From the Executive Director of ACEC/NC:

Our new administrative year kicked off on July 1st and was celebrated at our Annual Summer Conference at the Grove Park Inn in Asheville, NC on August 9-12, 2018. It was a record gathering starting with our opening reception at the Biltmore Village and culminating with a record ACEC/PAC Auction on Saturday evening. In between the sessions were informative and topical with numerous opportunities to network with colleagues and friends. At our Friday evening banquet we graduated 22 Future Leaders and installed this year’s Board of Directors and Officers. And of course, there was plenty of time to relax and have fun in the greater Asheville area. Next year, we will back at Wrightsville Beach to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of ACEC/NC with special guest Linda Bauer Darr, the new President and CEO of ACEC. You won’t want to miss this great event!

We have a busy Fall line-up coming your way with our largest event the Joint Transportation Conference with NCDOT on September 17-18, 2018 at the Raleigh Convention Center. This event is already SOLD OUT and promises to be the biggest and best ever! On October 2nd, the Buildings and Infrastructure Symposium kicks off at the Harner Conference Center in RTP with a focus on Economic Development in North Carolina and the upcoming mid-term elections. Don’t forget to submit your best projects for our Annual Engineering Excellence Awards competition, culminating with the annual EEA Gala on November 8, 2018 at 214 Martin in downtown Raleigh. In December, we wrap up the calendar year with our Annual Membership Reception, Casino Night and ACEC/PAC Auction to benefit our Federal PAC.

Speaking of PAC’s, ACEC NC PAC, our new State PAC has been hard at work raising funds to help re-elect legislators to the North Carolina General Assembly that are critical to the success of our legislative agenda. This past short session was highlighted by passage of the critical “Build NC Bond Act” that will allow the NCDOT to continue with accelerated project delivery with the potential to request up to $300 million in additional funding per year for 10 years ($3 billion maximum) to help fund Regional and Local projects. ACEC NC PAC is hosting several receptions to honor those legislators that worked tirelessly to get this legislation passed. It is time for us to support their campaigns and return them to NCGA.

The work on long-term infrastructure funding is not complete and these representatives and senators are keys to that on-going effort. Please see the announcements later in this issue of the NC Report and come out and help us support their re-election efforts. If we don’t do it, then who will?

Thanks for all your continued support. The staff of ACEC/NC is here to serve you and make your membership in the organization a truly valuable experience.

James A. Smith, P.E.
Executive Director, ACEC/NC

Contact ACEC/NC: 919-781-7934 or info@acecnc.org
Dear Colleagues -

July was an eventful month for the Council - most notably, the Board approved Linda Bauer Darr as my successor beginning August 6. Engineering Inc. will carry a feature on her in the September/October issue. The Council awarded a $100k Minuteman grant to California to defeat an egregious infrastructure funding repeal measure - part of ACEC’s continuing emphasis on securing infrastructure investment nationwide; and we welcomed House T&I Committee Chairman Shuster’s comprehensive draft infrastructure bill which includes a 15 cent gas tax increase.

Ms. Darr previously served as CEO of the American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association (ASLRRRA), a position she has held for the past four years, Darr also led the American Moving & Storage Association (AMSA) as CEO from 2007-2014. Prior to that, served in senior positions at the American Bus Association and the American Trucking Associations (ATA). In addition, she was U.S. deputy assistant secretary of transportation for budget and programs in the Clinton Administration. She began her career with the engineering firm EG&G.

ACEC Chair Manish Kothari, who presided over the Board meeting, said “Linda is a team builder and thought leader, and will be a fierce defender of our industry and Council.”

“She is the right person for the job,” said Raymond, who is working with her on the transition. The September/October issue of Engineering Inc. magazine will feature an in-depth interview with Darr.

Dave

PRESIDENT’S MONTHLY UPDATE
August 1, 2018

General

ACEC/California was awarded a $100,000 Minuteman Fund grant to help support the MO’s efforts to defeat a November 2018 ballot measure that would roll back state infrastructure funding of $52 billion over ten years that was enacted in 2017.

