

ACEC

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
of Tennessee

1968

40th ANNIVERSARY

2008

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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Ever-changing Transportation System Benefits from Memphis Intermodal Terminal

by *Todd A. Knuckey, PE,*
Senior Vice President,
Hanson Professional Services Inc.

The U.S. Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT) is concentrating on the nation's transportation infrastructure and congestion. Current economic conditions, including fuel prices, are forcing the transportation industry to focus on the bottom line: efficiency, dependability, cost-effectiveness and streamlining logistics.



Todd Knuckey

From most accounts, the trucking industry has been the hardest hit, making them reevaluate how to handle their operations better. Tom Malloy, vice president of the Intermodal Association of North America (IANA), reports that trucking companies themselves are quickly becoming some of the biggest proponents of railroads, working in partnership with other transporters to stay competitive.

Intermodal transportation, defined as involving more than one form of transportation in a single shipping sequence, is quickly becoming a necessary component for service providers. According to the IANA, transporters turn to intermodal transportation to compete both domestically and worldwide as well as to offer innovative, efficient and value-added services.

185-Acre Facility

With increased demand, BNSF, the No. 1 intermodal carrier among U.S. railroads, is expanding its Memphis, Tenn., Intermodal Terminal. Hanson Professional Services Inc., an ACEC of Tennessee firm, is providing planning, permitting, design and construction services for the expansion. The expansion consists of a new 185-acre state-of-the-art intermodal

facility using rail-mounted wide-span cranes and an automated gate system.

The expansion, expected to be operational in spring 2009, will increase the facility's capacity from 250,000 annual cargo lifts to more than 1 million annual lifts. The facility also has parking configurations to hold an inventory of more than 6,000 trucks.

The expanded facility features six 7,500-foot intermodal tracks for loading/unloading goods. Five loading cranes are dedicated to loading and unloading rail cargo, and three stacking cranes, approximately nine-stories-tall, will manage container ground-stacking at the facility. The loading cranes add to the efficiency of the facility with the ability to operate over three truck drive aisles and six intermodal tracks.

Using modern technology throughout its operations, BNSF's Memphis Intermodal Terminal will include an automated gate system (AGS) to process inbound and outbound traffic. The AGS combines optical character recognition and other technologies – automatically identifying, inspecting and processing trucks, containers, chassis, trailers and drivers entering and exiting the facility.

Memphis' location is an important factor in logistics, offering access to the world's busiest cargo airport as well as seven federal and two interstate highways. The location is surrounded by distribution and warehouse centers and offers convenience for waterway transportation on the Mississippi River. BNSF's Memphis facility benefits from its connections to more than 30 other BNSF intermodal hub facilities across the U.S., including Atlanta, Chicago, California and Washington state.

BNSF's Memphis Intermodal Terminal is addressing the bottom-line concerns of transporters and represents the new emphasis on and benefits from intermodal transportation.

The Past Is Always Connected to the Future

by Lillard Teasley, PE
President, ACEC of Tennessee

Throughout time, it has been proven over and over that history repeats itself. On Friday, October 10, 2008, we have the opportunity and privilege to relive some of our recent history with many of the engineers who have shaped our profession. This is the date of the 40th Anniversary Celebration of ACEC of Tennessee.



Lillard Teasley

As part of the celebration, there will be a reception and dinner that will give us the opportunity to relive the past, and learn from the people that were responsible for founding some of the best known firms across our state. This evening will be a rare occasion for ACEC of Tennessee member firms and their employees to have a social evening without an agenda. There will be opportunities to socialize with your peers and with colleagues from different areas and generations.

ACEC of Tennessee's founding engineers added to their workloads to create an association to promote the business of engineering. This reminds me of one of Teddy Roosevelt's quotations. He said, "Every person owes a part of his or her time and money to the business or industry in which they are engaged. No one has a moral right to withhold that support from an organization that is working to improve conditions in that industry."

To that end, I ask that we all find ways to give back to our profession. Many of you give back through volunteer efforts to ACEC and TSPE. I encourage you all to continue this involvement and look for ways to involve more of your employees in ACEC. The Leadership Development program is certainly an opportunity to give back, by aiding in the training of the engineers that are the future of our businesses.

