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President's Message
By Kevin Gustorf

ACEC is The Business of America's Engineering Industry

As I settled in to write my first President's Message, and was racking my brain for a topic, I found myself thinking about what ACEC does and why the organization is important to our industry. As I perused the ACEC websites and read through some of the publications, I came across a great tag line that very succinctly sums up the mission... **ACEC is The Business of America's Engineering Industry.** ACEC is active and involved in variety of different issues, all with the purpose of securing our future and advancing our industry. This is true at the national, state and local levels.

But before I dive into the business, I would be remiss not to properly acknowledge and thank my predecessor, Debanik Chaudhuri. Many of you were probably not aware of this, but Debanik's would-have-been predecessor moved out of the region this past summer just before her term as President was set to begin. Debanik was asked to step into the Chapter President role a year early, without the benefit of serving as the Vice President for a year to prepare. Debanik selflessly agreed to take on the responsibility, and performed the duties admirably. On behalf of the entire Sierra Chapter, I want to

Calendar of Events

Meetings are at the Hilton Sacramento Arden West unless otherwise noted.

Please Note Cost Increase

Member Cost: \$50 - Non-Member \$60

Saturday, September 7

PAC Fundraiser - Nor CA Wine Event
Sonoma, CA
(Flyer attached)

"Tuesday" September 17

Sierra Chapter General Membership
Dinner Meeting

Speaker:

Michael Green, Mind Spring

Topic:

**Informative and Interactive
Presentation on Leadership**

[Register Here](#)

Friday, September 20

DEADLINE for Sierra Chapter & ACEC-CA
Engineering Excellence Award Submittals

October 2-4

ACEC-CA Strategic Summit,
Newport Beach, CA

Wednesday, October 16

Sierra Chapter Membership Dinner Meeting
& Engineering Excellence Awards

Details Inside

[Register Here](#)

Please visit www.acec.org for a complete list of upcoming webinars and on-line classes.



Kevin Gustorf
Sierra Chapter President
2019-2020

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thank Debanik for his tireless efforts last year and for setting the example for myself and others to follow.

Back to the business at hand, which is the business of engineering and surveying our public infrastructure. We all have a vested interest in ensuring that our industry is strong, and our businesses are successful. ACEC is at the fore-front of ensuring that is the case. ACEC supports our cause in many ways, including advocating for the following:

- Sustainable Infrastructure Funding
- Tax Policies that Encourage Infrastructure Investment
- Regulations that Emphasize Resilient Design
- Qualifications Based Contracting & Procurement Rules
- Prioritizing STEM Education
- Protecting the Environment
- Developing and Training the Workforce

How do we do this? ACEC staff, together with its membership (you and me), are diligently working and volunteering

- Visiting Federal and State Legislatures
- Sponsoring Bills that Support our Profession
- Supporting Pro-Infrastructure Political Candidates through Political Action Committees (PACs)

- Providing Scholarships to STEM-focused Students

In addition, ACEC provides access to additional benefits for our businesses, such as retirement planning and insurance coverage. ACEC is here to support all of us as we grow in our business and respective careers. It is an important organization for all us, our futures, and the next generation of engineers and surveyors. Please continue to support the organization, and I encourage each of you to get a little bit more involved (attend one more meeting than last year; bring along a young professional to a meeting; support the PAC, etc.)

With that said, in conclusion, I want to highlight a few of our upcoming events that we would love you see you in attendance (details are provided in this newsletter):

September 7th – Support the PAC at the beautiful Jacuzzi Family Vineyard in Sonoma

September 17th – Meet new colleagues and hear from Michael Green, a Leadership Expert, at the Sierra Chapter Monthly Membership Meeting

September 20th – Submit your nominations to recognize your Excellent Projects / Clients

October 2nd – 4th – Attend the Annual California Strategic Summit to stay engaged in the latest and greatest happenings in our industry

I look forward to seeing/meeting all of you over the course of our new business year, and I wish you all continued prosperity and success as we make the engineering profession a desirable place to build a career.

Tuesday, September 17 Meeting Promo: Michael Green, Mindspring.

By Chad Coleman, Director

Our September 17 Membership Meeting will feature a departure from our standard program that is intended to add value to our members by providing a presentation on an important professional development topic. Michael Green will teach an informative and interactive presentation on **Leadership** that will encourage all firm leaders and those that want to become leaders.

This is a great opportunity to take an evening to think about ways to improve Office and Firm leadership. It is also a great opportunity to invite young engineers who may be future firm leaders to begin to think about skills they need to develop.

