



FALL  
2007

# Bulletin

Volume 2 Issue 1

## Rocky Mountain Rendezvous

### Purpose

*The purpose of the Academy is to provide recognition to past and present industry leaders for their personal contributions to the engineering and construction industry.*

*The historic Brown Palace Hotel in Denver proved an accommodating venue for the 2007 NAC Annual Meeting. A majority of members attended the event to address construction industry and organizational issues, welcome ten outstanding new members, and enjoy fellowship with each other. The meeting was productive and interesting, and the spouses issued high praises regarding their planned activities.*



NAC members enjoyed sharing stories with one another during the meeting.



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**John C. Mihm**  
2008 NAC  
President

## From the President

First, let me acknowledge the outstanding leadership and vision of our outgoing president, Vince Kontny. Since his induction into the National Academy of Construction, Vince has dedicated countless hours to ensuring its success and continued growth. As president, his high standards of excellence for the Academy and its membership led to national industry recognition, and publication of FCC #149, *Reducing Construction Costs/Best Resolution Practices*. Vince's *NAC Bulletin* has brought us the catalyst we needed and will be a true legacy. The Academy thanks him and will be indebted forever. I also want to thank Lynda Stanley for her support of NAC and for allowing our participation in the FCC publication process.

As incoming president, I am excited to announce several new projects. The NAC is establishing a Forum! The Forum is intended to promote the NAC's mission, sharing its plethora of experience and leadership with the construction and engineering business community. It is an opportunity for all voices to become aligned on common grounds and strive for continued improvement in safety while uniting our allies in an ongoing National Construction Forum Series. A Forum Team, led by Jim Porter, has been assembled and is off to a strong start. The first formal team meeting is scheduled for January 2008. We welcome your participation!

The NAC Foundation is another project that has been identified for focus and growth in 2008. With this addition to the Academy, it is now possible for members and industry to sustain the efforts and growth of our mission. Recently, you received a letter regarding

a special opportunity to make a tax-free charitable donation from your IRA to our organization. Special thanks to Doy Cole and his team for all their work on establishing the foundation and to Mr. and Mrs. Richard Tucker for our first lead gift. We now enter our "silent" stage under the leadership of John Lamberson and his committee.

Projects slated for 2008 also include a major overhaul to the NAC website. It is essential to the NAC mission that we are able to effectively reach and communicate with industry through all genres. We welcome suggestions for content.

Additionally, Emmitt Nelson continues his outstanding safety mission. He has already started on the proposed topics and distribution dates for the White Papers on safety. That will follow our very successful CII series. Emmitt hopes to increase both the distribution list and the number of papers written. We welcome your participation.

The other active committee chairs are listed under the officer section. Please support them in their efforts (page 8).

Finally, please mark your calendar for next year's annual meeting scheduled for Oct. 9-10, 2008. The meeting will be held in the heart of America - beautiful Bartlesville, Okla. We have many activities planned (golf tournament, historical tours, Native American style show and dinners) for next year's Annual Meeting, in addition to the regularly scheduled events. We know you will enjoy its rich heritage and quaint atmosphere. Please see page 7 for more details. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Sincerely,  
John C. Mihm  
2008 NAC President  
[jcmihmr66@aol.com](mailto:jcmihmr66@aol.com)



## NAC 2007 New Members

**Alan L. Boeckmann**  
*Flour Corporation*



*"Leadership in development and deploying best practices in work processes and championing anti-corruption principles in the E&C industry."*

**Preston H. Haskell**  
*The Haskell Company*



*"Significant contributions to the construction industry through leadership of the Design-Build movement."*

**James E. Diekman**  
*University of Colorado-Boulder*



*"Definitive contributions to construction research and practice in project risk and contract disputes."*

**Thomas J. O'Neill**  
*Parsons Brinckerhoff Inc.*



*"Leadership in major infrastructure management projects globally and restructuring his company for worldwide excellence in project delivery and client responsiveness."*

