

THE FIRST WORD

April, 2015

Consulting Engineers PAC Off To Great Start

In just its first few months of operation, your state political action committee, CONSULTING ENGINEERS PAC, has received tremendous support from ACEC OKLAHOMA members.

To date, CONSULTING ENGINEERS PAC has received over \$12,000 in contributions from member firm principals and employees.



With the two year election cycle heading into the 2016 elections just beginning, we are well on our way to raising \$20,000 before the 2016 elections.

Over 60 ACEC OKLAHOMA members attended a special meeting on April 1st featuring Secretary of Transportation Gary Ridley.

That meeting alone netted nearly \$7,000 in contributions to CONSULTING ENGINEERS PAC.

If you would like to contribute, you can make your "Personal" contribution with your credit card by going to: <http://www.acecok.org/ConsultingEngineersPAC.htm>

Thanks for your support of CONSULTING ENGINEERS PAC!

Welcome New Member

ACEC OKLAHOMA would like to welcome our newest Associate Member, Sherwood Construction Company.

Sherwood Construction provides heavy highway construction, Grading, Concrete Paving, Bridge Construction, and QA/QC.

We welcome Sherwood Construction and thank them for their support of ACEC OKLAHOMA!

ACEC OKLAHOMA Board of Directors & General Membership Meeting

Thursday, April 16, 2015
2:00pm Board of Directors
5:00pm General Membership Meeting

Terracon
Tulsa

Registration Info has been sent!

ODOT / ACEC OKLAHOMA Partnering Conference

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Reed Conference Center
Midwest City

Registration Info
Coming Soon!!!!



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In Memory Charles R. Keithline, Jr.



ACEC OKLAHOMA is saddened to report the passing of a true pioneer of Oklahoma engineering, Charlie Keithline.

Charlie, at the age of 90, passed away March 22nd in Tulsa after a brief illness. Charlie was born on August 17, 1924 at the home of Charles R. Sr. and Bertha Keithline in Kingston, Pennsylvania.

Charlie is survived by his wife and primary caregiver Kay, mother of his children Georga, son Charles R. Keithline III and wife Nancy, daughter Carolyn Keithline and husband Gerald Inglett. Other children include Richard and Sharon Thompson, Larry and Linda Thompson, Janice and Don Eckroat, Glenn and Cheryle Thompson, Elizabeth Smith, as well as numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

As a young adult, Charlie was called by his beloved country to serve in the 276th armored field artillery of the U.S. Army. Before the age of 20, Charlie was one of the brave who landed in the second wave at Normandy, France during the D-Day operation. His unit was later heavily involved in "The Battle of the Bulge". Charlie received numerous battle medals and recently traveled to Washington D.C. via the "Honor Flight".

In 1950, Charlie graduated from Oklahoma A&M (OSU) with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, and that same year he joined the Tulsa engineering firm of Wood & Craig. In 1957, Charlie became a partner with Allen Craig and formed Craig & Keithline Consulting Engineers.

In his early professional years, Charlie worked as a surveyor and designer on the brand new Oklahoma turnpike system and on the Skelly Bypass (now known as I-44) in Tulsa. In the late 50's, it became apparent that Tulsa had outgrown the often haphazard road system that had developed over the years, and the State Department of Highways (now ODOT) began looking for an engineering/planning company that could develop a long range metropolitan expressway master plan. As most of the local engineering firms were small businesses, the Department considered hiring a large national firm to provide this plan. In response to those concerns and in an approach that was years ahead of its time, Mr. Keithline helped form a consortium of 5 local firms that was successfully selected to perform the study and develop the plan. The joint

venture independent company, Associated Expressway Engineer's Inc., was formed, and in 1961 they delivered their report The Tulsa Metropolitan Area System Report which contained many innovations, including the use of scaled perspective views superimposed on aerial photographs. This document has been used as a guide for nearly the entire Tulsa expressway system ever since.

ACEC OKLAHOMA extends our deepest sympathy to Charlie's family, friends, and business associates. His service to the City and State that he loved, and to the engineering community, will be a legacy with will live on for many years to come.

