

THE FIRST WORD

September, 2016

ODOT "Historic Bridges Management" Seminar

The ODOT Cultural Resources Program is sponsoring a workshop entitled "**Historic Bridges Management, Regulations and Rehabilitation**" on September 27th, and ACEC OKLAHOMA members are invited to attend.

The workshop is taught by historians and engineers from the consultant community and the Minnesota Department of Transportation. The course is provided by the National Preservation Institute.

Due to limited space, ODOT is accepting only one person per company. But, firms can request additional people to be placed on wait list if space is available.

The workshop will be held **Tuesday, September 27th** at the **ODOT Training Center on 1025 SE 59th St, Oklahoma City** from **8:00am until 4:30pm** for Design Consultants, CEDs, Counties, and ODOT personnel. An on-site lunch will be provided.

This one-day workshop will discuss:

- What makes a bridge Historic
- Oklahoma's bridge engineering heritage
- Regulatory review (Section 106, Section 4(f), and NEPA)
- Purpose and Need for bridge projects
- Collaboration between cultural resources staff, designers, and engineers
- Alternatives analyses and decision-making
- Cases in successful bridge rehabilitation and implementation of bridge management plans

Please make arrangements for attendance by contacting Jennifer Jones (jmjones@ou.edu) by September 23rd.

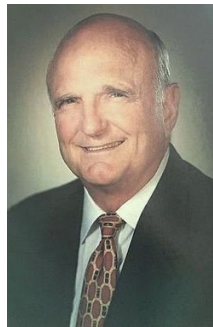
Engineering Excellence Awards Entries Now Being Accepted

All members have received the "Call For Entries" for ACEC OKLAHOMA's 2016 Engineering Excellence Awards Competition. For info, go to www.acecok.org

Entry deadline is Friday, November 4th.

In Memory Robert C. Poe (1938 - 2016)

ACEC Oklahoma is saddened to report the passing of Robert C (Bob) Poe, founder of Poe & Associates.



Poe attended Tulsa Public Schools and moved during his junior year to Norman, where he graduated from Norman High School. He received a track scholarship to the University of Oklahoma and later received a number of substantial scholarships, which with part-time jobs defrayed the cost of attending the University. He graduated from O.U. with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering and Masters in Civil Engineering,

and a Masters in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Pittsburgh.

Poe & Associates was started in McAlester, with Bob and one draftsman. Bob served at Oklahoma Turnpike Engineering and the company has been involved in numerous public works projects, including water systems, highway, and bridge design, design of rural water systems, water plants, sewage treatment facility, airport, and community developments.

In addition to Poe & Associates, Poe was involved in a variety of businesses including golf course and golf community design, commercial real estate, and banking. He also established the Center for Legislative Excellence, a bipartisan public policy committee in Tulsa to promote funding of indigent health care, higher education, and transportation funding for Tulsa and northeast Oklahoma. And Poe awarded scholarships to hundreds of students in the schools of engineering at OU, OSU and TCC.

Bob is survived by his wife, Jacqueline Kalman Poe whom he met in high school and later married while attending the University of Oklahoma. They were married for 58 years. He is also survived by two children, Susan Poe Dixon and Richard Robert Poe; and three grandchildren, Frank Deck, Alexander Poe and Antonio Poe; and brother, Patrick Poe of Norman.

ACEC OKLAHOMA extends our deepest sympathy to the Poe family.

Consulting Engineers PAC and ACECPAC Working For You

If you haven't notice, not only is it football season, it's ELECTION SEASON!

In Oklahoma, the primary and run-off elections are over, and now we are headed to the November 8th General Elections for the Oklahoma House and Senate, along with a variety of State Questions and local races. On the national level, all five Oklahoma Congressmen and one U.S. Senator will be on the ballot.

Your political action committees....Consulting Engineers PAC at the state level and ACECPAC at the national level...are studying races and look at candidates who have earned or deserve the support of the consulting engineering community.

In just our first election cycle, Consulting Engineers PAC has raised over \$23,000, and has already made \$7,000 in candidate contributions. ACECPAC is on track to raise over \$1 Million in 2016....\$2 Million for the 2015-16 election cycle...with over \$16,000 of that coming from ACEC OKLAHOMA members.

These totals are fantastic for Oklahoma, and we would like to recognize all of those who have supported both Consulting Engineers PAC and ACECPAC during the last two years.

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Janet Meshek	Meshek & Associates, PLC	Jerry Clement	White Hawk Engineering & Design
Doug Klassen	MKEC Engineering, Inc	Steve Ford	ZFI Engineering Co.

Our deepest THANKS to those shown on both lists for their support of ACEC OKLAHOMA's and ACEC government advocacy programs. Our successes at both the state and federal levels depend on electing individuals to the Oklahoma House and Senate and the U.S. House and Senate who are willing to listen to our issues and concerns.

