

THE FIRST WORD

September, 2005

On September 13th Vote

YES

on State Question 723

WHY?????

1. SQ 723 CONSTITUTIONALLY prevents the Legislature from ever decreasing state funding for transportation below current levels.
2. SQ 723 establishes a Bridge and Highway Trust Fund and levies new gasoline and diesel fuel taxes (5 cents on gas over three years, and 8 cents on diesel over four years). Eighty percent of the new gasoline tax and a portion of existing gasoline and diesel fuel taxes go into the Trust Fund. All new diesel fuel taxes go into the Trust Fund.
3. Ten percent of the new gasoline tax goes to county highway funds and another ten percent goes to cities and towns for roads and bridges.
4. Available Trust Fund money could only fund the Department of Transportation's direct cost of building and rebuilding highways and bridges. No new employees, equipment, etc.....just asphalt, concrete and steel!
5. No money from the new taxes can be used to incur debt.

Welcome New Members

ACEC OKLAHOMA is happy to welcome two new member firms to the organization:

MKEC ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS, INC. is a 2-person multi-discipline firm offering surveying, civil, mechanical, electrical, structural, environmental and industrial engineering along with land planning and landscape architecture.

Doug Klassen is the manager of the Oklahoma City office which is a branch office of a Wichita, KS based firm.

CINNABAR ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES is a 13-person environmental engineering and consulting firm.

Derek Blackshare is the principal of the firm which is based in Tulsa.

ACEC OKLAHOMA welcomes MKEC Engineering Consultants and Cinnabar Environmental Services, and looks forward to having both firms as active members of the association.

ACEC/PAC Sweepstakes Raffle Grand Prize: The Road King® Classic Harley-Davidson®



How would you like to cruise down the highway on a brand new Harley Davidson Road King Classic????

Well, for just \$200, you could be when you purchase one of only 300 raffle tickets being sold by ACEC/PAC, your national political action committee

Ticket sales end Friday, September 23, or until all 300 are gone! *The winner will be announced at Saturday's breakfast at the ACEC Fall Conference (don't have to be present to win).*

Again, the Cost is \$200 per ticket (limited to five tickets per person). To purchase tickets, call Corie Simmons at ACEC...202-347-7474.

ACEC OKLAHOMA PAC Golf Tournament September 28th

AIA Oklahoma has invited ACEC OKLAHOMA to join in their annual golf tournament, which is used as a fundraiser for the respective organization's political action committees.

The tournament is set for Wednesday, September 28th at the Jimmie Austin Golf Course on the University of Oklahoma campus in Norman.

The tournament will kick off at 12:00 pm with Registration & hamburger lunch before play which begins with a Shotgun Start at 1:00 pm. Social time & awards ceremony immediately follow play.

Registration is:

\$95 Individual Entry Fee, which includes:

- Greens fee & cart rental
- Range balls
- Lunch before tournament & social hour after
- \$10,000 Cash Prize Hole-in-One Contest!

or,

\$350 Dream Team Foursome:

Invite your staff, clients & vendors to enter as a "Dream Team!"

Your Entry Fee Benefits ACEC OKLAHOMA PAC!!!!

This tournament is a fun opportunity to raise money for ACEC OKLAHOMA PAC, which supports legislation and candidates that protects and promotes Oklahoma's engineering profession.

Since this is a fundraiser for ACEC OKLAHOMA PAC, registration (Individual or Dream Team) must be paid with a PERSONAL check. Oklahoma law prevents "corporate" contributions to PACs.

Registration information will be coming soon to all ACEC OKLAHOMA members.

Mark your calendars and watch your e-mail.

We look forward to seeing you on September 28th!!!!

“Your Professional Enterprise”

A Business Planning Workshop for Architects, Engineers & Land Surveyors

Thursday, September 15, 2005

Running a business is a real challenge. The owners of closely held businesses are usually so busy doing business that they have little time for anything else, like Business Planning.

That's a shame because a big part of most business owner's net worth is in their business.

To assist business owners, ACEC OKLAHOMA and AIA are offering this important seminar to help you with effective financial planning that can help protect your business and maximize its profits.

The majority of the workshop will concern various financial planning strategies specific to business owners including, **Utilizing Tax Relief Strategies; Capturing the Full Value of Your Business for Retirement; Creating and Maximizing Your Succession Plan; and, Investment Strategies for Business Owners.**

The speakers for this workshop are independent financial advisors with over 30 years combined experience. They have been presenting this workshop to business owners and professionals since 1998.

Registration is \$79.00 per person and includes all materials, continental breakfast, lunch, and refreshments.

