

# The Voice

MARCH-APRIL 2012

# Voice

**ACEC**  
AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING  
COMPANIES OF TENNESSEE

THE VOICE OF TENNESSEE'S ENGINEERING COMPANIES

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## CDM Smith wins *Grand Iris Award*

Engineering firm CDM Smith won *The Grand Iris Award*, the highest honor in the statewide *Engineering Excellence Awards* competition sponsored by ACEC of Tennessee. The award was presented to CDM Smith for its project, John J. Duncan, Jr., Knoxville Station Transit Center, completed for the City of Knoxville and managed by the Knoxville/Knox County Public Building Authority.

CDM Smith provided a variety of planning and engineering services related to the development of the John J. Duncan, Jr., Knoxville Station Transit Center. Owned by the City of Knoxville and operated by Knoxville Area Transit, the facility, which was constructed primarily on air rights above the James White Parkway, is the first Silver LEED certified public building in Knoxville. Knoxville Station annually provides three million plus public transit passengers with an off-street, comfortable, weather-protected, climate-controlled building. The pedestrian plaza and bus way also serve to spatially and culturally bridge the

gap between downtown and the East Knoxville neighborhoods.

*Grand Award* recognition was presented in the competition's various entry categories to **ARCADIS**, Chattanooga; **Atkins North America, Inc.**, Nashville; **Brown and Caldwell**, Nashville; **EnSafe Inc.**, Nashville; **Flo-**

**rence & Hutcheson, Inc.**, Nashville; **J.R. Wauford & Company, Consulting Engineers, Inc.**, Nashville; and **RPM Transportation Consultants**, Nashville.

The awards were announced and presented on the evening of March 6 during an awards banquet in Franklin. More than 250 Tennessee engi-

neers, business and civic leaders, and state, city and county officials from across the state attended the awards event.

"Engineers are problem-solvers. These award-winning projects are examples of this," said Greg Brubaker, PE, K.S. Ware and Associates, LLC, Nashville, chair of the ACEC awards program.

**NOTE:** Please see pages 3, 4, 5 & 6 for additional awards information and photos.



*Greg Brubaker, PE, left, chair of the awards program, congratulates Frank Bale, PE, CDM Smith, and Dawn Michelle Foster, City of Knoxville, as they accept The Grand Iris Award presented for the John J. Duncan, Jr., Knoxville Station Transit Center.*

# Teamwork + enthusiasm = success

by Mike Pohlman, PE  
President, ACEC of Tennessee

Thank you . . . Thank you . . . Thank you. I want to thank you all for your participation in our annual Legislative reception, our attack on the Hill and finally your attendance at the Engineering Excellence Awards banquet. All were a great success due to your efforts and enthusiasm. The photos and special articles in this month's newsletter speak volumes to the successes shared by all our member firms.



Mike Pohlman

The EEA banquet was once again an excellent event and I want to thank a few key players: Greg Brubaker, Brad Winkler, and Kim King for their continued involvement and leadership which makes this a showcase event for ACEC; Judy Logue for working out all the details with the hotel—meal planning, cost negotiations and seating

assignments, to name a few; and Atkins North America and Tiffany Henderson for providing all the multi-media work for the awards presentations and for preparing and printing the awards program brochure.

Winners of the ACEC of Tennessee's scholarships this year were announced at the dinner and a pair of University of Tennessee-Knoxville engineering students, Peter Eric Collins, Jr. and Arisa Pruttianan, were the recipients. Congratulations to both.

All of the submitted EEA projects were outstanding in their own right and the judges did an outstanding job with their Honor, Grand and Grand Iris award winners. Thank you all for your participation and support.

Whew! Now that March Madness is over—both the Legislative / EEA version and the Basketball variety — it's time to continue our efforts to make ACEC of Tennessee a value-added organization. I encourage you all to stay focused on your business as well as those issues that may affect your business and be an active participant in our efforts.

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## Engineers' Day on the Hill Visits in Nashville



Wayne Robertson, PE, Vaughn & Melton Consulting Engineers, Inc., Knoxville; Candy Toler, executive director of ACEC and TSPE; Mike Pohlman, PE, president of ACEC of Tennessee, Pickering Firm, Memphis; Lt. Governor Ron Ramsey, Blountville; Mark Surgenor, PE, S&ME, Kingsport; and John Cole, PE, president of Tennessee Society of Professional Engineers (TSPE), Eastern Engineering, Inc., Lebanon.