I certainly hope that history repeats itself. I hope that our generation will make the same sacrifices of time and money that the founders of ACEC made to shape the next generation of business leaders. I hope to see you all on October 10.

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Leadership Development Class 2008

Dan Ryan, The Human Capital Group, is leading ACEC of Tennessee's 2008 Leadership Development Program, which has attracted participants from across the state. The program seeks to develop the skills most widely used by individuals who rise to senior roles within their firms, where they generally rely more on leadership competencies than they do technical expertise. Among the skills presented in the program are conflict resolution, negotiation skills, building high performance teams, coaching, communication, and strategic thinking and business management. The program began in August and will conclude in November.



Class of 2008 — Front row, left to right: Eric Goodman, PE (Lamar Dunn & Associates, Knoxville); Scott Wilson, PE (Palmer Engineering Company, Nashville); Bridget Brown (EnSafe, Knoxville); Greg Brubaker, PE (K.S. Ware & Associates, Nashville); Jody Vance, PE (Gresham Smith & Partners, Nashville); Dan Boles, PE (S & M E, Inc., Kingsport); Second row, left to right: Dan Ryan, facilitator (The Human Capital Group, Nashville); John Pankey, PE (Fisher & Arnold, Memphis); Taylor Stein, PE (Consolidated Technologies, Chattanooga); Shane Kirby, PE (I.C. Thomasson Associates, Nashville); Stephen Brown, PE (Gresham Smith & Partners, Nashville); Jim Tapp, PE (Pickering Firm, Memphis); and Mark Luskin, PE (K.S. Ware & Associates, Nashville). Not pictured, Barry Beck, PE (I.C. Thomasson Associates, Nashville).

Entries Due November 7 for 20th Annual Engineering Excellence Awards Competition

New "Energy" Entry Category Announced

It's time to get ready and set to submit entries for ACEC of Tennessee's 20th annual *Engineering Excellence Awards* (EEA) program. Entry forms for the 2009 competition are due in the ACEC of Tennessee office by Friday,



Paula Harris

November 7, 2008. (Note: An entry form is inserted in this edition of the newsletter.)

Paula Harris, CPSM, EEA program chair and Vice President, Chief Marketing Officer at Barge Waggoner Sumner & Cannon,

announced that there are

eleven entry categories this year. The categories are: A) Studies, Research and Consulting Engineering Services; B) Building / Technology Systems; C) Structural Systems; D) Survey and Mapping Technology; E) Environmental; F) Water and Wastewater; G) Water Resources; H) Transportation; I) Special Projects; J) Small Projects and K) Energy. This is the first time that

a category for "energy" projects has been part of the competition. An Honor Award in each category will be presented, as well as an overall Grand Award.

"Engineering firms engaged in private practice can enter. Projects of any size and budget are eligible. Projects can be located anywhere in the world, but must have been managed out of a Tennessee office with a major portion of the work being performed in the state," said Rick Gafford, PE, EEA co-chair and Vice President at Fisher & Arnold. He noted that projects must be completed by December 31, 2008.

Winners of the prestigious awards will be announced on the evening of March 3, 2009, during a banquet at the Franklin Marriott Cool Springs in Franklin, Tennessee. Publicity concerning competition entrants and award winners will be distributed statewide.

For additional information or entry forms, contact Judy Logue at 615-242-2486 or e-mail jlogue@tnec.org. Information is also available at www.acectn.org.

Reception Honors New Assistant Commissioner



Gary Hunt, PE, and Chuck Saunders, PE (both with Fisher and Arnold, Nashville); Commerce and Insurance Commissioner Leslie Newman; and Everett Cowan, PE (Gresham Smith & Partners, Nashville) were among the people attending a recent reception at the Tennessee Engineering Center to honor Jim Pillow, the new Assistant Commissioner for Fire Prevention. He was previously the Director of Codes for Clarksville and has experience in both fire and building codes.

