

Don't Miss These Upcoming Events!

ACEC/MD Legislative Breakfast

Tuesday, January 27, 2004

8:00 AM

The Engineers Club

11 West Mount Vernon Place, Baltimore

featuring Transportation Task Force Chair Bill Hellmann

ACEC/MD Legislative Action Day

Thursday, February 12, 2004

11:30 AM – 1:30 PM

Governor Calvert House

58 State Circle, Annapolis

Awards Banquet & General Membership Meeting

Thursday, February 26, 2004

6:00 PM

The Engineers Club

11 West Mount Vernon Place, Baltimore

For any of these events, to make reservations or for more information,
contact the ACEC/MD office at 410-539-1592.

President's Message

by Kunal Gangopadhyay, PE

First of all I want to wish everybody a very Happy and prosperous New Year. As we move into 2004 we can look forward to a better economy and a good business climate for our member firms.

With the beginning of the New Year the General Assembly of the State of Maryland has started its session. During the next months the Assembly will be deliberating several issues that are of interest to ACEC/MD. Your Legislative Committee has developed our Business Agenda for 2004. The Agenda was presented to the member firms in our previous Newsletter. We also had several meetings with the members of the Assembly to present our Agenda. We need more grass roots support for the success of our issues in the Assembly. The principals and employees of ACEC/MD member firms can be very effective in this effort. One former member of the House of Delegates told us that as few as seven phone calls from constituents can influence the action of a member of the Assembly. I am confident that our member firm representatives can generate the necessary support for all of our agenda items this year. In this article I would like to discuss one item that is extremely important to the welfare of our firms, increased funding for the Transportation Trust Fund.

Last month ACEC/MD joined a coalition called "Move Maryland Now." The coalition consists of several businesses, municipal and trade organizations such as the Maryland Chamber of Commerce, Greater Baltimore Committee, and the Maryland Highway Contractors Association, to name a few. This coalition fully supports revenue increases to generate \$300 million per year of new money for the Transportation Trust Fund. Specifically, the coalition supports a five-cent increase in the gasoline tax and a \$30 increase in annual vehicle registration fees. This is an option proposed by the Hellmann Commission. This group has begun an organized effort to contact members of

the General Assembly. ACEC/MD needs active help from its members in this effort. I am requesting that all of you contact your representatives and ask them to support the revenue increase proposal. Encourage your employees to do the same. Jim Otradovec has a complete list of State delegates and senators. Keep him informed about the contacts you are making and responses you get from the representatives. Jim also has a document developed by Move Maryland Now that explains the need for the revenue increase.

On January 27 we will hold a breakfast meeting with Bill Hellmann. We have invited Directors of Public Work from the City of Baltimore and all Maryland counties, and the Director of the Department of Transportation for the City of Baltimore to join us during this breakfast. After the breakfast meeting we will hold our business roundtable focusing on effective political activism. The cost of this program is very reasonable, it is free! I encourage all of you to attend this meeting to learn more about the work done by the Hellmann Commission and how we can work together for the passage of revenue increase proposals.

I also encourage a strong showing at our annual CEPAC luncheon meeting with State legislators in Annapolis on February 12. We need a strong showing at this meeting to reinforce our message to the elected officials in this State.

Our work with the legislators during the next few months will be key for the success of our business agenda. This year more than ever it is vital that we succeed in this area. In the past members of ACEC/MD have effectively participated in our

legislative actions. I am confident that our members will once again be active in supporting our agenda.

Don't Miss the Chance to Shape Tomorrow's Young Professionals

ACEC/MD paid a return visit to Perry Hall High School on December 12, 2003, to once again provide hands on demonstrations of the type of work being performed by our member firms' employees. Designed to introduce high school and middle school students to engineering and related professions such as surveying and landscape architecture, ACEC/MD's acclaimed program is in demand in the metropolitan area. School administrators and teachers have hailed ACEC/MD presentations as the "best program" in their school.

Without the support of the employees of our member firms, ACEC/MD can not be successful in introducing students to the exciting career opportunities offered by our member firms. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the following individuals for taking time from their busy schedules to participate in our recent program, and their bosses for allowing them to take a couple hours off to help ACEC/MD carry this positive message to our youth.