**Peter C. Forster**  
*Clark Construction Group LLC*



*"Vast depth and span of contributions to the construction community, real estate, engineering and architectural profession."*

**Hugh L. Rice III**  
*FMI Corp.*



*"Leadership and innovation in advancing management practices and strategy for the construction industry."*

**Clair F. Gill**  
*Smithsonian Institution*



*"Sustained leadership and accomplishment in federal and military construction and facilities engineering programs in a lifetime of public service."*

**K. Keith Roe**  
*Burns and Roe Enterprises, Inc.*



*"Leadership in global infrastructure projects, company restructure for design excellence, and dedication to technical/industry associations to advance our profession."*

**Stephen G. Hanks**  
*Washington Group International*



*"Leadership of a global engineering and construction company that sets industry standards for safety and superior project performance."*

**Robert J. Smith**  
*Akerman Senterfitt Wickwire Gavin*



*"Long-term national and international leadership in developing, advocating and implementing better contracts, contracting practices and the dispute board process."*



## NAC Foundation Update



The NAC Foundation has been established and is under way. The initial Board of Trustees consisting of Doy Cole (Chair), Mike Goodrich, John Lamberson, Ben Montoya and Richard Tucker has been operating for several months and has established guidelines for investments. The trustees will serve staggered terms to ensure continuity of oversight and guidance.

Woodway Financial Advisors has been selected to manage the Foundation's funds. Woodway has been in operation for more than 25 years and is providing its services at very competitive rates. It is intended that the corpus of the funds will be maintained, and hopefully grow to keep up with inflation. Each year, an appropriate portion of the earnings (the amount to be determined by joint agreement with the NAC Executive Committee) will be transferred to the NAC Operating Account to be combined with dues and other payments to support NAC activities.

The Trustees are deliberating the advisability of establishing the Foundation as a separate 501c.3 corporation, although NAC is a 501c.3 corporation and fully qualifies as a tax-exempt charitable enterprise. The Trustees have received one legal opinion that the separate corporation is not necessary, but are meeting soon with another attorney to gain more insight into the positives and negatives of such an action.

As presented at the Annual Meeting in Denver, the needs for the Foundation are apparent. NAC dues alone will not support the necessary operating expenses, even though the University of Texas provides space and many support services, and many of our members have provided support through their organizations. It is estimated that an additional \$200,000 year will be needed in the near future for secretarial and other administrative support. If the NAC wishes to undertake selected activities to improve the industry, as proposed at our annual meetings, the necessary financial resources will be at least double that amount.

The Ad Hoc Committee established in 2006 has developed a framework for the Foundation. The Executive Committee has endorsed the framework with its actions to appoint the Foundation Trustees and engage Woodway as the investment manager. The Ad Hoc Committee will now sunset, with our gratitude, and will be replaced by a Foundation Development Committee, which will be chaired by John Lamberson and will include some members from the Framework Committee who have expressed interest in continuing their service. Learn more about their work on page 5.

*Doy Cole*  
[doycole@aol.com](mailto:doycole@aol.com)



## Liaison with Government Agencies

We recently asked NAC members to answer several questions about their current and possible future volunteer services. As of mid-November, responders included:

- Bud Ahearn
- Richard Anderson
- Walter Bell
- Robert Bittner
- Alan Boeckmann
- James Braus
- Bill Brookshire
- Bru Brubaker
- Jack Buffington
- Doy Cole
- Norm Delbridge
- Art Fox
- Russ Fuhrman
- Pat Galloway
- Edd Gibson
- Mike Goodrich
- Bud Griffis
- Jim Groton
- Dan Halpin
- Vald Heiberg
- Mike Johnson
- Bob Jortberg
- Ted Kennedy
- Vince Kontny
- John Lamberson
- Jim Lammie
- Pat Lancaster
- Jack Lemley
- Joe Martinelli
- Charles McGinnis
- John Mihm
- Ben Montoya
- Dave Nash
- Jim Porter
- Bob Rubin
- Jimmy Slaughter
- Jim Smith
- Bob Tatum
- Charlie Thornton
- Richard Tucker
- Hans Van Winkle

