
FROM THE PRESIDENT

On April 23 engineers from across the state will come to Salem and head to the Capitol Building, where we will talk with our legislators about all the issues that might affect us as engineers or private citizens. This will be my third time to participate in *Day at the Capitol*. I clearly remember my first time.



Mike Unger

That first time, I thought to myself, “*Why am I doing this? I don’t know any of these people, and I’m not even sure that I can answer all of the questions about the legislation that is being proposed.*” I was apprehensive about my role and not at all sure about what I could contribute to the effort. Sound familiar?

However, I found myself teamed with one and sometimes two other engineers. The event was well organized. As we proceeded through the halls to meet our elected politicians, I quickly learned why they say that there is strength in numbers. In each group, there was at least one person who understood the issues and who was gracious enough to explain them to those of us who were neophytes. I soon learned that even though I wasn’t particularly adept at talking about the issues, the politicians greeted us with warm, friendly smiles, and were somewhat genuinely curious about our particular firm’s size, location and work. While some legislators are not sure whether we design roads or drive trains, there are others who were very knowledgeable about what we do and also very appreciative of our work.

Each time I’ve participated in meetings with legislators, I’ve gained a little more confidence in talking with them. I’ve become more relaxed and informed about the issues. And I still have fun!

I urge anyone who has not participated in this event to come join us this year. You do not have to face the legislators alone and your presence will make a difference. When two or more people walk into an office and want to spend some time with an elected official...they are impressed. They want to know, “*Why are these people up here? Why are they coming to see me?*” We don’t do any “*deal-making*” that day, but our presence carries weight and says, “*We are here, and we are concerned about the issues that effect not only engineers, but the welfare of the citizens of the State of Oregon.*”

I think you’ll be pleasantly surprised by the experience of *Day at the Capitol*. Just think of it as building bridges of communication and roads to the future. Sign on today! *See page 3.*

Coba’s Capitol Commentary... BUDGET ISSUES DOMINATE SESSION by ACEC Oregon lobbyist Marshall Coba, Coba Company

The deal closing the 2001-03 budget hole brought an end to the “sixth special session” and moved the legislature closer to it’s primary responsibility, to balance the 2003-05 budget. Looking forward, legislative budget writers aren’t expecting an easier time as economic projections show an anemic growth rate through the rest of 2003. Oregon’s nationally leading unemployment rate, and a taxing system dependent upon income taxes, will conspire to hold back any hoped for quick fix. Oregon’s budget picture isn’t good, and not expected to get better any time soon.

Within the tough budgeting process policy issues continue to grind away in the substantive committees. As expected, a 15-15 Senate and Governor Kulongoski are stymieing a conservative House. Conservative social issues have received hearings in the House but are facing certain death in the Senate.

SB 611 is ACEC and AIA Oregon’s bill to require a certificate of merit when bringing suit against a design professional. The bill is in the Senate Judiciary Committee chaired by Senator John Minnis (R) of Portland. ACEC and AIA lobby staff met with Judiciary Committee members and reached consensus on the bill prior to having it printed into final form. SB 611 is an amended version that is expected to pass out of the three Republican and three Democrat committee. A public hearing and work session will most likely be held by the end of March.

Transportation funding continues to be a hot topic, just not yet publicly. Legislative leadership and the Governor’s office are working to find a package that will pass both chambers. A recent rumor tagged the potential package at \$1.2 billion with emphasis on bridge repair throughout the state. This package will be a cornerstone of the public investment coming from the session. In addition, Speaker Minnis has seated a committee of private business leaders to develop a package of stimulus bills that can be quickly and affordably implemented.

HB 2341, the rewrite of ORS 279, has had hearings in the House Business Committee and is currently awaiting amendments to be drafted. Chair Betsy Close expects to hold hearings in the next couple of weeks to see if agreements can be reached on some sticky issue areas. Currently, no areas of concern to design professionals are considered “sticky.”

The funding for implementing Ballot Measures 15 and 16 is very uncertain. Ray Miller, Miller Consulting Engineers, testified along with ACEC’s lobbyist in support of initial funding of \$1.4 million. The Ways and Means Committee was gracious but also clear in their message that funding would be difficult to find for this issue. The support for the initial funding for BM 15 and 16 by Senate President Peter Courtney, who served on the Oregon Seismic Safety Policy Advisory Committee that originally developed the legislation, maintains hope for all involved.