House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee Chairman Bill Shuster unveiled draft infrastructure legislation that would increase gas and diesel taxes by 15 and 20 cents respectively over three years and index them to inflation, boost funding and financing options for water infrastructure, and streamline environmental compliance.

Government Advocacy

ACEC-AASHTO Audit subcommittee agreed to develop a joint educational session to improve coordination between DOT auditors and contract officers on treatment of costs and development of standard financial submittal packages for audits.
Reports & Updates

Summer Conference, 2018

Lots of nice kudos all over the twittersphere for our departing President and Directors, for our New Board, and our Future Leaders Graduates installed and recognized at this ACEC/NC Annual Event!

For the weekend of August 9, 2018 - August 12, 2018 Our members Escaped to the North Carolina Mountains for this Engineering Summer Conference hosted by ACEC/NC. This annual event as the perfect opportunity to network with engineering professionals from around the state, earn professional development hours and vacation with family.
The Federal Agencies and Procurement Advocacy Committee presented examples of well executed federal procurement contracts to officials from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) as templates for future contracts.

Joined with a coalition of employer organizations to support legislation delaying the imposition of the health insurance tax on traditional health insurance plans; Congress has already acted to lift the tax for 2019, and the House of Representatives has approved legislation to suspend the tax for 2020 and 2021.

The International Committee heard from officials of the Departments of State and Commerce and the World Bank’s Global Infrastructure Facility (GIF) on efforts to improve overseas prospects for U.S. engineering firms.

Endorsed the Flood Mapping Modernization and Homeowner Empowerment Pilot Program Act of 2018, which will create a demonstration grant program to deploy innovative mapping technologies to more accurately assess flood risks, especially in urban areas located outside of the traditional regulatory floodplains.

Met with the EPA Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation on “Remedial Acquisition Framework” implementation.

Signed-on to an industry letter to President Trump urging action to fill a vacancy on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

ACEC/Connecticut made its ACEC/PAC goal for the thirteenth straight year, joining Indiana, Hawaii, Wisconsin, Georgia, Montana, Tennessee, South Carolina, Massachusetts and Connecticut as states at goal for 2018.

ACEC/PAC hosted congressional events for Senator Dean Heller (R-NV) and Representatives Earl Blumenauer (D-OR), Rodney Davis (R-IL), Greg Gianforte (R-MT), Rick Larsen (D-WA); and Democratic Members of the tax-writing House Ways & Means Committee.

Business Resources

With more than 32 participants, July’s most popular online class, *Up, Up and Away - M&A Trends, Tactics and Outlook for Engineering Firms*, helped members assess the current M&A environment, typical deal structures, valuation trends, and what’s driving buyers and sellers.

ACEC’s new *Private Industry Briefs* will publish its second issue (August/September 2018) on July 31, focusing on the intermodal and logistics market including details on top clients, significant market trends, and relevant current legislation and policy.


**RCEP** added a new approved provider, L. F. Driscoll Company LLC, bringing the total number of approved providers up to 162.

August webinars will include: *Email – The 7 Deadly Sins; Neuroselling: Engage the Brain to Trigger the Buy; Taking your Board to the Next Level; Business Continuity Planning to Protect Property, People, and Profits; It’s Over Before It Starts (How to Position Your Firm to Win Before the RFP Comes Out); Making Money - Scope and Design Budget Management; Go-Go Procedures/Project Evaluation; Working Effectively on Multidisciplinary Projects as a Civil Engineer.*

###
Gary Hartong, PE Becomes President of ACEC-NC

The Wooten Company is pleased to announce that Vice President, Gary Hartong, PE, is now the President of the American Council of Engineering Companies of North Carolina (ACEC-NC)! ACEC is the only group in North Carolina that represents the business interests of engineering firms across the State so we couldn’t be more excited to see how Gary’s leadership continues to extend the influence of ACEC-NC’s legislative advocacy and business services. We sat down to chat with Gary about what this honor means to him and what he hopes to accomplish during his time as President.

