I want to welcome you to the first newsletter for ACEC SD. We are using this as a communication platform to hopefully better inform our Member Organizations and increase overall participation in this very important organization for the Business of Engineering.

This past meeting was a busy one, and so busy in fact that we were not able to make it into the presentation with the Emerging Leaders Program and see the presentation on Business Management and Ownership Transition. We had a wide variety of discussions on the status of ACEC SD; and what the membership wants out of the program. We discussed the overhead study that was just completed by the University of New York on the SDDOT overhead and the Member Firms Overhead. Very interesting.

We are going to continue, if possible to have the meeting collocated with the emerging leaders group. The board is hoping that providing some type of educational opportunity along with working the issues of the engineering community at the meetings will bring more value to the membership, and have more Member Firms in attendance.

If you would have any suggestions on what, when, where, or how we could increase participation in the quarterly meeting we would like some feedback. We are discussing cutting out the July meeting and having a conference call to cover the needed business. We would still have the October-November fall meeting, January-February meeting and the April meeting.

I hope you all have a safe summer, it is going by quick and before we know, the cold and snow will be upon us.

There is a lot going on in ACEC SD, so hope you will review the information in the newsletter, and if you have any input, we would like to hear back from our Members!

I hope you all have a safe summer, it is going by quick and before we know, the cold and snow will be upon us.

Hope to see you all at the next meeting November 30, 2016, at the RESPEC Office in Rapid City!

Best regards,
Kim L. McLaury, PE, PLS
Based upon our observations of the classes from the first three sessions of the inaugural ACEC/SD Emerging Leaders Program, it appears the future of our ACEC member firms will be in capable hands. They jumped right in, despite January weather challenges, and have actively participated in hands-on workshops on leadership, political advocacy/ethics, and A/E/C firm financial management so far.

The Emerging Leaders Program, provided exclusively for the benefit of young professionals within our member companies, aims to put them on the fast track to firm partnerships, management, and potential succession ownership opportunities. We have recruited a-list speakers in their respective fields and also offer 1 to 2 hour sessions with everyone at our general membership meetings. Please put the fall meeting (November 30th in Rapid City) on your calendar to network with the 2016-2017 emerging leaders class and share a workshop on professional liability and contracts.

William H. Holder, PE
Emerging Leaders Program
Vice President – Marketing Director
American Engineering Testing, Inc.

Emerging Leaders Program
Meet several from the 2016-17 class

Kevin Heiberger

Mr. Kevin J. Heiberger works in the Mining & Energy business unit of RESPEC as a Staff Engineer in the Geomechanics division. Mr. Heiberger has experience in performing geomechanical analyses of underground excavations in domal and bedded salt formations for the solution-mining, hydrocarbon storage, and potash production industries. His geomechanics project experience includes the structural assessment of solution-mined and underground conventional mining excavations. Mr. Heiberger’s background includes technical team leadership and project management roles for Department of Defense (DoD) programs in the aerospace industry, in addition to detailed component design and system development experience.

After obtaining his Bachelors of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from South Dakota School of Mines & Technology with high honors in 2007, Mr. Heiberger was hired by Caterpillar’s Transmission Business Unit as a Controls System Engineer. Prior to joining the RESPEC team in 2015, Mr. Heiberger worked in lead engineering roles for Triumph Gear Systems and L-3 Communications-CSW, serving the military aerospace industry. His responsibilities included both technical and project management aspects spanning multiple levels of internal and external customers and sub-contractors. His strong technical skills in design and development were paired with his team leadership skills to provide solutions to challenging engineering problems within stringent project constraints.

His education and work experiences as an engineering professional have provided him a solid foundation of technical, interpersonal and project management skills that he leverages to exceed customer’s expectations.

“No one is born a leader. You may start with a gift for leadership, but you have to work hard to develop it fully.”
~Dave Ramsey
Gabe Laber, PE

Gabe earned his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology in 2003. Since graduation, Gabe has worked as a consultant helping communities throughout eastern South Dakota with their municipal infrastructure. He is currently employed by DGR Engineering in their Sioux Falls office and serves as a project manager. He is married to Kristi and they have six-year-old twins Briley and Brayden. Gabe and his family live north of Brandon.

