

THE FIRST WORD

July, 2017

Brandon Claborn, Meshek & Associates, Becomes ACEC OKLAHOMA Chairman of the Board

Brandon Claborn, CEO and Project Principal for the Hydrology & Hydraulics Division, Meshek & Associates, Tulsa, became ACEC OKLAHOMA's 63rd Chairman of the Board at conclusion of the Annual Meeting in St. Croix, USVI, succeeding Marty Hepp, CEC, Oklahoma City.

Claborn joined Meshek & Associates in 2001, following three years at the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service. Today he's responsible for overseeing the entire Company's operations, hydrologic and hydraulic studies, and storm water design projects.



Marty Hepp (L) receives Past Chairman's Plaque from incoming Chairman Brandon Claborn.

Born in Lawton and raised on a small farm west of Apache where his parents still reside, Claborn played football, baseball and basketball, achieving All-State Honorable Mention in basketball. After graduating in 1990, he enrolled at Western Oklahoma State College in Altus, Oklahoma, on a basketball scholarship.

During a break from his studies in 1995, he worked as an engineering intern at The Land Pavilion at Walt Disney World in Kissimmee, Florida.

Returning to college, Mr. Claborn completed his Bachelor of Science degree in Biosystems & Agricultural Engineering from Oklahoma State University in 1996. He completed his Master of Science degree in Biosystems & Agricultural Engineering in 1998.

Brandon, wife Kym and daughters Kenlee and Ella in Claremore, where Claborn enjoys spending time outdoors sailing, cycling, mountain biking, hiking, swimming and any other activities in which the family will take part.

Joining Claborn on the 2017-2018 ACEC Board of Directors will be:

- Chairman-Elect Keith Angier, MacArthur Associated Consultants, Oklahoma City
- Vice Chairman of Membership Jim Hemphill, Poe and Associates, Tulsa
- Treasurer Chad Grinsteiner, White Engineering Associates, Oklahoma City
- Vice Chairman of Business Practice Hollis Allen, Walter P Moore, Tulsa
- Vice Chairman of Education/Public Relations Jeremy Boswell, C P & Y, Oklahoma City

Tom Hendrick, Wallace Engineering, Tulsa, will remain on the Board as the ACEC National Director, and Marty Hepp will continue, serving as Immediate Past Chairman.

Welcome New Members

ACEC OKLAHOMA is excited to welcome two new member firms to the Council!

HNTB Corporation, offering engineering and architecture professional services, is a 2-person office in Oklahoma City headed by Tim Morgan.

Traffic Engineering Consultants, and 11-person Oklahoma City based firm, provides Traffic Data Collection, Studies, Signal Design, Construction Traffic Control and Multi-Modal Operational Analyses, led by Steve Hofener, Todd Butler, Wayne Russell, Michael Hofener and B.J. Hawkins.

We welcome **HNTB Corporation & Traffic Engineering Consultants** to ACEC OKLAHOMA, and look forward to having both firms as active members!

In Memory

It is with great sadness that we report the passing in recent weeks of four individuals who were an important part of the ACEC OKLAHOMA family.

LYNNE STWEART

Lynne Stewart, wife of Past Chairman Jim Stewart, passed away Wednesday, June 7, 2017. Lynne Ann Owens was born July 29, 1949 in Oklahoma City, OK, the only child born to Carl Owens and Mary Ann (Wall) Owens. She was raised in the Purcell/Wayne area and attended Wayne Schools, graduating in 1967. She then attended Oklahoma State University where she earned her Bachelor's Degree in Accounting.

On July 17, 1971, in Purcell, Lynne married her best friend and life partner, James Howard Stewart. They moved to Arlington, TX for a short time before moving back home to Oklahoma and settling in Oklahoma City, where together they raised their only daughter, Emily. Lynne worked as a book keeper for the Mark Twain Life Insurance Company for several years, followed by brief stops at several other local Insurance companies. Her greatest joy however and her greatest accomplishment she would tell you, was being a wife and mother. Lynne enjoyed shopping and loved her jewelry. She was an adventurer, and she and James traveled extensively throughout the world.