Airport Planning/Engineering

Ryan Kahl (Edwards & Kelcey)

Electrical Engineering

Steve Devon (Schlenger/Pitz & Associates)

Marc Hurwitz (James Posey Associates)

Landscape Architecture

Tobi Kester (KCI Technologies)

Allysha Nelson-Lorber (McCormick, Taylor & Associates)

Mechanical Engineering

Brad Carey (Henry Adams, Inc.)

Joe Stephens (Henry Adams, Inc.)

Structures – Bridges

Lilliam Sidrak (EBA Engineering)

Emily Leigh (URS Corporation)

Surveying

Chuck Phillips (KCI Technologies)

Traffic Engineering

Matt Snare (Rummel, Klepper & Kahl)

Heather Henck (Rummel, Klepper & Kahl)

Transportation Planning & Design

John Borkowski (Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson)

Water Resources

Erin Hypes (McCormick, Taylor & Associates)

As the visitations are scheduled throughout the year, please consider participating.

Presenters will need to take off only a couple of hours in the morning. To prepare for

their presentation, presenters only need to be able to provide hands-on demonstrations for students that last 8-10 minutes, including questions and answers.

Past participants have found the program to be very rewarding. And in most cases we can provide suggested demonstrations or put a prospective presenter in touch with a previous presenter.

Legislative Action Center to be Focal Point during 2004

Session

Legislative Luncheon to be held February 12

To enhance its advocacy efforts, ACEC/MD will once again offer a Legislative Action Center on its Internet site, www.acecmd.org. CapWiz, the nations premiere online political action tool, will allow member firms to increase their involvement in the legislative process.

CapWiz is the driving force behind online grassroots democracy for nearly 1,000 associations, corporations, media outlets, state organizations, and 80% of Fortune Magazine's *Washington Power 25*. CapWiz will once again allow ACEC/MD to add a content-rich, interactive government-relations area to its Web site, where visitors can make their voices heard in Annapolis and Washington, DC.

ACEC/MD's Legislative Action Center allows Web site visitors complete access

to their elected officials by simply entering their ZIP code. Visitors may view their elected officials' pictures, phone numbers, e-mail addresses, staff, committee assignments, voting records, and more.

Through Legislative Alerts, ACEC/MD will once again be able to better educate its members on important issues before legislators. It will also be in a better position to push its legislative agenda with the creation of voting scorecards that outline elected officials' voting records, and how that record matches up with ACEC/MD's agenda. The site will contain letter and e-mail templates, which visitors can use to customize messages and send them instantly to decision makers.

Last year's eleventh hour attempt to insert price competition into the selection process for engineering and architectural services demonstrated the value of this system, and the importance of member firm involvement. Upon the introduction of this onerous piece of legislation, ACEC/MD was able to mobilize its member firms' employees, who contacted their elected officials by phone or through emails and letters. As a result of ACEC/MD's efforts, the legislation was never voted on in committee and the General Assembly adjourned with the Qualifications-Based Selection (QBS) method of procuring services intact.

This General Assembly Session is shaping up as one of the most challenging sessions in recent memory. Transportation funding, third party liability, clarification of the state's Ethics Law, mandated employer health insurance benefits, and QBS are all

items that could be “in play” in the 2004 session, so please, when called upon, utilize the Legislation Action Center and, make your voice heard in Annapolis!

Destination 2004: Puerto Rico

ACEC/MD's Annual Conference June 23-26

When making this year's vacation plans, why not include a trip to beautiful and historic San Juan, Puerto Rico. ACEC/MD's destination hotel for the annual conference is the Wyndham El San Juan Hotel and Casino in fashionable Isla Verde. Situated on two miles of white sand beach located only minutes from Old San Juan and Luis Muñoz Marin International Airport, ACEC/MD's Conference promises to be the best ever.

According to Travel & Leisure magazine, our destination hotel “is the most happening, exciting hotel in the Caribbean.” This facility was the recipient of the Puerto Rico Tourism Co.'s 2003 Awards for “Best Room,” “Housekeeping,” “Food and Beverage,” and “Best Overall Hotel.”