Mike Pohlman with his State Representative, Mark White of Memphis



Pausing between visits with state legislators are (left to right) Laura Reinbold, PE, TTL; Chuck Saunders, PE, Fisher & Arnold; and Jennifer Greer, PE, Barge, Waggoner, Sumner and Cannon.



# Meet & greet reception at awards gala



Kim King, PE, EEA Committee Co-Chair, AECOM; and Kyle Peters, AMEC Earth & Environmental, Inc.



Left to right, Mike Pohlman, PE, president of ACEC of Tennessee with Pickering Firm; Rudy Kalis, sports director at WSMV-TV/Channel 4, the guest speaker at the awards event; Commissioner John Schroer, Tennessee Department of Transportation; and Bob Murphy, PE, RPM Transportation Consultants



Mickey Sullivan, PE, Gresham Smith and Partners; Jason Griffin, PE, Jacobs Engineering Group; Will Reid, PE, Barge, Waggoner, Sumner and Cannon; and Jody Vance, PE, Gresham Smith and Partners

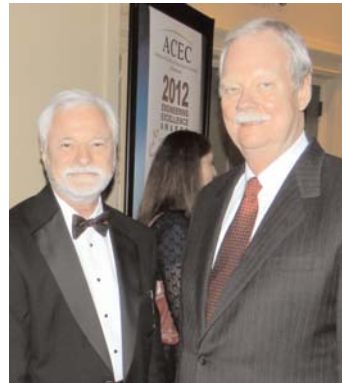


Dan Boles, PE, and John Agee, PE, both with S&ME, Inc.; Daniel Spann, PE, RPM Transportation Consultants, and Charlie Smith, PE, Hanson Professional Services, Inc.



◀ Ed Hargraves, PE, Askew Hargraves & Harcourt; Deputy Commissioner Paul Degges, PE, Tennessee Department of Transportation; Bob Oglesby, AIA, Tennessee State Architect

Jim Morinec, PE, AECOM, and Everett Cowan, PE, AE Guidance, LLC ▶



## Dulberger will speak to Memphis Chapter on April 26

Reid Dulberger, president and CEO of the Economic Development Growth Engine (EDGE) Industrial Development Board and chief economic development officer Memphis/Shelby County, will be the featured speaker at the Thursday, April 26, meeting of the Memphis Chapter of ACEC of Tennessee. The meeting will be held at the Racquet Club of

Memphis, 511 Sanderlin Avenue. The event begins at 6:00 p.m. with a reception, followed by dinner and the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Reservations for the April 26 meeting should be made by Monday, April 16. Cost is \$30.00 per person. Reservations can be made by contacting Beverly Marmon 901-374-9109 or [beverly.marmon@kimley-horn.com](mailto:beverly.marmon@kimley-horn.com).

## CALENDAR

### APRIL 15 - 18

ACEC Conference and Legislative Summit  
This event in Washington, D.C. is another opportunity for engineers to promote their profession.  
More information is available at [www.acec.org](http://www.acec.org)

### APRIL 17

ACEC Environment & Energy Committee  
1:30 p.m., Tennessee Engineering Center  
Nashville  
Information: [aspann@ensafe.com](mailto:aspann@ensafe.com)

### APRIL 26

Transportation Committee Meeting  
10:30 a.m., Tennessee Engineering Center  
Nashville  
Information: [Robert.McIvor@parsons.com](mailto:Robert.McIvor@parsons.com)

### APRIL 26

Memphis Chapter Meeting  
Guest speaker: Reid Dulberger, President, Memphis and Shelby County Economic Development Growth Engine (EDGE)  
6:00 p.m., Racquet Club of Memphis  
Information: [Harvey.matheny@kimley-horn.com](mailto:Harvey.matheny@kimley-horn.com)

### MAY 11

ACEC of TN Planning Retreat & Board Meeting  
9:00 a.m., Tennessee Engineering Center  
Nashville

### SEPTEMBER 12 - 14

ACEC of TN/TSPE Joint Annual Meeting  
Embassy Suites, Murfreesboro  
Information: [jlogue@tnec.org](mailto:jlogue@tnec.org)

# Award Winners: Engineering Excellence Honored



*EnSafe Inc. won the Grand Award in the environmental category for remediation of a century-old brownfield site in Chattanooga, a project completed for nonprofit organization BrightBridge, Inc. Displaying their award are (left to right) Ron Dow, PG, EnSafe; Joe Guthrie, BrightBridge; and Tammy Keim, PG; Shaun Winter, PG; and Kirby Tapp with EnSafe.*

