

In this issue:

President's Message	1
EBL's Jeff McBride Recognized as ACEC/MD Fellow	3
Anirban Basu Presentation Rescheduled	3
2013 "Maryland Quality Initiative (MdQI) Conference Bigger and Better Than Ever	4
Holiday Party Another Success	6
Organizational Representation at Work, But We Can't Do It Alone!	7
Release of SHA Design-Build Manual and SHA Round-About Geometric Guidelines	8
New Members	8
Member News	9
Mark Your Calendar and Plan to Attend ACEC/MD's 25th Annual Conference	10
Seeking Employment	11
46th Annual "Afternoon at the Club"	11

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *by Leon Kriebel, P.E.*



As February approached, I was hoping that some of the uncertainties facing our businesses would have been resolved providing a clearer picture of what we can expect in the future. However, that is not the case. Our Federal Government punted decisions on spending cuts two months down the road leaving us with questions about what the programs will be for the Federal Agencies that many of us work for, and how spending cuts might impact Maryland. Regulations are still being written and adopted for the Affordable Care Act, leaving us wondering what procedures we may have to put in place to comply with these regulations.

On the State level, our Governor has not put forth any legislation regarding Transportation Funding. He has discussed a one-cent increase on the sales tax to pay for transportation, but no legislation has been introduced by his administration. It appears that he will not propose any legislation but leave it up to the legislature. Senate President Mike Miller has proposed allowing Baltimore and Maryland counties to impose their own 5-cents a gallon tax on gasoline to pay for local roads and transit projects. Also included in his proposal is a 3-percent sales tax on gasoline paid by wholesalers. That legislation was introduced on February 4, 2013. We now have one legislative bill dealing with a proposed transportation funding increase that we can lobby our legislators for passage. At this time, we don't know if other transportation funding bills will be introduced.

At our Legislative CEPAC luncheon on January 17th, and the preceding visits to our legislators, we delivered our message – that we need an increase in our transportation funding now, in this legislative session. It cannot wait until 2016, which realistically would be the next time any funding increase would be considered. The luncheon was attended by 50 people from our member firms. We had 70 legislators in attendance, who were more willing to engage in the conversation about transportation funding than in previous years.

We will be able to support this year's Public-Private Partnership (P3) bills. Although ACEC/MD supported the bill last year, we did so even though some of our recommendations were not addressed in the bill. While this year's legislation addresses many of our concerns, we continue to reiterate that P3 is only a tool in the tool box, not a solution to our transportation funding dilemma.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (continued)

There have been several bills introduced regarding protection of the Transportation Trust Fund. This has been one of our top legislative priorities for several years. Our legislative committee meets weekly throughout the session to review numerous bills that have been introduced. There were 25 bills affecting our businesses that were pre-filed before the session and numerous bills since then. The committee members put in a tremendous amount of time reviewing this legislation, meeting with legislators, and testifying before committees. However, they cannot do it alone. We need support from all of you and all the employees at your firms. The legislators need to hear from their constituents, not just from members of our legislative committee.

You can make a difference. Last month ACEC/MD sent out a request to member firms asking them to forward an email to their employees requesting them to provide their legislative district to ACEC/MD. The response system was extremely easy, allowing them to just enter their address and it would automatically provide the District in which they reside. We need this information so that if we want a targeted response to one particular Senator or Delegate, we can ask constituents residing in their District to take action. To date, sadly, only members from 17 of our firms have responded and only approximately 287 of the total number of employees of our member firms have responded. This is out of 85 member firms and collectively over 5,000 employees in Maryland working for these firms. If you have not forwarded that email to your employees, please do so today. If you have, please forward it again asking the employees who have not responded to respond. When the ACEC/MD office sends out legislative alerts, please respond by forwarding it to your employees. I implore you to get your employees involved. Our Legislative Chairman, Sean McCone, has made the offer to come into any member firm's office and make a presentation to the employees on the importance of getting involved in the legislative process. As I have stated in previous messages, this is our last chance to get a transportation funding increase until 2016. By 2018, the only funding that will be available will be for maintenance, no capital improvement projects.