A AAA Four-Diamond “Wyndham Resort,” the Wyndham El San Juan Hotel and Casino was voted the #1 offshore meeting hotel by Successful Meetings Magazine, the best hotel in Puerto Rico by New York Magazine “Insiders Guide to the Best Island Getaways” and a winner of the Gold Key Award for five consecutive years. A consistent winner that beckons you and your family to this tropical paradise, the facility has something for everyone!

On site amenities include:

- ◆ One of the largest casinos in San Juan
- ◆ Shopping at LaGaleria: San Juan's most exclusive shopping address
- ◆ Nightly live entertainment
- ◆ Six acclaimed restaurants
- ◆ Rooftop Tequila Bar and Grill
- ◆ Fantasy pool with waterfall, Jacuzzis and swim up bar
- ◆ Lighted tennis courts
- ◆ Olympic-sized pool
- ◆ Rooftop fitness center
- ◆ Supervised kids retreat and activities
- ◆ Personal vacation planning for island tours and local excursions.

In short, our conference will feature the perfect blend of Old World charm and Caribbean excitement. Make your hotel reservation today by calling 1-800-468-2818 and refer to the American Council of Engineering Companies/Maryland's (ACEC/MD) conference. The special run of the house rate for ACEC/MD's conference is only \$145 per night plus applicable taxes and service charges. Room upgrades are available for an additional charge. Individuals will be able to choose from both non-stop and connecting flights out of BWI airport.

Watch your mail for additional information on our program. You can see San Juan is the place to be in 2004!

Past Presidents McNeill & Neimeyer Recognized as

ACEC/MD's Newest Fellows

ACEC/MD's December General Membership Meeting marked the first time ACEC/MD's Fellows Committee hosted an ACEC/MD event. Highlighting the meeting was the recognition of ACEC/MD's newest Fellows Robert E. McNeill (McNeill & Baldwin) and Terry F. Neimeyer (KCI Technologies).

Commenting during the presentation to the newly elected Fellows, ACEC/MD Past President and current Fellow Chuck Meyer (Henry Adams, Inc.) remarked that these fine individuals have distinguished themselves from their peers by demonstrating exemplary leadership, contributing to society, and a willingness to give back to the profession.

After founding former member firm McNeill, Baldwin & Associates in 1951, Bob McNeill retired after nearly forty years of practice with the firm. A Michigan native, Bob served in the US Army from 1942 – 1945. Upon graduation from Johns Hopkins University in 1947 with a Bachelor of Engineering Degree in Electrical Engineering, Bob worked fulltime for member firm Henry Adams, Inc. He became a Maryland registered

Professional Engineer in 1950 and subsequently became registered in seven other states plus the District of Columbia.

Bob is a former past president of ACEC/MD, and was active in promoting Qualifications-Based Selection (QBS), an improved registration law, and the enactment and then the improvement of a Statute of Limitations Law for the engineering profession. In addition to his service to ACEC/MD and ACEC, Bob was an active member and officer of the Engineers Club, Baltimore Building Congress, Maryland and National Societies of Professional Engineers, American Institute of Electrical Engineers, Institute of Electrical Engineers, Illuminating Engineering Society, and the Construction Specifications Engineers.

After joining KCI Technologies, Inc. upon graduation with honors from the University of Delaware in 1977 with a civil engineering degree, *Terry Neimeyer* was named President and Chief Operating Officer of the firm in 1995, Chief Executive Officer in 1999, and Chairman of the Board in 2000. Under Terry's leadership the firm was recently named by Engineering News Record as one of the top 94 engineering firms in the country, one of the top 50 civil engineering firms by Civil Engineering News and ranked in the top 100 of the Zweig-White Hot Firms.

A resident of Parkton, Terry is a registered engineer in six states. His advanced degrees include a Masters of Science Degree from The Johns Hopkins University, and a Masters of Business Administration Degree from Wilmington College. In 2000, he was

selected as the Civil Engineering Alumnus of the Year by the University of Delaware, where he currently serves on the Engineering Advisory Board.

