to announce the following new member firms. Please welcome...

David C. Smith & Associates, Inc., 1734 SE Tacoma Street, Portland, OR 97202, phone (503) 232-5285, www.davidsmithmapping.com. Firm rep is **Douglas L. Smith**. Another principal is **Scott D. Smith**. David C. Smith & Associates is a full service photogrammetric consulting firm providing a wide range of aerial mapping services to support all your engineering design, preliminary planning, natural resources and GIS mapping needs. Specializing in: aerial topographic mapping/survey, digital terrain model (DTM) data, LIDAR elevation models, digital orthophotography, low altitude survey accuracy helicopter mapping, city/county CAD and GIS base mapping.

Foundation Engineering, Inc., 820 NW Cornell Avenue, Corvallis, OR 97330, phone (541) 757-7645, www.foundationengineering.com. Firm representative is **William L. Nickels, Jr., P.E., G.E.** Other principals are **James K. Maitland, P.E., G.E.**, and **Timothy J. Pfeiffer, P.E.** Key staff member is **Keith Anderson**, business manager. Foundation Engineering provides professional geotechnical services for bridges, road construction and pavement studies, office buildings and public facilities, embankment fills, landfills, landslide and slope stability, retaining walls, airports, water and wastewater treatment facilities, hospitals and medical facilities, communication towers, commercial and residential development, and seismic analyses.

Affiliate member **Slayden Construction Group, Inc.**, 500 Willamette Avenue, Stayton, OR 97383, phone (503) 769-1969. Firm representative is **Chuck Schrader**. Slayden Construction Group offers various design/build services. The firm's projects cover a wide range of the construction spectrum, including civil and marine work; water reservoirs; water and wastewater treatment plants; transportation projects; new construction and modernization of public works and commercial buildings; and multifamily housing.

Affiliate member firm **SWCA Environmental Consultants**, 434 NW 6th Avenue, Suite 304, Portland, OR 97209, phone (503) 224-0333, www.swca.com. Firm representative is **Staci K. MacCorkle**. The employee-owned company of cultural and natural resource experts and planners works for clients in both the public and private sectors. Services include environmental compliance, environmental planning, natural resources and cultural resources management, and permitting.



Bill Amadon of **David Evans and Associates, Inc.** was nominated as CFO of the Year by Portland Business Journal. His nomination comes in the large private/public companies (more than \$50M in revenue, or publicly traded) category. Amadon, an executive MBA graduate of Stanford, is responsible for fiduciary oversight of the company's progressive Employee Stock Ownership Plan. He's also responsible for banking relationships, leasing, information technology strategies, internal audit functions and long-term strategic planning. *Congratulations, Bill!*

Miyamoto International, Inc. has hired **John Rupp** as a project engineer in its Portland-Vancouver office, and **Brian Knight** and **Scott Nyseth** as managing principals. Rupp has experience in the structural design of new buildings and seismic retrofit projects, including seismic bracing of non-building components. Knight is a registered professional and structural engineer in California, Washington and Oregon. Nyseth has 10 years of structural engineering experience.

OBEC Consulting Engineers is pleased to announce that **John Kalvelage** has joined the firm as a principal engineer and senior project manager in their Salem office. Kalvelage joins OBEC with more than 15 years of extensive technical and project management experience. As the resident manager in Salem, Kalvelage will provide technical, operational, and project leadership.



R&W Engineering, Inc. founders and namesakes, **Harry C. Reeder** (ACEC Oregon, then CECO, past president 1985-86) and **Mark C. Wirfs** (past president 1994-95) are pictured during their firm's 30th anniversary celebration which featured live music.

R&W Engineering, Inc. recently celebrated the firm's 30th anniversary on May 1, 2008—exactly 30 years to the date. When R&W opened for business in 1978, the firm had two employees. Today, R&W employs more than 40 people in three offices and two states. The firm provides mechanical, electrical and automation design services.

WHPacific, Inc. is proud to announce that it has recently added the LYNX Mobile Mapper to its inventory of innovative surveying technology. WHPacific is the first company in the United States to take delivery of this new equipment, advancing the state-of-the-practice in surveying technology. The LYNX system is the next step in terrestrial mapping and surveying, incorporating three proven technologies: lidar, GPS and the Applanix POS LV system (Inertial Measurement Unit) into a field unit to produce survey grade 3D data from a mobile vehicular platform.



ACEC NATIONAL NEWS

Eighteen attorneys of the ACEC Legal Counsel Forum (LCF) were sworn in to the Bar of the U.S. Supreme Court during the Spring Convention, allowing them to argue cases before the highest court in the land. **Erin Austin, David Evans and Associates, Inc.** is one of the attorneys sworn in. Austin, former Chair of the Forum, organized the event which was attended by several Supreme Court justices. The Legal Counsel Forum meets at each ACEC Convention and brings together attorneys from across the country who represent member firms to discuss major legal issues affecting the engineering industry.

