2019 SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER: THE CONNECTOR

WELCOME
Kevin Artl, ACEC Illinois President & CEO

How long have you been in the Engineering industry?
I've been in the transportation sector since 2016 when I started with the Illinois Tollway as Chief Operating Officer. The experience so far has been outstanding, it’s been a great opportunity to learn and work within this amazing industry.

When and how did you first get involved with ACEC-IL?
Working in former Senator Mark Kirk’s office we hosted ACEC groups during their DC fly-in, but it wasn’t until working at the Tollway that I really engaged with ACEC on a substantive policy level. ACEC was instrumental in educating me on QBS and also providing best business practices overall for a wide range of areas. I learned quickly that the success of any capital program is directly correlated to industry support and engagement.

What’s your favorite ACEC-IL activity?
Without question it’s the EEA Gala. All the clients and decision-makers are in the room to celebrate the industry’s accomplishments. The event is truly spectacular.

What’s the number one reason firms should become an ACEC-IL member?
I can’t narrow it down to one, so I will provide three: Networking, Access and Advocacy. Perhaps more than any other industry, this one is built on relationships and teamwork and ACEC is the perfect conduit to make connections and forge strong partnerships. In terms of access, the programming ACEC does ensures members have the most up to date information on agency programs from the county level to the federal level while providing members the opportunity to discuss industry issues directly with clients. Finally advocacy, ACEC is the foremost advocate and voice for the industry and its concerns.

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?
Prior to this year, I enjoyed watching Cubs playoff baseball. Other than that, I run, I coach 2nd grade boys soccer, 4th grade boys basketball and I help my daughter practice her “jazz hands” for dance.

MEMBER UPDATES

Johann Aakre, P.E., S.E., joins Michael
Baker’s Chicago team as Structures Department Manager. In this role, he will help lead and develop a well-established team of bridge professionals, cultivate a great working culture and business strategy, and collaborate with other offices and practice leaders to continue to make a difference for our local and national clients.

Based in Michael Baker’s Chicago office, Brian Castro, P.E., M.ASCE, will serve as a Highway Engineer. In this role, he will lead plan production efforts and assist in the project management of conventional design-bid-build and design-build highway and roadway projects per scope and budget, in addition to providing technical guidance and mentoring staff.

Lauren Hochstadt, E.I.T., joins Michael Baker’s Chicago team as a Civil Associate, Water Resources. In this role, she will support the design of stormwater management solutions, complex transportation and civil drainage systems, Erosion and Sediment Pollution Control Plans, NPDES permitting and H&H analysis.

Developing A/E Firm Overhead Rates
Chicago, IL
October 1 - 2, 2019
8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Join us for this timely and informative course where instructor Dan Purvine will teach you the most up-to-date information you need to know to properly develop and support your firm’s overhead rate and minimize questioned costs in the state DOT review process.

Click HERE to register.

Constructability Vetted Through the Lens of Detailed 3D Modeling
Submitted by: Alfred Benesch & Company
Every year, the transportation industry invests more and more effort into the use of 3D modeling to improve designs and transform the way a project is viewed. Benesch has long been a champion of this practice and strives to incorporate 3D modeling and visualization technology as a best practice to vet constructability on a wide range of projects.

Having the ability to model staged construction allows the design team to fully understand the staged conditions, in turn improving a project’s constructability.

(Continue reading HERE)
75 Years Later, Lochner Still Drives Transportation Planning and Engineering Forward in Chicago

While serving as a transportation planner for Illinois' Cook County, Lochner founder Harry W. Lochner foresaw the vast opportunity that lay ahead for consultants to help public agencies advance transportation initiatives. With an entrepreneurial heart and experience gained pioneering transportation planning methodologies, in 1944 Harry established H.W. Lochner, Inc. (Lochner), one of only three firms in the U.S. offering urban highway system planning expertise at that time. Over the years, Lochner has continued along the path that Harry began—coupling high-performance and innovative thinking to progress transportation infrastructure planning and engineering both near the firm's headquarters in Chicago and across the U.S.

