

THE FIRST WORD

July, 2004

Don Vick Installed as ACEC OKLAHOMA Chairman of the Board

Don Vick was installed on June 12th as Chairman of the Board of ACEC OKLAHOMA. Vick, President of JGVENGINEERING, Oklahoma City, became the 50th elected leader of the Council. A registered professional engineer in Oklahoma, and a registered professional land surveyor in nine states including Oklahoma, he has been President of JGVENGINEERING for 20 years providing services to a variety of private, municipal, state and federal agencies.



Don Vick Presents Past Chairman Plaque to Mike Homan

He is a charter member of the Oklahoma Society of Land Surveyors and served as the organizations President in 1975. He also served on the State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors from 1979-1991, and was the Board Chairman on three different occasions. Additionally, he is a member of the National Council of Examiners of Engineers and Surveyors (NCEES) where he served three terms as Chairman of the Finance Committee, Chairman of the Model Law Committee, and received the NCEES National and Southern Zone Distinguished Service Award.

Active in civic and community affairs, Vick has been active in the Last Frontier Council of the Boy Scouts of America for many years. In addition to being a member of the Council's Executive Board, Vick has served as a Scoutmaster and District Chairman. He has received numerous scouting leadership awards including Wood Badge, Silver Beaver, the James E. West Fellow award, and the Order of the Arrow Silver Buffalo and Vigil Honor.

Also, he is a Charter member of the Del City Rotary Club, Trustee of the Sunnyside United Methodist Church, Charter member of the Downtown Oklahoma City Lions Club, a 32^o Mason, and a member of numerous Chambers of Commerce.

Also elected to the 2004-05 ACEC OKLAHOMA Board of Directors were Chairman-Elect Jerry Farrar, Vice Chairman/Membership Jim Stewart; Treasurer Darold Davis; Vice Chairman/Business Practice Steve Ford; and, Vice Chairman/Education-Public Relations Tom Hendrick.

Mike Arand will continue on the Board in the second year of his three year term as ACEC National Director, and Mike Homan remains on the Board as the Immediate Past Chairman.



2004-05 ACEC OKLAHOMA Board
Seated: (L to R) Chairman Don Vick and
Past Chairman Mike Homan.
Standing: (L to R) Treasurer Darold Davis,
Vice Chairman Steve Ford, and
Chairman-Elect Jerry Farrar

Lloyd Benson Appointed to Transportation Commission

Gov. Brad Henry has appointed former Oklahoma Speaker of the House Lloyd Benson to the Oklahoma Transportation Commission. The longtime public official from Frederick will represent the transportation district that includes much of southwestern Oklahoma.

Benson replaces Larry Wade of Elk City who recently resigned from the post to accept appointment to the University of Oklahoma Board of Regents.

“Lloyd Benson has compiled a distinguished track record in public service, and I know his many years of experience will be a great asset to my transportation team,” said Henry. “I appreciate his willingness to serve the state of Oklahoma again.”

Benson retired from the Oklahoma State House of Representatives in 2002 after serving almost two decades in office. During his tenure in the House, he held many influential committee chairmanships and ultimately rose to the highest leadership position, Speaker of the House. Benson’s colleagues elected him to two consecutive terms in the speaker’s chair.

Benson now serves as president and principal executive officer of Pioneer, the country’s third largest telephone cooperative, located in Kingfisher.

The Oklahoma Transportation Commission oversees state highway construction and maintenance and is responsible for short and long-term transportation planning. Oklahoma is divided into eight highway districts with a different commissioner representing each region. Benson will represent District Five, which includes Beckham, Blaine, Custer, Dewey, Greer, Harmon, Jackson, Kiowa, Roger Mills, Tillman, and Washita Counties.

Dues Statements Mailed

ACEC OKLAHOMA’s 2004-05 Dues Statements have been sent to all member firms.

Our thanks to those who have already remitted their payments, and for their vote of confidence.

If you have any questions regarding your 2004-05 Dues Invoice, please feel free to call ACEC OKLAHOMA.

Major A/E Tax Cut Clears House And Senate—Now In Conference

Legislation that includes tax rate reductions for A/E firms that ACEC has been championing is now in conference after victories in both the Senate and the House.

The American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 (H.R. 4520) reduces the tax rate for A/E firms by three percent for large corporations, with similar reductions for small corporations. Companion legislation—the Jumpstart Our Business Strength (S. 1637)—also features ACEC-backed language to ensure that A/E firms qualify for new tax reductions.

The legislation repeals a current export-based tax benefit—the Extraterritorial Income Tax Exclusion (ETI)—that was found to be in violation of international trade rules by the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Congress has been focused on replacing ETI with a tax benefit for the manufacturing sector and, because of ACEC’s efforts, only recently included A/E firms as beneficiaries.

The Senate bill is applicable to all businesses, while the House bill applies to corporations only. ACEC is now focusing on convincing conferees to adopt the more wide-ranging Senate approach to the legislation.

Senate Committee Passes ACEC-Backed \$41B Water Bill

The ACEC-supported Water Infrastructure Financing Act (S. 2550) was passed by the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee this month.