We are also getting a sneak preview of the ACEC

2019 Strategic Summit and Board Meeting in Newport Beach in October. Michael has been invited to present a similar session at that meeting.

Don't miss this Leadership presentation that will include discussions of:

- Specifics on Leadership in Today's ACEC Environment
- The cost of employee turnover
- Common elements between top athletic coaches and business leaders
- 4 Factors of Leadership, and...
- The Helium Hula!

AB 626 Local Outreach Effort Ramping Up

By Tyler Munzing, ACEC-CC Director of Government Affairs



ACEC California's sponsored Continuity of Services bill, [AB 626 \(Quirk-Silva\)](#), will be taken up again in December/January. Between now and then, it is critical to the bill's success that we are able to get our public agency clients and state representatives in support. This effort is being spearheaded by the Grassroots Committee, with a goal of each Chapter bringing on five or more public agencies in support, so stay tuned for future instruction from your Chapter's Grassroots Chair (Marco Palilla).

How You Can Help:

1. Send a letter of support to Assemblywoman Quirk-Silva and your state legislators on behalf of your firm, if you haven't already.

[Sample support letter from your firm to legislature](#)

o Request that your public agency clients send a letter to Assemblywoman Quirk-Silva supporting AB 626. The following documents may be helpful to your effort and should be shared with your agency contact(s):

[Sample support letter from client to legislature](#)

[AB 626 background sheet](#)

[Amendment language that will be inserted into the bill in December/January](#)

[APWA California support letter](#)

Whenever an RFP is issued by a public agency or in any pre-proposal meeting with a public agency, ask for an official response from the agency to the following: *"If my firm performs these services, would we be eligible to propose for subsequent work on this project, or would that be considered a violation of Government Code 1090?"* Please send an email note to tmunzing@acec-ca.org and/or your Grassroots Chair telling us the response you receive.

Plan to schedule a meeting with your [state representatives](#) in their districts in the Fall to discuss them supporting (or better yet, coauthoring) AB 626.

Let your Chapter's Grassroots Chair know of any actions you take or how you can help with the above so that we can coordinate efforts.

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Sierra Chapter of ACEC-CA Fifth Annual Engineering and Client Excellence Awards

By Kevin Gustorf, President

Dear ACEC-CA Sierra Chapter Member Firms:

The Sierra Chapter Board is excited to announce our Fifth Annual Engineering and Client Excellence Awards Program. This year we added two new categories to recognize the great clients in our region, both in the public sector and private sector. We will recognize the winners at our monthly Chapter Meeting, to be held on October 16, 2019 at 6 PM at the Hilton Sacramento Arden West.

This program is not to be confused with the statewide competition, but instead it is a Sierra Chapter event focused on the great projects and clients in our region. We have developed a simple nomination process that aims to promote the great work that our member firms are doing in our region. Our aim is to recognize deserving accomplishments and highlight these successes to clients and other member firms.

We have structured the award categories and the nomination criteria to follow the ACEC-CA EEA process, in hopes that a nomination made for a Sierra Chapter Award can also be submitted to be recognized at the State level as well (nominations for the State awards are due 1 week after the Chapter awards).

Please complete the enclosed nomination form for your best project(s) and clients! Our committee will review the entries, select and announce winners. The timeline for this event is as follows:

August 23 rd	Announcement and Nomination Form Emailed
September 20 th	Nominations Due by 5 p.m.
September 25 th	Winners Announced
October 16 th	Awards Reception

We're planning a special evening to celebrate the award winners and all entries will be included in a slideshow that will play during the reception. We're looking forward to receiving all of the great entries and seeing you all there along with your clients.

Sincerely,

Sierra Chapter Awards Committee

Sierra Chapter of ACEC-CA Fifth Annual Engineering and Client Excellence Awards Nomination Criteria and Form

Sierra Chapter Member Firms are invited to submit nominations for projects and clients to be featured at our 2019 Engineering and Client Excellence Awards event, to be held on Wednesday evening, October 16, 2019 at the Hilton Hotel, Sacramento Arden West.

All member firms are encouraged to submit nominations. All entries will be displayed at the Hilton. Projects and Clients that best meet the selection criteria for excellence (and potentially other special awards at the discretion of the selection committee) will be recognized at the event.

Please submit the requested information in a separate Microsoft Word or PDF file by e-mail to Debbie LoCicero at dlocicero@acec-ca-sierra.org. Keep nominations to two pages maximum. Submittals are due no later than Friday September 20, 2019 at 5 p.m.

