November 2012

Top 10 Reasons to Attend the ACEC/PAC Holiday Reception and Auction

Make sure you plan to join us on Thursday, December 6, for the 2012 ACEC/PAC Holiday Reception & Auction at the Cardinal Club. The event will be from 5:30 to 8:00 pm following our Raleigh PLC Event.

Why attend this year’s event? Here are the top 10 reasons...

10. You deserve a night off! ACEC/NC appreciates you and this is a night to celebrate our members (and thank you for our jobs)!
9. The Cardinal Club makes yummy food and Tia knows how to throw a party!
8. It is a chance to catch up with some old friends you may not have seen and make a few young ones too!
7. Henry Liles is the evening’s auctioneer...and that guy is funny!
6. It’s a good opportunity to support the ACEC/PAC...and they do A LOT for you! Click here to find out what.
5. Did we mention open bar?
4. You get to see Kathryn kick off her shoes now that the election is over!
3. You can get your Christmas shopping done by bidding on a spa package for the wife and gaming system for the kids.
2. This may be your last evening to relax before your in-laws come to town.
1. You could win a dozen delicious custom cupcakes made from scratch by Erika...now that is reason enough to attend!

Now that you are convinced, all you have to do is RSVP HERE to let us know you are coming!

On Thursday, November 15, ACEC/NC Members and their guests came together out of the cold and rain at Prestonwood Country Club in Cary, North Carolina, for the annual Engineering Excellence Awards Gala. The hall was lined with boards displaying the winning projects representing North Carolina firms at work all over the world. Excitement filled the space as everyone mingled during the cocktail hour, perusing the projects of their peers and putting in their vote for the crowd favorite.

Honors Awards were given to: CDM Smith; AECOM; RK&K; KingGuinn Associates, P.A.; McKim & Creed, Inc.; Falcon Engineering, Inc.; The Wooten Company; Mulkey Engineers & Consultants; Taylor Wiseman & Taylor; S&ME, Inc.; Stantec; and two awards were given to both Moffatt & Nichol and WK Dickson.

Grand Awards were given to: HDR Engineering, Inc.; Michael Baker Engineering, Inc.; Mulkey Engineers & Consultants; Moffatt & Nichol; and Schnabel Engineering, Inc.

Before getting to the Grand Conceptor Award, Marketing and PR Forum Chair, Christa Morrison with SEPI Engineering, announced that...
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.

Alpha & Omega Group, PC, is seeking a Structural Project Manager/Lead Bridge Engineer and Bridge Inspectors for their Raleigh office.

Dewberry is looking to fill Electrical Engineering positions in both their Chapel Hill and Raleigh offices.

Ecological Engineering is seeking to hire a Hydraulic Engineer for their Cary, NC office.

Hipp Engineering & Consulting, Inc., has openings for an Electrical Designer and an I&C Designer.

KCI Associates of North Carolina, PA, is hiring for their Raleigh office for an Engineer in Training, Highway.

Martin/Alexiou/Bryson, PC, is seeking a Roadway Design Engineer for their Raleigh, NC office.

Mulkey Engineers & Consultants is seeking a Water Resources Project Engineer for their Cary office.

Parsons Brinckerhoff is looking for a Bridge Engineer in their Raleigh office and Lead Bridge Engineer for their Charlotte office.

Ramey Kemp & Associates currently has the following two openings in their Raleigh, NC office: Roadway Design Engineer and Senior Traffic Engineer.

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

Taylor Wiseman & Taylor’s Giordanna Velodrome project had been voted the People’s Choice Award winner!

As the evening neared it’s end, it was time to announce the big winner! The 2013 Henry A. Stikes Grand Conceptor Award was given to Cavanaugh & Associates of Winston-Salem for their innovative Loyd Ray Farms Waste-to-Energy Project! Marvin and Steve Cavanaugh and Gus Simmons were in attendance to accept the award along with their guest from Duke University.

Click here to learn more about their project!

Keystone Award

ACEC/NC Board President, Randy Neuhaus with S&ME, Inc., took the stage during this year’s EEA Gala to present a new honor, the Keystone Award. This year’s recipient was Senator Fletcher Hartsell.

