President’s Message
By: Ed Henderson, President

Congratulations to the St. Louis Cardinals and their fans (Tom Blackburn) for an amazing World Series victory. For those of you who missed it, game six of the World Series was one of the most impressive comebacks of all time. The Cardinals overcame a two run deficit in the ninth inning and again in the tenth inning. Finally in the eleventh inning the Cardinals won the game with a walk off solo homerun and forced a game seven which they also won. The Cardinal’s strong offensive “lineup” kept them alive and led them to the championship.

(Continued on page 2)
Civil Works and Military Program Trends and Key Projects
Eric Nagy, USACE, Chief of Design Branch, November Meeting Speaker
Submitted by: Harvey Oslick, Director

Mr. Eric Nagy has served as the Chief of the Design Branch for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District since March 2011. The Design Branch is responsible to develop the design and construction documents for all Civil Works, Military Construction, and International and Interagency Support (IIS) projects within the Sacramento District boundary. It also serves as one of two vertical design centers for the South Pacific Division, and, as a result, is responsible to develop the design and construction documents for many Military Construction and IIS Projects in the Los Angeles District. The Design Branch is comprised of approximately 120 technical professionals including civil, structural, mechanical, and electrical engineers as well as architects, landscape architects, and interior designers.

Prior to selection as Chief of the Design Branch, Eric served as an Associate Vice President responsible for the Watershed Planning and Design Section of a national architect-engineer firm for over four years. In this role, he led multidisciplinary teams of technical professionals through the planning and design of water resource projects throughout California's Central Valley. Eric played key roles in the West Sacramento Levee Improvement Program, the Delta Plan, the Truckee River General Reevaluation Report, the American River Common Features Project, the Folsom Permanent Operations Study, and the Sacramento River Bank Protection Program.

Mr. Nagy previously worked for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for a combined 11 years between the Sacramento and Pittsburgh Districts. Aside from positions in Construction, Engineering, and Project Management, he served as the Deputy Program Manager for Civil Works in Sacramento during 2005 and 2006. He also served on the Editorial Board of the Floodplain Management and Liability Reporter for over a year during 2009 and 2010. Eric has a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from the Pennsylvania State University and is a licensed Professional Engineer in the State of California.

President’s Message continued

(Continued from page 1)

Speaking of “lineups,” your Sierra Chapter Board of Directors has set an impressive program “lineup” for the next several months. Free up your calendars so you can lock in the following dates:

November 16: Sierra Chapter dinner with guest speaker Eric Nagy, USACE Chief of the Design Branch
January 6: Sierra Chapter joint luncheon with APWA and guest speaker Senator Anthony Cannella

February 15: Sierra Chapter’s 2nd Annual Past Presidents dinner with guest speaker Kevin Payne, Assistant Director of the Roseville Planning & Redevelopment Department

Let’s rally our members to boost attendance for these upcoming events. In last month’s newsletter I established the goal of fifty percent member firm attendance. It is vital to our organization to demonstrate our strength as we interface with public agency officials and state politicians. Your firm’s participation and representation is important. I hope to see you on November 16th.
ACEC California State Board Meeting Highlights
Submitted By: Ed Henderson, President

The 78th meeting of the ACEC California Board of Directors was held on October 27th and 28th in Newport Beach. The Sierra Chapter was represented by Tom Blackburn with Blackburn Consulting and Ed Henderson with TLA Engineering & Planning. Following are the meeting highlights:

Salary and Benefits Survey – ACEC California will conduct a salary and benefits survey of member firms. Participating firms will receive the survey results for free, while non-participants can purchase the results for a member or non-member fee.

ACEC California Membership – Since the beginning of this fiscal year, July of 2011, there has been a 0.9% increase in member firms to a total of 895 and the number of full time equivalent employees has held steady. This is an improvement from last year’s losses. The membership committee has established a growth goal of 8% by June of 2012.

Proposed 2012 Legislation Program – ACEC California will reintroduce AB 1210 with a broader purpose of preventing requirements of additional certification outside of the licensure process. Additionally, legislation will be introduced to prevent state and local agencies (especially Caltrans) from requiring duplicative and excessive audits. ACEC-CA will propose regulatory reform to strengthen the state’s regulatory review program administered by the Office of Administrative Law.

Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure – Tim Psomas presented the envision™ Sustainability Rating System developed by a working group from ACEC, APWA and ASCE. To find out more you can visit their website: www.sustainableinfrastructure.org

Legislative Advocate for ACEC-CA—Mark Smith, October Meeting Recap
By: Kelly Birkes, Director

Mark Smith, ACEC CA’s Legislative Director, attended our October meeting and reported on the latest happenings in the Capitol with regards to legislation, budget, and the upcoming elections in 2012. He reported that ACEC CA’s sponsored legislation went 1:1 this year with one signature and one veto. Signed was SB 424 (Rubio), which creates a statutory process for the conversion of design professional liens to mechanics liens in the event that a work of improvement commences on a project. Vetoed was AB 1210 (Garrick), a measure that would have exempted civil engineers from the QSD/P certificate and training requirements imposed as a condition of the new General Construction Permit. From a budget perspective, as usual Mark reported that the California budget is projected to run a sizeable deficit. Recent projects put the budget shortfall in the 2012 year at $8-10B.

On the political front, 2012 is shaping up to be one heck of an election cycle, with the open primary and redistricting hitting at the same time. Many legislators are taking advantage of once in a decade opportunities to run for congress, and others are jumping ship from the Assembly to the Senate, and vice versa. Given the political turmoil it is expected that we could have as many as 60 new members of the California legislature, for a freshman ratio of over 50%. ACEC CA is meeting with new candidates and evaluating prospects statewide, and will make recommendations for a political action plan to the Board of Directors in early 2012.

Mark Smith can be reached at msmith@acec-ca.org or 916-441-7991 with questions and comments.
RBF Consulting, a Company of Michael Baker Corporation (RBF), is one of the largest engineering, design and construction management firms in the nation, with rankings in the top 10 percent of U.S. engineering practices by Engineering News-Record (ENR). With 12 offices in California, RBF has more than 3,200 professionals nationwide in over 100 offices.

The recent merger with Baker Corporation provides RBF with combined resources to serve local, national and international markets, with the capability to provide a comprehensive range of services on a national scale for all sizes and categories of projects. Company expertise includes transportation and traffic engineering, water and wastewater engineering, civil, structural, mechanical, and electrical engineering; architecture, landscape architecture; environmental; survey/mapping; GIS and construction management.

Ongoing work for public agencies throughout Northern California includes streets, bridges, utilities, drainage and flood control improvements, and public facility site development, with services provided from the preliminary feasibility report stage to the preparation of final improvement plans, specifications, construction staking and construction management. RBF is also providing our clients with preparation of environmental documents, urban planning and design, NPDES compliance services, and contract staff support.

The collaboration of engineers, planners and environmental specialists at RBF provides a unique resource for our clients. Our teamwork philosophy integrates a wide range of expertise dedicated to client service, and enables us to offer outstanding services covering the entire project development process.

Planning:
- Land Planning
- Transportation Planning
- Environmental Services
- Watershed Management
- Urban Planning and Design
- GIS
- Visual Analysis and Design

Design:
- Civil Engineering
- Transportation Engineering
- Water Resource Engineering
- Structural Engineering
- Traffic Engineering
- Electrical Engineering
- Landscape Architecture
- Stormwater Management

Construction:
- Field Surveying
- Mapping / Right of Way
- Construction Staking
- Construction Management
- Construction Inspection
2011/12 Board of Directors

Officers

Ed Henderson, President
(TLA Engineering & Planning)
916.786.0685
ed@tla-inc.com

Steve Greenfield, Vice-President
(Cunningham Engineering)
530.758.2026
steve@cecwest.com

Ted Hopkins, Secty/Treasurer
(Shannon & Wilson)
916.438.2300
TWH@shanwil.com

Directors

Kelly Birkes
(Rick Engineering)
916.638.8200
kbirkes@rickengineering.com

Paul Enneking
(Psomas)
916.788.8122
penneking@psomas.com

Tom Holdrege
(Holdrege & Kull)
530.478.1305
tholdrege@HandK.net

Harvey Oslick
(RBF Consulting)
916.928.5170
hoslick@rbf.com

Ryan O'Keefe
(Morton & Pitalo)
916.496.8788
rokeefe@mpengr.com

Mark Gilbert
(ENGEIO)
916.786.8883
mgilbert@engeio.com

State Directors

Christopher Curtis (2012)
(CBC Surveys)
916.921.9033
ccurtis@cbcsurveys.com

Bob LoRusso (2013)
(Salaber Associates, Inc.)
707.693.8800
rlorusso@saiservices.com

Marco Palilla (2014)
(HDR Engineering, Inc)
916.817.4878
Marco.Palilla@hdrinc.com

Ed Henderson (2012)
(TLA Engineering & Planning)
916.786.0685
ed@tla-inc.com