*continued on page 5*

# NAC Foundation Development

The NAC Foundation has been established and is described on page 4. The Ad Hoc Foundation Framework Committee has sunset, and has been replaced by a Foundation Development Committee, a normal progression in the Foundation's evolution. The Foundation Development Committee is chaired by John Lamberson, and welcomes additions to the other volunteer members.

The Foundation Fund, which has a goal of \$10 million, will accept contributions as follows:

- Bronze Level ..... \$1,000 minimum
- Silver Level Life Membership ... \$5,000 minimum
- Gold Level Life Membership .. \$25,000 minimum
- Platinum Level ..... \$50,000 minimum
- Diamond Level..... \$100,000 minimum
- Distinctive Donor..... \$1,000,000 minimum

Level attainments are cumulative, and can be achieved with contributions over a period of years. Initial contributions to date total almost \$100,000, and pledges have already been received for comparable additional contributions. (One company has expressed its intention to contribute to Gold Level Life Memberships for its NAC members.) A letter will be forthcoming shortly from NAC President John Mihm, inviting members to contribute or make pledges.

Contributions can be made to the NAC Foundation through Alicia, at the NAC address (see back cover); Alicia will forward the funds to the investment management company.

*continued from page 4*

Several have been contacted to serve on various committees studying national issues, reviewing the work of current NRC committees and other such activities. All of these plus many of you we haven't heard from yet, rarely say "no" when you are approached and we thank you very much for getting involved. We haven't tried to burden anyone by going out and searching for projects for you to contribute your time to, and we won't do that. However, as word of our membership and our capabilities become known, and it is possible that this won't happen, we will be called on more frequently for our advice and counsel.

For those so desiring, contributions can be made directly to Woodway Financial Advisors, 10000 Memorial Drive, Suite 650, Houston Texas 77024 - Attention: Judy Bozeman. Alternatively, wire transfer information is as follows:

**Bank of Texas**  
 ABA #111014325  
 Credit Account #002998  
 INO: AMERI-C0  
 c/o Woodway Financial Advisors,  
 a Trust Company  
 FFC: National Academy of Construction  
 Foundation Fund IMA  
 A/C # 61-1066-01-00

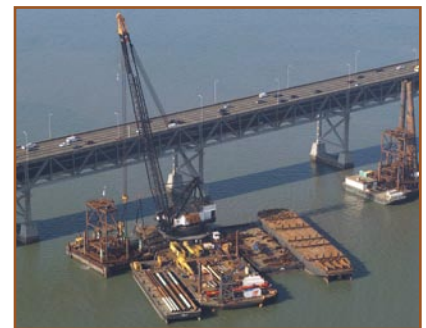
NAC members are also reminded of the one-time opportunity ending this year to transfer funds, up to \$100,000, from individual IRAs to the NAC Foundation Fund. You must be over 70½ years of age. The funds must be directly transferred by the trustee of the IRA. If you are interested in making this IRA transfer, you will need the NAC tax identification number, which is 3-20034-7347-0. Your transfer should be sent to Woodway via wire transfer from your IRA trustee.

A Foundation status report will be issued periodically, either through a mailing or through this *Bulletin*. We are optimistic that the Foundation will provide additional resources for NAC to continue making meaningful contributions to the advancement of our great industry.

*John Lamberson*  
[jlamberson@mindspring.com](mailto:jlamberson@mindspring.com)

Lynda Stanley, Director of the Board on Infrastructure and the Constructed Environment and the Federal Facilities Council of the National Research Council, attended our meeting in Denver this year and reported there will be many opportunities for future services from our members on her boards alone, as well as other government committees and boards. Again, you won't be volunteered for anything without first being approached to see if you are interested. Thank you all for all you are doing.