What does being President of ACEC-NC mean to you?

Serving as President of this organization means that I am afforded the opportunity to surround myself with some of the most-talented engineering leadership in the State and in the consulting engineering industry. Having top-notch leadership in place at the Board and Committee levels will ensure that our industry is not only protected from all sides but is advancing forward on multiple fronts. Administrative support from our organization’s staff will also make sure our organization’s objectives are seamlessly executed. Honestly, it’s an opportunity that I never expected would be obtainable when I became involved with this organization 8 years ago through its Future Leaders Program. I will undoubtedly grow both professionally and personally. Just like L.E. Wooten, Sr. was excited to serve as the first President of ACEC-NC in 1968-69, I am also eager to serve this organization as President during our upcoming 50th anniversary.

What do you feel is the biggest advantage that ACEC-NC offers to its members?

The mission of ACEC-NC is to promote the interests of engineering companies through legislative and business services. Our Board and Committee leadership advocates on National and State issues to make our firms more efficient, more profitable and more desirable places to work. To achieve this, our committees have worked hard to develop close working relationships with our State agencies, North Carolina General Assembly and U.S. Congress to promote sound business policies. Being an active, committed ACEC-NC member adds to our collective voice.

What has ACEC-NC done that you are most proud of?

In May 2017, ACEC-NC was the first ACEC state organization to establish an independent expenditure account - namely Engineering Companies for North Carolina (ECNC). ECNC is a non-profit mechanism to allow our member firms to make financial contributions to advocate for or against State or Federal initiatives that directly influence our businesses. While ECNC funds cannot be used to contribute to an individual election campaign, funds may be used for advertising, voter outreach or educational event hosting. ECNC complements our existing State Political Action Committee.

What is the number one thing on your to-do list while serving as President?

My number one goal during my tenure is to establish relationships with the NC Department of Environmental Quality and NC State Construction Office equivalent to the close relationship that we have developed with Secretary Trogdon and the NC Department of Transportation. Of course, this will not happen overnight, but ACEC-NC desires to be regarded as both a business partner and technical resource for these State departments that many of our member firms work with on a daily basis.

Committees and Forums 2018-2019

ACEC/NC Committees and Forums are one of the most important benefits to our members. Each group has a Board nominated Chair and Vice-Chair who are selected each year from the active participants. Your entire staff can be involved. Following are the Committees’ and Forums’ Board Liaisons:

Click the Committee or Forum name to go to the Descriptions on our website:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>COMMITTEE/FORUM</th>
<th>BOARD LIASON</th>
<th>CHAIR</th>
<th>VICE CHAIR</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Buildings &amp; Infrastructure</td>
<td>Brian Glidewell</td>
<td>Eddie Brock</td>
<td>Eric Olsen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Business Practices</td>
<td>Mike Slusher</td>
<td>Greg Sallee</td>
<td>Justine D’Andrea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental &amp; Energy</td>
<td>Amit Sachan</td>
<td>Joe Starr (ACEC/NC Co-Chair)</td>
<td>Tom Bach (PENC Co-Chair)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Future Leaders Program</td>
<td>Derek Clyburn</td>
<td>Jessica McClure</td>
<td>Steve Browde</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legislative Committee</td>
<td>Scott Hinesley</td>
<td>Jeremy Potter</td>
<td>Jay Barr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Leaders Forum</td>
<td>Monty Irvin</td>
<td>Valoree Eikinas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>Liz Phipps</td>
<td>Jason Peterson</td>
<td>Keith Skinner (Design)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Welcome our Newest Council Member

THE ACEC/NC BOARD has welcomed the following new members:

WRA
www.wrallp.com
Raleigh

GEL Engineering of North Carolina
www.gel.com/gel-solutions
Raleigh

Arcadis G & M of North Carolina Inc.
www.acradis.com
Raleigh

Contact ACEC/NC: 919-781-7934 or info@acecnc.org
2018 ACEC NC PAC, ACEC/PAC, ECNC

ACEC/PAC (NATIONAL PAC) –

Did you know that ACEC/PAC is the nation’s only political organization looking out for engineering firms and their legislative interests? It plays an essential role in the success of ACEC’s advocacy program, supporting federal candidates on a bipartisan basis who support the engineering industry’s agenda in Congress.

