



SPRING  
2013

# Bulletin

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## 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.



This years Annual Meeting will be held in Scottsdale, AZ.

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## Annual Meeting Preview!



The 2013 National Academy of Construction Annual Meeting will take place October 20-23, 2013, a Sunday through a Tuesday which is different from the usual weekend dates in order to accomodate more members' schedules. The location we have chosen the Royal Palms Resort and Spa in Scottsdale, Arizona. Located at the foot of Camelback Mountain, only seven miles from Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport and centrally located just moments from downtown Scottsdale, the Royal Palms combines the graciousness

and sophistication of a Mediterranean villa with the intimacy and privacy of a secluded retreat. Guests enter the resort through a driveway lined with regal palm trees and are greeted by a 250-year-old fountain in the circular porte cochere.

Originally built in 1929 as a summer retreat for Cunard Steamship executive and financier Delos Cooke, the resort underwent a multimillion dollar restoration, re-opening in the summer of 1997. With 119 custom-appointed casitas and guestrooms, over 20,000 square feet of estate-like meeting space, Spanish Colonial architecture, Tuscan style landscaping, and superb culinary service, this awardwinning resort is the perfect choice for the discriminating business and leisure traveler, distinctive corporate and incentive meetings, and for romantic and special occasions.

The Royal Palms Resort and Spa is one of two Phoenix, Arizona hotels that is a proud member of the Historic Hotels of America National Trust for Historic Preservation. Inside and out, the architecture and appointments of the Royal Palms recall the glamour, hope and confidence of the Post World War II era. Situated on 9 acres filled with magenta bougainvillea, lush flower gardens and exotic plants, the Royal Palms casitas and guestrooms are each designed and decorated with exquisite care and attention to detail.

The NAC Annual Meeting Committee will be meeting very soon to finalize details on the annual meeting schedule and potential guests speakers.

Options for early arrivals or late departures include hot air ballooning, Desert Botanical Garden, Sedona, The Heard Museum, The Museum of Musical Instruments, and Hummer Sonoran Desert Tours.



# 2013 Annual Meeting General Outline

## Friday, October 18th

Early Arrivals, No Organized Events.

## Saturday, October 19th

Registration in Hospitality Room; Open All Day; Silent Auction

Golf at Phoenician Resort – 10 AM

Organized Tours for Non-Golfers

Welcome & Ted Kennedy Award Dinner



## Sunday, October 20th

Registration in Hospitality Room; Open All Day; Silent Auction

AM- Executive and Other Committee Meetings

AM- Organized Tours

PM- Organized Tours

1:30-3:00 PM - Workshop by Forum Committee

4:00 PM - Keynote Address

Evening – Black Tie Induction Dinner



## Monday, October 21st

Hospitality Room; Open All Day; Silent Auction

AM – General Business Meeting

AM – Organized Tours for Spouses

Lunch – Guest Speaker

PM – Forum Meeting

PM – Organized Tours

PM – Organized Golf at Talking Stick

Evening – Recognition Dinner & Silent Auction



## Tuesday, October 22nd

Optional Organized Tours

Optional ASU visit

## The Hospitality Room

The Academy is intended to promote congeniality. In that regard, there will be more emphasis on the Hospitality Room this year. In addition to a gathering place for those between events, it will contain some specific features that are described below. It will be generally open day, except for conflicts with events that are intended for everyone .

**MEETING REGISTRATION** - Can be done any time Saturday or Sunday, and materials will be available for latecomers.

**GENERAL FELLOWSHIP** - Refreshments will be available for those in-between meetings or not participating in optional events.

**SPOUSE WRITE-UPS** - The Bulletin has instituted a practice of including spotlighted write-ups on member spouses. Those will be compiled into a notebook which can be perused at leisure to gain conversation material.

**SILENT AUCTION** - Items for the Silent Auction will be described and a ledger for entering bids until the Auction is concluded the last evening at the Recognition Dinner.

**AUTHOR'S TABLE** - Many NAC Members and Spouses have authored books, poems and other creative works. A table will be available with a copy of each and information on obtaining a copy.



## Annual Meeting Sponsorship

The Executive Committee and Development Group approved initiation of an Annual Meeting Sponsorship Program. The criteria for such sponsorships are listed below:

1. Only Companies with NAC Mmbers can serve as sponsors.
2. The sponsorship fee will be common, \$5,000.
3. Sponsoring Companies' names and logos will be listed on an easel.
4. The easel sign will be made by the NAC staff.
5. The easel will be located outside the room for the Awards Dinner, the Induction Dinner, and the Recognition Dinner.
6. The companies will also be given slide recognition during the Friday Business Meeting.
7. The sponsoring companies will also be given recognition in the NAC Bulletin after the meeting.

The following companies provided sponsorships in 2012:

AECOM  
CSA Group  
FMI Corporation  
Goodrich Management  
Herzog Companies, Inc.  
Independent Project Analysis  
Rosendin Electric  
S&B Engineers and Constructors, Ltd.  
STV Incorporated

**It is hoped to expand the number of sponsorships to a maximum of 20 for the 2013 Annual Meeting in Scottsdale. A notice will be forthcoming in the near future.**

# Photos from 2012 Annual Meeting in Puerto Rico





## 2012 Silent Auction Results

Congratulations and thank you to all who were gracious and donated auction items, or bid on the various items, for the National Academy of Construction's Second Silent Auction! Although the results were not as high as last year, the Academy still was able to raise a significant amount of funds. A special thanks to Ralph and Patti Larison for chairing the event and helping organize and arrange the details. As you will recall, the Auction items were detailed in frames in the hospitality room, and the winners were announced at the Recognition Dinner on Friday, October 26. In total, 17 items ranging from condos to framed photographs to tickets were donated, and a grand total of \$9,300 was raised. It is our hope to incorporate a Silent Auction at every Annual Meeting, so please let us know if there are items that you would like to be included in the donations for next year!



