

THE FIRST WORD

July, 2010

Jim Benson Installed as 2010-11 ACEC OKLAHOMA Chairmen of the Board

Jim Benson, Senior Vice President / Oklahoma City Office Manager, Poe & Associates, of Oklahoma City was installed as the 56th Chairman of the Board of ACEC OKLAHOMA at the Midwest States Annual Convention in Branson, MO. Benson takes over as the chief elected officer from Tom Hendrick, Wallace Engineering, Tulsa.

A native of Evanston, IL, Benson received his Bachelors in Civil Engineering from the University of Oklahoma in 1971, and also holds an M.B.A. from the University of Central Oklahoma.

He began his engineering career in the United States Navy Engineer Corps at Great Lakes, IL in 1972. Following his military service, he joined Homer L. Chastain & Associates in Decatur, IL in 1975. He returned to Oklahoma in 1979, joining The Benham Companies as a Project Manager in the Oklahoma City and Tulsa offices until 2000 when he joined Poe & Associates in Oklahoma City.

Benson is a licensed professional engineer in Oklahoma,

Illinois, Wisconsin, and Minnesota. In addition to his service to ACEC OKLAHOMA, he also serves on the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Municipal Contractors Association, and is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Also installed at the Annual Convention were:

Chairman-Elect: Stacy Loeffler, BKL, Inc., Tulsa

Vice Chair - Membership: Alan Soltani, The Benham Companies, Oklahoma City.

Treasurer: Chuck Mitchell, Crafton Tull Sparks, Tulsa

Vice Chair - Business Practice: Joe Davis, Triad Design Group, Oklahoma City

Vice Chair - Education/P.R.: Brent Schniers, Garver, Tulsa

Tom Hendrick will remain on the Board as Past Chairman, and **Jim Stewart**, PSA Consulting Engineers continues as ACEC National Director.



2010-11 Board of Directors: Front Row (l-r) National Director Jim Stewart, Chair-Elect Stacy Loeffler, Chairman Jim Benson, Vice Chairman Chuck Mitchell. 2nd Row: Vice Chairman Brent Schniers, Vice Chairman Joe Davis, Past Chairman Tom Hendrick. Not pictured: Vice Chairman Alan Soltani



Newly elected Chairman Jim Benson (r) presents Past Chairman's Plaque to outgoing Chairman Tom Hendrick

ACEC OKLAHOMA 2010-11 Meeting Calendar

Below is the meeting schedule for the 2010-11 year. Please mark your calendars now and plan to attend these important meetings.

Thursday, August 26, 2010

Board & General Membership Meeting

9:00am Board Meeting;
11:45am General Meeting & Luncheon
Oklahoma City

October 17-20, 2010

ACEC Fall Conference

El Conquistador Resort, Puerto Rico

Thursday, November 18, 2010

Board & General Membership Meeting

9:00am Board Meeting;
11:45am General Meeting & Luncheon
Tulsa

Thursday, January 27, 2011

Board & General Membership Meeting

2:00pm Board Meeting;
5:00pm General Meeting & Dinner
Oklahoma City

Feb 10-11, March 10-11, April 14-15, 2011

Leadership For Engineers

Tulsa, Oklahoma City, Stillwater

March 30 – April 2, 2011

ACEC Annual Convention

Washington, DC

Thursday, April 21, 2011

Board & General Membership Meeting

2:00pm Board Meeting;
5:00pm General Meeting & Dinner
Tulsa

Thursday, April 28, 2011

ODOT/ACEC OKLAHOMA

Partnering Conference

Tulsa, OK

June 2-4, 2011

Mid-States Annual Convention

(Oklahoma, Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas)
Branson, MO

ACEC OKLAHOMA Dues Statements Mailed

The 2010-2011 ACEC OKLAHOMA Dues Statements have been mailed. As you know, ACEC OKLAHOMA's "membership year" is July 1 - June 30.

As always, member firms may pay dues "in full" for the membership year, or, may choose to pay dues on a "quarterly" basis.

