

ACEC

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A Note from ACEC-KY President Steve McDevitt

January 2019



Alright, I admit that December was a busy month and I forgot to write a letter for our newsletter. Hopefully, going forward I won't miss another month, but I make no promises. Our December Board and Quarterly Meeting

was eventful. With I64 shutdown in both directions near the Shelbyville exit, I was late to the meeting and our speaker, Tony Parrott, was advised not to try to make the trip to Frankfort. Thankfully, he has agreed to talk at our next Quarterly Meeting that will be held on Friday, March 15th at the Olmsted in Louisville.

Of the 20+ people that are on ACEC's board or head up one of our committees, I was the only one that was late besides Clay Kelly who was also coming from Louisville. I want to thank Brad Gregory for throwing a mock coup to replace me and start the meeting. I understand that Brad and Shawn Washer got in a wrestling match on who wasn't going to take the lead. Luckily for Shawn, the in-coming president trumps the past president in the hierarchy of command.

I want also to thank Clay for stepping in and giving an enlightening talk on the Board of Licensure reorganization bill. We have a dedicated group of volunteers that are keeping a watch on the language of this bill. I understand that this bill does not have enough support to move forward. However, any bill that would take away the authority of our own board is concerning. If you ever wondered what ACEC does for you, this is another example.

On February 20th, we will be sponsoring a reception for our legislature with the Kentucky Association of Highway Contractors. During the day, a group from ACEC will meet with legislators to discuss an increase in transportation funding as well as supporting improvements to rail, air, and water that the KickStartKY Coalition supports. Anyone wishing to participate on our day at the state capital please reach out to me. Please mark your calendar to come to the reception starting at 5:00 pm.



Our group at the ACEC-KY Retreat's Sunday Night Reception



From my trip to Washington D.C. for the ACEC Orientation, another aspect of ACEC that I learned about is our PAC. ACEC/PAC supported 297 different Republican and Democratic candidates this past year for the U.S. Senate and the House of Representatives. ACEC/PAC is one of the top 3% of all Federal PACs and the top PAC for the Design-Build industry. Their 3-year goal is to continue to meet \$1 million or more strategic goal, getting states to meet their individual goals, and growing the donor base. Marie Ternieden leads the Business Resources & Education Group. They are responsible for overseeing committees on education, management practices, and government advocacy. Their leadership and education programs include Senior Executive Institute, workshops, online classes, Fall and Spring Conferences, and a variety of publications. Please take some time and browse their website at acec.org to learn more on what ACEC has to offer.

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Just a reminder that our Engineering Excellence Awards Reception will be held on Wednesday, March 27th. This year's reception will be held at the Old Forester Distillery on Main Street in Louisville. Tours of the distillery and cooperage will be available from 6:00 to 7:00 pm before the festivities. Manish Kothari, the Chair of the ACEC Board, will be coming to our event. Please mark your calendars and plan on coming.

A committee of ten people from both the ACEC and KSPE Executive Boards are busy sifting through several resumes from applicants for our Executive Director. The plan is narrow down the applicants to two or three and bring them in for an interview in late February. Hopefully, we will then be able to select, and they accept this position and begin working for us sometime in late March or early April.

Five new firms have joined ACEC in January – Groff Engineering & Consulting, LLC, Cummins Consulting Services, PLLC, Thoroughbred Engineering, Facility Commissioning Group, Inc., Vision Engineering, LLC and GEO Consultants. Thanks to Lisa Wilson-Plajer and everyone who has helped our organization grow.

Out & About Preceding the ACEC-KY Retreat, the staff found themselves in Carrollton, Kentucky for the Professionalism Session of Leadership PE on January 24th and 25th. The group got to tour Elk Creek Winery on Thursday night and NUCOR Gallatin on Friday afternoon. It was another great session. The ACEC-KY Retreat was held earlier this week in Nashville at the Renaissance Hotel. It was a great success with a good group in attendance and outstanding speakers across the two-day event. We heard about everything from the outlook for Kentucky Transportation in 2019 to the 2018 Federal Tax Overhaul to the WIFIA/WRDA. It was a great agenda and we look forward to hosting another outstanding Retreat in a couple of years. Now the staff is preparing for the almost 250 attendees that have registered for this year's Bridge Day being held on Tuesday, February 5th at the Marriott Griffin Gate in Lexington. Our staff never seem to lack in things to do.

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,



ACEC-KY Quarterly Meeting - March 15 at The Olmsted

Our March 15th Quarterly meeting is being held at The Olmsted, beginning with the ACEC-KY Business meeting at 10:30 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 Engineering Excellence Awards Reception

The ACEC-KY Engineering Excellence Awards Reception is fast approaching. The reception will run from 6:00 to 9:00 pm on March 27th at Old Forester Distillery on West Main Street in Louisville. We will have tours of the distillery during this event!

To get registered, go [online here](#) to sign up!