

May 2014

Upcoming ACEC/NC Events & Activities

Legislative Golf Tournament
June 19th, 2014
Crooked Creek Golf Course

ACEC/NC "Camp Grove" Summer Conference
July 11-13, 2014
Grove Park Inn
Asheville, NC

...for more details visit the ACEC/NC website!

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Economic Development Breakfast



On May 13th, the Economic Development Committee sponsored a presentation in Charlotte delivered by Ronnie Bryant, President and CEO of the Charlotte Regional Partnership. The topic was the economic impact of the Light Rail in Charlotte. Mr. Bryant said that the Light Rail was only one component of Charlotte's 2025 Integrated Transit Plan which also includes commuter rail, street cars and other transportation improvements. He also reviewed the current status of the system: opening in November 2007, completion of 9.7 miles of line and 15 stations at the cost of \$465 million as well as \$50 million of companion investment.

Future planned improvements include the Blue, Gold, Red and Silver lines and by 2035 these lines will facilitate \$10.8 billion in transient oriented development (32, 800 residential units, 10.3 million square feet of office space, and 6.2 million square feet of retail space) and related jobs and tax revenue.

This event provided member firms in the Charlotte area with an opportunity to network and to hear of potential business development opportunities from one of the nation's most successful economic development professionals.

- Steve Player, The Wooten Company

2014 "Camp Grove" Summer Conference



"Rough-it" at This Year's Summer Conference ACEC/NC has decided to change things up a bit and head West to the Mountains for our Annual Summer Conference, Camp Grove. The Grove Park Inn in Asheville will host our weekend's events and offer a picturesque background for the festivities. This beautiful resort is situated just outside of downtown Asheville and has loads to offer for its guests from golf, a world-class spa, in-house shopping and a variety of dining options, as well as close proximity to the Biltmore Estate.

The conference educational sessions will kick-off first thing Friday morning. We will dig into a great program of topics to help enhance your business and expand your repertoire managerial skills.

We are also delighted to have our A/E Marketing expert **David Stone** with us for the program and to bring a dynamic keynote for Friday night's banquet.

This year, we are also offering two optional outings to help you take in more of what Asheville has to offer. For those coming in on Thursday afternoon, we will be going out on a Microbrewery tour. Accents on Asheville have arranged to take participating guests to and from the resort on a luxury motor coach into downtown Asheville to visit three microbreweries for tours and tastings!

On Saturday, we are offering a family fun outing to the Tree Tops Adventure Park. Enjoy your afternoon up in the trees taking on a series of ropes challenges and zip lining

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Positions Available

For more information on these job postings and how to apply, please refer to the jobs board on the ACEC/NC website at www.acecnc.org/jobs.aspx.

•
Mulkey is seeking a **Transportation Designer Engineer Intern & a Transportation Engineer Intern**

•
Kleinfelder is seeking a **civil engineer** in our Raleigh office

•
McAdams is seeking **WRI Project Manager, WRI Assistant Project Manager & WRI Designer**

•
Summit Design is seeking a **Survey Party Chief**

•
CDM Smith is looking for a **marketing writer**

•
McCormick Taylor is seeking a **Traffic Engineer, Water Resource Engineer and a Highway Engineer**

To have your company's open positions included in the next NC Report, email info@acecnc.org

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excitement. This outing will be fun for all ages and give you an opportunity to get outside and enjoy the mountain air!

We will wrap up our program Saturday night with our Summer ACEC/PAC Auction and Reception. Come ready for a little healthy competition bidding on your favorite silent auction items and not-as-healthy indulgence of roasting marshmallows. What better way to end the day than with s'mores?

If you have never made it to the Conference before, you won't want to miss out this year!

The conference is a great educational opportunity but it also offers a wonderful balance of time to network and get to know some of your fellow ACEC/NC members.

Join us to "rough-it" ACEC style and sign-up today for Camp Grove!

To REGISTER CLICK HERE

2013-2014 Consulting Congress Day

Nearly 30 ACEC/NC members and firm leaders descended on Washington, DC to advocate for critical issues with the North Carolina Congressional delegation on April 29 & 30, 2014.