On February 4th, we met with MDOT Acting Secretary Darrell Mobley. MDOT is pressing for an \$800 million per year increase in transportation funding. Darrell asked us to get our employees involved. Have them call and lobby their legislators for passage of a transportation funding increase that provides \$800 million in additional funding per year. Do not be swayed by the argument that all the money is going to transit. MDOT has always provided a balanced approach to funding transit and highway. Of the proposed \$800 million a year increase, there are equal needs there for transit and highway.

With respect to upcoming events, on February 21st, we have our Engineering Excellence Awards banquet. I hope to see many of you there to honor our award winners for the excellent design they performed. We had scheduled economist Anirban Basu to speak to us on March 5th to give us an insight on the future economic issues in our profession. That has been rescheduled for December 19, 2013. Don't forget about the upcoming ACEC National Conference and Congressional Day in April. On April 24th we need support for visits to our Congressmen and Senators, and you will find the sessions at the conference rewarding. I look forward to seeing you there.

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EBL'S JEFF MCBRIDE RECOGNIZED AS ACEC/MD FELLOW



Jeff McBride, P.E. was recognized at the December General Membership Meeting as ACEC/MD's newest Fellow. He joins a group of distinguished member firm representatives that have notably contributed to the advancement of consulting engineering in administrative leadership, design, science, by literature, in education or by service to the profession. Jeff is a Principal at EBL Engineers, LLC, a Baltimore-based multi-disciplined engineering firm. A resident of Joppa, MD, Jeff is a registered professional engineer in Maryland and twelve other states. In addition to overseeing various operational aspects of the firm's engineering and consulting groups, he is actively engaged in fire protection engineering consulting, and routinely works with private and public sector clients in the areas of fire

protection design and expert witness consultation, as well as, extensive facility management work across the country.

Jeff joined EBL when Hanna Fire Engineering merged with EBL in 1988. Following professional registration, Jeff was a team leader and department manager at EBL before assuming the role of Principal and Director of Engineering operations in 2000.

A graduate of the University of Maryland with a Bachelor of Science Degree and a Master's Degree in Fire Protection Engineering, Jeff serves on several National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) technical committees and is Chairman of NFPA 1925 – Marine Fire Fighting Vessels. Jeff currently serves as ACEC Alternate Director and is very active on ACEC/MD's Legislative Committee. Previously he served ACEC/MD as President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Director, and chaired the Department of General Services (DGS) Liaison Committee. The former president of the Engineers Council of Maryland (ECM), Jeff is active in the Society of Fire Protection Engineers (SFPE), the National Fire Sprinkler Association (NFSA), American Fire Sprinkler Association (AFSA), AIA, and the Chesapeake Area Society of Healthcare Engineering (CASHE-MD), where he serves on both the Health Care and Associate Boards.

ANIRBAN BASU PRESENTATION RESCHEDULED!

Originally scheduled for March, Anirban Basu's presentation, "Going Up For The Rebound!" has been rescheduled for December 19, 2013.

Anirban Basu, Chairman & CEO of Sage Policy Group, Inc., renowned, locally-based economist, will provide valuable insight on how your firm can navigate the uncertain economic landscape that lies ahead.



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2013 "MARYLAND QUALITY INITIATIVE" (MDQI) CONFERENCE BIGGER AND BETTER THAN EVER

ACEC/MD representatives once again took a lead role in delivering a highly successful 2013 Maryland Quality Initiative (MdQI) Conference. Spearheaded by co-chair Dan Cheng (Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson), and Greg Welker (SHA) the conference spotlighted 20 years of partnering success in what has become a truly multi-modal transportation event in Maryland.

The new venue for this event, the Baltimore Convention Center, provided the perfect amount of space for networking by a record number of attendees. Featured speakers included Lt. Gov. Anthony Brown, Acting MDOT Secretary Darrell Mobley, United States Deputy Secretary of Transportation John Porcari, and Anirban Basu, Chairman and CEO of Sage Policy Group, Inc.