Dues are based on the total number of employees of your firm which were reported on the "Update" forms that firms returned in April.

ACEC OKLAHOMA had a very modest one-percent (1%) dues increase for the 2010-11 year. Even with the modest increase, a firm's dues will be affected more by the 2010-11 employee count verses the 2009-10 employee count....if a firm's employee count is down from last year, dues will probably be less even with the modest dues increase.

ACEC national dues remained level for the 2010-2011 membership year. Again, even with no increase at the national level, your dues for 2010-11 may vary depending on your employee count.

ACEC OKLAHOMA has received 2010-11 payments from several firms (just a week after the statements were mailed) and we thank the following firms for their "vote of confidence" in ACEC OKLAHOMA:

- * BKL, Inc.
- * Cobb Engineering Company
- * C P & Y
- * Crafton Tull Sparks & Asso.
- * Determan Scheirman
- * Graham & Associates
- * C.H. Guernsey & Company
- * Keithline Engineering Group
- * Lee & Browne
- * Meshek & Associates
- * Poe & Associates
- * Russell Engineering
- * SMC Consulting Engineers
- * Wall Engineering
- * White Engineering Associates

If you have any questions regarding your firm's dues statement, please don't hesitate to call.

And again, THANKS for your continuing support of YOUR ASSOCIATION, ACEC OKLAHOMA!!!!

ACEC OKLAHOMA On Record-Pace for ACECPAC Contributions In 2010

Only \$2,900 Short of Goal

As you are aware from previous articles, ACEC OKLAHOMA is making a strong effort this election year to support ACEC's national political action committee, ACECPAC.

ACEC OKLAHOMA's national goal for 2010 is \$8,901, so if each principal of each member firm gave just \$100, ACEC OKLAHOMA will easily reach our national goal.

We are excited to report that as of today, \$5,998.45 has been raised, which puts us at 68% of our goal. Additionally, this amount FAR SURPASSES amounts raised in any previous year.

If you haven't yet made your ACECPAC Contribution, we've included the forms on the following pages. Forms are also available on the ACEC website (www.acec.org) and the ACEC OKLAHOMA website (www.acecok.org).

NOTE --- There are two forms which you need to complete: the "Pre-Approval" form and the "Contribution" form. Please complete both forms, include your payment, and return to ACEC OKLAHOMA. We will then forward your forms and payment to ACEC.

ALSO --- All contributions must be on your "PERSONAL" check or credit card. Corporate contributions are prohibited by Federal Law.

Thanks in advance for your support!!!!

And, **THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING WHO HAVE ALREADY MADE THEIR 2010 ACECPAC CONTRIBUTION:**

Benham, Lance	The Benham Companies
Benson, James	Poe & Associates, Inc.
Blickensderfer, John	Guy Engineering Services
Bocox, John	Zahl-Ford, Inc.
Burton, Robert	Cobb Engineering
Cabbiness, J. Bret	Cabbiness Engineering, LLC
Cobb, Jason	C. H. Guernsey & Company
Crabtree, Gene	The Benham Companies, LLC
Davis, Darold	Garver, LLC
Davis, Joe	Triad Design Group
Douglas, Don	Triad Design Group
Dudeck, Rhonda	The Benham Companies, LLC
Ford, Steve	Zahl-Ford
Graham, Jack	Graham & Associates
Grinsteiner, Chad	White Engineering Associates

Harris, Steve
Hendrick, Thomas
Hepp, Marty
Homan, Mike
Hunt, Jim
Jacoby, Steve
Johnson, Steven
Klassen, Doug
Koehler, Conrad
Kohn, Michael
Koneru, Sri
Loeffler, Stacy
Meacham, Greg
Meshek, Janet
Mitchell, Chuck
Morris, Kenneth
Nelson, Kenneth
Rankin, Stanley
Richards, Bryan
Roberts, Herschel
Schniers, Brent
Smith, James
Smith, Theron
Soltani, Alan
Steel, Don
Stewart, Jim
Updike, Jay
White, Ronald
Williams, Robbie
Williams, Robert
Wilson, Maria
Wood, Marc
Zuk, David

