

The Voice



THE VOICE OF TENNESSEE'S ENGINEERING COMPANIES

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These companies provide Tennessee engineering firms with products and services and support the activities of ACEC of Tennessee through participation in the Partners Program. Additional information about these Partner Program participants is available at www.acectn.org.

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Quality and Value are Key Benefits of QBS

by *Bob Freudenthal*
President, American Public Works Association and Deputy General Manager, Hendersonville Utility District, Hendersonville, TN

Those of us involved in building and maintaining public works infrastructure here in Tennessee and throughout the nation understand how important it is to ensure quality and value for every project. That is our commitment and indeed our responsibility as members of a profession dedicated to providing the infrastructure and services on which all of our communities depend for their quality of life.



Bob Freudenthal

The American Public Works Association (APWA) is a unique organization, a mix of 27,000 public and private sector members working in concert to educate, advocate and provide information to the public on the critical role we all play in assuring a robust infrastructure and support for economic growth.

APWA has long supported quality in all public agency activities with a focus on economy, safety, efficiency, sound construction, serviceability, maintenance and operations. Along with the members of ACEC, we have long encouraged and supported the role of

Qualifications Based Selection (QBS) and believe that the public interest is best served when governmental agencies select engineers, architects and related professional services and technical consultants for projects and studies through QBS. It fosters greater creativity and flexibility and minimizes the potential for disputes.

Since passage of the Brooks Act in 1972, federal agencies, most states and many local communities use QBS procedures. The QBS process recognizes that engineering and design professionals play a critical role in the building of our public infrastructure. And those who use QBS understand that a significant advantage derives from its facilitation of client and consultant collaboration, which maximizes quality, value, cost-effectiveness and usefulness. It is in the best interest of taxpayers to have the most qualified firms selected to do the work.

We know that through the QBS process public agencies can be confident of consistently achieving optimum costs for studies, planning, design, construction, operation and maintenance of publicly funded projects. Because it supports creativity, alternative options, innovation and value, QBS is key to achieving smooth joint efforts by agencies and firms toward the common goal of a successful project.

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March Madness Ahead for ACEC

*by James Collins, P.E.
President, ACEC of Tennessee*

2006 promises to be a great year and ACEC will get off to a fast start! We are partnering with the Tennessee Society of Professional Engineers to have our own form of March Madness.

The festivities will begin with the Legislative reception, hosted by ACEC on the evening of March 6, and will conclude with the *Engineering Excellence Awards Banquet* on the night of March 7. In between these events, the schedule includes *Engineers' Day on the Hill* and the Senior Principals Forum. These are two days that everyone should plan to attend.

The Legislative Reception held last year was one of the most successful receptions hosted

**James Collins**

for the legislature. Attendance by elected representatives almost outnumbered our membership. This event is a great way to get to know your legislators in a relaxed, informal atmosphere. And the food will be good, too!

The *Engineering Excellence Awards Banquet* showcases our profession and the many amazing projects we have successfully completed. It is not often that we get the opportunity to boast about our accomplishments. Susan Thrasher and Joe Chester set a high standard with last year's banquet and they promise to make this year's event even better. I encourage you to invite your clients, prospective members, and professional staff to this event. It is a great way to show your clients some of the great things that are being done in other communities around the state. I look forward to seeing you all there. And I don't know about you, but I don't want to have to explain to my clients why I did not invite them to attend! Look forward to seeing you in March.

ACEC of Tennessee Awards Scholarship to University of Tennessee Student

James Edward Bevins, a nuclear engineering student at the University of Tennessee, is the recipient of a \$1,000 scholarship awarded by ACEC of Tennessee. Bevins, who is expected to graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in nuclear engineering in May 2009, was selected to receive the scholarship in competition with engineering students from across the state. The scholarship will be formally presented to him during the February 16 meeting of the East Tennessee Chapter. As the scholarship winner in Tennessee, he will now compete for national scholarships to be awarded by the American Council of Engineering Companies.

"ACEC of Tennessee is pleased to award this scholarship to Jim," said James Morinec, P.E., with the

engineering firm CTE of Nashville, who chaired the Scholarship Committee. "Our scholarship program is another example of how ACEC of Tennessee is committed to the future of our profession." Also serving on the Scholarship Committee were Ed Hargraves, P.E., with Askew Hargraves Harcourt, Memphis; Chris Provost, P.E., with CDM, Nashville; and Curtis Paul (Bubba) Ingram, P.E., with Ingram Civil Engineering Group, Brentwood.

This is the fourth scholarship that ACEC of Tennessee has awarded to a Tennessee engineering student since 2003. Two of the previous recipients were engineering students at Tennessee Tech in Cookeville and one was a student at Vanderbilt University.