Engineering Excellence Project Award Categories

Projects must have been substantially completed between January 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019 and must be submitted by an ACEC Sierra Chapter member firm. Projects may be for any phase, or phases, of work – from study through construction management. Project information to be provided shall include:

- Member Firm
- Project Title
- Client
- Other Firms Participating
- Completion Date
- Contact Name, Phone & E-mail
- Your Organization's Role in the Project
- Role of Other Organizations/Stakeholders in the Project
- Project Photos

Please indicate which of the following award categories your project is applying for.

- Category A – Best Structural or Geotechnical Engineering Project
(e.g. Foundations, Tunnels, Buildings, Seismic design, Towers, Bridges, Earth Retention, Slope Stabilization)
- Category B – Best Land Surveying or Mapping Project
(e.g. Geometrics, ALTA, land title and rights surveys, Control, GPS, monitoring or construction surveying, Surveying, GIS/LIS, photogrammetry)
- Category C – Best Water Project
(e.g. Wastewater collection/treatment and disposal, Reuse, Graywater systems, Agricultural, Storm water management Erosion control, Hydraulics, hydrology, Surface and groundwater supply development, Transmission, distribution and storage, Watershed management, Water use reduction, Flood risk management, Eco-system restoration, Dams/water control structures, Irrigation, Treatment, Groundwater)
- Category D – Best Transportation Project
(e.g. Highways, Rail, Airports, Public transit, Intermodal facilities)

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- Category E – Best Land Development Project
(e.g. Single-family Residential, Multi-family Residential, Commercial, Industrial, Institutional, Master Planned Communities)

Client Excellence Award Categories:

ACEC wants to recognize the public sector and private sector clients that utilize consultants in our industry and conduct business in a fair manner. Client nominations must be submitted by an ACEC Sierra Chapter member firm. Clients must be based within the Sierra Chapter region, or have an office within our region, and do business within our region. Client information to be provided shall include:

Member Firm

Client

Contact Name, Phone & E-mail

Description of Client's Excellence:

1. Do they utilize the Qualifications Based Selection (QBS) process?
2. Do they utilize consultants to conduct a majority of their services?
3. Do they utilize project funding in an efficient manner?
4. Are they open to new technologies and innovative ideas?
5. Are they fair and reasonable with conflict resolution?

Please indicate which of the following award categories you are nominating your client for.

- Category 1 – Public Agency Excellence Award
- Category 2 – Private Sector Excellence Award

Evaluation Criteria (Project Awards):

Please complete responses to the following evaluation criteria:

1. Original or Innovative Application of New or Existing Techniques 20%
 - a. Demonstrate use of new science or a breakthrough in general engineering knowledge?
 - b. Represent a unique application of new or existing technologies?
2. Future Value of the Engineering Profession and Perception by the Public 20%
 - a. Redefine current engineering thinking?
 - b. Advance a positive public image of the profession?
3. Social, Economic and Sustainable Design Considerations 20%
 - a. Do solutions identified produce secondary benefits to the community or environment?
 - b. Does approach provide society with social, economic or sustainable development benefits?

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- c. Does project improve the health, safety or welfare of the public or environment?
- 4. Complexity 20%
 - a. Does project successfully address a complex or unique problem?
 - b. Were there extraordinary circumstances of the site?
 - c. Did the project utilize out-of-the-box solutions or technologies?
 - 5. Exceeding Client/Owner Needs 20%
 - a. Was an economical or cost-effective solution provided?
 - b. How did final cost relate to original budget?
 - c. How did the project meet the client/owner goals?
 - d. Was the project on-schedule?

Evaluation Criteria (Client Awards):

- 1. Describe their procurement and selection process 20%
 - a. Do they utilize the Qualifications Based Selection (QBS) process?
 - a. Are they fair in negotiating contract and payment terms?
 - b. Do they request and compare contract proposals accurately and fairly? (Private)
 - c. Do they consistently budget for projects appropriately?
- 2. Describe their utilization of consultants 20%
 - a. Do they utilize consultants to conduct a majority of their services?
- 3. Describe their use of public/private funds in a positive manner 20%
 - a. Are they good stewards of public/private funds?
 - b. Do they utilize project funding in an efficient manner?
 - c. Do they utilize efficient payment processing systems and pay invoices on time?
 - d. Are they reasonable with change orders/addendum requests?
- 4. Describe how they embrace new technologies or innovative solutions 20%
 - a. Are they open to new technologies and innovative ideas?
 - b. Do they allow their consultants to provide unconventional project alternatives?
- 5. Describe how they handle project issues or conflict resolution 20%
 - a. Are they fair and reasonable with conflict resolution?
 - b. Do they utilize effective communication and decision-making processes?