Engineering Excellence Awards: 2008 Winners

2008 Grand Award for Engineering Excellence
Wilbur Smith Associates, Franklin

Honor Award for Studies, Research & Consulting Engineering Services
EnSafe Inc., Memphis

Honor Award for Building / Technology Systems
Smith Seckman Reid, Nashville

Honor Award for Structural Systems
Ross Bryan Associates, Inc., Nashville

Honor Award for Surveying & Mapping Technology
Hart Freeland Roberts, Inc., Nashville

Honor Award for Environmental
EnSafe Inc., Memphis

Honor Award for Water and Wastewater
Smith Seckman Reid, Nashville

Honor Award for Water Resources
S&ME, Knoxville

Honor Award for Transportation
Gresham Smith & Partners, Nashville

Honor Award for Special Projects
K.S. Ware & Associates, Nashville

Honor Award for Small Projects
PBS & J Inc., Nashville

CALENDAR

OCTOBER

10

40th Anniversary Party

ACEC of Tennessee

Country Music Hall of Fame & Museum

6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Information:
jlogue@tnec.org

OCTOBER

19-22

ACEC Fall Conference

Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Le Centre Sheraton
Montréal Hotel

NOVEMBER

7

Deadline to Submit
Entries for
Engineering Excellence Awards

Information:
jlogue@tnec.org

NOVEMBER

14-15

Leadership Development
Session

Tennessee Engineering
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ACEC

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1968 40th ANNIVERSARY 2008

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WELCOME, New Member

Burns Cooley Dennis, Inc.
5263 Mendenhall Park Place
Memphis, TN 38115
901-375-4474
www.bcddgeo.com

Key Contact:
G. Thomas Dunlap, PE
Email: tdunlap@bcddgeo.com

Burns Cooley Dennis, Inc. is a geotechnical and materials consulting services firm. Its services include engineering; drilling; laboratory testing; construction testing of concrete, asphalt, and earthwork; specialized geotechnical field instrumentation including PDA and slope inclinometers; pavement design, testing, and research; and forensic studies and expert consulting.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A Look Back before Moving Forward

by Candy Toler
Executive Director, ACEC of Tennessee

On October 10, during a gala celebration in Nashville, ACEC of Tennessee honors its founders and past presidents, reflects on its 40-year history, and looks forward to its future.



Candy Toler

In 1968, eight men were the “incorporators” of what was known as Consulting Engineers of Tennessee (CET). They were Lorin Allen (Allen & Hoshall, Memphis); Marble Hensley (Hensley Schmidt, Chattanooga); Robert Evans (Hart Freeland Roberts, Nashville); Marvin Jacobs (Ellers, Reaves, Fanning & Oakley, Memphis); Rufus Cottrell Jr. (Cottrell & House, Nashville); Tom Rentenbach (Rentenbach Engineering, Knoxville); Ben Adams (Crouch & Adams, Oak Ridge); and S. S. Kenworthy (S. S. Kenworthy & Associates, Memphis).

CET’s first president was Rufus Cottrell Jr., and its first executive director was William Faris, who had served in that role for the Tennessee Society of

Professional Engineers for several years. The purpose of CET was to have a single state organization for consulting engineers, separate from NSPE’s Professional Engineers in Private Practice.

Billy Sumner (Barge Waggoner Sumner & Cannon, Nashville) commented on the importance of CET in an article appearing in the September 1968 edition of *Tennessee Professional Engineer*. He said, “An advantage of having CET on the scene is its complete autonomy and ability to draw and fire fast and ask questions later. CET can be somewhat more freewheeling and operate in some situations with more singleness of purpose ...”

Sumner and Lester Smith (Smith Seckman Reid, Nashville) went on to serve as leaders in the national organization that became ACEC.

Reflecting on the history of the organization, Smith observed, “Engineering has changed in the last 40 years and ACEC of Tennessee has changed with the times to serve our profession. I am confident that new leadership will step forward to meet the challenges in the years ahead.”

A proud history of accomplishment is an excellent foundation for a promising future. The past 40 years have set the stage. Put on your shades; the years ahead look very bright!