



August 2018

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2018-19 President's Memo

Hello ACEC/MN members and welcome to our 2018-19 fiscal year! I am honored to be serving as your president this year. We have a lot on our plate, including an outstanding lineup of educational, networking and legislative events throughout the year. I'd also like to encourage you to get involved with a committee – they are the life blood of the organization. You can learn all about the many events and committee activities at the annual Fall Welcome on October 10 where we also hope to hear from a gubernatorial candidate.

The centerpiece of our effort this year is the launch of our sparkling new 2018-2021 strategic plan! A lot of work by a lot of people went into creating the plan over the past 10 months and I think the outcome was terrific. We have three main goals that reflect both the opportunities and threats that our member firms face in the coming years. These goals, Leadership, Value and Transformation, represent action – which is exactly what we will need from our membership to be successful.

The first goal, Leadership, goes a step further than we have in the past. We not only want to be the voice of the consulting engineering community, we want to be a leading voice of the business community. Our member firms, after all, are businesses first and foremost, whose "product" is creative solutions to engineering and scientific challenges in the built and natural environments. Every day, we face other challenges in running a business, including recruiting and retaining the best people, changing workplace rules, restrictive tax and other laws, rising liability and ever-accelerating technological advances. We need to be at the table when these issues are discussed and action taken, whether for or against. In future communications, I'll discuss the other two goals in more detail.

ACEC/MN's long time lobbyist, Randy Morris, informed us this summer that he will be retiring at the end of 2018. Randy has been an invaluable source of information and worked tirelessly on our behalf to elevate the consulting engineering community in the eyes of the legislature. He will be very difficult to replace, but the search process has started and we hope to have someone in place by November in order to ensure a smooth transition. Stay tuned for more information on a sendoff party for Randy in December. Thank you, Randy for 25 years of partnering and advocacy!



Lastly, I'm very excited to share with you the news that ACEC/MN is partnering with the University of St. Thomas to create an advanced leadership series geared toward mid-career professionals in leadership roles within their firms. This series will be a wonderful compliment to the emerging leaders series for younger professionals and the leadership breakfast series for established firm leaders.

Enjoy the rest of your summer and get ready for a year of transition, growth and action!



Dan Larson, American Engineering Testing, Inc.
2018-19 ACEC/MN President

Participate in ACEC/MN Committees

Committees are the heart of ACEC/MN. Committee members help develop new programs and initiatives, strengthen existing programs, and encourage new ideas. The ACEC/MN Board of Directors invites you to serve on any number of committees that help make the organization strong. It's a great opportunity to develop your skills in working with groups and to meet others in the consulting engineering community with similar interests. Committee descriptions are available on the ACEC/MN [website](#). Contact the ACEC/MN office at 952/593-5533 if you're interested in joining a committee.

Fall Welcome & Expo – October 10

Save the date for the 2018 Fall "Fusion." More details will be out soon. Affiliate members, if you are interested in featuring your firm at a booth again this year, please contact Melissa at melissa@acecmn.org to learn more about expo opportunities.

Awards Informational Seminar – September 12

Has your firm completed a great project within the past two years? You should enter it into the 2018-19 Engineering Excellence Awards (EEA) competition. It's not too early to begin preparing your entries for this year's competition.

Where to begin: An informational meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 12, 2018 at 12:00 pm at the ACEC/MN office (FREE PIZZA). Join us and learn the following:

- How to prepare your entry
- What elements make a good entry
- How the judging process works
- Hear from past entrants

Why attend: This meeting is for new and returning entrants. Entrants from prior years and members of the Awards Committee will be on hand to describe the program and provide pointers on how to navigate the process and create an effective entry. We will also have examples of entries from prior years for your review. Visit the ACEC/MN website to [register](#) for this seminar or the [awards page](#) for more information.