*Warm regards,*  
*Jack Buffington*  
[jebuffi@uark.edu](mailto:jebuffi@uark.edu)



## From the Secretariat



Richard Tucker

The year 2007 has been a quite meaningful one in terms of the Academy's evolution. Most of the activities, accomplishments and future directions were reviewed and discussed at the Annual Meeting.

With induction of 10 outstanding individuals in Denver, NAC membership has grown to a total of 89 active and five emeritus members. The membership is meeting the NAC goal of an elite and diverse group, which reflects the broad nature of our great industry. We have all four of the major industry sectors represented, as well as demographics associated with owners, designers, constructors, attorneys, consultants and academia. The leadership qualities of the NAC membership are impressive.

NAC members are active, on an individual basis, in many organizations and industry advancement efforts. Selected presentations at the Annual Meeting included:

- a program on Anti-Corruption Education and Training (Alan Boeckmann),
- the Gulf Coast Work Force Initiative (Jim Porter and Tim Horst),
- the ACE Program (Charlie Thornton), and
- the ASCE 21st Century Engineer (Pat Galloway)

These presentations represent NAC members' involvement in other organizations and efforts. Lynda Stanley presented an overview of the National Research Council Board on Infrastructure and the Constructed Environment, and recognized the many NAC members who are involved in BICE studies and activities.

Some NAC activities have involved organized member participation. Jim Groton presented the final report, from the National Research Council, on a 2004 workshop jointly sponsored by NAC and BICE. The final report, titled "*Reducing Construction Costs (through use of Best Disputes Resolution Practices)*," can be purchased from the National Academies, but copies were given to Annual Meeting attendees.

Additional copies have been given to the NAC and will be sent to those members who were unable to attend the Annual Meeting.

Emmitt Nelson gave attendees an update on the NAC White Papers on Construction Safety, a series of more than 12 documents. Bill Badger presented preliminary results of a Leadership Research effort, which involves numerous NAC members. Mike Vorster discussed a potential NAC-led Faculty Internship program, which will involve numerous companies and will hopefully begin in 2008.

It is likely that NAC will undertake additional organized efforts to advance our great industry and, as normal, a strategic planning discussion occupied significant time at the Annual Meeting. The next effort may be to initiate an Annual NAC Forum, on a topic of major national interest to the industry, similar to the 2004 Workshop on Dispute Avoidance and Resolution. The 2008 Forum, resulting from Jimmy Slaughter's Strategic Planning Committee, is in initial planning stages and will be led by Vice-President Jim Porter and will tentatively address the Construction Work Force shortage.

The National Academy of Construction is a thriving and growing organization. We will continue to explore matters in which our unique resource of proven industry leaders can be best utilized. The NAC contributions to our profession are already significant, but will require additional financial resources to provide the necessary "margin of excellence" for future success. Hopefully, those resources will be realized through the NAC Foundation Fund (see pages 4-5). More information will be forthcoming.

Hopefully, 2008 will be one of continuation and expansion of the 2007 activities and initiatives. The NAC goal is to contribute to the improvement of our great industry, which is heavily responsible for the growth and welfare of our nation.

*Richard Tucker, Secretariat*  
[rltucker@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:rltucker@mail.utexas.edu)



## 2008 Annual Meeting Preview: Oct. 9-10

The 2008 NAC Annual Meeting will be held at Oklahoma's Woolaroc Wildlife Park, created by Frank Phillips, in Bartlesville. This preserved Indian and wildlife reserve will provide a scenic view of buffalo, Texas Longhorns, and more. The black-tie dinner will be held in the Woolaroc Museum, which hosts Indian and animal artifacts.