ACEC/NC Members on Capital Hill

This is an important election year and you can be assured that ACEC/NC will be contacting and supporting candidates that represent our issues. To summarize the three national initiatives:

- Long-Term Sustainable Transportation Investment – Infrastructure is the backbone of the US economy. ACEC is pushing hard for a solution to the Highway Trust Fund Crisis and for Congress to enact a long-term reauthorization of Highway and a Transit programs.
- Water Resources Development Act-Passed by both the House and Senate by wide margins, and ACEC is pushing for bipartisan support of the Conference Committee Report.
- Tax Reform and Job Creation- ACEC supports an approach to tax reform that treats all business structures equally.

As this is an election year, we anticipate the WRDA Bill will pass, and Congress will address the Highway Trust Fund Crisis. However, Tax Reform and a Long-term Transportation Funding Bill are given little hope of being addressed until after the November elections.

ACEC/NC Welcomes Our Newest Members!

Dieffenbauch & Hritz

IMAGINiT Technologies
(Affiliate/Supplier)

McCormick and Taylor, Inc.

Mead & Hunt

**NCDOT – Office of Equal
Opportunity & Workforce
Services** (Affiliate/Supplier)

Know someone who might like to join ACEC/NC? Have them contact us at info@acecnc.org or visit our [website](http://www.acecnc.org) for more information.

Good Luck Erika!



It is with much sadness, but also much excitement that we announce that Erika Post has decided to leave ACEC/NC and return to the missions field in England later this year. Erika has been a tremendous resource and proponent of who and what we are and has supported ACEC/NC completely. She held down the fort during a very difficult transition period last year and helped ACEC/NC to continue rolling with very little interruption. Erika will be here through May and will hopefully attend the Summer Conference in July. I know you join us in wishing her God Speed and the very best as she embarks on a new adventure!

Legislative Update - North Carolina

The General Assembly re-convened on May 14th for the Short Legislative Session. Leaders in both houses have indicated that beyond amending the budget and teacher pay raises there is not much else that will be addressed. However, there are items that must be acted upon before adjournment. There is a budget shortfall and Medicaid overruns that need to be dealt with, as well as Coal Ash Clean-up Legislation. The Governor has presented his Coal Ash Clean-up Plan but it does not appear to align with House or Senate plans. The Tax Reform study committee has recommended elimination of the privilege tax that some municipalities currently assess on businesses. The proposal would cap this at \$100 per annum. In addition, the draft bill on Energy Modernization (Fracking) would cap the property tax collection rate at 8%. Finally, House Leadership (with Tom Tillis running for US Senate) is unsettled leading to strained relations with the NC Senate leadership.

Continuing Regulatory Reform changes proposed by the ERC will be watched closely, as well as an effort to re-instate the 2009 Energy Conservation Code (House Bill 201) which is opposed by AIA/NC. A bill to revise certain sections of HB857 (DB/P3/QBS legislation) which was passed last year will further define the Contractor Pre-Qualification process as it relates to Design-Build and QBS provisions. Finally, with the transportation shortfall there is always the possibility that transportation funds will be diverted to the General Fund to help close the revenue shortfall gap.

Rest assured ACEC/NC and the design community will be monitoring these situations closely and will oppose any further reductions to programs that impact engineering projects.

-Jim Smith, Executive Director, ACEC/NC

EPAC Welcomes Representative Josh Stein



Sen. Josh Stein at EPAC Luncheon

With the pending start of the Legislative Short Session and the ongoing election campaign, E-PAC welcomed Senator Josh Stein to speak at our luncheon on May 13, 2014. Senator Stein is the Minority Whip in the senate and spoke about the issues he feels are critical to North Carolina's future. He spoke of how North Carolina's rich natural resources and what it means to our citizens and the state economy as what motivates his efforts related to the environment. Sen. Stein also spoke to North Carolina's challenge during the short session and the pressure on the budget from both directions. During the long session the legislature took action regarding tax cuts, which he feels specifically benefited the wealthy, and which has

led to our current budget shortfall. At the same time he feels we are faced with many challenges tied to education; specifically teacher's wages. Senator Stein shared several statistics regarding teachers either leaving the profession or relocating to other states including South Carolina and Georgia. He also stressed the value and importance of a strong public education for which skilled, dedicated and appropriately compensated teachers are key. Senator Stein also emphasized the importance in investing in our infrastructure, which has a direct impact on the State's environment and economy.

Please remember that your participation in and support of E-PAC benefits the engineering profession in North Carolina and allows us to support business-friendly candidates. Our future literally depends on supportive legislators who understand the importance of the private sector and the influence of a well-maintained infrastructure on our economy.

**Committee Spotlight:
Legislative Committee**



ACEC/NC Legislative Committee

Invite you to play in the
ACEC/PAC Fundraiser Golf Tournament!