North Carolina has achieved its PAC fundraising goal for 6 consecutive years. So far this year, we have raised $17,320 toward our goal of $34,390 (50%). This shortfall represents $83 per member firm or $2.00 per employee.

Please help us achieve our goal for a 7th consecutive year by visiting https://acec.aristotle.com/SitePages/contribute.aspx and making a general contribution now.

If you need additional information about the PAC, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Thank you!
Scott Hinesley, PE
ACEC PAC Champion
shinesley@reiengineers.com

ENGINEERING COMPANIES FOR NORTH CAROLINA (ECNC)

ECNC, our Independent Expenditure entity, continues to monitor proposed legislation, specifically the “Build NC Bond Act” with an eye towards support. We have also continued to meet with NCGA leadership and key legislative and political leaders on new initiatives that favor our industry. A huge THANK YOU to each firm that contributed to ECNC over the past 6 months to get our fundraising efforts off the ground.

ACEC/NC PAC (STATE PAC)


On June 28th, ACEC/NC hosted a reception to celebrate the passage of “Build NC,” a critical transportation infrastructure financing tool.

Replacing similar programs like TIGER, “Build NC” will be available for roads, bridges, transit, rail, ports, or intermodal transportation. In contrast, the BUILD program will award a greater portion of money to projects in rural areas of the country.

[READ MORE]
RCI Inc. today announced that the U.S. House of Representatives has passed legislative language that addresses the ill-advised proliferation of cooperative purchasing and the misuse of multiple award schedules for procuring construction renovation projects that involve Federal funds.

CALYX is excited to announce that we are now an @NV5_inc company. This next step for CALYX will enhance our ability to provide solutions for our clients and provide new opportunities and resources for our employees. Read more: bit.ly/2o6XIXG
The Triangle is currently experiencing a period of tremendous growth. There seem to be new buildings popping up on every block. How is this growth affecting the commercial and housing markets, and in turn, the broader economy? Is our infrastructure keeping pace with our growth? Is this growth translating into new job opportunities? And how will the mid-term elections affect it all? Explore these and other questions with expert panelists from the Office, Industrial, Retail and Residential market sectors and the political arena at the 2018 ACEC/NC B&I Symposium.

**SYMPOSIUM AGENDA**

7:30 am - 8:30 am Breakfast & Networking

8:45 am - 10:15 am Commercial & Residential Market Economic Status Review & Forecast (1.5 PDH)
Panelists: Ryan Gaylord, Tri-Properties; Jack Graham, Avison Young; Jim Anthony, Colliers; Jim Allen, The Jim Allen Group

10:30 am - 11:30 am Political Forecast with John Davis, John Davis Consulting (1 PDH)

11:30 am Adjourn

2018 Sponsorship Opportunities

Sponsorship of the ACEC/NC B&I Symposium provides your firm the ability to enhance its image with industry professionals from across the state. Click below for a list of sponsorship opportunities that will demonstrate your support and affiliate your firm with the ACEC/NC B&I Symposium.
Dear Members:

You are cordially invited to two events you should not miss!

Click on the invitations to download them to your device. Enter these dates in your calendar - You Don’t Want to Miss These Opportunities!