This award was created to recognize one member of the North Carolina General Assembly who has played a critical role in our legislative advocacy efforts. Without their leadership, key legislation of significant importance to the engineering industry would not have been passed and/or legislation that would have harmed the engineering industry in our state would have reached successful passage. We chose the title of “Keystone” because it is defined as the central supporting element of a whole or a central cohesive source of support and stability. Also, the recipient represents a physical keystone, which is used as the center stone in an arch that locks its parts together!

For each of the past 8 years, Senator Hartsell has been the sole sponsor of ACEC/NC’s efforts to reach successful passage of Certificate of Merit protections for design professionals in North Carolina. Despite opposition, he has fought tirelessly with us on this effort. Due to Senator Hartsell’s support of the bill, it received bipartisan support for a vote of 36-14, leaving us well-positioned for next year’s Long Session where we expect to finally achieve passage in both Chambers. Through Senator Hartsell’s leadership and advocacy on important issues effecting North Carolina’s engineering industry, he has served as our “keystone”, and without his support, our advocacy efforts would have failed. Thank you Senator Hartsell and congratulations!
Welcome to Our New Members!

We would like to extend a warm welcome to the newest members of ACEC/NC:

- Affiliated Consultant Engineers
- Stroud Pence and Associates
- Davis & Floyd, Inc.
- Ragsdale Liggett PLLC

ACEC/PAC Update

We are well on our way to meeting this year’s ACEC/PAC goal thanks to the support already shown by you, the ACEC/NC members! For those of you who have not gotten involved, do you know all of the things that ACEC/PAC has accomplished for Engineers? ACEC/PAC is putting your donated dollars to work! Check out some of the highlights HERE.

The upcoming Auction is a great way for you to support ACEC/NC in meeting our goal and continue to support the PAC in advocating for you!

Help make the auction a success by donating items to ACEC or if you cannot think of something to donate, you can make a corporate sponsorship towards a donated item. To make a corporate sponsorship, fill out the CONTRACT and return it to Tia today!

Our Goal: $26,309
Current Amount Raised: $15,795

ACE/C/NC Members recently met with Congresswoman Renee Ellmers (R-NC4) to discuss issues that are important to us and present an ACEC/PAC check to support her campaign.

(j-r) Jim Smith, ACEC/NC Vice President; Congresswoman Renee Ellmers; Randy Neuhaus, ACEC/NC President; and Jeff Douglas, HDR Engineering, Inc.

Congratulations to Our Own Dick Wells!

Dick Wells has been nominated by ACEC/National's Nominating Committee to be the Chairman-Elect of our National Organization! Dick’s tenure as Chairman-Elect will begin in April 2013, and his Chairmanship will begin in April 2014. This will be the first ACEC Chairman representing our great state of North Carolina.

Dick is a Vice President of Kleinfelder in Greensboro, North Carolina. He is a member of the ACEC/PAC Millennium Club and an ACEC Fellow. He serves on the Transportation Committee and has been both President and National Director for ACEC/North Carolina. He is also a Fellow of the American Society of Civil Engineers and a member of the National Society of Professional Engineers.

Dick has been an active participant in ACEC/NC activities and events, and we appreciate all he does for our organization and in representing our state with ACEC/National. We are very proud of all he has accomplished and look forward to seeing how he will help our organization grow over the next few years! Congratulations, Dick!
Exploring Transportation

On Thursday, November 1, over 500 ACEC/NC members and NCDOT employees gathered at the McKimmon Center for the 2012 Joint Transportation Conference. The day featured two general sessions and four break-out sessions with topics ranging from Bridges and Tunnels to Driverless Cars and the NEPA Process. There was even a keynote during lunch addressing the NC New Schools Project. Our speakers came in from all over the country, some battling travel issues associated with hurricane Sandy, creating a transportation challenge in itself!

New this year, a special tour was offered of the NCDOT Traffic Management Center. This was a great opportunity for our members to get a first hand look at the new facility. The tour was well attended and enjoyed by all.

We wrapped up the day with a reception, allowing opportunity for the attendees to network with their peers and talk about what they gleaned from the sessions they attended. This annual event is a great way for our member firms to find out what is on the cutting edge in transportation and what advancements and projects are on the horizon for us here in North Carolina.

A big thank you goes out to our Committee Co-Chairs Charles Cox, NCDOT, and Meredith VanDyyn, Kimley-Horn & Associates, and the entire planning committee who worked so hard to bring a day of great topics and speakers. ACEC/NC appreciates all of the time and effort that goes into this event—we couldn’t do it without you!

