



Volume XXXXII, No. 1 July-August, 2009

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# **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

by Michael W. Myers, P.E.

Like most other professions and industries, our engineering profession is facing enormous challenges. A weak economy is stifling commercial and residential development, and adding to vast shortfalls in funding for public infrastructure. Solutions seem to be elusive. State and local governments are forced to cut their capital program budgets. The federal government continues deficit spending, but has failed to adequately address funding for infrastructure. It is hard to tell when the housing and commercial market will rebound.

Thankfully, we have an association of concerned, dedicated and talented engineers fighting for the best interests of our profession. I am very excited and honored to serve as your president for the 2009/2010 year, and look forward to working with all of you to be a strong advocate for our business interests.

Before we discuss this coming year, I would like to thank Past President Harry Stephen from Century Engineering for his dedication to, and his leadership of, ACEC/MD this past year. Harry was supported by a very strong cadre of officers and committee members, for whom we are also very grateful. And then of course, there is Jim and Barb who are constantly working in furtherance of our mission....what would we do without them?



Now, a few comments looking back, and forward:

**Conferences** In June we had a great time at Nemacolin Woodlands Resort in southwestern Pennsylvania. Many thanks go to Jim, Barb, Conference Chair Perry Nutter and Harry for their hard work in making the conference activities a success. This year's National ACEC fall conference will be held at the La Quinta Resort in Palm Springs, California on October 7 – 10, 2009, with the theme of "Engineering America's Recovery ". This is an outstanding venue and opportuni*continued on page 2* 

## visit us on the web! www.acecmd.org

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OFFICERS

#### President

Michael W. Myers, P.E. Rummel, Klepper & Kahl

Vice President Joe Makar, P.E. Whitman, Requardt & Associates

#### Secretary

Leon Kriebel, P.E. Whitney, Bailey, Cox & Magnani

**Treasurer** Jeffery P. McBride, P.E. EBL Engineers

#### ACEC REPRESENTATIVES ACEC/MD DIRECTORS

Director George E. Wirth, P.E.

Schnabel Engineering

Harry C. Stephen, P.E. Century Engineering

#### Dana Knight, P.E. (2007-2010)

McCormick Taylor Jack Moeller, P.E. (2007-2010) Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson

Chris Griffith, P.E. (2008-2011) KCI Technologies Jerry Jannetti, P.E. (2008-2011) PB Americas

Art Barrett, P.E. (2009-2012) Gannett Fleming

Stuart Taub, P.E. (2009-2012) Wallace, Montgomery & Associates an affiliate of



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# **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

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ty to discuss issues impacting the engineering industry throughout the country. ACEC/MD's 2010 conference will be held June 23 – 27th in Miami Beach, Florida in a soon to be determined location. Please make plans to join us next year.

**Committees** ACEC/MD committees are forming for the new year. If you would like to serve on a committee and have not signed up yet, please do so as the initial meetings will be scheduled soon. A list of the committees is provided at www.acecmd.org. Committee membership is a great way to get involved in ACEC/MD, meet clients and resolve issues. If you have questions, I would be happy to discuss committee membership.

Infrastructure Funding There is no issue more important to our industry this year than transportation and water infrastructure funding, both nationally and here in Maryland. The public perception is that the economic stimulus packages have provided sufficient funding for our infrastructure needs. In reality, due to the economic downturn and the resulting decline in tax revenues such as gas taxes and vehicle titling taxes, the stimulus program has backfilled less than 30% of the capital funding cuts. This perception must be changed. We have heard Matt Reiffer, ACEC's Director of Transportation Programs provide an update on the Federal Surface Transportation Authorization at our June MDOT Modal program. At our annual conference, we were briefed by Steve Hall, Vice President of ACEC's Government Affairs, on the economic stimulus, water infrastructure, SAFETEA LU reauthorization, and energy/climate change legislation. And just recently in July, we met with the Acting Secretary of Transportation to discuss the outlook for transportation funding in Maryland for the next several years. From the conclusion of these meetings and briefings, and recognizing that infrastructure funding is now competing with health care, energy and climate change, ACEC/MD has established an ad-hoc committee for transportation funding.