June 19, 2014
Crooked Creek Golf Course
4621 Shady Greens Drive
Fuquay Varina, NC 27526

Registration begins at 12 noon

Tee Time is 1:00pm

Registration includes:

Complimentary box lunch and beverage tickets

Raffle prizes

Option to purchase 3 pack adventures-Mulligan, Throw, Tee Buster

5pm Reception and trophy ceremony

For more information and to register for this event:

Click here

Sponsorship Opportunities!

ACEC occasionally has special opportunities for our member firms to sponsor events or advertise with us. There are a couple of options right now. Take a look at what is available and where you feel your company can shine!

2014 Summer Conference



2014-2015 ACEC/NC Membership Directory

421 FourHills Blvd, Suite 2112 • Raleigh, NC 27605 • Tel: (919) 794-7934 • Fax: (919) 794-7522



2014 Summer ACEC/PAC Auction



ACEC National Recognition Awards April 29, 2014-Washington, D.C.

Cavanaugh & Associates

On April 29th, 2014 at the Engineering Excellence Gala, the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) presented a National Recognition Award in Engineering Excellence to Cavanaugh & Associates, P.A. for the Statewide Water Audit Training Program developed and implemented in the State of Georgia. This 2014 award comes on the heels of Cavanaugh's Engineering Excellence Award in 2013 in the field of Bioenergy. The winning program encompassed a 10-month progressive training approach uniquely designed for 100 small water systems and is setting a precedent by effectively personalizing group and regional training so each system can evaluate their own data, obtain follow-up assistance, have one-on-one interaction with trainers, and establish a mechanism for learning reinforcement once the program was complete. Cavanaugh selected CH2M HILL to team on this program which was financed through the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority and the Environmental Protection Division. The program resulted in 100% compliance of the participating systems with the state mandate for validated audit submittals.

Through the program each water utility learned industry best-practices for water loss accounting and methods for managing those losses in their systems. As water shortages and drought conditions continue to rise, the importance of water efficiency practices becomes increasingly inevitable. These 100 systems have now moved beyond attempting to measure performance by the outdated, imprecise and generally inherited term "Unaccounted for Water", and are embracing bench-marking and true indicators of performance.



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Welcome Nancy!



Arriving on May 20th as our new Office Administrator/Events Coordinator is Nancy Turchick.

Nancy has over 20 years of experience in the Office Administration, Events Planning, and Training arenas. She has worked for a number of organizations in the Triangle including Stock Building Supply, Dimension Data, Net App, TA Cook, and Red Hat.

A resident of Raleigh with her family, Nancy is a graduate of Wake Technical College and is a Human Resources Professional.

Please join us in welcoming Nancy to your ACEC/NC Staff Team!



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ACEC/NC EEA Grand Award Winner Vaughn & Melton Wins National Reconignation Award

Vaughn & Melton was asked by the NCDOT Division 13 staff to design a realignment of SR 1113, Hicks Grove Road, in Rutherford County. The new alignment would provide access off of US 221 to the Horsehead Corporation's new zinc processing and recycling plant, an important economic development project for the region. The new half-mile access road included a bridge over a mainline CSX railroad that can accommodate heavy vehicular access to the plant.

The key aspect of this project was an accelerated schedule. While the design phase alone on a project of this scale can usually take between 18 to 24 months, it was imperative that the road and bridge construction did not postpone the opening of the plant. This new state-of-the-art manufacturing facility will bring over 250 jobs and a \$400 million capital investment to one of North Carolina's most economically depressed counties.

Vaughn & Melton began work immediately, conducting field surveys, traffic counts, roadway and structural design, railroad coordination, hydraulic design, erosion control plans, traffic control plans, and pavement marking plans, all on an extremely accelerated schedule, necessitated by the fast-approaching plant opening. The bridge was specially designed for quick construction, utilizing all driven-pile foundations and side-by-side box beams for the superstructure, with asphalt overlay.

Vaughn & Melton received commendations from NCDOT for exceeding the critical schedule on this high-priority job. Despite significant project complexities, bridge and roadway plans were completed in an astonishing time of 4 months.

Legislative Day

Wednesday, May 28, 2014

AIA North Carolina

Center for Architecture & Design

14 E. Peace St.

Raleigh, NC 27604

9:00 am Registration

9:30 am Briefing: Legislative Updates &

Member Briefing on Issues

10:30 am Appointments: Head to Legislative Building for Appointments with Legislators

12:30 pm Lunch: Enjoy a Box Lunch & Back at CfAD.