October 16th General Membership Meeting—Recognize the Excellence in our Region.

By Kevin Gustorf, President

You won't want to miss this event! Please mark your calendars to join the Sierra Chapter as we recognize the many great projects and clients in our region. The 5th Annual Sierra Chapter Excellence in Engineering Awards will take place on October 16, 2019 at the Hilton Sacramento Arden West from 6-8 pm. At the meeting we will recognize a few of the award-winning projects and clients in our region, including:

Projects

- Category A – Best Structural or Geotechnical Engineering Project
- Category B – Best Land Surveying or Mapping Project

- Category C – Best Water Project
- Category D – Best Transportation Project
- Category E – Best Land Development Project
- Clients
- Category 1 – Public Agency Excellence Award
- Category 2 – Private Sector Excellence Award

Nominations are due September 20th!

ACEC Scholarship Foundation Raffle

By Kevin Gustorf, President

Support the Future of Our Industry!

The ACEC Scholarship Foundation sponsors a raffle in conjunction with the Annual Strategic Summit to be held October 2-4, 2019 in Newport Beach. Proceeds from the raffle go towards awarding scholarships to the future engineers and surveyors of our industry. The raffle includes many great prizes, in-

cluding the **Grand Prize which is a trip for 2 to Maui!** You do not have to present to win.

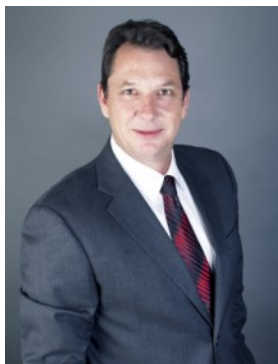
Raffle tickets are \$20 each, or 6 for \$99. Raffle tickets can be purchased by contacting any Sierra Chapter Board Member, or contacting Stephanie Reed directly at (916) 441-7991. (See attached flyer)

ACEC Sierra Chapter Firm Profile



ENGINEERING • LAND PLANNING • LAND SURVEYING

75 Iron Point Circle, Suite 120, Folsom, California CA 95630, (916) 984-7621



Gregory Bardini, P.E.
President / CEO

For more than four decades, Morton & Pitalo, Inc. has been a leader in providing high-quality civil engineering, land planning and land surveying services. The firm has perfected a style of operation that emphasizes a team approach and close involvement by our principals and project managers. Clients deal with the same principal and select team of in-house experts throughout the project.

Morton & Pitalo, Inc. specializes in providing professional civil engineering, land planning, and land surveying services throughout the Northern California region. Our firm has completed thousands of projects around the Sacramento, Placer and El Dorado area. Our multi-discipline services have been provided to the private sector for commercial, office, industrial, institutional and residential developments, and to the public sector for roads, public works, schools, parks and assessment districts. We have a hugely diversified project base in the City and County of Sacramento because of our extensive knowledge and experience of land development requirements in the Greater Sacramento Area.

Eddie Kho, P.E.
Retired CEO



Congratulations to President and Chief Executive Officer Greg Bardini. On June 26th, 2019 the Board of Directors elected Mr. Bardini as CEO of Morton & Pitalo, Inc. After serving as President of Morton & Pitalo since 2001, Mr. Bardini has added the role of Chief Executive Officer following Eddie Kho's retirement. Mr. Kho faithfully served Morton & Pitalo for 42 years, 18 years as CEO and looks forward to much travel and time with his wife Judy.

Mr. Bardini, along with fellow partners Chris Gorges, Edwin Yu, Keith Jolly and Scott Pedersen will continue to lead the experienced M&P team forward serving the Northern California region.

“Serving Our Clients to Build a Better Community.”



Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento



The Palladio, Folsom



Golden 1 Center, Sacramento

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Please email completed letters from design firms and public agencies alike to bpineda@acec-ca.org, and we will make sure they get into the right legislators' hands.

Thank you as always for your engagement in moving our industry forward together. Don't hesitate to contact me

(tmunzing@acec-ca.org) if I can assist you in this effort or in any other way.

Thank you as always for your engagement in moving our industry forward together. Don't hesitate to contact me (tmunzing@acec-ca.org) if I can assist you in this effort or in any other way.