DATE: Wednesday, September 12, 2018

TIME: 12:00 – 1:30 pm

LOCATION: ACEC/MN office – 10201 Wayzata Blvd, Suite 240, Minnetonka MN 55305

COST: FREE to ACEC/MN members and non-members

Awards packets will be mailed shortly. Deadlines are as follows:

- Preliminary State Entries Due: Wednesday, October 3, 2018 (**electronic submittals via email only please**)
 - Final State Entries Due: October 22, 2018 (12:00 pm)
 - State Judging: November 14, 2018 (317 on Rice Park)
 - Notice of State Grand/Honor Winners: November 19, 2018
 - Final National Entries Due to ACEC National in Washington, DC: January 4, 2019
 - State Awards Banquet: January 25, 2019 (Graduate Minneapolis)
 - National Judging: February 6-10, 2019
 - National Awards Gala: May 7, 2019 in Washington, D.C.
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2018 Year of the Engineer with Science Museum – Exciting Update!

Mid-Year Report

ACEC/MN recently received a mid-year report from the Science Museum of Minnesota assessing the impact our organization is making to reach 1 million people in 2018 with the power of engineering. The Science Museum reports that the first six months of 2018 Year of the Engineer are meeting and exceeding expectations. As of June 30, **461,789 individuals** have been reached. [Click here](#) to view or download the mid-year report for more information. Thank you to all member firms who have contributed to this partnership with the Science Museum!

Faces of Engineering PSA Videos

ACEC/MN members are featured in Public Service Announcement (PSA) videos developed by the Science Museum of Minnesota to promote the Year of the Engineer. The video PSA series of engineers is posted to Twitter once a month. The following engineers were interviewed for the project. Click on the links below to see the two videos that have already been posted on Twitter.

- [Katie Toghradjian](#), Isthmus Engineering, Inc. (July 13)
- [Lisa Breu](#), SRF Consulting Group, Inc. (August 13)
- Ann Johnson, Professional Engineering Services, Ltd. (September 13)
- Debra Reider, AKF Group LLC (November 13)

ACEC National Announcements

Human Resources Forum 2018

Two Days of Peer-to-Peer Information Sharing, Problem-Solving, and Networking!

What can you expect from ACEC's Annual HR Forum?

A wide range of important HR topics will be covered, including:

- Successful Recruiting Techniques
- Labor Law Update
- Pursuing Excellence in Retirement Plans
- Compensation Trends
- Small and Large Firm Roundtables

Plus more free time for open, unstructured group discussions. Space is limited - [Register Today!](#)

Here's what last year's attendees said were their most practical takeaways:

- "Roundtable discussions – fellow HR professionals sharing their practical applications"
- "Some resources/books, recruitment ideas, succession planning process."
- "Learning about HR trends in A/E industry and getting to network with other HR professionals in A/E industry."

Fall Conference in Las Vegas – Oct 28-31

The ACEC National Fall Conference in Las Vegas, NV is scheduled for October 28-31, 2018. If you are interested in attending the National Fall Conference, follow [this link](#) to register. The early bird deadline for registration is September 28, 2018. Hotel rooms fill up quickly, so consider registering as soon as you can.

ACEC/MN's Got GAME

38th Annual ACEC/MN Scholarship Softball Tournament in Memorial of DuWayne "Dewey" Kasma Was a Success!



The 38th Annual ACEC/MN Scholarship Softball Tournament in Memorial of DuWayne "Dewey" Kasma Memorial held on Saturday, August 5, was a fun day of ball for everyone. Over \$3,400 was raised at the event to support engineering students. Thank you to the Kasma family for continuing to sponsor this tournament.

The 2018 tournament results are:

Division A: 1st place: Alliant Engineering (Maroon); Runner-up: Bolton & Menk; Consolation: TKDA

Division B: 1st place: Barr Engineering Co.; Runner-up: Braun Intertec; Consolation: Stantec

Division C: 1st place: VAA; Runner-up: Meyer Borgman Johnson

Congratulations to all winning teams! Visit the ACEC/MN [website](#) for photographs of the winning teams.