[Click here to Register](#)



Member Firms in the News

Dewberry

Dewberry, a privately held professional services firm, has promoted **Robert “Skip” Notte, PE, LEED AP**, to vice president in the Charlotte, North Carolina, office. He has more than 17 years of experience in the preparation of engineering studies and technical specifications, along with the design, utility coordination, and construction administration of water, sewer, land development, municipal, and civil engineering projects. He has worked on numerous projects for both public- and private-sector clients, private developers, and institutional clients across the Southeast and mid-Atlantic regions, coordinating with various state and local regulators.

Notte earned his bachelor’s degree in civil engineering from Virginia Tech. He is a member of the American Water Works Association and the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying. In 2002, Notte was awarded Dewberry’s Client Focus Award for his superior focus and commitment to his clients. He is also a licensed professional engineer in North Carolina, Georgia, Louisiana, South Carolina, and Virginia.

Dan Pleasant, PE, has recently been appointed to the North Carolina State University Civil, Construction, and Environmental Engineering (CCEE) Industry Advisory Board that serves as an advisory group for the CCEE Department Head.

During his appointment, Pleasant will support the Advisory Board’s primary objectives:

- To assist the department head in achieving department goals and objectives and to provide a non-faculty group to the department head that gives counsel and advice on department matters
- To act as advocates for the department with the college of engineering, the broader university, and the community

Dewberry continues to be a strong advocate for engineering and architectural disciplines within higher education institutions; and anticipates building an even stronger working relationship with NC State, through, among other initiatives, technical information sessions and student mentoring.

“I’m honored to be serving on the NC State CCEE Advisory Board,” says Pleasant. “This opportunity will strengthen our ongoing investments in higher education and build a long-term relationship with students and professors at NC State in the civil, construction, and environmental engineering disciplines.”

Pleasant is Dewberry’s chief operating officer. Prior to being named COO in 2010, Pleasant was president of the firm’s southeast division. He has worked for Dewberry for 35 years and has helped the firm expand its operations by directing the growth of major service lines, such as transportation and energy, and overseeing acquisitions in Florida, Colorado, and North Carolina.

Pleasant is a member of the American Council of Engineering Companies, American Water Works Association, Water Environment Federation, and National Society of Professional Engineers. He is currently serving a six-year term with the Virginia Economic Development Partnership and is the former chairman of the Highway and Transit Subcommittee of the Virginia Chamber of Commerce. Pleasant also serves on the board of directors for a regional community bank in Virginia, American National Bank.

Pleasant is a registered professional engineer in multiple states and also certified by the National Council of Examiners for Engineering. He is a graduate of NC State, holding bachelor’s and master’s degrees in civil engineering.

Dewberry hired **Scott Yi** as a water resources engineer in the firm’s Raleigh, North Carolina, office. In his new role, he will be tasked with managing water resources projects in North Carolina and helping to expand the office’s water resources services in the region.

Yi has nearly ten years of water resources experience, specifically supporting flood and mitigation projects for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) through FEMA Regions V, VI and VII and Cooperating Technical Partners (CTPs) such as the state of North Carolina. He has expertise with hydrologic and hydraulic modeling, and GIS applications. Prior to joining Dewberry, Yi served as a project manager at SK Engineering & Construction in Seoul, Korea, and was previously a project manager with Greenhorne & O’Mara, Inc., where he managed the North Carolina Floodplain Mapping Program.

Yi has a bachelor’s degree in environmental systems engineering from Penn State University. He is a member of the Association of State Floodplain Managers and the North Carolina Association of Floodplain Managers.

Dewberry recently hired **Mark Pearson, PE**, a senior associate and senior engineer based in the firm’s Raleigh, North Carolina, office. He will be responsible for managing the transportation structures practice in Raleigh, mentoring young engineers and overseeing projects of all sizes throughout North Carolina, including Raleigh and Charlotte.

Pearson brings more than 34 years of experience in structural design experience that encompasses highway, pedestrian, and railway bridges, cut-and-cover tunnels, spillways, box culverts, retaining walls, railroad shoring, water and wastewater facilities, and a variety of building facilities. Prior to joining Dewberry, Pearson served as the bridge technical practice group leader at AECOM, as well as a structures department and a design-build project manager for the southern states.