Last week Speaker Minnis announced “D-Day” June 6 as her goal for ending the session. This optimistic scenario beats former State Senator Gordon Smith’s goal of being home for pea picking time. However, if she’s serious, the pace and the focus will soon get red hot. But, with 35 members of her caucus and an authoritative leadership position, Speaker Minnis can make such statements only to blame a less certain Senate when the deadline passes. Either way, we’ll be working to pass our issues prior to this or any other deadline.



Here's what you need to do:

1) FIND YOUR LEGISLATOR

Use the web: Need the name of your legislator? Go to www.leg.state.or.us. On the home page click on "Find your Legislator." Type in the requested information and the names of your senator and representative will quickly appear.

2) SEND IN YOUR REGISTRATION FORM

Fax, phone or e-mail your registration form by April 4 so we can schedule your appointments. Appointments will be scheduled between 3:00 and 5:00 P.M. on Wednesday, April 23rd. We will group members for their appointments. Attend the issues briefing at 2:00 P.M. to learn about various issues and talking points.

3) SEND IN YOUR REGISTRATION FORM EARLY SO APPOINTMENTS CAN BE SCHEDULED AND RETURNED TO YOU.

That's it! All done. See you Wed., April 23rd!

Questions? Call ACEC Oregon at 503-292-2348 or e-mail mwebber@acecOregon.org.

Parking: Available in the garage located below the Capitol Mall and also at long-term meters in front of the Capitol. All-day parking permits for use at 2-hour or longer meters are sold in Room 49 (in the Capitol's basement) for \$6.00 per day.



PROMOTE KEY ISSUES FOR CONSULTANTS— REGISTER TODAY FOR "DAY AT THE CAPITOL"

Wednesday, April 23rd, ACEC Oregon members will speak to legislators during ACEC Oregon's "Day at the Capitol" in Salem. This event is an opportunity for ACEC Oregon members to speak to legislators about Highway and Bridge funding, Certificate of Merit legislation, Qualifications Based Selection and more.

ACEC members will be paired with other members for the visits and it is our goal to set up appointments with key decision makers along with legislators in member's districts.

Activities start at 2:00 P.M. with an issues update and guest speakers. At 3:00 P.M. group appointments with legislators will begin. Please register early so we have ample time to schedule your appointments for you.

Then plan on joining ACEC Oregon members and legislators at the hosted reception in the Capitol Galleria from 5:00 to 6:30 PM

What: ACEC Oregon's "Day at The Capitol"

The top Engineering Excellence projects will be on display all day in the Capitol Galleria!

When: Wednesday, April 23rd

10:00 A.M. EE Displays all day

11:30 A.M. Board of Directors Meeting, Room 350

2:00 P.M. Issues Update with Speakers (TBA) Room 350

3:00 P.M. Group Appointments with Legislators

5:00 P.M. Hosted Reception in Galleria

Where: State Capitol Building 900 Court Street NE, Salem Room 350 & Galleria

Parking: Available in the garage located below the Capitol Mall and also at long-term meters in front of the Capitol. All-day parking permits for use at 2-hour or longer meters are sold in Room 49 (in the Capitol's basement) for \$6.00 per day.

general membership

Deadline to register is FRIDAY, APRIL 4th



Registration Form

ACEC OREGON'S "DAY AT THE CAPITOL"

Wednesday, April 23rd • State Capitol • 900 Court Street • Salem

- 10:00 A.M. Top Engineering Excellence projects on display all day
2:00 P.M. Issues Update
3:00 P.M. Group Appts. with Legislators
5:00 P.M. Hosted Reception

★ Cost: \$25.00 per person (funds help cover cost of hosted reception)

★ We will group members for their appointments.

Please use one registration form per person.

Name Firm Name

Phone No. E-Mail

person(s) @ \$25/each = \$ Total amount enclosed: \$

Your senator's name: Your representative's name:

Star symbols for signature lines

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO ACEC OREGON.

Mail check and registration form (or fax form and mail check) for receipt by April 4th to: ACEC OREGON, 5319 SW Westgate Drive, Suite 221, Portland, OR 97221-2411 phone (503) 292-2348 • fax (503) 292-2410 • e-mail: mwebber@acecOregon.org

Cancellations must be received before Friday, April 18 to receive a refund.

COMMENTS SOUGHT ON OSBEELS DRAFT OF PROPOSED RULES FOR USE OF DIGITAL STAMPS AND SIGNATURES

The Oregon State Board of Examiners for Engineering and Land Surveying (OSBEELS) is proposing rules for the use of digital stamps and signatures. Below is the most recent proposal which will go to the Rules and Regulations Committee for discussion at the April Committee meeting. Note that the rule covers more than digital stamps and digital signatures. The new OAR is also intended to augment and clarify the use of hardcopy documents.