**Transportation Funding Committee** While I joked about being a water and wastewater engineer during my acceptance speech at the annual conference, I believe that one of the greatest challenges before us is to raise public awareness and support for increased

transportation funding. Therefore, we have formed an ad-hoc Transportation Funding Committee to foster support for adequate transportation funding. This Committee is already working hard to develop an educational program for use by member firms to inform their employees about this issue, and plant the seeds for greater grassroots support for our initiatives. Recognizing that ACEC/MD can't achieve these goals alone, the Committee will seek to partner with interested business groups and trade associations such as the chambers of commerce and the boards of trade. While these times present significant challenges, we know that they are also filled with great opportunities. Please consider your active participation in your ACEC. This is a great organization doing important work for our profession. Be a part of it. Remember to visit ACEC/MD's website to access our membership directory, calendar of events and other important ACEC/MD announcements.

Again, thank you for allowing me to serve ACEC/MD. I look forward to working with each of you this year.

## OUTGOING PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Harry Stephen, P.E.

The officers for ACEC/MD for the 2009-2010 year were recently installed at the Nemacolin Woodlands Resort during our 21st Annual Conference. This marked the end of my year as President. The year passed so quickly it is hard to believe the torch has been passed already. I look forward to supporting Mike Myers, our new president, and ACEC/MD for the upcoming year.

I want to thank the committee members and chairs, and the directors and officers for their hard work and dedication to ACEC/MD throughout the year. Without the support of the member firms and the commitment of many individuals, ACEC/MD would not be the successful organization it is known to be. Also a special thanks to Jim and Barb for keeping the organization moving in the right direction and focused on the issues at hand. The economic downturn has pressured us into a renewed focus on infrastructure funding, both on the state level and the federal level. A program is underway to develop a grass roots effort to educate our employees and the general public of the process and need to attain funding for our crumbling infrastructure. To make a difference, much work will need to be done by our membership through committees and PAC contributions. I am confident we can come together and get the job done.

I enjoyed my term as president and hope you become involved in this great organization to reap the rewards of leadership and camaraderie.

Thank you for your support.

# ACEC/MD Launches ACEC/PAC Raffle

Recognizing the importance of continuing to achieve the ACEC established ACEC PAC federal fund raising goal, the ACEC/MD Executive Committee has authorized the establishment of a raffle. The investment for a chance to win \$1,500 is only \$100, and only 150 tickets will be sold. Additionally, one \$500 prize and one \$300 prize will be awarded.

As part of ACEC's Strategic Plan, increasing ACEC/PAC to a \$1-million PAC per year was established. ACEC is now halfway there, placing ACEC/PAC in the top 4% of national PACs.

This year ACEC/MD is expected to raise in excess of \$18,000. Realizing the importance

## HARDESTY & HANOVER'S HANK **POKIGO CAPTURES GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Following on the heels of last year's rained out originally scheduled golf tournament, due to inclement weather, ACEC/MD had to once again play this year's tournament in June. Again, the second time around was a charm, as almost 90 golfers took advantage of beautiful weather to take on the challenging Greystone Golf Course. Playing at Greystone, that was recently recognized as one of the country's top 50 public courses, competitors completed the 18 holes in record time.

Unfortunately, there was no hole-in-one for the top prize of \$20,000. It was unbelievable how an obnoxious bird would shriek every time someone lined up to take their shot at the grand prize. Well, maybe next year will be the charm.

In addition to the tournament winner Hank Pokigo (Hardesty & Hanover) who shot a gross score of 72. Other notable performances included:

2nd Low Gross 1st Low Net 2nd Low Net 3rd Low Net Least # of putts Most # of putts Men's longest drive Ladies' longest drive Mindy Hinsley

Jim Frazier (72) Joe Makar (68) Bill Dodd (68) Matt Gough (68) Richard Dorsey (28) Vince Pielli (54) George Gaynor

Closest to the pin Closest to the pin Vic Siaurusaitis(7') Craig Steigerwalt(5'5")

A special thanks goes to all the golfers that purchased Mulligans and contributed \$675.00 to ACEC/MD's Scholarship Program.

In addition, we would like to thank the following hole sponsors for their generous contributions:

> AECOM Ames & Gough Brudis & Associates CBIZ Century Engineering EBA Engineering **EBL Engineers** Greenhorne & O'Mara Greenman Pedersen Hardesty & Hanover Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson McCormick Taylor Michael Baker, Jr., Inc. Rummel, Klepper & Kahl **URS** Corporation Wallace, Montgomery & Associates Whitman, Requardt & Associates Whitney, Bailey, Cox & Magnani

## ACEC/MD LAUNCHES ACEC/PAC RAFFLE

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of once again achieving this goal, the Executive Committee has established this raffle to make contributing more palatable.

Unlike traditional federal PAC contributions, corporate checks are acceptable for funding the prize money. Firms will be requested to consider sponsoring the prize money in the near future. The drawing will be held at the December 17th General Membership Meeting sponsored by the Fellows Committee.