*Brown and Caldwell won Grand Award honors in the studies, research & consulting category for its project, "Wastewater Process Design, NREL Ethanol Model," completed for the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) Golden, Colorado. Proudly displaying their award are Brown and Caldwell representatives (left to right) Steve McGuire, PE; Thomas Steinwinder, PE; Michael Mecredy, EIT; and Bob Ash, PE.*



*The Grand Award in the water and water resources category was won by J.R. Wauford and Company, Consulting Engineers, Inc. for its work at the City of Maryville Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant. Pictured with their award are (left to right) J. R. Wauford, Jr., PE, J.R. Wauford and Company; Jack Graham, City of Maryville; Kevin Young, PE, and Greg Davenport, PE, both with J.R. Wauford and Company.*

*Florence and Hutcheson, Inc. won the Grand Award for special projects. The firm was honored for State Route 7 Emergency Reconstruction in the Maury County town of Santa Fe, a project completed for the Tennessee Department of Transportation. The Grand Award trophy is displayed by (left to right) Stan King, PE, Florence & Hutcheson; Greg Duncan, PE, TDOT; and Brian Trotter, PE, Florence & Hutcheson.*







The Grand Award in the small projects category went to **RPM Transportation Consultants** for its work on the Cool Springs Area Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Expansion, a project completed for the City of Franklin. Left to right are City of Franklin officials Eric Stuckey, city administrator; Franklin Mayor Ken Moore; Kevin Comstock, city ITS project manager; and RPM Transportation's Bob Murphy, PE, and Daniel Spann, PE.



ARCADIS received the Grand Award honors in the water resources category for the project, "Stabilization of Hydropower Flume at Ocoee No. 2," completed for the Tennessee Valley Authority. Pictured with the award are (left to right) Max Brown, PE, and Jeff Munsey, both with TVA, and Lindsay Cooper, PG, and Jon Sparkman, PE, both with ARCADIS.



Grand Award honors in the transportation category went to **Atkins North America, Inc.** for its project, "Repair Runway 05-23-Fairchild Air Force Base," in Spokane, Washington, completed for Fairchild Air Force Base, Civil Engineering. Happily accepting the award were Darren Duckworth, PE, and Todd Knuckey, PE, both with Atkins.

## Engineering Excellence Awards

*Thank you, sponsors!*

### Titanium

Atkins North America, Inc.

### Platinum

Crow Friedman Group

Garney Construction Company

### Silver

AECOM

Gresham, Smith and Partners

Jacobs Technology

K. S. Ware & Associates, LLC

Lellyett & Rogers Company

Parsons Brinckerhoff

Tennessee Road Builders Association

TranSystems Corporation

### Bronze

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### Door Prizes

Embassy Suites

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## Engineering Excellence Awards

*Thank you,  
committee members!*

### Chair

Greg Brubaker, PE, K.S. Ware & Associates, LLC

### Co-Chairs

Brad Winkler, PE, TranSystems Corporation

Kim King, PE, AECOM

### Members

Tiffany Henderson, *Multi-media coordinator*,  
Atkins North America, Inc.

Brad Bivens, PE, Neel-Schaffer, Inc.

Donna Corlew, Brown and Caldwell

Michelle Kendall, Parsons Brinckerhoff

Roderick J. Mitchell, Pickering Firm, Inc.

Cindy M. Moore, Vaughn & Melton

Consulting Engineers, Inc.

Kyle Peters, PE, AMEC

Jon Sparkman, PE, ARCADIS

Rodney Wilson, PE, HFR Design, Inc.

Chris Beaver, PE, Beaver Engineering, Inc.

Candy Toler & Judy Logue, ACEC of

Tennessee

## Congratulations, New Professional Engineers

The following people associated with ACEC of Tennessee member firms have passed the Professional Engineering licensing examination:

