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President's Message
By Kevin Gustorf

The New Norm?

Here we are in October and November, and again there are devastating fires raging across our state causing significant destruction. As I write this message, the Kincade Fire in Sonoma County has spread to over 75,000 acres, destroyed 124 structures, 57 of which are residential homes, and is only 15% contained with more high winds in the forecast. The state is also concurrently dealing with fires in southern California, mainly the Getty Fire and the Tick Fire.

The states top 5 costliest and most destructive fires have occurred in the October/November/December timeframe of the past 2 years, and it appears that the Kincade Fire will soon add to that list. With a population that continues to grow, infrastructure that continues to age, weather patterns that continue to be more severe, and resources that struggle to keep up, it sure appears that this is the new norm... which is extremely scary.

At the same time as the fires are ravaging through our state, over 2 million people are without power, many for several days at a time. This obviously presents many logistical challenges for people, staying

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Kevin Gustorf
Sierra Chapter President
2019-2020

Calendar of Events

Meetings are at the Hilton Sacramento Arden West unless otherwise noted.
Member Cost: \$50 - Non-Member \$60

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

Sierra Chapter Membership Dinner Meeting

Speaker:

Jesse Gothan, City of Sacramento

Topic:

New I Street Bridge

[Register Here](#)

December 2019

No Meeting Scheduled for the Holiday

Friday, January 10, 2020

Joint Luncheon Meeting with APWA

Dante Club, Sacramento

January 24 & 25, 2020

59th Geomatic Conference
Fresno, CA

Wednesday, February 19, 2020

Past Presidents and Tim Fleming Scholarship Dinner Meeting

Thursday, February 13, 2020

ACEC-CA Engineering Excellence Awards
Los Angeles, CA

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

President's Message Continued

Continued from page 1

home from work because school is cancelled; no hot water or no heat; food spoiling in the fridge and freezer; essential medical devices not working properly; cannot recharge battery-powered devices and appliances; etc. Losing power is obviously a major inconvenience, but it is also a minor inconvenience compared with losing a home to fire, or even worse, losing a life.

So, what can we do? Recent events have certainly elevated my awareness about being prepared at home. We need to keep an emergency kit for those times when we lose power: flashlights, batteries, candles, matches, canned food, water, etc. Hopefully it won't come to this, but we all need to be prepared to pick-up and leave at a moment's notice, so have your essentials (family belongings, photos, paperwork, etc.) gathered and stored

in a location that makes them easy to grab and go. As I have learned from my "first-responder" friends, we need to have a family plan in case we are separated.

On the professional side, we need to be aware of these changing conditions and incorporate them into our projects, and advise our clients accordingly. Small changes, such as hardening a structure to be more fire resistant, recommending permanent on-site back-up generators, and designing site landscaping with appropriate fuel modification zones and set-backs are all minor upgrades that could have lasting long-term, and life-saving, impacts.

I wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving. Take the time to give thanks for all of the good in your life, and enjoy the time with your family and friends. And if you are able, help others.

October 16 Meeting Summary: Sierra Chapter Engineering Excellence and Client Excellence Awards Dinner.

By Kevin Gustorf, President

Our October 16th General Membership Meeting was a wonderful evening where we held our 5th annual Engineering Excellence Awards and Client Excellence Awards. We had the opportunity to recognize a few of the great projects in our region and also recognize two great clients in our region that go about conducting

business in a fair and responsible way with the consulting industry. In addition, we were able to celebrate the next generation of engineers as three of our scholarship winners from the University of the Pacific attended the meeting and were able to introduce themselves, network and learn more about our industry.

This year's award categories and winners are as follows:



Category:	Best Water Project
Project Title:	Southport Setback Levee
Project Owner:	West Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency, City of West Sacramento and HDR
Prime Consultant:	Blackburn Consulting
Accepting the Award:	Nicole Hart, Blackburn Consulting

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November 20, 2019 Membership Dinner Meeting— Jesse Gothan, City of Sacramento—New I Street Bridge

By Marshall Moore, Director

The new I Street Bridge will cross the Sacramento River between the Sacramento Railyards and the West Sacramento Washington neighborhood and provide a new automobile, bicycle, transit, and pedestrian crossing. In October 2018, T. Y. Lin International was selected to join

the project team to provide the architectural design for the I Street Bridge Replacement Project. The I Street Bridge Replacement Project team's lead architect has finalized design concepts for the new bridge. Jesse Gothan, City of Sacramento, will present on the current status of the project and the final bridge design concepts.



AB 626 local outreach effort ongoing.

By Tyler Munzing, ACEC-CA Director of Government Affairs



ACEC California's sponsored Continuity of Services bill, AB 626 (Quirk-Silva), will be taken up again in 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 on 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).

