A Note from ACEC-KY President Steve McDevitt

November 2018

The ACEC Fall Conference in Las Vegas was very informative with insightful breakout sessions and guest speakers in both the morning and luncheon sessions. From Jon Meacham, Pulitzer-Prize Winning Author, who wrote books on three presidents Thomas Jefferson, George H. W. Bush and Andrew Jackson, to Susan O’Malley who at 29 years old became the President and CEO of the Washington Wizards and served in that position from 1991 to 2007; the talks were very entertaining and inspiring.

One of the more inspirational speakers was Mick Ebeling. He started the Not Impossible Foundation (notimpossible.com) that has developed devices for ALS patients to help them communicate, fabricated artificial limbs using a 3D printer for people who have been injured in the war in Sudan to wrist and ankle bands that allow deaf people to feel the different musical instruments in songs. This same device has been used to help reduce and eliminate the tremors that people with Parkinson experience. Please visit his website to learn more about what Mr. Ebeling’s foundation is exploring.

Brad Gregory and myself flew to Washington, D.C. to attend the ACEC Orientation meeting for incoming presidents and individual state ACEC board members. We learned about the strategic goals of ACEC and the nine different committees within the ACEC organization. Linda Darr, CEO and President of ACEC, stepped through her first 100 days on the job of reorganizing ACEC and redefining ACEC’s mission. Ms. Darr will be coming to our Nashville Retreat in January and will speak on Monday.

If you ever wonder what ACEC does for you, Government Affairs led by Steve Hall crafts our agenda when we visit our representatives in Congress each spring at ACEC’s Conference in Washington, D.C. ACEC helped get A/E firms included in the corporate rate cut from 35% to 21% and included A/E passthrough firms for a 20% deduction. Cash accounting and ESOPs were also preserved by efforts made by ACEC. Other items included this past year included FAA Reauthorization, America Water Infrastructure Act (WRDA), and the upcoming FAST Act Reauthorization and possible creation of a Water Trust Fund like the Highway Trust Fund. Please take some time and browse their website at acec.org to learn more on what ACEC has to offer.

Just a reminder that at our December 11th Quarterly Meeting and luncheon, Mr. Tony Parrott, the Executive Director for Louisville Metropolitan Sewer District, will be our featured speaker. Our meeting will be held at the Frankfort Country Club. The board meeting is at 9:00 am with general membership starting at 10:00 am. Lunch will begin at 11:30 am. Please signup to attend.

The agenda for the 2019 ACEC-KY Membership Retreat in Nashville on January 27th thru 29th at the Renaissance Hotel is almost finalized. We are aiming for December 1st to be able to begin registering for the retreat and for your hotel room. Besides Representative Rocky Adams and Senator Julie Raque Adams speaking at our Sunday Evening Reception, Todd Inman (Chief of Staff for Secretary Chao), Thomas Nelson (FHWA Kentucky Division Administrator), Pam Kordenbrook (FHWA Tennessee Division Administrator), Todd Bloch (Commissioner KY Department of Aviation), Tracey Cooper-Holden (Deputy Chief Engineer for Nashville Airport) and Andy Barber, PE (KYTC State Highway Engineer) will be speaking on Monday.

We are excited about John Covington speaking at our retreat as well to help sort out and explain the WIFIA and WRDA financing opportunities for local utilities. Diversifying the agenda was a key focus for the Business Practices Committee this year.

Out & About It’s been a busy month for the staff at the KEC. Staff has traveled across the state from Paducah to
Prestonsburg with the Fall Seminar Days. Check the website for the remaining schedule through the end of the year.

As always, there are plenty of ways to get involved in ACEC-KY... from being involved on a committee or subcommittee, to serving as a committee chair, to helping with any number of meetings and events organized by our organization. Please give me a call or send me an email to let me know how you may want to get involved. It’s never too late or too early in your career to participate in our organization whose sole purpose is to be an advocate for you and our industry.

Sincerely,

Stephen J. McDevitt, P.E.
President, ACEC-KY 2018-19

ACEC-KY Quarterly Meeting - December 11th at FCC
Our December 11th Quarterly meeting is being held at the Frankfort Country Club, beginning with the ACEC-KY Business meeting at 10:00 am. Lunch will begin at 11:30 and directly following lunch the Executive Director for the Louisville Metropolitan Sewer District, Tony Parrott, will speak.

We greatly encourage you to come to this meeting and bring your colleagues with you to find out more about what ACEC-KY members and committees are doing in the engineering community. Cost for the event is $35. Registration for the event is available online here!

ACEC-KY Retreat - January 27-29, 2019 at the Renaissance Hotel in Nashville
The ACEC-KY Retreat is fast approaching. We will be finalizing the agenda very soon and registration will open. Keep an eye on the event page for the Retreat for the agenda and registration being open. You will not want to miss this retreat! The passkey to reserve your room has already been added to the page.

ACEC-KY DATES TO NOTE
December 11, 2018
ACEC-KY Quarterly Meeting
Frankfort Country Club - Frankfort, KY

January 27-29, 2019
ACEC-KY Retreat 2019
The Renaissance - Nashville, TN

March 27, 2019
ACEC-KY EEA Awards Reception
Old Forester Distillery - Louisville, KY

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES
December 5, 2018
Louisville One Day Seminar
Ramada Plaza - Louisville, KY

December 5, 2018
Management & Leadership (Not OR) | Standards of Practice, Ethics & Code of Conduct
Ramada Plaza - Louisville, KY

December 7, 2018
Winter Dendrology & Native Tree Identification
Bernheim Arboretum & Research Forest - Clermont, KY

Check http://www.kyengcenter.org/events/ to see what other classes we have scheduled for the coming months!