**Jennifer R. Acton, PE**  
Structural Design Group

**Kyle C. Adams, PE**  
Allen & Hoshall, Inc.

**Amanda R. Dobbs, PE**  
Gresham Smith & Partners

**Patrick A. Dobbs, PE**  
AMEC

**David K. Foster, PE**  
Smith Seckman Reid, Inc.

**Joel A. Fulmer, PE**  
Barge, Waggoner, Sumner and Cannon

**Eric B. Gamble, PE**  
Gresham Smith & Partners

**Daniel C. Gibbs, PE**  
Barge, Waggoner, Sumner and Cannon

**Jack A. Griffith, PE**  
Smith Seckman Reid, Inc.

**T. Alexander Hall, PE**  
Fisher & Arnold, Inc.

**Jennifer M. Lind, PE**  
CDM Smith

**Drew W. Muirhead, PE**  
Barge, Waggoner, Sumner and Cannon

**Elizabeth Ostrowski, PE**  
Kimley-Horn & Associates, Inc.

**Blake J. Shelide, PE**  
Gresham Smith & Partners

**Angela V. Smith, PE**  
McGill Associates, PA

**Ashley Smith, PE**  
Stantec

**William L. Smith, PE**  
I.C. Thomasson Associates, Inc.

**Brian Wood, PE**  
Barge, Waggoner, Sumner and Cannon

**Guy T. Zimmerman, PE**  
AMEC

## Engineering students awarded scholarships

University of Tennessee-Knoxville engineering students **Peter Eric Collins, Jr.** of Brentwood and **Arisa (Liz) Pruttianan** of Nashville have each received a \$1,000 scholarship from ACEC of Tennessee. They will both compete for national ACEC scholarships to be awarded in October.



**Eric Collins**

**Collins**, a 2008 graduate of Father Ryan High School, is expected to graduate in May 2013 from UT-Knoxville with a B.S. degree in Nuclear Engineering.

**Pruttianan** is a 2009 graduate of Martin Luther King Magnet High School.

Enrolled in the university's Chancellor's Honors Program, she is expected to graduate from UT-Knoxville in 2013 with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering.



**Liz Pruttianan**

"Our scholarship program is another example of how ACEC of Tennessee is committed to the future of our profession. This is the eleventh year that scholarships have been awarded to Tennessee engineering students," said **Everett Cowan, PE**, CEO of AE Guidance, LLC, Nashville, the chairman of the 2012 Scholarship Committee.

## Judges review entries



Tennessee State Architect **Bob Oglesby, AIA**, reviews the project panel of one of the entries in the Engineering Excellence Awards competition. ACEC appreciates all the members of the independent panel of judges who determined the 2012 award winners. In addition to Oglesby, also serving as judges were **Hal Balthrop, PE**, assistant director-systems services, Nashville Metro Water Services; **Vanessa Bateman, PG, PE**, chief of geology section, US Army Corps of Engineers, Nashville District; **Paula Flowers**, manager of independent oversight, Oak Ridge National Laboratory; **J. T. Malasri, PE**, acting supervisor of residential engineering, Memphis Light, Gas and Water; **Dayakar Penumadu, Ph.D.**, head of civil and environmental engineering department, University of Tennessee, Knoxville; and **Scott Turnbow**, senior manager, Tennessee Valley Authority.

## MEMBER NEWS

- **Jamie Cochran, AICP**, has joined **Gresham, Smith and Partners** as Senior Vice President of Transportation Planning. **Brian Allen** has been named Senior Vice President of Business Development for the firm's transportation market.
- **K.S. Ware & Associates, LLC**, has been named a member of the 2011 Circle of Excellence as designated by PSMJ Resources, Inc., an independent, leading source of management training and consulting for the architecture, engineering, and construction industry.
- **Randy Ferguson** has joined **Barge, Waggoner, Sumner and Cannon, Inc.** as Chief Operating Officer. **Ben Faris, PE**, has joined the firm as a structural engineer in the Industrial and Building Services group.
- **Mike Pohlman, PE**, CEO of **Pickering Firm** and President of ACEC of Tennessee, is one of 11 Memphis CEOs honored as CEO of the Year by *Inside Memphis Business* magazine.
- **Mark Markham, Jr., PE**, has joined the Nashville office of **Stantec** as a Senior Project Manager with the firm's Environmental Services practice.
- **James H. (Jim) Littlejohn**, President of **Littlejohn Engineering Associates**, was named 2012 Engineer of the Year by the Middle Tennessee Chapter of the Tennessee Society of Professional Engineers. **Brian M. Reynolds, PE**, **Parsons Brinckerhoff**, was honored as Young Engineer of the Year.
- **Kyle Peters, PE**, has joined **AMEC** as Materials Project Engineer/CEI Project Manager.



# Legislators hosted at annual reception



**A**lmost 100 engineers were on hand to welcome Tennessee's state senators and representatives to the annual Legislative Reception on March 5.