As in previous years, ACEC/MD representatives were once again spotlighted as winners in the 2013 MdQI Awards. Award winners included:

PLANNING STUDIES WINNER

CEAM – MD 22 CORRIDOR STUDY (HARFORD COUNTY)

DESIGN FIRM = JMT

MBE/WBE - ENGINEERING WINNER

SHA – MD 212 (RIGGS ROAD) FROM 200' NORTH OF SARGENT ROAD TO MD 193 (UNIVERSITY BLVD. EAST)

DESIGN FIRM = AB CONSULTANTS

PARTNERING SILVER WINNER

SHA – ICC- CONTRACT B - E. OF MD 97 TO W. OF U.S. 29

CONTRACTOR = MD 200 CONSTRUCTORS (JOINT VENTURE – KIEWIT INFRASTRUCTURE SOUTH CO., CORMAN CONSTRUCTION, INC., G.A. & F.C. WAGMAN, INC.

DESIGN FIRM = PARSONS TRANSPORTATION GROUP, INC.

PARTNERING GOLD WINNER

MDTA – I-95/I-895 INTERCHANGE FROM MORAVIA ROAD TO SOUTH OF CHESACO BLVD.

CONTRACTOR = CONCRETE GENERAL, INC.

DESIGN FIRMS = GREENHORNE & O'MARA, INC., CENTURY ENGINEERING, INC.

MODAL AWARDS (UNDER \$5M):

CEAM MODAL AWARD (UNDER \$5M) WINNER

BROOKE LANE OFF-SITE WOODLAND CONSERVATION BANK (PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY)

CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS = KELLY'S TREE & LANDSCAPING, ECO GOATS

DESIGN FIRM = STRAUGHAN ENVIRONMENTAL

MAA MODAL AWARD (UNDER \$5M) WINNER

MAA/BWI SECURITY CHECKPOINT-LOWER LEVEL A

CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR = MID-ATLANTIC GENERAL CONTRACTORS, INC.

DESIGN FIRM = MICHAEL BAKER JR., INC.

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*2013 "MARYLAND QUALITY INITIATIVE" (MDQI)
CONFERENCE BIGGER AND BETTER THAN EVER (CONTINUED)*

MDTA MODAL AWARD (UNDER \$5M) WINNER
DRAINAGE SYSTEM REHABILITATION BALTIMORE HARBOR TUNNEL
CONTRACTOR = ADVANCED FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS, LLC
DESIGN FIRM = WHITNEY BAILEY COX & MAGNANI, LLC(WBCM)

MTA MODAL AWARD (UNDER \$5M) WINNER
LIGHT RAIL GRADE CROSSING REPLACEMENTS @ MCCORMICK ROAD, SCHILLING CIRCLE, & PEPPER ROAD
CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR = ATLAS RAILROAD CONSTRUCTION, LLC
DESIGN FIRMS = PARSONS BRINKERHOFF and AECOM

MODAL AWARDS (OVER \$5M):

CEAM MODAL AWARD (OVER \$5M) WINNER
OWINGS MILLS BLVD. – PHASE 1 (BALTIMORE COUNTY)
CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR = KIBLER CONSTRUCTION CO., INC.
DESIGN FIRM = JMT

MAA MODAL AWARD (OVER \$5M) WINNER
C/D APRON RECONSTRUCTION – BWI AIRPORT
CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR = P. FLANIGAN & SONS
DESIGN FIRM = URS CORP.

MDTA MODAL AWARD (OVER \$5M) WINNER
I-95/I-895 INTERCHANGE FROM MORAVIA ROAD TO SOUTH OF CHESACO BLVD.
CONTRACTOR = CONCRETE GENERAL, INC.
DESIGN FIRMS = GREENHORNE & O'MARA (G&O) and CENTURY ENGINEERING, INC.