With important issues to the industry at the forefront such as infrastructure funding including Transportation Reauthorization and the looming 3% withholding tax, it is imperative that ACEC/MD assist ACEC in reaching their fund raising goal. Thanks to your firm representatives, ACEC/MD has played an integral role in the success of ACEC/PAC. With the establishment of this raffle, ACEC/MD will be able to reach new contribution heights.

### GOLFERS STEP UP TO THE PLATE FOR CEPAC

As has become tradition, through a silent auction at the golf tournament, ACEC/MD once again offered an exciting opportunity for member firm representatives to contribute to CEPAC, ACEC/MD's state PAC. With items ranging from sports memorabilia to baskets of cheer participants raised over \$1,600 for CEPAC. Thanks to the following contributors and bidders for making the auction a success.

Century Engineering - "The Greatest Game Ever Played" - 1958 Pro Football Title Game DVD between the Baltimore Colts and the New York Giants, and a framed photograph of Alan Ameche scoring the winning touchdown - J. Bird - \$130

EBL Engineers - Rare GLENLIVIT - 21-yearold Scotch with display box - J. McBride - \$200 Gannett Fleming - "Take the Pain out of Your Golf Game" - 2002 Advil Western Open Autographed hat signed by participants of the 1991 in Advil commercials: Merlin Olsen (Hall of Fame Defensive Tackle for the Rams); Johnny Miller (PGA Golfer); and Nolan Ryan (Hall of Fame Pitcher) - D. Cheng \$40

Hardesty & Hanover - Taylor Made Burner Driver - C. Lee - \$150

Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson - Odyssey Putter (including cover) - M. Hinsley - \$125

KCI Technologies - Two KCI Suite tickets to a Ravens home game of your choice (excludes Pittsburgh Steelers) includes parking pass, onfield passes, food & drink - B. Wise - \$400

McCormick Taylor - Ping Putter with booty

and a box (12) of Callaway Golf Balls - C. Lee - \$145

and Basket of Cheer 6 bottles of wine and snacks - H. Stephen - \$150

PB - A Gift of Broadway - gift certificate to the France-Merrick Performing Arts display, bottle of wine included - J. Jannetti - \$130

Whitman, Requardt & Associates - Basket of Cheer - C. Lee - \$105

Otradovec & Associates - Carry bag with portable Humidor set including lighter and \$20 gift certificate to the Humidour Cigar Shoppe (Cockeysville) - T. Neimeyer - \$80

Total donations value - \$1,536.00; Total bids -\$1,655.00

## 2009-2010 Officers Installed

The 2009-2010 American Council of Engineering Companies/Maryland (ACEC/MD) officers were recently installed at the organization's 21st Annual Conference at the Nemacolin Woodlands Resort in Farmington, Pennsylvania. On hand to perform the honors for the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) was Steve Hall, Vice President of Government Affairs.

*Mike Myers, PE*, of Rummel, Klepper & Kahl, Baltimore, succeeds, *Harry Stephen*, *PE*, of Century Engineering, Hunt Valley, as President. The other officers are: *Joe Makar, PE*, of Whitman, Requardt & Associates, Baltimore, as Vice President; *Leon Kriebel, PE*, of Whitney, Bailey, Cox & Magnani, Towson, as Secretary, and *Jeff McBride, PE*, of EBL Engineers, Baltimore, as Treasurer.

Michael W. Myers, P.E. is a Partner with Rummel, Klepper & Kahl, LLP (RK&K) responsible for RK&K's water, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure, utility relocation, hazardous waste, natural gas/petroleum, energy, water resources/stream restoration and GIS/programming services throughout the mid-Atlantic and Southeastern United States. A resident of Glen Rock, Pennsylvania, Mike has over 24 years of experience in civil and environmental engineering, and is a registered professional engineer in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, Delaware and the District of Columbia. He specializes in the rehabilitation of large capacity pumping stations and pipelines as well as assisting municipalities in complying with Wet-Weather Consent Decree Programs.

Prior to joining RK&K, Mike was an officer and sanitary engineer in the U.S. Army stationed in Denver, Colorado and was responsible for assisting Army installations located west of the Mississippi River to comply with water, wastewater and hazardous waste regulations. After completing active duty, Mike began his RK&K career in 1990 as a design engineer, was promoted in 1995 to associate, and in 2008 was invited into the partnership. He graduated from the Pennsylvania State University in 1985 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering and in 1989 earned a Master's Degree in Business Management from Webster University in St. Louis, Missouri. Mike has served ACEC/MD as Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Director and Chair of the Environmental Committee and Membership Committees. He is also a 2000 graduate of the ACEC/MD Leadership Program. Mike is a member of the Maryland Association of Engineers, County Engineers Association of Maryland, Society of American Military Engineers, Water Environment Federation and American Waterworks Association.