BWR
Wallace Engineering
Cobb Engineering
Terracon
PBSJ
The Benham Companies, LLC
Cobb Engineering Company
MKEC
Terracon Consultants, Inc.
Poe & Associates, Inc.
Koneru Consulting Services
BKL, Inc.
The Benham Companies
Meshek & Associates
Crafton, Tull, Sparks
The Benham Companies
The Benham Companies
The Benham Companies
Cobb Engineering
The Benham Companies
Garver, LLC
Professional Service Industries
Apposite Engineering, LLC
The Benham Companies
Cobb Engineering
PSA Consulting Engineers
Holloway, Updike & Bellen
White Engineering Associates
Triad Design Group
Poe & Associates, Inc.
Cobb Engineering
Logic Leaders
Wallace Engineering

* Red - New Since Last Report



Visit www.stop744.com for more information and to join the STOP STATE QUESTION 744 campaign!

PRESIDENT'S MONTHLY UPDATE

David Raymond, ACEC President & CEO
July, 2010

General

- * Addressed "Industry Achievements and Challenges" – including recent ACEC "wins" exempting A/Es from Project Labor Agreements and eliminating mandatory retainage on federal contracts – at the ACEC/Massachusetts 50th anniversary celebration, as well as at the ACEC/Metro Washington annual meeting.
- * ACEC/Indiana became the third state so far to meet its 2010 PAC goal; and has met its goal for eight straight years "recognizing the importance ACEC/PAC to our advocacy programs."
- * Undertook "hands on" membership recruitment efforts in California, Rhode Island, Oregon, Colorado and Massachusetts, as part of an intensified program of recruitment and retention in a challenging economy.
- * Participated in the annual conferences of the Canadian and Mexican engineering associations to promote mutual understanding on infrastructure funding, liability reform and other issues of common interest.

Government Affairs

- * Headed off a major proposed tax increase on Subchapter S engineering firms in the American Jobs and Closing Tax Loopholes Act of 2010.
- * Supported liability protection legislation introduced by Reps. Dave Reichert (R-WA) and Jim Matheson (D-UT) for engineering, architectural and construction firms that volunteer in the aftermath of terrorist attacks or natural disasters.
- * Testified at a House Highways & Transit Subcommittee hearing on the benefits of "context sensitive solutions" in transportation planning – i.e., taking into consideration the natural and built environments affected by transportation systems.
- * Criticized lack of Administration leadership in funding new 6-year transportation authorization and providing necessary capacity expansion – in comments submitted to DOT on its draft Five-Year Strategic Plan.

Oklahoma Uniform Building Code Commission (OUBCC)

Call for Volunteers — Residential Code Technical Committee

In May, 2009, the State of Oklahoma Legislature created the OUBCC with the subsequent approval by the Governor. The major task that was directed for the OUBCC was to develop construction codes for use throughout the whole building industry in our state. During the past year, the OUBCC has been establishing administrative processes, rules, and protocol to use in that task assignment.

To this end, the first technical code committee is now being formed. The OUBCC is distributing a "**CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS**" for individuals who would like to participate in this initial effort in code development. Your help is needed to recommend individuals who are code knowledgeable, technically astute, and desire to serve the whole state, or, to personally volunteer to serve on the Committee.

This technical code committee will have the task to review the ICC's Residential Building Code, edition 2009, and recommend approval, modifications, or additions to become the Oklahoma Residential Building Code.

Please extend this opportunity to anyone that you believe would meet the qualifications.

ACEC OKLAHOMA has two documents for your review which we can provide upon request: 1) a page that will better explain the committee members and the technical expertise we need to be a part of this initial effort, and 2) short professional biography form with a statement of interest. Call ACEC OKLAHOMA at 405-525-7696 or e-mail (jsullins@acecok.org) if you would like these forms.