EPAC Update

The General Election is now behind us, and we look forward to the General Assembly’s Long Session beginning January 9th. EPAC will be well-positioned in both Chambers based upon our growing relationships and 95% hit rate for contributions. Our friendships are stronger than ever on both sides of the aisle and are particularly significant with the Senate and House leadership.

Of the 120 members in the House, 77 of the seats were won by Republicans. Of those 120 seats, 44 belong to freshmen. Of the 50 Senate seats, 32 went to Republicans, and 14 of the total seats are freshmen. Party leadership assignments will be made soon. EPAC will begin to make contact with the new leaders in early January. With the large number of freshmen, we will need to spend extra time educating them regarding our issues. We can also celebrate the fact that four engineers were elected to the House, namely Rick Catlin, Dean Arp, Chris Millis, and Mike Hager.

We will conduct our next EPAC luncheon in mid-January and are targeting one of the emerging legislative leaders as our speaker. Look out for more information on the January EPAC luncheon soon!

-Henry Liles, HNTB North Carolina, PC, is the Chairman of EPAC and the Legislative Committee Board Liaison
Member Firms in the News

Alpha & Omega Group

Alpha & Omega Group is thankful for the opportunity to have sponsored Bethany Christian Services’ 7th Annual Bethany Open Golf Tournament for the 6th consecutive year. For this first time, this annual tournament was held at the prestigious Prestonwood Country Club in Cary, North Carolina. A&O’s sousem included A&O President, Ted Bartelt, PE, A&O Engineering Assistant, Matt Zeblo, President of Hipp Engineering, Budd Hipp, PE, and Owner and Graphic Designer of DC Graphics, David Carter. As the nation’s largest adoption agency, Alpha & Omega Group is proud to support Bethany Christian Services.

Dewberry

Dewberry, a professional services firm, welcomes Robert H. Thompson, CHFM, CHE, as project manager in the Chapel Hill office. In his 38 years of experience, Thompson has assisted with the completion of more than $100 million in healthcare construction, renovation, and replacement projects. He has also been responsible for directing contracting, construction, safety, and facilities management. Thompson’s studies include electrical design from Sandhills Community College, and electrical code standards from Fayetteville Technical College. He is licensed by the State Board of Examiners of Electrical Contractors in the unlimited classification, and is a member of the American Society of Healthcare Engineers (ASHE) and the American Hospital Association (AHA).

Dewberry also welcomes J. Alex Harwell as assistant project manager and construction administrator in the Chapel Hill office. Harwell has more than 15 years of experience, with four years as an engineering reviewer with the North Carolina Division of Health Services Regulation (DHSR). Harwell’s expertise lies with applied mechanical engineering and utility/facility systems design, operation, troubleshooting, and maintenance. He is also experienced with building and utility systems including heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC). Harwell holds a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering technology from Old Dominion University, and a nuclear machinist’s mate qualification from the United States Navy.

Davis-Martin-Powell

Davis-Martin-Powell (DMP) is pleased to announce that Josh Beck, PE, has received his Professional Engineer licensure from the state of South Carolina. Josh joins Principals, Ben Palmer, PE, and Michael Golieber, PE, with licenses in South Carolina.

Froehling & Robertson

Froehling & Robertson, Inc., is pleased to announce that Xavier Miranda, PE, has joined F&R as the Director of Engineering for our Charlotte, North Carolina office. Mr. Miranda has over twenty years of experience providing geotechnical engineering and materials testing services to clients throughout the Southeast. In this position, Mr. Miranda will be responsible for guiding geotechnical and construction materials testing project teams to ensure they meet the quality, financial, strategic goals of our clients, as well as monitoring F&R’s Materials Laboratory for compliance with AASHTO, ASTM, AMRL, CCRL and local, state and Federal jurisdictions. Furthermore, he will be intimately involved with the office’s marketing and business development activities. Prior to joining F&R, Mr. Miranda served as a Vice President/Branch Manager in the Savannah, Georgia office of ECS Southeast, LLC.