Lynne leaves behind Her husband, James, of the home; Her daughter, Emily Crawford and husband Cameron of Okla. City; Granddaughter, Ashton Crawford; Several cousins, nieces and nephews and a host of other family and friends.

DEE DON VICK

Dee Don Vick, President of JGVE Engineering & Surveying and a son of past ACEC OKLAHOMA Chairman Don Vick, passed away May 13, 2017.

Dee Don was born on March 30, 1970, in Oklahoma City, OK. He attended Highland Park Elementary and Mid-Del Christian School (now Destiny School), graduating in 1988. He attended Rose State College and the University of Central Oklahoma, where he graduated with a Master of Business and Finance degree.

He began working at J.G.V.E., Inc. Engineering & Surveying Company out of college, where he eventually became president of the company.

Dee Don was an Eagle Scout with his father as his scoutmaster. He received numerous awards in Scouting, including the Silver Beaver award, and served as a Vice President of the Last Frontier Council. He was an active member of the Del City Chambers of Commerce, Midwest City Rotary Clubs and was a multiple Paul Harris Fellow; he is an Honorary Commander of the 965 Air Wing of the AWAC Squadron at Tinker Air Force Base and has served on the Western Heritage Museum board of directors. He was involved in fund raising for the John Wayne Cancer Institute and Rosary Catholic School.

He assisted during the annual Western Heritage awards banquet every year, during which time he met and became friends with numerous celebrities from Western movies, books, artists. Dee Don was also involved in fund raising for the John Wayne Cancer Institute and Rosary Catholic School. He assisted during the annual Western Heritage awards banquet every year, during which time he met and became friends with numerous celebrities from Western movies, books, artists.

His hobbies included hunting and participating in various target competitions. He collected John Wayne memorabilia. He was a fan of the Western genre, including movies, history, books, traditions, and values. He enjoyed traveling, spending time with family and friends, and was an avid Oklahoma Sooners fan. He attended OU football and OU women's basketball and softball games.

Dee Don is survived by his parents, Donald and Betty Vick, Del City; his wife of ten years, Tammy (Harrell); daughter, Ellen, of Midwest City; and his sister, Charlotte Cranfill and husband Hank, of Amarillo, TX. He is also survived by numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, and nephews.

CHARLES KIMBERLING

Charles Lindbergh Kimberling, former Chief of Planning and Design for the City of Tulsa Water and Sewer Department, died Thursday June 15, 2017 after a brief hospitalization precipitated by a fall in his home. He was 89.

Mr. Kimberling was born in 1928 in Paris, Arkansas, the son of Sam and Lorena Kimberling. He enlisted in the Army at the age of 17 and was a member of the acclaimed 82nd Airborne division. After his military service, Mr. Kimberling completed his bachelor's degree at the University of Arkansas, majoring in Civil Engineering and later went to graduate school at Oklahoma State University earning a master's degree in Civil Engineering. Mr. Kimberling joined the Tulsa Water and Sewer Department as a Design Engineer in 1952 eventually becoming the Chief of Planning and Design. After his retirement from the City in 1990 he became a consulting engineer for the firm Craig & Keithline, Inc.

Kimberling is a past chairman of the board and emeritus member of the Oklahoma State Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors. He was a past president and an extremely active member of the National Council of Examining Engineers and Surveyors.

Mr. Kimberling was a long-time member at both St. Paul's United Methodist Church and Christ United Methodist Church of Tulsa. Mr. Kimberling was actively involved with his children in scouting. He served as Scoutmaster in the Boy Scouts of America and sponsored multiple Girl Scout outings. He was especially proud when his son Vol earned his Eagle Scout rank.