I am pleased to announce that the City of Murrieta has added their support to AB 626. Great job, Riverside/San Bernardino and San Diego Chapters!

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.
 - o Sample support letter from your firm to legislature
2. 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):
 - o Sample support letter from client to legislature
 - o AB 626 background sheet
 - o Amendment language that will be inserted into the bill in December/January
 - o APWA California support letter
3. 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?"*
4. Plan to schedule a meeting with your state representatives in their districts before the end of the year to discuss them supporting (or better yet, coauthoring) AB 626.
5. 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.

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. Don't hesitate to contact me (tmunzing@acec-ca.org) if I can assist you in this effort or in any other way.

ACEC-CA Strategic Summit Recap

By Kevin Gustorf, President

ACEC-CA held the annual Strategic Summit from October 2-4 at the beautiful Balboa Bay Resort in Newport Beach. The 3-day event began with the State Board of Director's (BOD) Meeting on October 2nd. The BOD Meeting was run by our State President Gary Antonucci. The BOD meetings happen quarterly, and it is a chance for the ACEC-CA President and Executive Director (Brad Diede) to update the State Directors and Chapter Officers on the current issues and challenges facing our industry, and what we all can do to help. Many topics are covered at the BOD Meeting, and I thought I'd highlight a few items here for our members:

The State Executive Committee has been working towards streamlining membership and dues at the Chapter level so that there is consistency throughout the state. More info will be rolled out in the coming months.

Assembly Member Patrick O'Donnell (D-Long Beach) provide an overview of his bill (AB-48) to provide \$15B of school bond funds to support public schools throughout the state. If passed, the funding will be distributed from pre-K through the CSU and UC systems to upgrade campus infrastructure and programs. ACEC is in support of the bond, and the bond is slated to be on the March 2020 ballot.

Linda Bauer Darr, President & CEO for ACEC National, provided an update of the ACEC National Strategic Plan. You can learn more about the ACEC Strategic Plan at www.acec.org

ACEC-CA is approximately 67% of the way towards meeting our 2019 fundraising goal for the Minutemen Fund (Federal PAC) of \$93.5k. Historically, more dollars from the PAC come back to support California issues than we typically raise, so it is very important that we do our part.

The following two days included a number of memorable keynote addresses and speeches, including a riveting first-hand recounting by Lieutenant Colonel Robert J. Darling of the events that occurred at the White House during the events of September 11, 2001; and a motivating speech by Ben Nemtin, one of the authors of the NY Times #1 bestseller "The Buried Life," which was made into an MTV hit show and is currently being made into a movie.

The summit also included state-wide forums on transportation and water, as well as numerous seminars on topics that will help us improve our business practices, topics such as: Teamwork, Communication, Business Ethics, Mergers & Acquisitions and Legislative Issues.

It was a very informative and worthwhile event, and I encourage everyone to attend next years Strategic Summit.

ACEC Scholarship Applications Due by January 22, 2020!

By Marco Palilla, Chapter Director



Every year, the ACEC California Scholarship Foundation seeks the best and brightest engineering and land surveying students in California and awards scholarships to them. Over the years, ACEC California has awarded over \$650,000 in cash grants to hundreds of outstanding students.

The ACEC California Scholarship Awards are funded through generous donations from ACEC California Chapters, member firms, principals and employees. Donations to the Scholarship Foundation, a public non-profit benefit corporation, are tax deductible. Every dollar goes directly to the student – no money is used for overhead or administrative costs. The ACEC California Scholarship

Foundation is administered through the generous volunteer work of ACEC Chapter members.

ACEC California will be awarding up to \$50,000 in scholarships for qualified engineering and land surveying students throughout California for the 2020-2021 academic year. Sierra Chapter members serve as liaisons with local colleges and universities to distribute applications and promote the scholarships. I handle Sac State and UOP while Tom Sell takes care of Chico. UC Davis is covered by the East Bay Chapter.

ACEC-CA will be accepting applications until 5:00pm on January 22, 2020. The scholarship application is available at this link:

<https://www.acec-ca.org/page/ScholarshipApp> and was e-mailed to college Engineering Departments throughout California. There is also a flyer attached to this newsletter.

Last year's group of scholarship winners (2019-2020 academic year) included two students from the University of the Pacific in Stockton. Muhammad Khan is pursuing a Master's degree in Civil Engineering while working at KSN. Beau Forest is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, Engineering Management. Both students plan to graduate in the Spring of 2020. The Sierra Chapter hosted both scholarship winners, as well as UOP ASCE Student Chapter Past President Rogelio Garcia, at our October 16th dinner meeting. Congratulations to these students!

If you know a student who is eligible for this year's scholarship, please pass this information on to them.