All we can ask of an elected official is for an "open door" and "thoughtful consideration." They may not always vote the way we would like, but if they will at least listen, they will be better informed and prepared when it comes time to make their final decision. Through Consulting Engineers PAC and ACECPAC, we gain that access, without which we would have not chance to tell our story.

What, you say! You don't see your name on one or both lists. Well, it's not too late to make your 2016 contribution to Consulting Engineers PAC and/or ACECPAC.

Contributions to both PACs can be made by PERSONAL credit card on our respective websites: www.acecok.org and www.acec.org/advocacy/advocacy-pac

Also, **Consulting Engineers PAC Trustees** will be meeting at the **Oklahoma Association of General Contractors** offices on **Friday, September 16th at Noon** to discuss and consider candidate contributions for the upcoming General election. ACEC OKLAHOMA's Lobbying Team will present recommendations as to which races Consulting Engineers PAC may want to be involved. **Any Consulting Engineers PAC contributor is welcome to attend, and Lunch will be provided**

If any ACEC OKLAHOMA member has a specific candidate with whom you have a close relationship and should be considered by Consulting Engineers PAC, please let Jim Sullins know as soon as possible so that our Lobbying Team can research the race and provide background material.

As always, if you have any questions about either of the PACs or the advocacy programs, don't hesitate to contact Jim Sullins by phone or e-mail.

PRESIDENT'S MONTHLY UPDATE

September, 2016

David Raymond, President & CEO

August featured a unanimous vote by the ACEC Board of Directors to add the Rhode Island Consulting Engineers (RICE) as our 52nd MO, and we look forward to formally welcoming them as ACEC/Rhode Island at the October Board meeting. Our membership employee strength continues to grow – it is now at almost 600,000 – and our PAC is pouring almost \$2 million into Congressional races this election cycle to boost pro-business candidates who embrace our agenda. Our outside auditors, CliftonLarsonAllen, gave us a clean bill of health and say ACEC is one of "the best managed associations of the over 8,000 non-profit organizations we serve." And who knew "Document Retention" would be such a hot webinar topic? – but it has turned out to be a summer blockbuster (you can download it in the link below). Sign-ups for our Fall Conference in Colorado Springs are strong, and I encourage you to register if you haven't already, as the room block at the Broadmoor is quickly filling up. Have a great Labor Day holiday!

General

- The ACEC Board of Directors voted unanimously to accept the Rhode Island Consulting Engineers (RICE) as the Council's 52nd Member Organization; the new ACEC/Rhode Island delegation will be formally welcomed at the board meeting at the Fall Conference in Colorado Springs.
- ACEC's outside auditors for our FY 2016 annual audit reported that the Council's "sound financial practices and procedures are exemplary."
- ACEC/PAC passed the \$600,000 mark in total receipts for the calendar year, with Connecticut and Idaho joining Indiana, Hawaii, Wisconsin, South Carolina, Tennessee, Montana, and Delaware in meeting their annual PAC goals.
- ACEC/Louisiana has contributed \$2,000 to help the more than 350 employees of the Louisiana DOT hit hard by the recent catastrophic flooding in the southern part of the state; ACEC members throughout the country are encouraged to contribute to the DOT Employee Assistance Fund – [click here](#) for the donation form and please refer to ACEC in the comments section.

Government Advocacy

- Urged the Speaker of the House and the leadership of the House Appropriations Committee to support a provision in the 2017 State and Foreign Operations Appropriations bill that would restore the ability of the Export-Import Bank to make loans, bypassing Sen. Richard Shelby's (R-AL) hold-up of President Obama's new nominees for the Ex-Im Board as a means of thwarting the Bank.
- Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD) wrote a strong letter to the Secretaries of Treasury & Housing & Urban Development addressing concerns raised by ACEC that public

building owners are demanding a refund from firms claiming a tax deduction under Section 179D to promote energy efficient buildings.

- The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) announced that it will develop a regulatory framework to allow some commercial use of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) over people on the ground, a move supported by ACEC.
- Joined with 22 other stakeholder organizations in objecting to the inclusion of greenhouse gas emissions in proposed FHWA performance management requirements for State DOTs and MPOs.
- Backed the nomination of two member firm executives to represent the industry on a North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) committee that will develop standards to implement the FERC supply chain cybersecurity rule.
- The Environment and Energy Committee summer meeting featured briefings on congressional consideration of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), comprehensive energy legislation, NEPA reform, the water utility of the future, and the FERC/NERC supply chain cyber security rule and standards development.

Business Resources

- With 80 registered sites, August's most popular webinar, *The Battle of the (Paper) Bulge: Document Retention Issues and Best Practices for Design Professionals*, examined document retention from a practical and legal perspective, and explored ways to help members manage and store their documents with confidence; the archived webinar is available [here](#).