Please review the draft and forward any comments to mwebber@acecOregon.org. Please keep in mind this is a draft. ACEC Oregon is planning to submit comments to OSBEELS and whatever comments members can add will help.

Proposed OAR to address Electronic Documents and Seals #4

OAR 820-010-00621

(DRAFT)

Seals and Signatures – Hardcopy and Electronic Documents

Pursuant to ORS 672.020(2), ORS 672.025(2), OAR 820-010-0620 and ORS 192.125, all final engineering documents prepared under the supervision and direction of a registered Engineer or Land Surveyor shall bare the seal of the engineer or land surveyor taking responsibility for the document to attest that the document was prepared under the registrants ‘Supervision and Control,’ except as noted in paragraph (3). The form of the seal and signature on the document will be as follows:

(1) Hardcopy Documents: Where hardcopy (defined as paper, mylar, velum or similar material) documents are the final work product and the document is intended to be reproduced from or archived as a hard copy document, the seal is to be applied by inked rubber stamp, by an embossing (raised) seal, or by electronic (CAD generated) seal. The seal on hardcopy documents shall be ‘wet signed’ and dated. Rubber stamp signatures or electronic signatures are not allowed. The use of ‘peel and stick’ type seals is not acceptable.

(2) Electronic Documents: Where wholly electronic documents (other than hardcopy documents) are the final work product and the document is intended to be reproduced from, transmitted, and/or archived as an electronic document, the electronic (CAD generated) seal and electronic (digital) signature shall be affixed to the electronic document. The electronic seal and ‘digital’ signature shall be encoded so as to invalidate the seal and signature if any part of the document is modified except as part of an approved change process (see Dual Stamps). It is the responsibility of the registrant to maintain exclusive control over the registrants’ electronic stamp and ‘digital’ signature. Commercially available Electronic Document Security Programs providing security over the document including the seal and ‘digital signature’ may be used and the following conditions are met:

- a. The seal and signature appear on the document in the authorized size and format prescribed in exhibit 1-a.*
- b. The electronic seal and the electronic signature are separate elements.
- c. The electronic seal is encrypted.
- d. The electronic signature is encrypted.
- e. The electronic seal and signature are affixed to the document in such a manner as the seal and signature will be invalidated if the document or any part of the document is changed except as part of an authorized revision process.
- f. The seal and signature may appear in reduced size only on hard copy documents where the document is printed in reduced size for working purposes. The document and the seal reduction shall be identical as in the optical reduction of the entire document (see paragraph 4).

(3) Incomplete Documents: Documents submitted before completion shall be marked or stamped as “Preliminary,” “Not for Construction,” “Preliminary – Not for Construction,” “Review Copy,” “Draft Copy, Subject to Change” or some similar wording as to identify the document as a work in progress and that it is not a final work product.

(4) Copies of Documents: The seal shall be placed on all original documents in its approved size. Reduced size copies of original documents may show the stamp in the reduced size proportional to the reduced size from the original document. Copies shall not be distributed without showing the signature affixed to the seal.

* *Not included in this transcript.*

The ACEC Oregon Risk Management Committee presents...

“MEASURE 28: WHAT DO YOU DO AFTER THE TSUNAMI HITS?” Learn how Measure 28’s defeat may affect your business.

With the defeat of Measure 28, the State of Oregon faces an unprecedented budget crisis which has garnered even national attention.

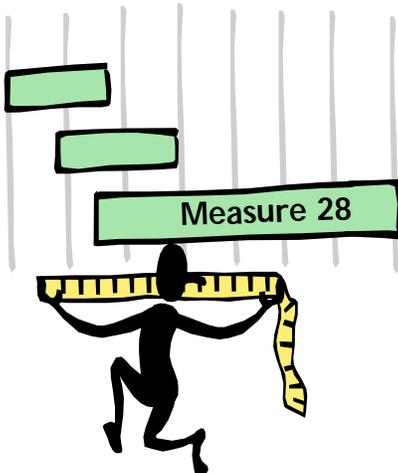
Oregon trial courts, even before the budget cuts, were overwhelmed with docketing and trial problems. **George Mead**, along with **Chuck Schrader**, of **Jordan Schrader P.C.** will speak about how the court backlog may affect your business. They will also discuss alternative dispute resolution solutions, of which there are several available outside the Oregon court system.