This comprehensive seminar covers a variety of business planning issues:

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|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| ■ Retirement Planning | ■ Tax Planning | ■ Risk Management |
| ■ Deferred Compensation | ■ Business Valuation | ■ Investment Planning |
| ■ Buy-Sell Agreements | ■ Disability Insurance | ■ Estate Planning |

For more information or for a registration form, contact ACEC OKLAHOMA at 405-525-7696.

Bruce Taylor Retires from ODOT

After 37 years with the Oklahoma Department of Transportation, Bruce Taylor has announced his retirement effective September 1st. John Fuller has been tabbed as the new Chief Engineer for the Department.

For the past several years, Bruce has served as the Chief Engineer for the Department, and has been instrumental in the success of the ODOT/ACEC OKLAHOMA Partnering initiative.

ACEC OKLAHOMA wants to thank Bruce for his many years of service to the citizens of Oklahoma and ODOT. We also want to thank Bruce for all of his efforts to help make the working relationship between ODOT and Oklahoma's consulting engineering community stronger today than it has even been in the past.

An avid golfer, Bruce plans on spending his retirement on the golf course and spending more time with his wife Debbie.

Congratulations Bruce on your retirement, and THANKS for your dedication and support!!!!

In Memory

William J. (Bill) Collins, Jr.



ACEC OKLAHOMA is deeply saddened to report the passing of William J. (Bill) Collins, Jr., one of ACEC OKLAHOMA's founders and a true leader in the engineering profession.

Bill was born in Iron River, MI on May 26, 1915, and passed from this life on July 27, 2005 in Oklahoma City.

Educated in mechanical engineering, he came to Oklahoma in 1937 and attained his Professional Engineering license in 1941. He established a consulting engineering office in 1946. Before retiring in 1995, he was responsible for the design of systems in thousands of buildings in Oklahoma and throughout the nation.

Strongly believing that a person should put something back into the industry from which one earned his living, Bill was a Charter Member and President of the Consulting Engineers Association of Oklahoma (now ACEC OKLAHOMA); a Founding Member of the American Consulting Engineers Council; President of the Oklahoma Society of Professional Engineers; Vice President of the National Society of Professional Engineers; and, President of the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers.

Bill was listed in Who's Who in Engineering, was a member of the Engineering Hall of Fame at Oklahoma State University, and a member of the President's Club at Michigan Technological University.

He was retired from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Reserves as a Lieutenant Colonel. He was a member of Rotary Club 29 for forty five years and was a Paul Harris Fellow. Bill joined Christ the King parish in 1951. He was on the Parish Council and the Building Committee. In his latter years as a member of the Share and Care Club, he drove 'Meals on Wheels' for the homebound. He was also on

the Archdiocesan Building Committee for many years. He was preceded in death by his parents, a sister and two wives, Anne Soss Collins and Mabel Denham Collins.

He is survived by his wife, Carlen Stecker Collins; five children, Charlotte Denham Meredith and husband J. Conley of North Little Rock, AR., son Douglas R. Denham and wife Rene of Albuquerque, NM, son Larry B. Stecker and wife Marka of Litchfield Park, AZ, daughter Linda Stecker Smith and husband Eddie Porter of Oklahoma City, son William E. Stecker and wife Angie of Yukon, OK; a nephew Don Miller and wife Joan of Kirkland, WA, four grandsons, and six granddaughters.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Christ the King Building fund, P.O. Box 20508, Okla City, OK 73156, or charity of choice.

Bill was an outstanding individual, a true professional, and strongly believed that it was important to give back to one's chosen profession and community.

Bill is one of the many farsighted individuals who in 1954 formed the Consulting Engineers Association of Oklahoma, which today is ACEC OKLAHOMA. He and his contemporaries saw the need for an organization to be a "voice" for the business of engineering. He and those other leaders took that vision one step further in 1956 in Tulsa when they joined with nine other states to organize the Consulting Engineers Council of the United States, what today is ACEC. Without the leadership of Bill and scores of others, ACEC OKLAHOMA and ACEC would not exist.

Shortly after I came to ACEC OKLAHOMA in 1988, Bill came to my office to introduce himself and to "visit." During that "visit", Bill laid out to me the history of the organization, its purpose, and the foundation on which ACEC OKLAHOMA was built. He did this to make sure that I knew exactly what the organization was, and how it was expected to function.

Over the years, Bill was a resource for me as well as a mentor. He always had the best interest of ACEC OKLAHOMA in mind, and never hesitated to tell me when we were doing good, and where he thought we were going astray.

There are many other stories, but there's just not enough space to relate them all. So, I will end simply by saying that a large void has been created with Bill's passing, and it is up to all of us to fill that void as well as carry on the vision that Bill and his contemporaries had for ACEC OKLAHOMA.

Bill, thanks for your vision and your leadership. And, thanks for your friendship and unwavering support.

Jim Sullins