KCI / Triplett-King

KCI Technologies Inc., a multi-disciplined engineering firm with offices throughout the eastern and central United States, is pleased to announce the acquisition of Triplett-King & Associates Inc. (TKA), a South Carolina-based company specializing in structural engineering, construction engineering and inspection services for transportation projects. “Triplett-King offers technical expertise of the highest caliber in both traditional design-bid-build and design-build delivery methods for transportation projects,” said KCI President Nathan J. Bell, PE. “Welcoming them into the KCI family serves as both a geographical expansion of a service line established in other regions, as well as entrance into a well-developed construction and design-build market in the Southeast. TKA is a well-run, profitable firm with solid technical and managerial leadership in Merritt King, and we’re excited to have their entire team come on board.” TKA’s work has garnered both local and regional recognition, with the most recent accolades when the American Council of Engineering Companies – South Carolina honored the SC 150 design-build emergency bridge replacement with an Engineering Excellence Award earlier this year. Other recognized efforts include the design-build replacement of 12 bridges for the Virginia Department of Transportation, the U.S.17 Washington Bypass in Beaufort, N.C., and the I-520 Palmetto Parkway design-build project in Aiken County, S.C. TKA’s 45 employees will continue to operate out of the firm’s offices in Rock Hill, S.C., and Charlotte, N.C.

Kleinfelder

Kleinfelder is pleased to announce that Christopher Hopper has joined the environmental team in our Raleigh office. Chris brings over 15 years of expertise in streams, wetlands, riparian buffers, protected species, NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) documents, and ESA (Endangered Species Act) compliance. This includes experience in designing, managing, and preparing environmental documents, mitigation plans, permit applications, biological assessments, and field studies. Although most of his career has been as a consultant in the Raleigh area, Chris also worked as an environmental officer in county government where he provided permit review for riparian buffers, along with ordinance enforcement and plan review for floodplain development. He is certified floodplain manager in North Carolina and obtained his Bachelor of Science in Natural Resource Management and Engineering from the University of North Carolina.

Parsons Brinckerhoff

Parsons Brinckerhoff has named Steven D. DeWitt, PE, to fill the newly-created role of Alternative Delivery Technical Manager. In this position, DeWitt will assist Parsons Brinckerhoff in regional and national pursuits of Public Private Partnerships, Design-Build projects, and other related efforts. He joins Parsons Brinckerhoff after a successful career with the North Carolina Department of Transportation from which he retired in May 2012. While at NCDOT, he served in many roles including State Construction Engineer, Director of Construction, and Chief Engineer of the North Carolina Turnpike Authority. He was instrumental in developing North Carolina’s Design-Build program, NCDOT’s first P3 project, and North Carolina’s first modern toll road. Mr. DeWitt has been a leader in developing

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new concepts and approaches to streamlining and accelerating project delivery. He has been very involved in national transportation efforts with AASHTO, the Transportation Research Board, and the highway construction industry. He is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte with a BS in Civil Engineering.

**Schnabel Engineering, Inc.**

Schnabel Engineering, Inc. (Schnabel), Glen Allen, Virginia, is pleased to announce that they have been ranked **10th on the “Best Civil Engineering Firms to Work For”** list by CE News magazine. The criteria used to make the selection included culture, benefits, compensation, performance/recognition, recruiting and employee retention, and professional development, as well as an employee satisfaction survey. Schnabel’s CEO, Mr. Gordon M. Matheson, PhD, PE, PG, stated, “Schnabel’s employees and management team are proud of this achievement. We are committed to creating an inviting workplace to attract and retain quality employees.” Schnabel, an employee-owned company, is an ENR Top 10 geotechnical engineering firm, employing more than 300 in offices from coast to coast. Schnabel’s specialized services include geotechnical and geospatial engineering, as well as dam and tunnel engineering, environmental services, geophysical and geosciences services, construction monitoring, and resident engineering. These coordinated efforts provide an integrated GeoDesign approach to every project from subsurface explorations and soil testing, through engineering analysis, design, and construction support.

**Smith Debnam**

John Sperati, a construction law attorney with the firm, will be representing **Smith Debnam** in the Leadership Raleigh class of 2012/2013. John will join over 50 other participants from local companies to participate in the community program this year. Leadership Raleigh is a nine-month program held in the greater Raleigh area emphasizing team projects, community orientation, and enhancing leadership skills. In addition to John, Smith Debnam has sponsored numerous other professionals with the firm to participate in Leadership Raleigh, and each participant came away with valuable leadership skills, a greater knowledge of the community, and lasting personal and professional relationships.

**Solutions-IES**

Solutions-IES is proud to announce our new Division, Solutions-ITS, providing IT services to small to medium-sized businesses. Please see our website at Solutions-ITS.net.