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**Join Hosts Sam Ravenel and Tony Withers for a Reception**

**Rep. Scott Stone, P.E.**
North Carolina House of Representatives, District 105

**Wednesday, September 5, 2018**
6:00pm – 7:30pm

Caffé Luna
136 E Hargett Street
Downtown Raleigh, NC 27601

Chair: $5,200  Host: $2,500  Friend: $1,000  Individual: $500
Guest Attendance: $50

Food and drinks will be provided.
Please RSVP to Kristine at (704) 412-7855 or kristine@kzrllc.com.

Please make checks payable to “Committee to Elect Scott Stone” or contribute online at:

[www.electscottstone.com/donate](http://www.electscottstone.com/donate)

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**Committee to Elect Scott Stone**
P.O. Box 79331
Charlotte, NC 28271

Contributions  are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes.

Contributions from corporations, labor unions, trade associations, professional associations and political committees are prohibited, as individuals may contribute $5,200 per election cycle.

Contributions may be paid by check or credit card. No cash, money orders, or third-party checks accepted. All contributions are final and non-refundable.

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**Rabon for Senate Committee – 404 W. Brunswick St. Southport, NC 28461**

Citizens to Elect Kathy Harrington – PO Box 6223 Gastonia, NC 28056

**ACEC/NC’s - NC (State) PAC**

Cordially invites you to attend a Reception in Honor and Support of

**Senators**

**Bill Rabon and Kathy Harrington**

**Tuesday, September 25, 2018**
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

**18 Seaboard**
18 Seaboard Ave, Raleigh NC 27604

**Contributions of Equal Amount to EACH Committee are requested in the following amounts:**

Host $1,000 EACH ($2,000 Total)
Co-Host $500 EACH ($1,000 Total)
Sponsor $250 EACH ($500 Total)
Friend $100 EACH ($200 Total)

**For Further Information or to RSVP Please Contact:**

RSVP: marissa@ncstatesenate.com (919) 601-9016
INFO/Questions: mirvin@rameykemp.com - (919) 302-3825

Personal and/or PAC checks should be payable to:

Rabon for Senate Committee – 404 W. Brunswick St. Southport, NC 28461
Citizens to Elect Kathy Harrington – PO Box 6223 Gastonia, NC 28056
MEMBER FEEDBACK SOUGHT ON U.S. TREASURY’S PROPOSED PASSTHROUGH TAX DEDUCTION RULE

Following the release of the first proposed rule for the new Section 199A passthrough tax deduction, ACEC is preparing to submit comments to the U.S. Treasury and Internal Revenue Service and is seeking input from Member Firms on the rule’s impact.

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act lowered the corporate tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent and created the Section 199A 20 percent tax deduction for passthrough firms, including S corporations, partnerships, and LLCs. Advocacy by ACEC and Member Firms resulted in engineering and architecture being fully eligible for the deduction.

Additional rules are anticipated, but this first regulation provides significant information for taxpayers claiming the deduction. Contact ACEC Director of Tax & Regulatory Affairs Katharine Mottley to provide feedback on the proposed rule.

James Smith attended the NC Delegation luncheon as a guest of Rep. Virginia Foxx with other members of the North Carolina delegation and House Speaker Paul Ryan at the Umstead Hotel.

NC Delegation members included Virginia Foxx, Patrick McHenry, David Rouzer, and George Holding. There were representatives of industry, including Art Pope, Jim Goodnight, SAS, NC Farm Bureau, and ACEC/NC. I was in rare company with no more than about 20 individuals. I made sure to thank the Speaker for Tax Reform and our participation in the business tax deduction, and for House passage of the WRDA and FAA reauthorization bills.

On other infrastructure issues, he mentioned that they really want to get the regulatory reform portion of an overall bill done this session. His prediction was that since this House has passed over 400 bills that are awaiting Senate action, Mitch McConnell will keep the Senate in session through August to act on many of those bills. Rep. Foxx suggested I get a list of all the Regulations they have rescinded, along with action taken by Executive Order.

Jim Smith
Executive Director, ACEC/NC
919-830-9631 (mobile)