The bill provides \$41 billion over five years in water infrastructure funding, significantly boosting funding levels for the water and wastewater State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF) programs. ACEC will now focus on getting the bill before the full Senate before Congress adjourns at the end of the year.

In addition to increasing SRF authorization levels, S. 2550 includes \$1 billion for wet weather projects and \$5 billion to assist small communities with drinking water compliance problems such as arsenic.

2004-05 ACEC OKLAHOMA Meeting Calendar

Meeting dates for ACEC OKLAHOMA's 2004-05 meetings have been set and we encourage you to mark your calendars today with these important dates.

Because of a re-structuring of ACEC's national meeting calendar, ACEC OKLAHOMA will only have three General Membership meetings during 2004-05. ACEC has moved their Annual Convention from May to April, which conflicts with our normal April meeting. Because of this, our normal February and April meetings have been combined into a March meeting date.

The meeting schedule is as follows:

ACEC OKLAHOMA Board/General Membership Meeting
Thursday, August 26, 2004
2:00pm Board/5:00pm General Meeting
Tulsa

ACEC Fall Conference
September 29 – October 2, 2004
Portland, Maine

ACEC OKLAHOMA Board/General Membership Meeting
Thursday, November 11, 2004
9:00am Board/11:45am General Meeting
Oklahoma City

ACEC OKLAHOMA Board/General Membership Meeting
Thursday, March 24, 2005
9:00am Board/11:45am General Meeting
Tulsa

ACEC Annual Convention/Consulting Congress Day
April 10 – 13, 2005
Grand Hyatt Hotel
Washington, DC

ACEC OKLAHOMA Annual Convention
(Joint Meeting with Missouri, Arkansas, and Kansas)
June 8 – 15, 2005
Westin Resort & Villas
St. Johns, U.S.V.I.

Again, please mark your calendars. Specific information on each of these meetings will be forthcoming.

ACEC OKLAHOMA Membership Directory Available On-Line

The updated 2004-05 ACEC Oklahoma Membership Directory is available for download.

To get the current directory, simply go to the ACEC OKLAHOMA website, www.acecok.org, and look for "2004-05 Membership Directory" in the right-hand column. Then click on the "Download Directory PDF".

You are encouraged to download the Directory and double-check your firm's listing. The information in the Directory is what your firm has provided ACEC OKLAHOMA, but, we many have missed something or entered information in error.

Unlike a directory which is printed only once per year, the ACEC OKLAHOMA on-line directory is regularly updated so that the most current information is always available to members and potential clients.

So, please check your firm's information, and if any changes or updates are necessary, please let us know as soon as possible.

ACEC's Latest Publication

ACEC's Guide to Professional Liability Insurance is now available for download.

The most comprehensive document on professional liability insurance is now available for purchase and download for just \$29. To purchase, visit www.acec.org/publications. Search by title or keyword "Liability Insurance."

Come Join Us In 2005 For The.....



ACEC Midwest States Conference, June 8-15, 2005, at the The Westin Resort, St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands. This will be a four-state convention, with the addition of ACEC/Kansas to Arkansas, Missouri and Oklahoma.

It's not too early to begin making your plans. Sure the convention is eleven months away, but we want to give you as much information as possible so that you don't miss out on this great convention in one of the most beautiful places in the world.

To learn more about the hotel and St. John, go to the hotel's website at "www.westinresortstjohn.com". We're sure that once you learn more, you won't want to be left out.

DRAFT PROGRAM

Wednesday, June 8

This is travel day for most people to reach St. John, if you aren't there already!

Thursday, June 9

8:00-9:00 a.m. - Informal Roundtables
9:00-12:15 p.m. - Seminar/Program
Lunch & Afternoon - ON YOUR OWN
6:00-7:00 p.m. - Opening Reception

Friday, June 10

8:00-9:00 a.m. - Informal Roundtables
9:00-12 Noon - State Business Meetings
Lunch & Afternoon - ON YOUR OWN
5:00-7:00 p.m. - Sunset Cruise

Saturday, June 11

8:00-9:00 a.m. - Informal Roundtables
9:00-12:15 p.m. - Seminar/Program
Lunch & Afternoon - ON YOUR OWN
6:00-10:00 p.m. - Reception & Banquet

Sunday, June 12

8:00-9:00 a.m. - Informal Roundtables
Day & Evening - ON YOUR OWN
Afternoon - Some couples leave for home

Monday, June 13

8:00-9:00 a.m. - Informal Roundtables
10:00-4:00 p.m. - Possible Trip to British Virgin Islands — Optional
Evening - ON YOUR OWN

Tuesday, June 14

8:00-9:00 a.m. - Informal Roundtables
9:00-12 Noon - Seminar/Program
Afternoon/Evening - ON YOUR OWN

Wednesday, June 15

7:00 a.m. - Departures for home or post-convention trips



HOTEL INFORMATION

The Westin Resort
"www.westinresortstjohn.com"

\$149 - single or double

Reservations cut-off-date: **April 4, 2005**

Reservations: **1-888-627-7206**