**Stantec**

Michael Rutkowski, PE, AICP, has joined the transportation practice of design firm Stantec as an Associate and Senior Transportation Planner and Engineer. Based in the company’s Raleigh, North Carolina, office, Rutkowski specializes in sustainable transportation solutions and managing multidisciplinary teams of engineers, planners, and landscape architects. Rutkowski’s experience includes all aspects of transportation planning and engineering, from long-range transportation plans and corridor-based access management to air quality conformity, noise modeling and analysis, and visualization. He is also a trained public facilitator and conflict resolution specialist who frequently leads public input sessions for such transportation projects. In his 20 years in the industry, Rutkowski has worked for both the private and public sector, including serving as coordinator for the Charlotte urban area for the North Carolina Department of Transportation. He holds both a master’s and bachelor’s degree in civil engineering from NC State and UNC Charlotte, respectively, and is a registered professional engineer and certified planner.

**Stewart**

We are excited to announce that as of September 15th, **Stewart Engineering and HadenStanziale** are operating as one company under the name **Stewart**! This merger makes our company one of the largest engineering and landscape architecture design firms based in North Carolina. This merger allows us to combine our shared and individual strengths. With a diversity of services unmatched in North Carolina, the breadth and depth of our expertise and our focus on a collaborative, cross-discipline approach to our work will result in even stronger designs for our clients. Stewart will be led by Robert Macia as President of the newly merged firm. Willy Stewart will serve as Chairman and CEO. George Stanziale and Jim Haden, co-founders of HadenStanziale, will both remain with the firm in senior leadership positions and will direct the Land Planning and Design Studios.

**URS Corporation–North Carolina**

URS Corporation–North Carolina (URS) announces the addition of civil engineering services to the offerings of its Wilmington office. In 2006, URS opened a project office in the Murchison Building located in the heart of downtown Wilmington. Initially designed to service projects for several area clients, demand grew and so did the Wilmington office. Over the last year URS Wilmington made key hires in Sr. Civil Engineer / Project Manager Stévè Thomas, PE, LEED AP and Civil Engineer, Nick Laureta, PE, LEED AP, who combined have over 25 years of experience. Today, URS Wilmington has 24 professionals serving a variety of clients in southeastern North Carolina and across the state, supporting URS’ offices in Morrisville and Charlotte as necessary. In addition to civil engineering, the Wilmington office also offers comprehensive environmental consulting services ranging from air quality permitting, compliance and monitoring; “cradle to grave” hazardous material and waste management; geographic information system (GIS) data management and custom application development; water quality permitting and monitoring; and, wetland and stream delineation, mitigation and permitting (401/404).

**Wetherill Engineering, Inc.**

Wetherill Engineering, Inc. is pleased to announce that **Mike Zaccardo, PE**, has joined the firm to serve as the Civil/Site Director. Mr. Zaccardo has over 28 years of civil / site engineering experience. His background includes designs in both public and private roadways, drainage systems, stormwater management systems, sediment and erosion control plans, potable water mains, and sanitary sewers to include gravity systems, low-pressure sewer systems, and duplex submersible pump stations. He has also prepared plans and specifications for small one to two acre commercial sites up to large shopping centers, residential golf course communities and hotel complexes which included up front site planning and land use entitlement.
The Wooten Company, has hired Scott Chase as Director of Planning. “We at The Wooten Company are delighted to have Scott lead our planning and community development professionals. His past experience directing municipal planning departments as well as owner/manager of a private planning and development consulting company, have prepared him well for his role directing our initiatives to provide planning and community development services to our public and private sector clients throughout North Carolina,” says Bucky Moore, President. Scott Chase, Director of Planning for the City of Havelock, has accepted the position of Director of Planning for The Wooten Company, effective October 18, 2012. Mr. Chase has 14 years combined county, municipal, and private sector planning experience. His planning experience includes Wayne and Pender counties, the City of Goldsboro, and the cities of Carolina Beach and Havelock, North Carolina. Mr. Chase was previous owner and manager of SCSC Group, which specialized in land use design, permitting, and general zoning consultation. He is AICP-certified by the American Planning Association. In his new role with Wooten, Scott will direct community planning, community/economic development, and geographic information systems (GIS) for the Company. Scott assumes the position previously held by Patt Crissman, who continues to be a key project manager for the planning department.