◀ *Rep. Mike McDonald, Portland; Speaker of the House Beth Harwell, Nashville; and Mike Pohlman, PE, Pickering Firm, Memphis and president of ACEC of Tennessee*



*Randy Corleu, PE, CDM Smith, Knoxville; Rep. Joe Armstrong, Knoxville; Sen. Steve Southerland, Morristown; and Rep. Don Miller, Morristown* ▶



◀ *Rodney Wilson, PE, Hart Freeland Roberts, Nashville; Rep. Mike Turner, Old Hickory; Jim Littlejohn, PE, Littlejohn Engineering Associates, Nashville*



*Rep. Glen Casada, Thompsons Station; Claire Barnett, PE, EnSafe, Memphis; and Senate Republican Leader Mark Norris, Collierville* ▶

## ACEC PAC Contributors

Thank you to the following for their contributions to the ACEC (national) PAC:

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- BWSC Federal PAC**
- Dan Boles, S&ME, Inc.**
- Steve Bostic, Lamar Dunn & Associates, Inc.**
- Harold Cannon, Cannon & Cannon, Inc.**
- Carl Chambers, AECOM USA, Inc.**
- Steven Field, Stantec**
- Ed Hargraves, Askew, Hargraves Harcourt & Assoc.**
- David Harrell, Vaughn & Melton Consulting Engineers**
- Richard Heckel, TTL, Inc.**
- Michelle Kendall, Parsons Brinckerhoff**
- Stan King, Florence & Hutcheson, Inc.**
- Steve Lane, Smith Seckman Reid, Inc.**
- Jim Littlejohn, Littlejohn Engineering Associates, Inc.**
- Robert McIvor, Parsons**
- Logan Meeks, Askew, Hargraves Harcourt & Assoc.**
- Steve Meyer, Volkert & Associates, Inc.**
- Jim Morinec, AECOM USA, Inc.**
- Gary Mryncza, KCI Technologies, Inc.**
- Bob Murphy, RPM Transportation Consultants**
- Pickering Inc. PAC**
- Elizabeth Porter, S&ME, Inc.**
- Laura Reinbold, TTL, Inc.**
- Thomas (Chuck) Saunders, Fisher & Arnold, Inc.**
- Charlie Smith, Hanson Professional Services**
- Mike Stomer, S&ME, Inc.**
- Jerry Stump, CDM Smith**
- Mickey Sullivan, Gresham, Smith and Partners**
- Mark Surgenor, S&ME, Inc.**
- Candy Toler, ACEC/Tennessee**
- Tim Verner, Fisher & Arnold, Inc.**
- John Wimberly, I. C. Thomasson Associates, Inc.**
- Brad Winkler, TranSystems Corporation**

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## MARCH-APRIL 2012

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## Welcome, New Member

Geotek Engineering Company, Inc.  
2909 Elizabeth Street  
Nashville, TN 37211  
(615-833-3800  
www.geotektn.com

Contact:  
John Rami Mishu, PE  
President  
mishur@geotektn.com

Geotek Engineering Company provides multidisciplinary services in the geosciences field. Services include geotechnical engineering, hydrogeological studies and construction materials testing for industrial, commercial and residential developments, and for dams, airports, highways, and waste management sites.

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### *Speak up: legislators need to hear from you*

by Candy Toler  
Executive Director, ACEC of Tennessee

The General Assembly is on the home stretch. The goal is to finish business and adopt the 2012-13 state budget for an adjournment date in late April or early May. So there has been a lot of committee activity.



Candy Toler

Thanks to all of the engineers who participated in our Day on the Hill and pushed our agenda related to public safety. When constituents speak to their members of the General Assembly, legislators listen; don't ever underestimate that. Communicate.

ACEC was at work this year on many issues. Efforts included:

- supporting continuation of the State Architects' and Engineers' Board;
- opposing HB 3030/SB 2871 which lifts the threshold for public work projects to \$150,000 (when the services of an engineer or architect are required); we hope the bill will be amended to make it more acceptable;

- supporting legislation to update state law for accessible design, which became law last month;
- opposing efforts to establish preferential purchasing policies for state and local government and supporting Qualifications-Based Selection;
- opposing a bill which limits funding for stream mitigation to the county where the adverse environmental impact occurred; and
- opposing legislation which requires manufacturers of products for public drinking water systems to verify the safety of the products to the water system operators.

If you were not able to be in Nashville for the grassroots lobbying effort on March 6, it's not too late . . . your legislators appreciate hearing from constituents and welcome your input.

Next on the horizon is ACEC's Annual Convention and Legislative Summit, April 15-18, in Washington, D.C. With Congress working on infrastructure of all kinds, the lobbying effort at the convention will come at an important time in the process. Tennessee engineers will visit with our federal legislators to discuss these issues.

Continue your support of your profession at the state and national levels, please.