Joseph S. Makar, P.E., is the Administrative Partner at Whitman, Requardt & Associates, LLP, a Baltimore-based firm established in 1915 with offices in Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. A resident of Reisterstown, Joe earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Maryland in 1978 and a Masters of Business Administration from Loyola College in 1982. Joe has over 30 years of transportation expertise, and currently manages the day-to-day business operations of the firm. He is also involved in the firm's Transportation Division. Joe is a Registered Professional Engineer in Maryland, Delaware, and Pennsylvania.

Joe previously served ACEC/MD as Secretary, Treasurer, Director and chair of the MDOT Liaison Committee. He actively participates in the Maryland Quality Initiative (MdQI), American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), Maryland Association of Engineers, Chi Epsilon Civil Engineering Honor Society, and Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society.

*Leon Kriebel, P.E.,* is the President of WBCM—the Baltimore-headquartered architecture, engineering and construction firm. WBCM serves public and private clients throughout the Mid-Atlantic region and beyond with offices in Towson, Baltimore's Canton waterfront, and in Pittsburgh and Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

A resident of Fallston, Leon has 34 years of experience in the planning and design of transportation projects throughout the state of Maryland. His broad range of design experience includes expressways, urban streets, streetscapes, interchanges, hydrologic/hydraulic analysis, storm drain design, stormwater management, erosion/sediment control and environmental permits.

Leon continues to oversee the highway, bridge, transportation planning and traffic engineering departments. He has been an active design Principal on major projects, including the award-winning Salisbury Bypass, the Hampstead Bypass, the US 29 & MD 198 Interchange, the Arundel Mills Roadway and the Inter-County Connector (Contract C). Besides ACEC/MD, he is actively involved in other A/E/C professional organizations including ASCE, ASHE, and DBIA.

*Jeff McBride, P.E.* is Principal and Director of Engineering at EBL Engineers, LLC, a Baltimore-based multi-disciplined engineering firm. A resident of Abingdon, Jeff is a registered professional engineer in Maryland and eleven other states. In addition to overseeing the firm's engineering and consulting groups, he is actively engaged in fire protection engineering and is a certified building inspector.

Jeff previously served as Secretary, ACEC/MD Director, and chaired the DGS Liaison Committee. The former president of the Engineers Council of Maryland (ECM), Jeff is active in the Society of Fire Protection Engineers, the National Fire Sprinkler Association (NFSA), American Fire Sprinkler Association (AFSA), AIA, and the Chesapeake Area Society of Healthcare Engineering (CASHE).

In addition to the officers, the following were also installed to serve on the ACEC/MD Executive Committee: ACEC Director - George Wirth, Schnabel Engineering (Baltimore); ACEC Alternate Director - Harry Stephen, Century Engineering (Hunt Valley); 2007-2010 Directors – Dana Knight, McCormick Taylor, Inc. (Baltimore), and Jack Moeller, Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson (Hunt Valley); 2008-2011 Directors - Chris Griffith, KCI Technologies (Hunt Valley), and Jerry Jannetti, PB Americas (Baltimore); and 2009-2012 Directors - Art Barrett, Gannett Fleming (Baltimore), and Stuart Taub, Wallace, Montgomery & Associates (Towson).

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## NEMACOLIN PROVIDES PERFECT SETTING FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Nemacolin Woodlands Resort in Farmington, Pennsylvania provided a great getaway for ACEC/MD's 21st Annual Conference. This jewel, nestled in Pennsylvania's beautiful Laurel Highlands, provided the perfect setting for a very productive and enjoyable conference. With ACEC/MD's Leadership Class in attendance, over 80 ACEC/MD representatives and their guests were able to take advantage of this opportunity to escape the metropolitan area.

While floodwaters inundated much of the adjacent Pittsburgh area, fortunately conference attendees came away with only stories of challenging rides to and from the resort. In fact, the high water provided for a unique perspective during the visits to Frank Lloyd Wright's Fallingwater and Kentuck Knob, the two 20th century architectural icons visited during the technical tour.