Jon Larson of **Marvin, Chorzempa & Larson, P.C.** will address the second topic of the seminar. Learn why an insurance affordability crisis has led ACEC Oregon to sponsor legislation which would slow the number of frivolous lawsuits against design professionals in Oregon. The legislation, also known as the “**Certificate of Merit**” bill (SB 611), will be a step in the right direction if passed this session.

Join ACEC Oregon members and others for this April 9 risk management breakfast program at the new offices of David Evans and Associates, Inc. in Portland.

Be sure to include your e-mail address with your registration form as registrants will be e-mailed parking directions along with a code for entry into the lot.

This program is good for two continuing professional development (CPD) credits.



What: Risk Management Breakfast

When: Wednesday, April 9th

- 7:30 A.M. Check-in and Full Breakfast Buffet
- 8:00 A.M. Program Begins
- 10:00 A.M. Conclusion

Where: David Evans and Associates, Inc. 2100 SW River Parkway, Portland (in the Harborside area, under the Marquam Bridge) phone 503-223-6663

Parking: Directions along with parking code will be e-mailed to registrants a few days prior to the program.

Good for 2 CPDs!

Registration deadline is Friday, April 4th



Registration Form

APRIL 9TH RISK MGMT. BREAKFAST Measure 28 & Certificate of Merit

Wed., April 9th • David Evans and Associates, Inc. • 2100 SW River Parkway • Portland
• 7:30 A.M. Check-in & Full Breakfast Buffet • 8:00 A.M. Program • 10:00 A.M. Conclusion

Cost: • \$45 for members & their guest(s) *If your firm is a member, then you are a member.*
• \$70 for non-members *Non-members are welcome to attend!*

GOOD FOR TWO CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CREDITS.

Name: _____

No. of ____ member(s)

E-mail: _____

@ \$45.00 = \$ _____

Name: _____

No. of ____ non- mbr(s)

E-mail: _____

@ \$70.00 = \$ _____

Firm Name: _____

Total Amount

Enclosed: \$ _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO ACEC OREGON.

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ACEC OREGON, 5319 SW Westgate Drive, Suite 221, Portland, OR 97221-2411
phone 503.292.2348 • fax 503.292.2410 • e-mail: mwebber@acecOregon.org

Cancellations must be received on or before the registration deadline to receive a refund.

AMONG OURSELVES...

Carl Urben, PAE Consulting Engineers (retired), is a new life member. Life membership is bestowed upon a member who is fully retired from active practice and must have been an ACEC Oregon (and/or CECO) member for at least 10 years. Life members receive all general mailings and are listed in the membership directory under "Life Members," but may not serve on the Board or as a regular committee member. Congratulations, Carl.

Marvin, Chorzempa & Associates, P.C., is pleased to announce the law firm's new name: **Marvin, Chorzempa & Larson, P.C.** Principals are Jim Marvin, Janelle Chorzempa and Jon Larson. The firm provides a full range of consultation and legal services for design professionals, including licensing, liability and contracts.

ACEC NATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING

May 11-14, 2003, Boston, MA at the Boston Marriott Copley Place

ACEC's 2003 Annual Meeting features a variety of educational sessions designed to strengthen your firm in today's economy. Some of the educational themes of this year's convention are: Changing Faces of Tomorrow's A/E Workforce, The New Profitability Paradigm and Education for the Business of Engineering. ACEC's tour and special events program features visits to many of the top attractions in the Boston metropolitan area. The conference rate for the hotel is \$185 single/\$195 double occupancy rates. For room reservations call 800-228-9290 and reference ACEC to receive the discounted group rates. Cut-off date for rooms is April 20th. Meeting registration fees are \$855 for ACEC members and each additional registrant from an ACEC member firm receives a 20% discount. To register call ACEC at 202-347-7474 or visit their website at www.acec.org.

Mark your calendar...

May

Sunday 11th thru Wednesday 14th

ACEC National 2003 Annual Meeting
Boston, Massachusetts

Wednesday 21st

Board of Directors Meeting
Power System Engineers, Portland

Thursday 29th

Annual Business Dinner Meeting
(with reports from committee chairs)
Urban Wineworks, Northwest Portland

June

Wednesday 4th

Program on Ethics with Rad Squier
More details to come!

Wednesday 18th

Board of Directors Meeting
Power System Engineers, Portland

Wednesday 26th

Networking Day: Golf, Dinner and
Installation of New Officers
Langdon Farms Golf Club, Aurora

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ACEC Oregon