Terry previously served ACEC/MD as Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and Director, and was Past President of the Delaware Section of ASCE, immediate past-president of the Baltimore County Chamber, and a member of Leadership Maryland's Class of 1997. He is a member of the Maryland Section of the ASCE where he was named Civil Engineer of the Year in 2001; the Maryland Association of Engineers; the County Engineers' Association of Maryland; the Engineering Society of Baltimore (ESB), where he was selected as Engineer of the Year in 2002; the Water Environment Federation; the Society of American Military Engineers; and Tau Beta Pi, the national honorary engineering fraternity.

The current Vice Chairman of the Maryland Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Board of Directors of the Maryland Highway Contractors Association, Terry is also a board member and past-president of the Maryland Chapter of the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, where his fund-raising efforts have contributed more than \$50,000 toward finding a cure for a disease that affects the lives of more than 16 million Americans. Terry serves on the Ripken Learning Center's *Reading, Runs and Ripken* committee to raise awareness and funds for adult literacy, and has served on the *Maryland with Pride* committee for minority business recognition.

Congratulations to both Bob and Terry for being recognized for their contributions to both the engineering profession and society!

Top EEA Winners Announced

Whitman, Requardt & Associates has won two of the top three awards in this year's Engineering Excellence Awards competition. This unprecedented achievement was announced by Awards Chair Stacy Stone (Greenhorne & O'Mara) at December's General Membership Meeting.

Possibly reflecting the recent economic downturn, in all 13 entries were received in this year's competition. This is slightly down from past few years; however, the entries demonstrated the diverse nature of services provided by our member firms.

Judging this year's competition were:

Stacy Stone (Greenhorne & O'Mara) (chair)

R. Keith Compton (Montgomery Co. Dept. of Public Works & Transportation)

Dale Coppage (Prince George's County Department of Public Works and Transportation)

Henry Kay (Maryland Transit Administration)

Gradon Tobery (MD State Highway Administration-District 4)

Richard Pagano (Maryland Transportation Authority)

Stu Taub (Wallace, Montgomery & Associates)

Gary Weedon (Gipe Associates)

“Recognizing engineering achievements demonstrating the highest degree of merit and ingenuity, and providing a major contribution to technical, economic, and social advancement,” the finalists in the competition are (in alphabetical order):

TOP AWARD WINNERS (alphabetically)

Sidhu Associates

*Air Handling & Ventilation System Improvements for Laboratory Building
– Back River*

Whitman, Requardt & Associates

Charles Street Bridge Replacement

Whitman, Requardt & Associates

Under Harbor Water Main Failure Repairs

ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNERS (alphabetically)

Gannett Fleming

Back River Wastewater Treatment Plant Sludge Dewatering Facilities

George, Miles & Buhr

Fruitland Wastewater Plant Upgrade & BNR Upgrade

KIBART

*Raymond Brown Library & Archival Center, St. Mary’s Seminary &
University*

Moffatt & Nichol, Engineers/Gahan & Bryant Joint Venture

Restoration of Poplar Island

Thank you to all the judges and firm representatives that once again helped to demonstrate the valuable contribution our member firms make to society.

The Grand Award winner will be announced at the ACEC/MD Gala Awards Banquet February 26 at the Engineers Club. At that time we will also recognize the winners of this year's Community Service Award and President's Award. We hope to see you there.

Reminder

Member firms are encouraged to respond to last year's survey sent by the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC) regarding their plan to offer masters degrees in civil and environmental engineering.

If possible it would be very appropriate for employees of member firms to participate in this survey. The University is very interested in your input.

ACEC/MD, and ACEC, Need You

Member firm employees are encouraged to participate in this year's premier state and federal legislative advocacy days. ACEC/MD will once again host its Legislative Action Day on Thursday, February 12 at the Governor Calvert House in Annapolis, while ACEC's Consulting Congress Day activities will be held March 15-17.

With high impact issues such as transportation funding, QBS, third party liability, modification of the state's ethics law to provide for fair competition on D/B projects, and mandated employee health coverage on the agenda, you can not afford to be absent from ACEC/MD's Legislative Action Day on February 12. Last year over 65 legislators took the short stroll across State Circle to join their constituents for lunch. It is imperative that you be there when they show up!