COMMITTEE REPORTS FROM MAY BUSINESS DINNER...

ODOT LIAISON COMMITTEE

CHAIR: **Karen Tatman, Quincy Engineering, Inc.**

Committee goals are to maintain a positive relationship with ODOT; and to find ways to continuously improve consultant delivery of ODOT projects.

The committee accomplishments this year are their continuing work with ODOT subcommittees and ACEC member firms in four major areas:

■ **Training:** Held a third annual ACEC Oregon/ODOT Partnering Workshop

on April 15, this year entitled, "Planning Oregon's Transportation Future Together," Also held several brown bag training sessions in Region 1.

■ **Technology Transfer:** Worked with ODOT on their upgrade to newer roadway design software.

■ **Project Development:** Consultant evaluations; standardizing the

DAP process; and Basis of Design process (establishing design standards early).

■ **Contracts:** Negotiating fees and contract language.

The ODOT Liaison Committee is overseen by the Steering Committee made up of several ACEC Oregon members, a few senior executives at ODOT, and a representative from OBDP (Oregon Bridge Delivery Partners).

ODOT STEERING COMMITTEE

CHAIR: **Gayle Harley, OBEC Consulting Engineers** (with **Cathy Nelson, ODOT**, as co-chair)

Committee goals are to provide leadership for strategic partnering between ACEC/ODOT; identify standing committee membership and work plans; and build a collaborative working relationship that delivers professional A&E services to ODOT.

Accomplishments this year include adding a new member to the committee;

and continuing to provide leadership to the standing committees: Procurement & Contracts; Technology Transfer; Project Delivery/Management Systems and Training. The committee also began meeting with ODOT Region Managers to hear specific issues related to their regions. The committee also participated in meetings with ODOT Senior Executives.

Future plans include continuing to discuss development of new issues for discussion and placement on the issues matrix; further discussions on fee negotiation



Pictured at the May 21 business dinner at the Oregon Zoo are, from left, **Anne Monnier, KPFF Consulting Engineers; Marc Butorac, Kittelson & Associates, Inc.; Art Johnson, KPFF Consulting Engineers; Mike Reed, GRI; and Dwight Hardin, GRI.**

guidelines and billing format guidelines; and selection of a new steering committee member to replace a member rotating off the committee.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS LIAISON COMMITTEE

CHAIR: **Kim Marcus, URS Corporation**

Committee goals are to ensure cooperative dialogue between USACE and ACEC; to clarify and understand the changing roles of USACE and the private sector; to foster an attitude that explores opportunities and resolves issues; and to promote QBS (qualifications based selection) of A/E services.

Committee accomplishments this year include holding quarterly meetings covering issues of interest to the USACE and ACEC. The October meeting topic was the Marmot Dam Removal, presented by **John Sager, Cornforth Consultants**. In January, **Shannon & Wilson** presented on the

raising of Fort Smith Dam in Arkansas and **David Evans and Associates** presented the Coos Bay channel modification project. April's presentation by the USACE was on the Bonneville Dam remediation project.

Also noteworthy is that in April the committee participated in the ACEC/APWA Qualifications-Based Selection study.

Possible upcoming meeting topics include: Corps regional sediment management program; jetty reconstruction and realignment; updates on SF 330 forms; BIM; assessment of eight min-hydro stations in Afghanistan; and Hurricane Protection Program. Other topics of interest may be brought forward to the committee.

EDUCATION OUTREACH/SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

CHAIR: **Julia Kuhn, Kittelson & Associates, Inc.**

Committee objectives are to provide oversight and direction for the ACEC Oregon scholarship program, including fundraising activities, management of the endowment fund, placement of scholarships, coordination with universities, and interaction with scholarship recipients.

Committee also reported that scholarship recipient **Jill Bartholomew** is scheduled to graduate this June from OSU (and since this report, she has); and that scholarship recipient **Derek Manwill** holds a 3.95 GPA. Committee will meet soon to select the next scholarship recipient.

Committee is also looking for volunteers to help with the Outreach Committee, which will become its own committee or a sub-committee of the Scholarship Committee. If you are interested in helping, please contact jkuhn@kittleson.com.

PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

CHAIRS: **Alison Davis and Merideth Webber, ACEC Oregon**

ACEC Oregon held the following programs during 2007-2008:

- Fall Conference at Mount Bachelor Village Resort in Bend
- Engineering Excellence Awards Competition and Awards Dinner
- Dinner programs in December (Recruiting and Retaining Engineering Students) and March (Digital Signatures)
- Breakfast program with ODOT Director Matt Garrett
- May Business Dinner at the Oregon Zoo

MORE COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued from page 4)

■ June Risk Management Breakfast (Economic Loss Rule)

■ June Networking Day and Dinner

In addition, ACEC Oregon inaugurated a new eight-part program, the "Future Leaders" certification series.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

CHAIR: **Erik Peterson, Peterson Structural Engineers, Inc.**

Committee goals are to retain and expand membership. Committee also met ACEC National membership goals by adding nine new member firms within the reporting period.