SHA MODAL AWARD (OVER \$5M) WINNER
I-695 @ CHARLES STREET – INTERCHANGE RECONSTRUCTION
CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR = THE SIX M CO., INC.
DESIGN FIRM = RK&K

PROJECT OF THE YEAR AWARD (UNDER \$5M) WINNER
MAA/BWI SECURITY CHECKPOINT-LOWER LEVEL A
CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR = MID-ATLANTIC GENERAL CONTRACTORS, INC.
DESIGN FIRM = MICHAEL BAKER JR., INC.

PROJECT OF THE YEAR AWARD (OVER \$5M) WINNER
I-695 @ CHARLES STREET – INTERCHANGE RECONSTRUCTION
CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR = THE SIX M COMPANY
DESIGN FIRM = RK&K

Congratulations to all award winners for once again demonstrating the important impact the engineering profession makes to society!

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HOLIDAY PARTY ANOTHER SUCCESS

Over 130 people attended ACEC/MD's gala Holiday Party at the always popular Baltimore Museum of Industry (BMI). As in the past years, the venue provided the perfect setting to kick-off the Holiday Season.

We would like to thank the following sponsors for making this event another huge success:

Elite Sponsor:

CBIZ / XLDP

Diamond Sponsors:

AECOM

EBA Engineering

Greenhorne & O'Mara

Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson

NMP Engineering Consultants

Phoenix Engineering

Wallace, Montgomery & Associates

Whitney, Bailey, Cox & Magnani

Patron Sponsors:

A. Morton Thomas & Associates

AB Consultants

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Century Engineering

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EBL Engineers

KCI Technologies

Michael Baker Corporation

Rowles & Company, LLP, Certified Public Accountants

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ORGANIZATIONAL REPRESENTATION AT WORK, BUT WE CAN'T DO IT ALONE!

Midway through the 2013 General Assembly session over 2,300 pieces of legislation have been introduced. Regarding transportation funding, there have been proposals from the Senate leadership that includes:

- Applying a three-percent sales tax on gasoline;
- Allowing local governments to add up to 5-cents to the state's 23.5-cents per gallon gas tax;
- A study of privatizing the ICC;
- Creation of regional districts that could impose taxes for the construction of major transit projects.

Unfortunately, with the exception of legislation that would vastly improve the Public-Private Partnership (P3) process in the state, there has not been an approach to transportation funding that has been embraced by the governor and the leadership of the General Assembly. There also has yet to be full agreement on a bill that would establish a lock box on the state's Transportation Trust Fund.

At a recent meeting with a member of the House leadership, ACEC/MD representatives were briefed by a young staffer developing possible solutions to the state's transportation funding dilemma. Solutions presented included increasing vehicle registration for hybrid and electric vehicles and a potential gas tax increase. Unbelievably, the person crafting legislation to increase funding had not even reviewed the recommendations, from the Governor's Blue Ribbon Commission on Transportation Funding! Fortunately, ACEC/MD was able to offer recommendations prior to a meeting that was going to be held with the governor later that day.

Another important initiative that will directly impact the profession is a bill that would require firms providing engineering services to obtain a permit. As you probably recall last year ACEC/MD strongly opposed legislation that would have created the permit requirement.

Appreciating the Board of Professional Engineers' desire for enforcement powers and the fact that a large majority of states currently require permits, ACEC/MD's Legislative Committee agreed to sit down with members of the Board over the summer to craft firm permitting legislation. After being given a reasonable opportunity to work with the PE Board to craft legislation that would both protect the citizens of Maryland and not have a negative impact on engineering firms, legislation has been developed that ACEC/MD can support. The compromise legislation requires firms to identify a managing agent that has an administrative role within the firm. To further remove individual liability, at ACEC/MD's insistence, all reference to responsible charge was also eliminated from the draft legislation.

Both the ACEC/MD leadership and Legislative Committee members continue to dialogue with members of the General Assembly and regulatory bodies to improve the business climate for our firms. But they can't do it alone. It is imperative, now more than ever, that member firm representatives contact their elected officials to demonstrate support for important issues impacting your firm. And if you have not already done so, please request that your employees provide their legislative districts to the ACEC/MD office. In the very near future Legislative Alerts will be issued, and we need to know constituents that can target key legislators.