He is survived by Joyce, his beloved wife of 65 years and his devoted daughter Vicki as well as honorary daughters Debbie LeMaster and Sarah McCall. His son Volney and infant daughter Gail preceded him in death.

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In Memory (Continued)

RUSSAL BRAWLEY

Russal Blair Brawley was born Jan. 31, 1939, in Oklahoma City, the son of the late Roger Hattan and Mildred Frances (Forrest) Brawley. He completed this life on Tuesday, May 30, 2017, at the age of 78.

Russal was raised in Oklahoma City, where he graduated from Northwest Classen High School in 1957. He attended Oklahoma State University, where he earned a degree in Civil Engineering in 1963. As an active Alumnus of Oklahoma State, he served on the Board of Visitors of the School of Civil Engineering. He founded the Brawley Engineering Endowed Scholarship.

He began his career with the Oklahoma Department of Transportation as a design engineer. In 1969, he formed Brawley Engineering Corporation. A past Board member of ACEC OKLAHOMA, during his career, Russal was actively involved with the American Society of Civil Engineers, Oklahoma / National Society of Professional Engineers, Oklahoma Municipal Contractors Association, Association of Oklahoma General Contractors, and Association of County Commissioners of Oklahoma.

Russal was a member of the OKC Downtown Lions Club for 25 years. During that time, he served as Club President, Vice-President, Sight Conservation Chairman and Board Member. He has served on multiple committees. He chaired committees that remodeled the Lions Park at Lake Hefner, that rebuilt the Oklahoma Lions Eye Bank, and he was currently raising money for the New View Oklahoma Building Fund. He sponsored the Club golf tournament every year in support of college scholarships. Russal received multiple Club awards, such as the Lion of the Year, Edgar S. Vaught and the President's Extra Mile Award. He was also recognized through Lions International as a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

Russal was a man of great faith, having been a member of St. Luke's United Methodist Church, where he was raised. He was a lovely husband and father to his family.

He is survived by his wife, Phyllis; his son, G. Todd Brawley and his wife Sarah; his daughters, Tonya McGrew and Tiffany Jeffries; his stepsons, Eric Roberts and his wife Leigh, Matthew Roberts and his wife Megan, and Darin Nix and his wife Shelly; his stepdaughters, Kathleen Stevenson and her husband Tom and Annetta Fowler; his brother, Roger H. Brawley, Jr. and his wife Evelyn; and his grandchildren, Blair Brawley; Matthew McGrew and his wife Lizzie; Kaitlin McGrew; Austin Jeffries; Bryce and Logan Stevenson; Samuel, Katie, Tanner, and Lauren Roberts; Quentin Nix; and Isabelle, Hannah, Ace, Collin, and Cooper Fowler.

We extend our deepest sympathies to Jim & Emily, Don & Betty, Joyce, Phyllis & Todd, and all of their families. Lynne, Dee Don, Charles, and Russal, in their own special way, will always hold a special place in our hearts, and we share in their loss.

2017-18 ACEC OKLAHOMA Meeting Calendar

Below is the ACEC OKLAHOMA meeting schedule for 2017-18. We ask that you place these important meetings on your calendars, and look forward to seeing you throughout the year.

Thursday, August 24, 2017

Board & General Membership Meeting (Lunch)
9:00am Board Meeting;
11:45am General Meeting & Luncheon
Oklahoma City

October 15-18, 2017

ACEC Fall Conference
Orlando, FL

Thursday, November 16, 2017

Board & General Membership Meeting (Lunch)
9:00am Board Meeting; 1
1:45am General Meeting & Luncheon
Tulsa

Thursday, January 25, 2018

Board & General Membership Meeting and EEA
(Dinner)
2:00pm Board Meeting;
5:00pm General Meeting & Dinner
Oklahoma City

February, March, and April, 2018 (Dates TBD)