Quality and Value, from page 1

In addition to our common support and encouragement of QBS, ACEC and APWA are working together on many other shared issues through a formal partnership dating back to 1993. Our two organizations jointly support increased investment in our nation's infrastructure at the federal, state and local levels of government and are working to educate lawmakers and the public about the need to close a widening infrastructure investment gap. Support for passage of

the recently enacted, and long over-due surface transportation law, SAFETEA-LU, was also an important objective for all of us.

A well-maintained, adequately funded public infrastructure is one of our nation's most important assets. We look forward to continuing and strengthening our cooperative work in support of QBS and all our common goals.

EEA Judges Convene in February; Award Banquet Invitations in the Mail

A distinguished panel of seven judges will convene on February 9 in Nashville to review the 20 entries in the 2006 *Engineering Excellence Awards* (EEA) competition. Serving on the panel of judges are **Mal Baird, P.E.**, Vanderbilt University; **T.K. Davis**, Nashville Civic Design Center; **Dr. Fort Gwinn**, David Lipscomb University; **Dr. Bridget Jones**, Cumberland Region Tomorrow; **Alan Long, P.E.**, Memphis Light, Gas and Water Division; **Vicki Simms**, Gatlinburg Chamber of Commerce; and **Bill Terry**, former Planning Director, City of Goodlettsville, TN.

The decisions of the judges will be announced on the evening of March 7 during a banquet at the Franklin Marriott Cool Springs in Franklin, Tennessee. An Honor Award will be presented in each entry category and an overall Grand Award will be announced. The banquet agenda will also include the introduction of James Bevins, who is the winner of ACEC of Tennessee's \$1,000 scholarship.

"The entry response this year has been tremendous and the quality of the entries is outstanding. Our panel of judges is extremely well qualified. Everything is in place to make the EEA banquet an exciting evening for Tennessee's engineering community," said Susan Thrasher, P.E., EEA program chair, Nashville Area Manager for Parsons Brinckerhoff.

"Invitations to the banquet are in the mail," added Joe Chester, P.E., EEA program co-chair, Associate Vice President, PBS&J, Nashville. Tables for eight are \$750.00. Individual seats are \$85.00. Banquet underwriting opportunities are still available. For information, please contact Nicole Beal at 615-242-2486 or nbeal@tnc.org.

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

ECS SOUTHEAST, LLC

441 Donelson Pike, Suite 330, Nashville, TN 37214
(615) 885-4983

Email: pcollins@ecslimited.com

Key Principals: Phillip J. Collins, Robert L. Geohring, Stanley W. Notestine

Description: Geotechnical engineering, environmental engineering, facilities engineering, construction engineering and inspection, construction materials testing, laboratory testing

KHAFRA ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS, INC.

35 Chestnut St., Suite 200, Chattanooga, TN 37402
(423) 664-4846

Email: kfreer@khafra.com

Website: www.khafra.com

Key Principals: Valentino T. Bates, Brandon L. Hewitt, Waymon Jones

Description: An award-winning professional engineering, environmental, architectural and planning services firm. Provides comprehensive engineering services for municipal, industrial, federal, corporate and commercial clients.

EEA 2006 Entrants

Building Technology Systems

I. C. Thomasson Associates, Inc. - Project: NASA Building 4600, Marshall Space Flight Center; Huntsville, AL; Client: Thomas, Miller & Partners, LLC

Environmental Engineering

CDM - Project: Stauffer Chemical Company Complex Remediation; Maury County, Tennessee; Client: Stauffer Management Company

EnSafe Inc. - Project: Innovative Remediation of Ferrocromium-Impacted Site; Charleston, SC; Client: Macalloy Potentially Responsible Party Group/United States Environmental Protection Agency

Gobbell Hays Partners, Inc. - Project: Methamphetamine (meth) Lab Remediation; Northglenn, CO; Client: Gablehouse, Caulkins & Granberg

QORE, Inc. - Project: 21st Century Renaissance Park Development; Chattanooga, TN; Client: River City Company/Stein Construction

S&ME, Inc. - Project: Eastman Credit Union Corporate Office; Kingsport, TN; Client: Eastman Credit Union

Structural Systems

Askew Hargraves Harcourt & Associates, Inc. - Project: Denmark Elementary School Replacement; Denmark, TN; Client: Jackson-Madison County School Board

Ross Bryan Associates, Inc. - Project: Tennessee Theater; Knoxville, TN; Client: McCarty Holsaple McCarty Architects

Studies, Research & Consulting Engineering Services

AMEC Earth & Environmental, Inc. - Project: Wolf Creek Dam; Jamestown, KY; Client: United States Army Corps of Engineers, Nashville District

Bowlby & Associates, Inc. - Project: Type II Noise Barrier Needs Assessment and Program Development; Statewide-Tennessee; Client: Tennessee Department of Transportation

Parsons Brinckerhoff - Project: Progress, Practices and Lessons Learned: Context Sensitive Solutions and TDOT; State of Tennessee; Client: Tennessee Department of Transportation