The deadline for the biography and statement of interest to be completed and returned to the OUBCC is **July 16, 2010**.

If you have any questions, please call the OUBCC at **405-271-1595** and we will get you the answer as quickly as possible.

It is such grassroots involvement that will make the code development process in our State truly a universal code endeavor for the benefit of all our citizens. ACEC OKLAHOMA was active in securing legislative authorization for the OUBCC and the participation of ACEC OKLAHOMA members on these Technical Committees is strongly encouraged.



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

PAC PRIOR APPROVAL FORM

ACEC/PAC is the A/E industry's prominent political weapon for electing pro-business candidates to Congress. Your support helps advance the legislative priorities that will mean more business for your firm and a brighter future for the industry.

As the qualified representative of this ACEC member firm, I grant permission to The American Council of Engineering Companies Political Action Committee ("ACEC/PAC")* to accept contributions from employees of our Firm. I understand this permission may be withdrawn at any time, and also that shareholders, retirees, and family members may also participate in ACEC/PAC activities and receive information materials. Please complete and sign for each year you would like to grant permission.

_____	_____
(Authorized Official)	(Signature 2010)
_____	_____
(Title/Position)	(Signature 2011)
_____	_____
(Company)	(Signature 2012)
_____	_____
(Address)	(Signature 2013)
_____	_____
(City, State, Zip Code)	(Signature 2014)

In addition to the authorization to accept unsolicited contributions as described above, I also authorize ACEC/PAC to communicate with the following individual or individuals from our Firm during the calendar year(s) indicated above regarding activities, events and recruitment opportunities related to ACEC/PAC (please check one):

- All eligible employees of the Firm
- Eligible employees from the following Branch(s) or Subdivision(s) of the Firm:

- Only the following individual(s) from the Firm (please attach separate sheet as needed):

- No eligible employees of the Firm

Please complete and return to Elizabeth Coit, ACEC/PAC Director via mail (1015 15th Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20005), fax (202-682-4376) or e-mail to ecoit@acec.org.

*Note: Corporate Firm members of ACEC may grant prior approval to only one national trade association PAC per calendar year. However, granting prior approval for ACEC/PAC does not preclude employees of the Firm from contributing to local or state PACs, national member and ideological PACs (i.e. National Rifle Association or Emily's List), or the Firm's own federal PAC. Eligible employees include those with executive, managerial or senior administrative responsibilities.



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Yes! I would like to help ACEC/PAC support Members of Congress who will fight for the business interests of the engineering community.

Name: _____

Firm: _____

Job/Position Title: _____

Home Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

Yes, I would like to be a member of the Capitol Club (\$5,000), Chairman's Club (\$2,500), or Millennium Club (\$1,000).*

Enclosed is my personal check or personal credit card contribution in the amount of:

\$5,000 \$2,500 \$1,000 \$500 \$250 Other \$ _____

MasterCard Visa American Express

Credit Card Number _____ Exp. _____

Name of Credit Card Holder _____ CVV _____

Authorized Signature _____

Partnership and sole proprietorship checks are permitted; however, federal law prohibits corporate checks and corporate credit cards. Contributions or gifts to ACEC/PAC are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. Contributions will be screened and those from outside the restricted class (non-members) and those from individuals who have not given prior approval may be returned. Contributions are voluntary and amounts included herein are merely suggestions. An individual is free to contribute more or less than the guidelines suggest, but may not contribute more than \$5,000 per calendar year. Federal law requires that our committee report the full name, address, occupation and company name of each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year.

Mail : ACEC/PAC
Attn: Elizabeth Coit
Government Affairs Department
1015 15th Street, N.W., 8th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005-2605

Email: ecoit@acec.org

Fax: 202-682-4376

* Chairman's Club members either contribute \$2,500 to ACEC/PAC, or contribute \$1,000 to ACEC/PAC and pledge an additional \$1,500 to be contributed throughout the year to directly support candidates for re-election.