The Hotel Phillips will provide NAC members and guests with accommodations, and will host part of the meeting in its comfortable conference facilities. Opened as a hotel in 1950, Hotel Phillips is nestled in Bartlesville's quaint downtown, and offers easy access to many of the town's treasures, including the Price Tower, the only skyscraper designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. NAC members and guests will enjoy dinner at the Copper Restaurant inside the Tower.



### Tours

The Frank Phillips Mansion was built in 1909 and features 26 rooms. Located in the heart of Bartlesville, just minutes from the Hotel Phillips, tours of the mansion are given for a small donation.

Nellie Johnstone No. 1 was the first commercial oil well in Indian Territory, completed April 15, 1897, by the Cudahy Oil Company on the south bank of the Caney River.

The Dewey Motel is a main attraction in the small town of Dewey, just north of Bartlesville. This historic landmark housed the likes of Tom Mix. The motel and Tom Mix Museum will be featured on the NAC showcase of Oklahoma tour.



The Bartlesville Community Center is not only a main attraction in Bartlesville but is just a few minutes' walk from Hotel Phillips. This unique structure features events from ballets to concerts to performing arts shows.

The Tallgrass Prairie Reserve is located near the small town of Pawhuska, Oklahoma, and features 1,200 bison roaming free on 37,000 acres of beautiful tallgrass prairie. This will be a tour you will not want to miss!

In the spirit of Bartlesville, a small golf scramble is planned for NAC members at Hillcrest Country Club Oct. 8, 2008.

Previewing authentic Native American Indian clothing will be a treat for all of those that attend the luncheon at Woolaroc Oct. 10. The menu will be true and authentic Indian tacos that have made Oklahoma famous. Don't forget your camera!





Woolaroc Museum, Wonderland of Lights



Tallgrass Prairie Reserve



Train Depot: Bartlesville Chamber of Commerce

The *NAC Bulletin* is a publication of the National Academy of Construction.

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**We're on the Web!**

See us at:  
[www.naocon.org](http://www.naocon.org)

## 2008 NAC Executive Committee

President	John C. Mihm 972-658-8583	<a href="mailto:jcmihmr66@aol.com">jcmihmr66@aol.com</a>
Vice President	Jim Porter 302-774-2407	<a href="mailto:porterjb@wittnet.com">porterjb@wittnet.com</a>
Secretary	Jim Groton 404-853-8071	<a href="mailto:jimgroton@sablaw.com">jimgroton@sablaw.com</a>
Secretariat	Richard L. Tucker 512-471-3541	<a href="mailto:rltucker@mail.utexas.edu">rltucker@mail.utexas.edu</a>
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2nd Past President	Jack Buffington 479-575-7957	<a href="mailto:jebuffi@uark.edu">jebuffi@uark.edu</a>
3rd Past President	Ted Kennedy 205-972-6728	<a href="mailto:kennedyt@bek.com">kennedyt@bek.com</a>
At Large	Jimmy Slaughter 713-845-4549	<a href="mailto:jgsjr@sbec.com">jgsjr@sbec.com</a>
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[Click here to send a message to all members of the NAC Executive Committee.](#)

## Ad Hoc Committees

Forum	Jim Porter 302-774-2407	<a href="mailto:porterjb@wittnet.com">porterjb@wittnet.com</a>
Safety	Emitt J. Nelson 713-953-1228	<a href="mailto:nelsonci@worldnet.att.net">nelsonci@worldnet.att.net</a>
NAC Trustees Development	John Lamberson 415-439-4822	<a href="mailto:jrlamberson@mindspring.com">jrlamberson@mindspring.com</a>
Liaison	Jack Buffington 479-575-7957	<a href="mailto:jebuffi@uark.edu">jebuffi@uark.edu</a>
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Faculty Internship	Mike Vorster 540-231-5009	<a href="mailto:mikev@vt.edu">mikev@vt.edu</a>
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Bulletin	Vince Kontny 970-240-3822	<a href="mailto:vincekontny@starband.net">vincekontny@starband.net</a>