Surveying and Mapping Technology

Vaughn & Melton (TN), Inc. - Project: TDOT Cave Surveys; Knox, Anderson & Loudon Counties, TN; Client: Tennessee Department of Transportation

Transportation

Buchart-Horn, Inc. - Project: I-40/240 Interchange; East Memphis, Shelby County, Tennessee; Client: Tennessee Department of Transportation

Gresham, Smith and Partners (GS&P) - Project: I-40/Robertson Road Interchange; Nashville, TN; Client: Tennessee Department of Transportation

PBS&J - Project: Runway 17-35 Reconstruction at Grand Forks Air Force Base; Grand Forks AFB, ND; Client: United States Air Force, Grand Forks AFB, ND

PBS&J - Project: Long Range Transportation Plan; Statewide - Tennessee; Client: Tennessee Department of Transportation

Water, Wastewater and Water Resources

Barge Waggoner Sumner and Cannon, Inc. - Project: Knoxville Police Department Training Facility- Driver Training Course; Knoxville, TN; Client: Knoxville Police Department

Jordan, Jones & Goulding, Inc. - Project: Huntsville Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade; Huntsville, TN; Client: Town of Huntsville

Robert G. Campbell & Associates - Project: Hallsdale Powell Utility District Rain Water Intake; New Henderson Road - Anderson County, TN; Client: Hallsdale Powell Utility District

S&ME, Inc. - Project: Big Rock Creek Stream Restoration; Lewisburg, TN; Client: The Nature Conservancy, City of Lewisburg

CALENDAR

FEBRUARY
14

Environment Committee
Information:
gregd@jrwauford.com

FEBRUARY
16

Knoxville Chapter
Meeting

Information:
jkenny@facilitysystems.org

FEBRUARY
19-25

Engineers' Week

MARCH
6

Legislative Reception
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Sheraton Nashville
Downtown

MARCH
7

Engineers' Day
on the Hill
9:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.,
State Capitol

2nd Annual Senior
Principals' Forum
2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Franklin Marriott
Cool Springs

Engineering Excellence
Awards Banquet
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Franklin Marriott
Cool Springs

MARCH
8

Board Meeting /
ACEC of TN
Franklin Marriott
Cool Springs

MEMBER
NEWS

David Harrell, P.E., has joined Vaughn & Melton as Vice President and Office Manager of the firm's Knoxville office. He is Principal-in-Charge of the Knoxville location.

ACEC

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
of Tennessee

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800 Fort Negley Boulevard
Nashville, TN 37203

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Student – page 2
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New Partners Program Member

Architectural Wall Solutions

Contact:

Danny Hurt, Director of Sales
(redirockwall@aol.com)
432 Woodycrest Avenue
Nashville, TN 37210
PH: 615-242-4874
www.redi-rock.com

Architectural Wall Solutions is the manufacturer and distributor of Redi-Rock, a national leader in precast concrete blocks. Redi-Rock is used in retaining walls, erosion prevention, forces protection, free standing walls and columns & pavers.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A Busy, Important Agenda Ahead

by Candy Toler
Executive Director, ACEC of Tennessee

In December, ACEC of Tennessee and TSPE had an update session for members on the State Engineers' and Architects' Board policy revisions on the design of fire protection systems. This session was facilitated by John Wimberley, P.E. The



Candy Toler

Board's attorney, Christy Allen, and executive director, Sandy Moore, participated in the session, which included the opportunity for members statewide to join the discussion by teleconference. During the program, several engineers offered to assist the State Fire Marshal's Office on enforcement of its new policy on "microbiologically influenced corrosion" (MIC).

The General Assembly returned to session on January 10, with ethics on its mind. Once legislators debate and pass legislation that they think will address ethics concerns, they will move on to the rest of the people's business. While we do not always know in advance what will be proposed by

legislators, we do know that there are often issues that have the potential to affect public health and safety. I will keep you posted.

I invite you to participate in ACEC's **Legislative Reception** on Monday evening, March 6, followed the next morning by **Engineers' Day on the Hill**. Both events offer engineers the opportunity to "build bridges" with our state's decision makers, promote the value that engineers bring to every community across Tennessee, and address issues that impact public safety and the engineering profession. Although it may sound trite, we really are stronger together than we are individually.

I urge you to show your support for your profession at these events. You may sign up by emailing me (ctoler@tnec.org) and letting me know which events you will attend and the names of your State Representative and State Senator. You may also complete the registration form on ACEC of Tennessee's web site (www.acectn.org) and send it to me.

Also plan to participate in ACEC's Senior Principals' Forum and the **Engineering Excellence Awards Banquet** on March 7. The combination of activities on March 6 and 7 adds up to a busy, but very important agenda for the engineering profession in Tennessee.