On the national front, ACEC has once again developed an outstanding program to put you in touch with decision makers on Capitol Hill and in the federal markets arena.

Their program starts Monday, March 15 with the Federal Markets Conference featuring representatives from the US Army Corps of Engineers, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, General Services Administration, National Park Service, Federal Emergency Management, Department of Homeland Security, and international market representatives.

Tuesday, March 16 will feature key issues briefings and the Engineering Excellence Awards Gala featuring Speaker of the House J. Dennis Hastert.

Wednesday, March 17 will offer ACEC members an historic opportunity to shape and advance policies that will affect engineering jobs and your firm's bottom line, such as TEA21, outsourcing, and regulatory reform.

Contact the ACEC/MD office, and mark you calendar for these important events. Your firm is uniquely situated less than one hour from these capitols of government. You can't afford to leave the delivery of your message to somebody else!

Unable to Attend Last Fall's ACEC Conference?

Listed below are CDs of the sessions from the ACEC Fall Conference. These are a great resource for in-house training or while stuck in what is becoming all too familiar traffic jams. Contact the ACEC/MD office at 410-539-1592 if you would like to borrow any.

1. How to Capture Your Competition's Best Clients (*Clive Shearer*)
3. Fungus Among Us! How to Prepare, Inform and Enlighten Your Engineering Firm During the Time of Mold Hysteria (*N. Guy LeVan*)
4. ACEC/Life/Health Trust – Past Present and Future (*Linda O'Connell*)
5. Building Information Modeling for Multidisciplinary Engineering Teams (*Paul Roberts*)
6. How To Be Heard, Understood and Win Acceptance (*Dag Knudsen*)
7. Secrets To Successful Strategic Planning (*Mel Hensey*)
9. Distance Learning For Dummies (*Stephen Murtha*)
11. Surveyor's Roundtable (*Frazier Christy*)
12. What Every Firm Should Know About Sustainable Development (*Doug Thompson*)

13. Brains and Alignment, Sure! It's The Execution That Bedevils Us (*Pat Holcomb*)
15. Your Organizational Structure – Is It Helping or Hurting You? (*Mick Morrissey*)
16. How To Coach Presenters and Presentation Teams (*Gary D'Angelo*)
17. Ownership Transition: Options and Strategies (*Lowell Getz & Paul Lurie*)
18. Building A Strong Governance Process in Your Firm (*Doug Thompson*)
19. Improve PeopleSmarts (*Lillian Bjorseth*)
20. Document Management Systems (*Adam Kupperman*)
21. Guidelines to Coordination and Completeness of Structural Construction Documents (*Thomas Wasser*)
22. Developing New Business in a Tight Economy (*Cathy Mills*)
23. Candid Conversations – Talking with Clients About the Professional Liability Risks They Face on Design Construction Projects (*David Grigg*)
24. Make Your Clients Want to Pay Higher Fees (*William Fanning*)
25. Leading Change in a Turbulent Environment (*David Aitken*)
26. When Bad Things Happen to Good Client Relationships: How to Keep Good Ones and Save Those Headed Down the Tubes (*Dr. Janet Sanders*)
27. Leadership In The 21st Century (*Scott Hunter*)
28. Small Firms Success With Alternative Delivery Systems (*Steve Anderson, Daniel DeYoung, Kenneth Snyder & Elliott Gappinger*)
29. Information on SEI, the Senior Executives Leadership Program – Powerful Learning For Executives (*SEI*)

30. Yours, Mine & Ours: Consequential Damages and Who Bears the Burden

(Kenneth Slavens)

31. Rapid Leadership Development *(Scott Braley)*

32. Coordinating Change While Building Relationships *(Lee James)*

Be sure to mark your calendar for May 9-12, 2004 and plan to attend the ACEC Spring Conference at the historic and luxurious Broadmoor in Colorado Springs. Make your room reservations today at a significantly reduced rate by calling 1-800-634-7711.

Thanks for Recognizing the Importance of CEPAC

Transportation Task Force Chair to Kick Off ACEC/MD's Fundraising

Efforts on January 27

The ACEC/MD Executive Committee would like to express its appreciation to the following firms for their four-year pledges and contributions to ACEC/MD's Political Action Committee (CEPAC) in the past year:

A. Morton Thomas & Associates

Buchart-Horn

Century Engineering

Constellation Design Group

Daniel Consultants, Inc.