This year's conference sessions featured an informative presentation by the Pennsylvania Turnpike's Mike Flack, who addressed the history of the turnpike and future business opportunities. His brother Mark Flack, SHA's Director of the Office of Construction followed up with a discussion on how SHA will deliver projects in the future. We were pleased to be joined by ACEC Vice President of Government Affairs State Hall, who outlined the numerous challenges facing business interests in Congress. In his discussions about the federal stimulus package, Steve commented that while initially enthusiastic about the plan, ACEC has now focused on educating members of Congress on the need for a second stimulus plan that should come in the form of a timely transportation reauthorization bill.

At the General Membership Meeting, Steve Hall provided an overview of the myriad of resources provided by ACEC. In describing the challenges that lie ahead in Congress, he complimented ACEC/MD on their continued support of ACEC/PAC, ACEC's Federal Political Action Committee.

In addition to recognizing the outgoing and incoming Executive Committee, this year's conference banquet featured a salute to the graduates of ACEC/MD's Leadership Program. Along with participating in thoughtful discussion throughout the year, this year's class is to be complimented for setting a new standard for attendance.

During his closing remarks, outgoing president Harry Stephen (Century

### ACEC/MD CONTINUES TO ADDRESS CONTRACT EXTENSIONS

As you are probably aware of, the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) has dramatically altered its policy for contract extensions. Contracts awarded prior to February 18, 2009 can be extended based on the old policy. Out of the other 360 outstanding contracts the Board of Public Works has agreed to extend 160 contracts. The other 200 contracts expiring December 31, 2010 through 2013 require formal Board approval.

ACEC/MD representatives continue to present the case that extending the other contracts does not cost the state any money. In fact, it costs the state and the consultant money when a contract needs to be re-advertised. In addition, there is often a negative impact on small businesses that, due to services required, often are used at the later part of a contract.

When meeting with MDOT Acting Secretary Beverley Swaim-Staley, ACEC/MD representatives were assured that she understands the industry's concerns. The contracts that were extended represent a compromise with the Board of Public Works. Reportedly, the Board of Public Works members believe that extending contracts stymies competition. Apparently, this concern has been expressed by other service providers like IT professionals, not design consultants.

ACEC/MD representatives were previously advised by SHA's Consultant Services representatives that a firm can submit an invoice after a contract expires, as long as the time is charged prior to the expiration of a contract. At a recent partnering meeting, to fully address this issue, SHA Deputy Administrator Doug Simmons committed to getting with both legal and consultant services representatives.

Appreciating the importance of this matter, ACEC/MD will continue to seek full clarification of the state's policy, and will keep you advised. Engineering) thanked everyone for their support throughout the year and encouraged member representatives to continue their involvement in the organization.

As Mike Myers (Rummel, Klepper & Kahl) took the reigns of the organization he offered support for the transportation and vertical initiatives of the organization, but with one caveat. A civil engineer with an extensive background in water/wastewater, Mike joked that he would weave that segment of the industry into this year's program.

Of course no conference would be complete without a golf tournament to determine the winner of the John E. Greiner Cup. This year's champion was Jerry Ross (Specialized Engineering) who shot a low net of 72. Prizes were also awarded for the following performances:

Low Gross – Joe Makar (93) Longest Drive – Perry Nutter Least Putts – Steve Zentz (26)

Most Putts - Stu Robinson (54)

## **MEMBER NEWS**

• BRUDIS & ASSOCIATES, INC. recently relocated their office to:

9240 Rumsey Road, Suite C Columbia, MD 21045

All other contact information remains the same.

- **EBL ENGINEERS** is pleased to announce the election of *Edward A. Hubner, P.E.* as President-Elect of the Maryland Society of Professional Engineers.
- GREENHORNE & O'MARA recently announced the hiring of William Zung, CFM as manager of the firm's new Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Regional Support Center in Kansas City, MO.
- **PENNONI ASSOCIATES, INC** recently relocated their office to:

323 W. Camden Street, Suite 600 Baltimore, MD 21201-8601 Phone 410-878-9550

#### AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES/MARYLAND

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#### POSTMASTER: ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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July-August, 2009

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

- August 27-28
   Rooftop Quality Assurance

   Cleveland, OH.
- September 15-16 Rooftop Quality Assurance Columbus, OH.
- September 17-18
   Roof Technology and Science II

   Columbus, OH.
   Presented by RCI, Inc.
   For more information on these programs, call 800-828-1902 or go to www.rci-online.org.
- August 13-14A/E/CProject Management BootcampAtlanta, GA.Presented by PSMJ Resources, Inc. For more information, call 800-537-PSMJ or<br/>go to www.psmj.com.

September 22-23Load and Resistance Factor Rating (LRFR) for Highway Bridges.Charleston, WV. Presented by ACEC/WV. For more information, call 304-345-2828.