Noteworthy accomplishments this year include the very successful inaugural run of the Future Leaders certification series, an eight-month long leadership development program. The series will be brought back again in the fall.

Committee was also instrumental in kicking-off what is loosely called the Future Leaders Forum, geared for "future leaders" to engage in ACEC, build a foundation for future leadership within individual firms and to promote the next generation of ACEC leaders. (See related story on next page.)

RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

CHAIR: **Jack Beemer, David Evans and Associates, Inc.**

Committee's purpose is to assist member firms and others in understanding and managing risk, and, on their behalf, to advocate changes in legislation and regulation to properly control or allocate risk.

Committee goals are to provide basic risk management and professional liability insurance information to members; to develop risk management programs to educate members; to recommend tort reform and other legislation for consideration by the Legislative Committee; to review proposed legislation and regulations as requested; and to provide risk management assistance to ACEC Oregon committees, staff and board.

Committee accomplishments this year:

- Improved the language of the Anti-Indemnity Statute, ORS 30.140, to clearly apply to design professionals
- Participated in hearings and researched issues regarding OSBEELS writing rules allowing electronic signatures;
- Filed an amicus brief to challenge the

Oregon Supreme Court in their Economic Loss Rule

■ Developed (and later presented a very well attended) risk management breakfast program on "Changes to the Economic Loss Rule in Oregon: Learn Best Practices to Reduce Your Firm's Risk." Continued to develop a program on design/build which will be presented in two parts in the fall, negotiating and operations

■ Continued to review AIA contract forms

■ Will present "Client Demands" in Tucson during the joint fall conference

■ Will present "Risk Management Report Card—A, F or Incomplete: What Grade Would Your Firm Receive" during the ACEC National fall conference in Montreal.

■ Provide "Focus on Risk Management" article for most ACEC Oregon newsletters

■ Address national issues such as designing for construction safety and conducting a professional liability survey.



Pictured at the June 10 risk management breakfast, "Changes to the Economic Loss Rule in Oregon: Learn Best Practices to Reduce Your Firm's Risk," are the speakers, from left, **Jon Larson, Marvin, Chorzempa & Larson, PC; Stan Austin, Miller Nash, LLP; and Steve Day, Northwest Geotech, Inc.**

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

CHAIR: **June Carlson, Parsons Brinckerhoff** (with ACEC Oregon lobbyist **Marshall Coba, Coba Company**)

Committee activities include:

■ Continuing to educate candidates and incumbents; meet your legislator, show them your office

■ Prioritize \$25,000 in ACEC Oregon PAC contributions: distribute checks, attend legislative events, educate legislators on issues of importance to ACEC

■ Prioritize issues for 2009, which include funding for transportation infrastructure,

and funding for seismic retrofitting bonds for schools and emergency services

■ Held (or will hold) legislative breakfasts/meetings with the following legislators: Senate candidate **Rep. Jackie Dingfelder**, D-Portland; House Majority Leader **Rep. Dave Hunt**, D-Gladstone, likely next Speaker of the House; House Republican Leader **Rep. Bruce Hanna**, R-Roseburg; **Senate President Peter Courtney**, D-Salem; **Sen. Ben Westlund**, D-Tumalo, candidate for State Treasurer.

Priorities for the 2009 legislative year are to encourage continued active participation by the membership in such activities as "Day at the Capitol" on March 10, 2009 in Salem; reintroduce yourself to your legislator, meet in their office; commit to stay active through the session; work to pass priority legislation; and play defense by opposing legislation unfavorable to the industry and continue

to educate about QBS and protect QBS.

OPERATIONS/ADMIN COMMITTEE

CHAIR: **Jay McRae, CH2M Hill**

Committee goals are to review and approve the annual salary and benefits survey; and to recommend the ACEC Oregon operating budget for the next fiscal year to the board.

Members receive a copy of the salary survey as a benefit of membership; the quality of the survey continues to receive favorable responses from members.

ACEC Oregon staff

continues to show outstanding fiscal stewardship of our membership fees as demonstrated by running under budget yet again. Also, member firms using UPS receive discounts on shipping and benefit ACEC Oregon through royalties paid to the council. UPS royalties so far for fiscal year 2007-2008 are \$1,300. For more information about this membership benefit, please contact mwebber@acecOregon.org.