“I am very excited to be at Dewberry and part of a dynamic, growth-oriented, client-focused team,” says Pearson.

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Pearson has a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Clemson University and a master's degree in structural engineering and mechanics from North Carolina State University. He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and the American Railway Engineering and Maintenance-of-Way Association. He is a licensed professional engineer in North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, and Georgia.

ICA Engineering

ICA Engineering, a division of Infrastructure Corporation of America, has been named a Top 500 Design Firm by Engineering News-Record Magazine (ENR Magazine), ranking No. 262 on the prestigious list for 2014. This is the fifth consecutive year ICA Engineering, formerly known as Florence and Hutcheson, has ranked in the Top 500.

The Top 500 Design Firms list, published annually in April by Engineering News-Record magazine, ranks the 500 largest U.S.-based designs firms, both publicly and privately held, based on design-specific revenue.

“ICA Engineering’s continued success is a testament to the talented, dedicated employees that strive to make ICA Engineering an industry leading design firm. We continue to emphasize providing our clients with the personal service at the local level that has made our firm great, and find great pleasure that we can maintain that local focus and continue our growth on the national level,” said **Mark Acuff, PE, PLS**, president, ICA Engineering.

McKim & Creed

McKim & Creed, Inc., an engineering, geomatics (surveying) and planning firm with offices throughout the South, announces that the following people have joined the company:

- **Ellen Green** has joined McKim & Creed’s Wilmington office as an accounts payable specialist. In this position, she is responsible for recording transactions, tracking income and expenses, and other accounting duties. Prior to joining McKim & Creed, she worked with Baxano Surgical, Inc. as an accounts payable specialist II.
- **David G. Malinauskas, PE**, comes to McKim & Creed’s Raleigh headquarters as a project engineer. Malinauskas is a graduate of North Carolina State University, where he majored in environmental engineering. He specializes in water and sewer design and water system modeling. Prior to joining McKim & Creed, he worked with Greenville Utilities Commission and Rivers & Associates. In his role as project engineer, Malinauskas provides technical and design services for municipal infrastructure projects, including preliminary evaluations, reports, design drawings technical specifications and permit submittals.

ms consultants

ms consultants is pleased to announce that **Tyson Graves, P.E.**, has joined the Raleigh, NC office, as their new Senior Traffic Engineer. Tyson has 24 years of transportation analytical and production engineering and management experience producing traffic engineering and multi-discipline project needs. His background also includes specialized experience in traffic control plans, signals, signing, traffic impact studies, capacity analysis, and safety studies. . As a licensed professional engineer in NC, SC, GA, FL, and CO; as well as holding a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering and an MBA from North Carolina State University in Raleigh, NC; Tyson remains down to earth and a joy to work with every day.

Schnabel Engineering, Inc.

(Schnabel), Glen Allen, Virginia, is pleased to announce that **Mr. Thomas E. Hepler, PE**, recently joined our Greensboro, NC office. Mr. Hepler, formerly with the Interior Department’s Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) Waterways and Concrete Dams Group, brings over 35 years of experience in hydraulic and structural engineering designs for concrete dams and appurtenant structures to our team of dam engineering experts.

Mr. Hepler served as a Technical Specialist, Team Leader, Principal Designer, Senior Engineer, and Technical Reviewer for dam safety inspections, dam modifications, dam removals, and spillway modifications for numerous projects throughout the country. He also provided dam safety training in Taiwan and Sri Lanka and conducted dam removal workshops for the U.S. Society on Dams (USSD) in 2008 and 2013.

Mr. Hepler co-authored Roller-Compacted Concrete – Design and Construction Considerations for Hydraulic Structures for Reclamation (2005), Technical Manual - Overtopping Protection for Dams for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA, 2014), Guidelines for Dam Decommissioning Projects for USSD (expected 2015), and Alternatives for Overtopping Protection of Dams for the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE, 1994). Additional publications in which Mr. Hepler has published articles include International Water Power & Dam Construction; Hydro Review; the USSD Newsletter; and a chapter on large dam removal in a 2013 GSA Manuscript. He has also presented and published numerous papers for technical conferences for the Association of State Dam Safety Officials (ASDSO), the Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists (AEG), HydroVision, USSD, and ASCE.

Mr. Hepler is an active member of USSD, ASCE, and ASDSO, and currently serves on USSD’s Committee on Concrete Dams and Committee on Dam Decommissioning (as past Chair). He received his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering degree from the University of Missouri-Rolla in Rolla, Missouri.