DMJM+HARRIS

EBA Engineering

EBL Engineers

Edwards & Kelcey

Faisant Associates

George, Miles & Buhr

Gipe Associates

Greenman-Pedersen

HNTB Corporation

Indam Engineers

Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson

KCI Technologies (officers)

KIBART

Leach Wallace Associates

Moffatt & Nichol Engineers

Mueller Associates

Parsons, Brinkerhoff, Quade & Douglas

Rickert Engineering

RJM Engineering

Rummel, Klepper & Kahl

Sabra, Wang & Associates

Schlenger/Pitz & Associates

Schnabel Engineering

SITE-Blauvelt Engineers

STV Incorporated

Whitman, Requardt & Associates

Whitney, Bailey, Cox & Magnani

Williams Associates-Engineers

These firms can be identified at ACEC/MD meetings by the Maryland state logo on their name badges.

The Legislative and PAC Committees are working closely once again this year to ensure that contributions are targeted to appropriate elected officials. The ACEC/MD Business Agenda is being widely presented on issues of importance such as:

- ◆ Transportation and other infrastructure funding
- ◆ Relief from unwarranted third party lawsuits
- ◆ Qualifications-Based Selection (QBS)
- ◆ Modification of the state's ethics law to provide for fair competition on D/B projects
- ◆ State mandated health care requirements

Additionally, a concerted effort is being made to attend selected fundraisers and to seek meetings with legislators to gain support for ACEC/MD's position on these important issues.

ACEC/MD has a goal of 100% participation in contributing to CEPAC. If your firm has already pledged, we hope that you will send your second year contribution as soon as possible. If your firm was unable to pledge in year one, it is not too late to make a difference. Just contact the ACEC/MD office and we would be pleased to forward another pledge card.

And don't forget to mark your calendar for January 27 when Transportation Task Force's Chair Bill Hellmann will present the task force's findings and discuss how to affect positive legislation in the General Assembly. We have invited all state DPW Directors to participate in this valuable program.

ACEC/MD is the only state organization that focuses on the business interests of the consulting engineering profession, and through this consolidated effort we have the ear of state legislators. To carry your voice to our elected officials, please respond favorably to this effort.

Member News

- ◆ **CENTURY ENGINEERING** is pleased to announce that *Thomas J. Turner, PE* has been promoted to Vice President in the Transportation Division.
- ◆ **GANNETT FLEMING** recently named *Art Barrett, PE* as the Regional Office Manager of its Baltimore office.

- ◆ **KCI TECHNOLOGIES** recently announced the appointment of Executive Vice President and Mid Atlantic Regional Manager *Nate Beil, PE* and *Maryland Ellen Judy*, Senior Human Resources Assistant to the firm's 2004 Board of Directors.
- ◆ **RUMMEL, KLEPPER & KAHL** is pleased to announce that it is a member of SHA-led team that won the National Partnership for Highway Quality (NPHQ) 2003 Gold Award for the Canal Parkway Project in Cumberland. NPHQ is an alliance of federal and state highway officials and leaders in the roadway industry who advocate customer-centered practices for roads that are completed quicker, ride better, last longer, reduce congestion, and improve safety.

Professional Development

February 2 *Keeping the Port of Baltimore Competitive in a Global World.*

Baltimore, MD. Presented by the World Trade Center Institute and the Maryland Department of Economic Development. For more information, call 410-576-0022, ext. 102.

February 9 *Congressional Delegation Dinner.* Greenbelt, MD. Sponsored by the

Maryland Chamber of Commerce. Get connected to Maryland Congressional delegation. For more information, contact ACEC/MD or call 410-269-0642.

February 20 *Advanced Thermal & Moisture.* Toronto, ON. Presented by the Roof Consultants Institute. For more information, call 1-800-828-1902.

The National Fire Sprinkler Association Announces The NFSA Academy Program features nearly 100 modules of home-based training.

For more information call Dawn at 845-878-4200, ext. 133.

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