Peter Rausch, PE

Mr. Rausch is a civil engineer at RESPEC with a background in water resources engineering. The core of his experience is in small project planning and design applied to stream channel restoration and agricultural irrigation systems. Mr. Rausch also has extensive experience in surface-water monitoring and data analysis for both quality and quantity. He has designed and implemented multiple remote monitoring and control systems for irrigation canal automation and surface-water monitoring. Mr. Rausch is experienced in urban stormwater management and best management practices (BMP) design. He has also been involved in water rights evaluation and has experience with the requirements for their transfer. Mr. Rausch regularly and effectively communicates and coordinates with individual landowners, agricultural producers, and client personnel. Mr. Rausch is proficient with AutoCAD Civil 3D, ArcGIS, and several water modeling platforms, including EPA SWMM, XPSWMM, HEC-HMS, HEC-RAS, and EPANET.

Jody Page, PE

Jody Page is a Senior Project Manager with over 17 years of experience at HDR in design and project management of numerous municipal civil, federal, and environmental engineering projects. The wide range of these projects include corridor and interchange studies, major roadway reconstruction, airport improvements, military planning and installation projects, sanitary gravity and forcemain sewers and rehabilitation, design-build, and environmental studies. His roles in these have included project management, major urban roadway and site design, extensive public involvement, right-of-way and easement negotiations, utility layout and design, drainage analysis with storm sewer design, 3D computer roadway modeling, and preparing plans and specifications. Jody currently serves as the manager of the HDR Rapid City office and fills the role of area Federal Business Group lead. Along with his work at HDR, he also serves in the South Dakota Air National Guard with over 22 years of experience in the 114th Civil Engineering Squadron.

Scott Schneider, PE

Scott Schneider, PE, is a civil engineer specializing in construction administration services for construction and reconstruction of streets and highways in urban and rural settings at Sayre Associates, Inc. in Sioux Falls, SD. He has a BS in Civil Engineering from South Dakota State University. Prior to joining Sayre Associates in 2006, Scott worked as a project engineer for the South Dakota Department of Transportation at the Huron, SD DOT Area Office.

Scott lives in Sioux Falls, SD, with his wife Mandy, two daughters (Anna and Bethany), and two sons (Corey and Caden).
Harlan Quenzer Announces Retirement

After 39 years with SPN and Associates, Harlan Quenzer has announced that he aspires to travel, golf, fish, spend time with his family and recently announced his retirement. Harlan’s retirement from SPN impacts ACEC/SD as well as he has said goodbye to his colleagues and friends within the organization. Hopefully there will be an ACEC/SD golf game in the future to entice Harlan to visit.

Harlan has been an integral member of ACEC/SD for over 25 years. He has served as State Director, Secretary-Treasurer, Vice President, President and a two-term commitment as the National Director. His humor, friendship and leadership as an ACEC member will not be forgotten. Best wishes to you Harlan!

ACEC PAC Needs Your Support!

Engineering has certainly changed and the complexity of public policy is affecting our businesses more than ever before. That is why participation in ACEC’s PAC is so important. The ACEC PAC helps create avenues of access to key decision makers, giving us a stronger voice in the decisions that affect our businesses, clients, and community. ACEC/PAC is our industry’s primary tool for political engagement at the national level. The sole purpose of ACEC/PAC is to elect candidates to the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate who support policies and legislation favorable to the engineering industry.

The importance of this PAC is highlighted through an overview of legislative wins in 2015:

- Secured a new 5-year, $305 billion surface transportation program (the FAST Act) that includes language to promote contracting out by State DOTs, as well as provisions to enhance the reliability of the nation’s electrical grid.
- Made permanent the R&D tax credit, Section 179 expensing, secured extensions of 50 other tax incentives.
- Won a four-year reauthorization of Export-Import Bank.
- Lifted 40-year ban on crude oil exports.
- Enforced QBS, FAR compliance in DOT procurements.
- Killed FHWA Cost Recovery.
- Preserved Cash Accounting.
- Prohibited the use of reverse auctions for military construction design-build projects.

In order to meet South Dakota’s PAC goal, we are holding a raffle.

Please strongly consider purchasing ticket(s) to sell to your co-workers and help us continue to have a voice on the national level. There will only be 100 tickets sold so buy your tickets early.

Thank-you.

Sincerely,
Steve Hoff

GUN RAFFLE

Benelli M2, Semi-automatic shotgun
Max 5 Camouflage
12 GA — Barrel: 26 IN

$50.00 donation to ACEC/PAC
Only 100 tickets available
Limit of 5 tickets

See raffle details at www.acecsd.org