Throughout its 75-year history in Chicago, Lochner has been a part of several noteworthy projects, including providing construction oversight for the conversion of Orchard Field to Chicago O’Hare International Airport and design for three Chicago-area expressways – Dan Ryan, Chicago Skyway, and Illinois Tri-State Tollway. The firm also designed the first curved girder bridge in Illinois on I-55 over the Fox River, oversaw a city-wide street improvement program for the City of Chicago, provided program management for the reconstruction of North-South Wacker Drive Viaduct, and designed the signature North Halsted Street Bridge. “We are proud of our Chicago heritage and our involvement in supporting the mobility of the City as it has grown and evolved,” says Jeanne Cormier, president and chief executive officer.

Today, Lochner is working with state and local agencies in Illinois to usher in the next generation of design methodology, incorporating emerging technologies and project delivery methods on a number of projects.

Click here to read more.
S.O.S. Children's Villages: Evening of Hope

Join transportation industry leaders for a special event, Evening of Hope, to benefit S.O.S. Children's Villages Illinois. This annual fall event raises funds which play an incredibly important role in the well-being of the children and families that S.O.S. Children's Villages serve. S.O.S. is committed to providing safe, stable, loving homes for children by keeping brothers and sisters together in an individual home in the care of a full-time, professional foster parent. In doing so, they lay the foundation for rebuilding trust, confidence, and hope for each child in their care. This special event will take place on Thursday, October 10 at the Museum of Contemporary Art. Several transportation industry leaders are among the special honorees for the evening, including Illinois Tollway Executive Director José Alvarez, CDA Commissioner Jamie Rhee, IDOT Acting Secretary Omer Osman, CTA President Dorval Carter Jr., and PACE Executive Director Rocky Donahue.

Click here for ticket information.

Ownership Transition Seminar

- DATE: October 29, 2019
- REGISTRATION BEGINS: 8:00 am
- SEMINAR TIME: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
- Cost: The cost of the seminar is $745 per person. We offer a 20% discount for each additional registrant from the same design firm. Please register early to assure that there will be space for you. Limited seats are available! A full refund will be allowed up to 20 calendar days before the seminar.

Location:
Hilton Rosemont/Chicago O'Hare
5550 North River Road
Rosemont, IL 60018

(847) 678-4488

This program is registered with both the RCEP and the AIA and qualifies for 6.5 PDHs for Engineers (except in NY & FL) and 7 LUs for Architects.

Click HERE for Registration.

save the date
UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER 14
Chicago, IL
ACEC Illinois Dinner with Special Guests
Omer Osman - IDOT, Acting Secretary
José Alvarez - Illinois Tollway, Executive Director
Jim Underwood - Illinois Capital Development Board, Executive Director

OCTOBER 24
Chicago, IL
Regional Luncheon: IDOT 6 Year Plan
*LIMITED SEATING

OCTOBER 29
Schaumburg, IL
IDOT Phase 1 Seminar

NOVEMBER 14
Marriott in Bloomington, IL
ACEC Illinois Fall Conference & Board Meeting

FEBRUARY 19
Union League Club in Chicago, IL
ACEC Illinois Winter Board Meeting

FEBRUARY 20
Chicago, IL
2020 Engineering Excellence Awards Gala

JUNE 11
Bloomington, IL
ACEC Illinois Spring Meeting & Board Meeting

JUNE 12
Bloomington, IL
Spring Golf Outing

THANK YOU ACEC ILLINOIS SPONSORS

WEBINAR SUGGESTIONS:
ACEC-IL is proud to announce we have expanded our educational outreach to include Webinars.

This affords our membership greater flexibility in participation of sessions which aim at enhancing business productivity. If there is a topic that you would like to see presented, please contact us at bethany@acecil.org

SUBMIT AN ARTICLE:
Please submit news articles by the 15th of each month to: bethany@acecil.org
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