10th Annual “Battle on the Beach” Volleyball Tournament – Sept 29

The Emerging Professionals Committee is sponsoring the 10th Annual “Battle On the Beach” Volleyball Tournament. This 4 on 4 event will take place on Saturday, September 29 at Mama G's in Maple Grove. The entry fee is \$100/team for members and \$200/team for non-members. Each team will get a free pitcher of beer or soda and a free appetizer. Trophies and prizes will be awarded to teams in the winner's circle!

If your company can't fill a team or has too many people for one team but not enough for two, the Emerging Professionals Committee will gather teams to include those individuals. Proceeds from this event go toward the scholarship fund awarded each year to deserving engineering students.

Teams can register online or complete the [registration form](#) and email Derek Arens at derekar@bolton-menk.com and/or Kristine Scott at kristine@acecmn.org. Past years' tournaments have filled up fast, so sign up now to guarantee your team's spot in the tournament this year!

Entry deadline: Tuesday, September 25, 2018
[Register online](#) here.

7th Annual “Shoot for the PAC” Competition – October 3

The 7th annual clay shoot will be held on Wednesday, October 3, 2018 at the Minnesota Horse & Hunt Club located at 2920 East 220th Street Prior Lake, MN 55372. Mark your calendars now and plan on joining your colleagues for a fun afternoon of clay shooting with proceeds supporting the ACEC/MN PAC. You can download the [registration form](#) here. Plan your teams early!

Building Engineering and Construction Conference (Hosted by ACEC/MN & DBIA-UMR) – December 6

Save the date for the fourth annual Building Engineering Construction Conference on Thursday, December 6, 2018 at the Marriott Minneapolis West.

We are partnering with the Design Build Institute of America Upper Midwest Region (DBIA-UMR) again this year. The conference focuses on engineering business management including emerging or expanding markets, major project initiatives and their effects on the design/construction community, and what clients are looking for from their design partners.

Engineers, Architects, Owners and Contractors are invited to this event organized to bring the community together for education, networking and sharing ideas. Look for more information in the coming weeks. In the meantime, mark your calendars and plan on being there.

Discounted Renaissance Festival Tickets Available

ACEC/MN has discounted Renaissance Festival tickets available. The festival is open weekends August 18 – September 30. Ticket rates are as follows: Adults - \$18.95 (discounted from \$23.95); Children - \$11.50 (discounted from \$14.95); Food books - \$5.00 (discounted from \$6.00). The festival has 12 main stages and six music stages. If you are interested in these discounted tickets or food books, contact Kristine Scott at 952/593-5533 or kristine@acecmn.org.

Save the Date! Upcoming ACEC/MN Events

- [Engineering Excellence Awards Informational Seminar](#) – September 12
 - [Brown Bag: Strengthening of Concrete Members](#) – September 22
 - [10th Annual “Battle on the Beach” Volleyball Tournament](#) – September 29
 - [Fall Welcome & Expo](#) – October 10
 - [7th Annual “Shoot for the PAC” Competition](#) – October 3
 - Building Engineering and Construction Conference (Hosted by ACEC/MN & DBIA-UMR) – December 10
 - [ACEC National Fall Conference in Las Vegas](#) – October 28-31
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News From Around the Membership

American Engineering Testing, Inc. announced the promotion of **Chelsea Buck** to Project Manager.

Braun Intertec is pleased to announce that **Charles Cadenhead, Jr., PE** has joined the firm as Principal and Minnesota Transportation Division Director.

LHB recently announced the following new hires to its Duluth office: **Aaron Frahm** as an Electrical Engineer, **Noah Flynn** and **Cory Hage** as Survey Technicians, and the following new hires to its Minneapolis office: **Bailey Hanson**, Assoc. AIA, LEED Green Associate as Architectural Designer, and **Dean Smith, PE** as Structural Engineer. **Richard Samec**, PE, an Electrical Engineer, also rejoins the Minneapolis office.

Sambatek, Inc. is pleased to announce the addition of **Roger Humphrey** as a Client Service Manager to its residential group.

If you have an announcement you'd like to see included in the next Parameters newsletter, please contact:
Kristine Scott, Kristine@acecmn.org P: 952-593-5533 F: 952-593-5552