From left to right: Beau Forest, Muhammad Khan, Rogelio Garcia and Marco Palilla

Tim Fleming Memorial Scholarship – Now Accepting Applications!

By Marco Palilla, Chapter Director



Tim Fleming, Sierra Chapter
Past President, 1995—96

I am happy to announce that the Tim Fleming Memorial Scholarship is now accepting applications! Now in its 9th year, the annual scholarship is awarded to a Junior or Senior majoring in Civil Engineering/Transportation at California State University Sacramento, University of California Davis, or University of the Pacific.

Last year we awarded two scholarships! One went to Taneil Evans of the University of the Pacific (left), the other to Andrii Noga of Sac State (right). They each received checks for \$2,000.

This year's flyer is attached to this newsletter. The scholarship is administered by the California Transportation Foundation. If you know a college student that qualifies, please pass the flyer on to them.

The Tim Fleming Memorial Scholarship was established in the name of our good friend and Sierra Chapter Past President, Tim Fleming, who passed away unexpectedly in November 2010 at the young age of 51. Tim was a graduate of the University of the Pacific and Stanford University and served our industry tirelessly as a leader and colleague. This scholarship honors his legacy and reminds us all that life is precious. This year's winner will be selected and then honored at our next Past Presidents Dinner scheduled for February 19, 2020.



Membership

WELCOME
new members

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
Weber Grant	10/2019	Survey	Stockton
RFE Engineering Inc.	08/2019	Civil Engineering	Roseville
GHD	04/2019	Civil Engineering	Roseville
Hydroscience	03/2019	Civil Engineering	Sacramento

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Category: Best Transportation Project
 Project Title: 2018 Roller Compacted Concrete Pavement Project
 Project Owner: City of Roseville
 Prime Consultant: Bennett Engineering Services
 Accepting the Award: Noah Siviglia, City of Roseville



Category: Best Structural or Geotechnical Engineering Project
 Project Title: Downtown Bridges and Trails Project
 Project Owner: City of Roseville
 Prime Consultant: Mark Thomas
 Accepting the Award: Mike Dour, City of Roseville



Category: Best Land Surveying or Mapping Project
 Project Title: GIS Levee Parcelization Project
 Project Owner: California Department of Water Resources
 Prime Consultant: Psomas Surveys and GIS
 Accepting the Award: Brian Bullock, Psomas



Category: Public Agency Excellence
 Agency: San Joaquin County Department of Public Works
 Accepting the Award: Alex Chetley, San Joaquin County



Category: Private Sector Excellence
 Company: KB Home Sacramento
 Accepting the Award: Leo Pantoja, KB Home

Thank you to all who attended, and a special thank you to our event sponsors:

Gold – Aecom and Psomas

Silver – Mark Thomas and Bennett

Bronze – WSP, Blackburn and Geocon

Now, it's time to start thinking about the projects and clients you want to nominate for the 6th Annual Sierra Chapter Engineering Excellence and Client Excellence Awards. They will be here before you know it!



You are cordially invited to attend:

General Membership and BOD Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

Guest Speaker:

Jesse Gothan, City of Sacramento

Topic of Discussion:

I Street Bridge Project

On-line Registration/ RSVP:

[Register Here](#)

Or you can:

***Pay by check at the door.**

***Pay Cash at the door.**

**R.S.V.P. deadline: Friday
November 15th at 12:00 noon**

*If paying by cash or check at the door, please either "RSVP Only" at the above Eventbrite link, or email dlocicero@acec-ca-sierra.org for reserving your seat.



Meetings are held at the Hilton unless otherwise noted.

Hilton Sacramento Arden West
220 Harvard Street
Sacramento, CA

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

6:00pm - 6:30pm: Networking

**6:30pm - 8:00pm: General Membership
Dinner Meeting**

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/>



ACEC
AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
California

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

ACEC California will award up to **\$50,000 in scholarships** to qualified engineering and land surveying students throughout California.

Highest upper division undergraduate award of \$7,000. Highest graduate award of \$5,000.

We are currently accepting applications!
The scholarship application deadline is 5:00pm on January 22, 2020.

Apply Today!

Visit www.acec-ca.org or contact your college of engineering to get a copy of the ACEC California Scholarship Application. Applications must be received by mail or email no later than 5:00pm on Wednesday, January 22, 2020. Mail your application to 1303 J Street, Suite 450, Sacramento, CA 95814 or email your application to Stephanie Reed at sreed@acec-ca.org. For questions regarding the Scholarship Program or application, please call (916) 441-7991.

Some applicants from Riverside/San Bernardino, Orange County, Los Angeles and San Diego regions may be eligible for up to \$50,000 in additional awards from local ACEC California Chapters based on their school location, residency and hometown.

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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
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