ACEC OKLAHOMA Annual Convention June 4-6, Branson

The ACEC OKLAHOMA Annual Convention will be held June 4-6 at the Chateau on the Lake in Branson, MO. Again this year, Oklahoma will be joined by ACEC Missouri and ACEC Kansas. And, new to the group this year will be our counterparts from ACEC Nebraska!

The ACEC Midwest States Conference will offer a variety of educational and social events including:

- .. **"Hide-Run-Fight-- Surviving an Active Shooter Event"**
- .. **CEO Roundtables**
- .. **Update on ACEC National Activities**
- .. **Demonstration of Autodesk Vehicle Tracking Software**
- .. **"To Drone or Not to Drone"**
- .. **"Communicating Effectively by Using Key Messages"**
- .. **Legends in Concert at the Dick Clark American Bandstand Theater**
- .. **Golf Tournament at Ledgestone Golf Club**

Room reservations for the ACEC Midwest States Conference at Chateau on the Lake must be made before **May 5, 2015**. Contact the hotel at (888) 333-5253 for a rate of \$172 for Mountain View/Lake View or Lake Front rooms. We strongly suggest you make your hotel reservations as soon as possible as the hotel is expected to sellout quickly.

Registration information will be sent to all ACEC OKLAHOMA members soon. See you in June in Branson!!!!



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President's Report

April, 2015

David Raymond, ACEC President

Attendees at ACEC's Annual Convention later this month will be in for an added treat this year as they catch the tail end of the Tidal Basin Cherry Blossom show. Convention registration is ahead of last year with over 1,400 expected. Check out the program and register if you haven't already by [clicking here](#). ACEC/PAC fundraising is running at an impressive pace – only a quarter of the year has gone by and the PAC has raised over \$270,000 toward its \$1 million goal; kudos to South Carolina and Delaware for having already met their 2015 goals in March, joining Indiana and Hawaii as early achievers. These funds are critical to advancing our agenda in Congress including MAP-21 reauthorization, energy, and tax reform, including preservation of tax deductibility for municipal bonds. See you in Washington!

General

- ACEC/Iowa scored a major legislative victory, supported by the Minuteman Fund, with the passage of a ten-cent increase in the state's gas and diesel tax dedicated to roads and bridges.
- Urged lawmakers in the House and Senate to support funding for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Public-Private Partnership Pilot Program.
- The House of Representatives passed ACEC-backed legislation to provide for a four-year, \$7.2 billion reauthorization of federal passenger rail programs.
- Joining Indiana and Hawaii in crossing the ACEC/PAC finish line in only the first quarter of this year are South Carolina and Delaware – congratulations!
- Joined with a coalition of business and agriculture organizations in endorsing a repeal of the estate tax.
- Lynn Schloesser has succeeded Keith Pemrick as ACEC staff director of environment and energy programs; he is former counsel to the Senate Environment Committee, Director of Government Relations for Eastman Chemical, and executive at the Industrial Energy Consumers of America.
- Supported repeal of a health insurance tax in the Affordable Care Act that applies to health plans purchased by small firms directly from health insurance companies, including plans purchased through the ACEC Life-Health Trust.

Government Advocacy

- Secured provisions in both the House and Senate budget blueprints that accommodate increased transportation infrastructure funding in MAP-21 reauthorization.
- Co-hosted congressional "Meet and Greets" for new Members of the U.S. House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee – Rep. Brian Babin (R-TX), Rep. John Katko (R-NY), Rep. Rob Woodall (R-GA), and Rep. Ryan Costello (R-PA) – as well as fundraising events for Senator Mark Kirk (R-IL), Rep. Ron Kind (D-WI), and Rep. Bill Pascrell (D-NJ), and Rep. Peter DeFazio (D-OR).
- Joined with major state and local government organizations, including the National Association of Counties and the U.S. Conference of Mayors, in urging Congress to protect the tax-exempt status of municipal bonds.



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