Leadership For Engineers

April 15-18, 2018

ACEC Annual Convention
Washington, DC

Thursday, April 26, 2018

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

Thursday, May 3, 2018

ODOT/ACEC OKLAHOMA Partnering
Conference
Marriott Southern Hills, Tulsa

June 7-9, 2018

ACEC Midwest States Annual Convention
Branson, MO

President's Monthly Update

July, 2017

David Raymond, President & CEO

As an important part of the Council's advocacy and educational agendas, ACEC commissions independent policy studies in support of our industry. This week, we released a study of EPA's Superfund program showing a steady decline in both funding and the rate of clean-ups, with implied health risks. This should be an important tool for legislators as they consider future funding levels. Last year's major contracting out study continues to pay dividends as state legislators use the study to achieve greater outsourcing of design services (e.g., a California state senator cited the results in an op-ed this week in the Sacramento Bee). Looking ahead to our Fall Conference in Orlando, Florida, we have a great lineup of speakers and business programs, including Michael Hayden, former Director of the NSA and CIA who will discuss risk management of terrorist and cyber threats; Martin Ford, on the business impacts of artificial intelligence and robotics; Rob O'Neill, former SEAL Team Six leader who shot Osama bin Laden; Neil Howe, the expert on Millennials in the workplace; and excellent CEO panels – not to mention our top-flight social program and Orlando venue near Disney, which your family will enjoy. Happy Independence Day!

General

- ACEC Chair Satch Pecori and I met with leading engineering CEOs in Europe to discuss industry trends and contracting practices; attended European Federation of Engineering Consultancy Associations (EFCA) conference on sustainability; reviewed forms of contracting with the French engineering association (SYNTEC); met with incoming FIDIC chair on international challenges; and attended the annual awards ceremony of the British Association for Consultancy and Engineering.

Government Advocacy

- Hosted a meeting of major association executives with George Sifakis, assistant to the president and director of the Office of Public Liaison (OPL), and his deputy, Steve Munisteri, to help propel industry issues with the Trump Administration.
- Lobbied the Senate Appropriations Committee for increased funding for the Department of State and USAID, and for increased U.S. firm participation in their programs.
- Renewed long-standing partnering agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; and promoted contracting out with COE officials.
- Secured funding increases for the Airport Improvement Program (AIP) and beneficial provisions for commercial drone use in FAA reauthorization bills approved by House and Senate transportation committees.
- Urged member firms to contact their Members of Congress, to cosponsor the Public Buildings Renewal Act (HR 960/S 326), which would create \$5 billion in private activity bonds for public buildings.
- Urged Secretary of Labor Alexander Acosta to reduce the more than doubled salary thresholds of the

proposed overtime pay rule; the rule was finalized in May 2016 but a preliminary injunction put it on hold.

- Released a timely study of the federal Superfund program – which cleans up the nation's most highly contaminated sites – documenting decreases in program funding and a slowdown of clean-ups that ACEC is using to educate lawmakers and the Administration.
- Joined business allies in asking the Senate to include repeal of the health insurance tax on plans sold to small firms in its health care reform legislation.
- Joined industry allies on a letter to lawmakers in support of legislation (HR 2910) to streamline the permitting of natural gas pipelines at FERC.
- Called on the U.S. Senate to restore the quorum on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in order to allow action on more than \$16 billion in pipeline projects that have been on hold for four months.
- Expressed support for a supply chain cybersecurity standard adopted by NERC that allows flexibility for utilities and their engineering firms to negotiate exclusions or limitations on liability for malware that could appear in client control systems.
- Launched grassroots Action Alert backing legislation to repeal the "prior approval" rule, which requires ACEC/PAC and other federal trade association political action committees (PACs) with corporate members to get permission from firm leadership before soliciting and/or accepting contributions.
- ACEC/PAC surpassed \$550,000 in YTD receipts, the earliest this fundraising milestone has ever been reached, and keeping ACEC/PAC ahead of last year's record pace.