Also of note is **Jay McRae** will resign his role as committee chair and **Mike Reed, GRI**, will assume chair responsibilities for the 2008-2009 fiscal year.

FUTURE LEADER SERIES GRADS

LEVEL 1: BASIC SUPERVISORY SKILLS

Certificates of completion were awarded to:

- Rafael Gaeta, David Evans and Associates, Inc.
- Elias Hahn, Peterson Structural Engineers, Inc.
- Heather Harris, R & W Engineering, Inc.
- *Gerry Heslin, Cornforth Consultants, Inc. (class spokesperson)
- Peter Hughes, PBS Engineering + Environmental
- *David Humber, MGH Associates, Inc.
- Andrew Huston, WHPacific
- Fred Kroon, WHPacific
- Kendra Laminack, PBS Engineering + Environmental
- *Brian Lee, PACE Engineers, Inc.
- *Justin Moderie, Kleinfelder
- Brett Moore, Anderson-Perry & Associates, Inc.
- *Andy Perry, Anderson-Perry & Associates, Inc.
- *Jerald Ramsden, Parsons Brinckerhoff
- Scott Schlechter, GRI
- *Ted Stewart, David Evans and Associates, Inc.
- Michael Zimmerman, GRI

* denotes perfect attendance

LEVEL 2: ADVANCED MANAGEMENT PROFICIENCY

Certificates of completion were awarded to:

- Mike Baker, David Evans and Associates, Inc. (class spokesperson)
- George Freitag, GRI
- Herb Fricke, Cascade Design Professionals, Inc.
- Andrew Goodell, PBS Engineering + Environmental
- John Jenkins, PBS Engineering + Environmental
- Jessica Kruczek, Landau Associates, Inc.
- Todd Marcum, David Evans and Associates, Inc.
- Anne Monnier, KPFF Consulting Engineers
- Andy Perry, Anderson-Perry & Associates, Inc.
- Jeff Whitson, David Evans and Associates, Inc.

Congratulations, Future Leaders!

The Future Leaders certification series will return in the fall and will run from October 2008 through May 2009. To add your or a colleague's name to the list, e-mail mwebber@acecOregon.org.

Watch for more info and registration materials coming soon!

Pictured on the steps of the U.S. Supreme Court during the ACEC Spring Convention are, from left, **Ken Wightman, David Evans and Associates, Inc.**; **Ray Miller, Raymond T. Miller, P.E., S.E., FACEC**; **Andy Vessely, Cornforth Consultants, Inc.**; **Mel Sears, Parametrix, Inc.**; and **Jack Beemer, David Evans and Associates, Inc.**



FUTURE LEADER FORUM (FLF) HOLDS KICK-OFF MEETING

The ACEC Future Leader Forum (FLF) held a kickoff meeting on Wednesday evening, June 18, 2008, at the Lucky Lab. The FLF is an outgrowth of the Future Leader Roundtable discussions held during ACEC Oregon's 2007 Fall Conference, and the Level 1 and 2 Future Leaders certification series.

The current ACEC Oregon board and Membership Committee developed a vision of the FLF to provide the future leaders of ACEC Oregon member firms the opportunity to meet, network, discuss common issues and challenges, and to bring forth to the Board any suggestions or recommendations the group would like ACEC Oregon to address.

Dwight Hardin (GRI) and **Erik Peterson (Peterson Structural Engineers)** of the Membership Committee have helped get things started and Peterson has volunteered to work as the ongoing board contact.

Preparations and discussion for the first meeting were coordinated by a loose steering committee of **Anthony Yi (Kittelson)**, **Scott Schlechter (GRI)**, **Gerry Heslin (Cornforth Consultants)**, **Mike Baker (David Evans and Associates)**, and **Jim Phillips (Parametrix)**.

At the June 18th meeting, the steering committee summarized the "future leaders" perspective of their vision, goals, and benefits of the group and then opened the floor up for open discussion. The group discussion provided much additional input and energy for moving forward.

A lunch-time meeting is being scheduled this summer to solicit the input of other interested group participants that couldn't make the kickoff meeting. If you are interested in more information about the group, please contact Scott Schlechter at sschlechter@gri.com or Anthony Yi at ayi@kittelson.com.

Mark your calendar...

■ August 7 Thursday

Board of Directors Planning Session

R&W Engineering, Inc., 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.

■ September 25-27 Thursday - Saturday

Joint Fall Conference with ACEC Washington

Hilton Tucson El Conquistador Golf & Tennis Resort

1-800-325-7832, www.hiltonelconquistador.com

■ October 19-22 Sunday - Wednesday

ACEC National Fall Conference

Montreal, Canada / Fairmont - The Queen Elizabeth

ACEC Oregon

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES OF OREGON
Serving the business needs of engineering companies in Oregon
and Clark County, Washington for more than 50 years.

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