Membership



The Sierra Chapter is proud to announce the Board of Directors approved and welcomed the following new firms in the past year:

Firm	Month/Yr. Joined	Member Type	City
RFE Engineering Inc.	08/2019	Civil Engineering	Roseville
GHD	04/2019	Civil Engineering	Roseville
Hydroscience	03/2019	Civil Engineering	Sacramento
Peterson Brustad Inc.	01/2019	Civil Engineering	Folsom
Valley Tech Systems	11/2018	Aerospace Engineering	Folsom
MWA, Inc.	11/2018	Architecture/Structural	Truckee
Knight CM Group	10/2018	Construction Management	El Dorado Hills
Modern Building Inc.	08/2018	Commercial Construction	Chico

Wine-ding Down the Summer

ACEC/PAC

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

WHEN: Saturday, September 7, 2019

TIME: 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM


LOCATION: JACUZZI FAMILY VINEYARD
24724 Arnold Drive
Sonoma, CA 95476

TICKETS

- \$75-Young Professionals (35 years & younger)
 - \$150-Young Professionals + Spouse
- \$150-Members
 - \$200-Members + Spouse

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

**ENJOY A TASTING OF FIVE
JACUZZI FAMILY WINES,
GOURMET CHEESE &
CHARCUTERIE
BOARDS, PLUS
A WINERY TOUR.**



All proceeds go directly to ACEC/PAC. We can only accept personal checks or personal credit cards for this event. Partnership and sole proprietorship checks are permitted; however, federal law prohibits corporate checks and corporate credit cards. Contributions or gifts to ACEC/PAC are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes.

Contributions will be screened and those from outside the restricted class (non-members) and those from individuals who have not given prior approval may be returned. Contributions are voluntary, and amounts included herein are merely suggestions. An individual is free to contribute more or less than the guidelines suggest but may not contribute more than \$5,000 per calendar year. Federal law requires that our committee report the full name, address, occupation and company name of each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year.

ACEC California Sierra Chapter

September 2019

You are cordially invited to attend:

General Membership and BOD “Dinner” Meeting

Tuesday, September 17, 2019

Guest Speaker:

Michael Green, Mind Spring

Topic of Discussion:

“A dynamic and interactive presentation on Leadership”

On-line Registration/ RSVP:

[Register Here](#)

Cost: \$50 ACEC Members—Non-Members: \$60

5:00pm - 6:00pm: BOD Meeting

6:00pm - 6:30pm: Networking

6:30pm - 8:00pm: Dinner Meeting



Meetings are held at the Hilton unless otherwise noted.

Hilton Sacramento Arden West

220 Harvard Street

Sacramento, CA

ACEC

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES

California

Scholarship Raffle & Silent Auction 2019



Win a Trip for Two to

Mauui!



Enjoy 7-nights at the beautiful Lokelani Condominiums
**Includes Airfare up to \$1000*

Raffle Prizes

Bose SoundLink Wireless Headphones
Portal by Facebook (x2)
\$500 Costco Gift Card
\$500 REI Gift Card
\$400 Home Depot Gift Card
St. Francis Wine Club Membership

...Additional Prizes to Be Announced

Raffle Tickets

1 for \$20,
6 for \$99



By participating in the ACEC California Scholarship Raffle you are supporting the Scholarship Foundation which awards scholarships every year to deserving college students working toward a degree in engineering or land surveying. To purchase tickets contact Paige Madden at pmadden@acec-ca.org or [Click Here](#)

Tim Fleming Memorial Scholarship



Now Accepting Applications!

- Forms Due December 13, 2019 -

Are you a Junior or Senior Civil Engineering/Transportation major at California State University Sacramento, University of California Davis, or University of the Pacific? Then you should apply for the Tim Fleming Memorial scholarship.

Tim was an outstanding engineer and volunteer for communities in Northern California who unexpectedly passed away at the young age of 51. He exemplified leadership, integrity, and character. To pay tribute to his legacy as a leader in the engineering community, a scholarship was established in his name. Tim was a graduate of UOP and Stanford University and had been very active in the Sierra Chapter of ACEC California and the Sacramento Chapter of the American Public Works Association.

This scholarship is administered by the California Transportation Foundation (CTF).



Go here for more information and forms:

<http://transportationfoundation.org/scholarships/>

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GET NOTICED IN THE SIERRA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER!

Would you like to see YOUR FIRM listed in this Newsletter?

ACEC-CA/Sierra Chapter firms in good standing are invited to submit a company profile for inclusion in this newsletter. **Firms that have not been featured in the last two years are invited to participate again.** Contact Jerry Jones, Vice President, for submission details.

Point of Contact:

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AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
California

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