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RELEASE OF SHA DESIGN-BUILD MANUAL AND SHA ROUND-ABOUT GEOMETRIC GUIDELINES

On February 4th, the ACEC/MD office received the following information from Lisa B. Choplin, Chief, Innovative Contracting Division, Maryland State Highway Administration.

On January 23rd, SHA issued a revised Design-Build Manual. This is the first time that the manual is being made available outside of SHA. The manual has been developed to provide comprehensive guidance for the management, production, and administration of design-build projects. It encompasses the major phases in the development and execution of a design-build project including; an introduction to design-build, the procurement process, preliminary engineering, and project execution. The manual is available on SHA's website at the following link, <http://www.roads.maryland.gov/Index.aspx?PagelId=689&d=5>.

Also, in October of 2012, SHA issued new Roundabout Geometric Guidelines which adopted the NCHRP Report 672 "Roundabouts: An Informational Guide" Second Edition as our Roundabout Design Guideline. SHA's guidelines are considered a supplement to the NCHRP Report 672 and is intended to document SHA's approach to the design of roundabouts. All current and future roundabout design projects are to follow the guidance that is provided in the SHA guidelines. The guidelines can be found at <http://www.roads.maryland.gov/Index.aspx?PagelId=689&d=5>.

Any questions regarding the Design-Build Manual can be directed to Lisa Choplin at 410-545-8824 or lchoplin@sha.state.md.us. If there are any questions or comments pertaining to the Roundabout Design Guidelines, please contact Mr. Eric Marabello, Chief, Design Technical Services Division at 410-545-8770 or at emarabello@sha.state.md.us.

NEW MEMBERS

The following firm has been elected to Affiliate Membership in ACEC/MD:

AEG ENVIRONMENTAL

P. O. Box 286

Westminster, MD 21158

Phone: 410-876-0764; FAX: 410-876-5641

Contact: Eric Deane edeane@aegenviro.com

Brief History and Activities of the Firm: Founded in 1995, AEG Environmental is a full service environmental management company, delivering a variety of environmental products and services. Their staff includes Certified Hazardous Materials Managers, Certified Industrial Hygienists, Underground Tank Technicians, and Hazardous Materials Technicians. The firm provides products and services such as: waste disposal for drum disposal, labpacking services and vacuum tanker services; field services including industrial cleaning, tank cleaning and removal as well as all types of site remediation; emergency response to all types of chemical spills including mercury and biological materials; training and consulting, which includes a variety of OSHA, EPA and DOT approved courses; and a complete line of absorbent products and spill kits.

We welcome this firm as an Affiliate Member of ACEC/MD. Be sure to add their information to your records. The next time you see one of their representatives, please take the time to let them know we're glad that they have joined the Council!

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MEMBER NEWS

AB CONSULTANTS has relocated their office to:
7020 Tudsbury Rd.
Windsor Mill, MD 21244

The firm's other contact information remains the same.

A.D. MARBLE & COMPANY has announced that they have moved their office to:
10451 Mill Run Circle, Suite 400
Owings Mills MD 21117-5594

The firm's other contact information remains unchanged.

With more than 30 years of experience in both the public and private sectors, **Lynne Putnam, PE** recently joined **DEWBERRY's** Baltimore office as a senior project manager.

EA ENGINEERING, SCIENCE, AND TECHNOLOGY, INC. recently announced the following:

-**William (Bill) Goodfellow**, Vice President and Senior Scientist, has started his one-year term as World Council President of the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC).

-**Lauren Kristofco**, a Master's student at Baylor University, is the recipient of the 15th annual SETA/EA Jeff Black Fellowship Award. This award, named for long-time EA employee Dr. Jeffrey Black, acknowledges the accomplishments of Master's level students in an environmental or engineering program.

EBL ENGINEERS, LLC is pleased to announce the recent licensure of **Jamie Raithel, LEED AP**, **Tony Jondo**, and **Brian Vandervort**.

GANNETT FLEMING recently announced that *Engineering News Record* named the InterCounty Connector Contract B as its 2012 Best Transportation Project in the Mid-Atlantic Region. Along with **Parsons Transportation Group**, the firm provided highway, bridge, traffic, and geotechnical engineering services to the project.

GREENHORNE AND O'MARA, INC. is pleased to announce that the firm has been acquired by **STANTEC**, a North American design and consulting firm with more than 190 locations that provide private and public sector clients with services in planning, engineering, architecture, landscape architecture, surveying, environmental sciences, project management, and project economics for infrastructure and facilities projects.

HAKS ENGINEERING, INC. has named **Gazan Bozai, Ph.D.** as the firm's new ACEC/MD representative.

SABRA, WANG & ASSOCIATES is pleased to announce the appointment of **Richard Brink, PE**, as Senior Group Manager in their Structural Engineering Department. He brings to the firm over 25 years of infrastructure design and management experience.

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*MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND PLAN TO ATTEND ACEC/MD'S
25TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE*



**ACEC/MD
25th Annual
Conference**

Save The Date!

June 26-28, 2013



Tentative Schedule for Conference

Wednesday, June 26, 2013

- 3:00 PM Executive Committee Meeting
- 6:00 PM Welcome Reception

Thursday, June 27, 2013

- 9:00 AM Golf or Spouses/Non-Golfers Tour
- 7:00 PM Reception/Dinner

Friday, June 28, 2013

- 9:00 AM Sessions
- 11:30 AM General Membership Luncheon
- 2:00 PM Leadership Program
- 6:00 PM Reception/Banquet

ALL EVENTS ARE TENTATIVE

The Tides Inn

Irvington, VA

Room reservation deadline

May 17, 2013

(For special room rates, mention the
ACEC/MD conference.)

The Tides Inn, 480 King Carter Drive, Irvington, VA 22480

Reservations 804-438-5000; Toll Free 800-843-3746

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OFFICERS**President**

Leon Kriebel, P.E.
WBCM

Vice President

Jack Moeller, P.E.
Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson

Secretary

Art Barrett, P.E.
Gannett Fleming

Treasurer

Dana Knight, P.E.
McCormick Taylor

ACEC Representatives**Director**

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

Alternate Director

Jeff McBride, P.E.
EBL Engineers

ACEC/MD Directors**2010-2013**

Jim Blake, P.E.
Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson
Stu Robinson, P.E.
A. Morton Thomas & Assoc.

2011-2014

Beverly Pannee
RJM Engineering
Jerry Jannetti, P.E.
Parsons Brinckerhoff

2012-2015

Alan Straus, P.E.
URS Corporation
Stuart Taub, P.E.
Wallace, Montgomery & Assoc.

Executive Director

Jim Otradovec

SEEKING EMPLOYMENT

The following individuals are seeking employment and have a complete resume on file in the ACEC/MD office. Please phone 410-539-1592 if you are interested in obtaining a copy.

1. Virginia Tech graduate with both a Masters in Engineering Mechanics (2013) and Bachelors in Engineering Science and Mechanics (May 2012) seeks position

2. Individual with 15 years of experience seeks position as a Civil Engineer/Construction Inspector in the field of Building Construction/Maintenance or Waste Water Treatment.

46TH ANNUAL "AFTERNOON AT THE CLUB"

Monday, May 6, 2013

Rain or Shine!

Greystone Golf Course
2115 White Hall Road, White Hall

LUNCH - 11:30 AM

GOLF - Shotgun Start 1:00 PM

COCKTAILS - 6:00 PM

DINNER - 7:00 PM

Deadline for Reservations – April 22, 2013!
Watch for complete details & registration form.

SAVE THE DATE!

JUNE 26-28, 2013

ACEC/MD 25TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
THE TIDES INN
IRVINGTON, VA

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

contact:

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ACEC/MD 2012
Engineering Excellence
Grand Award winning
entry The Mary
Catherine Bunting
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