Item	Offerer	Buyer
Prescott, AZ Condo	Ben Montoya	Edd Gibson
10 Tickets to Top of the Rock	Charles DeBenedittis	Mike & Merle Vorster
2013 Redskins Game for Two	Dave Nash	Mike Loulakis
2013 Yankees Game for 4	Dominick Servedio	Bob Prieto
"Afternoon Reflections" Professionally Framed Photograph	Edd & Gail Gibson	Jerry Eyink
"Love & Laughter" Professionally Framed Photograph	Edd & Gail Gibson	Jimmy & Shirley Slaughter
Chauffeur Driven Woodie Ride & Dinner	Ralph and Patti Larison	Bob Bittner
Port of Long Beach and Port of Los Angeles Harbor Tour	Ralph and Patti Larison	Jimmy Slaughter
1 Week In Condo in Soda Springs	Melissa and Robert Herkt	Bob Bittner
1 Week In Condo in Soda Springs	Melissa and Robert Herkt	Jim Scotti
Chappellett Cabernet Sauvignon	Jim Porter	Dominick Servedio
4 Yankees Tickets	John Dionisio	Dennis Schroeder
4 Mets Tickets	John Dionisio	Jan Tuchman
Frisco, TX Home	John Mihm	Bill Badger
Park City, UT (Winter)	Richard & Shirley Tucker	Hans Van Winkle
Park City, UT (Summer)	Richard & Shirley Tucker	Gerry Greene
Dominican Republic Condo	JJ & Ginger Suarez	Jimmy Slaughter

## 2013 Membership Selection Process



Dominick Servedio  
VP and Chair,  
Membership Committee

In early February, the Committee issued an invitation to all members to make nominations for the 2013 elections. Hopefully, we will receive about 50 nomination packets, from which a class of 25 will be on the ballot for election in June. To ensure that we have an adequate number of nominees, the Committee met in December and January, by teleconference, to supplement the anticipated nominations from the membership, including 10 carry-over nominations from 2012. The deadline for receipt of nominations was March 31, 2013 and for receipt of references is April 15, 2013. Names of nominees will be circulated to all members for comment. The committee will meet around June 1st to prepare the ballot. Because of the increased size of the 2013 class, the Committee has been expanded in size and reorganized as shown below, although all new members will be elected at large.

Chair	Dominick Servedio (2013)
Owners (Public/Private)	Melissa Herkt (2013) Charles DeBenedittis (2014) Jerry Eyink (2015)
Contractors (Design/Construction)	John Dionisio (2015) John Nobles (2015) Chuck Thomsen (2013) Ron Gafford (2014) Tom Traylor (2014) Dennis Schroeder (2013)
Services / Consultants	Jan Tuchman (2015) Ed Merrow (2013) Hugh Rice (2014)
Academia / Research	Jesus de la Garza (2013) Dan Halpin (2014) Wayne Crew (2015) Edd Gibson (2013)

The NAC has historically had a high participation in the election process, and we look forward to this year's results.

If you have any questions, please contact any of the Membership Committee Members or Richard Tucker. The Academy considers its selection process to be uniquely thorough and effective.

# National Construction Forum Report- November 16-17 2011



Jimmy Slaughter  
Chair  
NAC Forum

**The Forum Committee has been active; the report of its last forum session is repeated below. More information will be presented at the Forum Session on Monday at the Annual Meeting in Scottsdale.**

The third annual National Construction Forum was held November 16-17 in Washington D.C.. Thirty five representatives from 20 organizations and five universities attended. The Forum's Purpose, Vision and Mission are summarized below:

## **PURPOSE**

To establish the National Construction Forum as a significant national voice for major issue identification and awareness, and the integration of efforts of key organizations to drive improved efficiency and effectiveness of the capital project process.

## **VISION**

National Construction Forum is a significant national voice for major issue identification and awareness and the integration and leverage of efforts of key organizations to drive improved efficiency and effectiveness of the capital project process.

## **MISSION**

The National Construction Forum convenes annual workshops to identify major issues impeding work force and capital project best practices development and deployment, and facilitates formation and execution of work streams to resolve them

The inaugural Forum was held November 1-2, 2009. Proceedings can be found on the NAC website. The Forum produced three focus areas of the construction industry for workstreams. These focus areas were further discuss and a process was defined to address these workstreams in the second Forum workshop held in Houston, Texas, September 21, 2010 in Houston, Texas.

The three focus areas were:

1. Image of the Construction Industry from a Public Point of View
2. Best Practices in the Construction Industry
3. Workforce Development for Crafts

In our current Forum, base work on the workstreams from the September 2010 meeting in Houston was presented by:

1. Image – Dr. Neil Eldin (Director of Construction Management, University of Houston) and Marvin Oey (Director, Construction Research Council)
2. Best Practices – Wayne Crew (Director, CII)

### 3. Workforce Development – Don Whyte (President, NCCER)

After base work presentations Forum representatives were divided into groups to address the workstreams. The process used was:

1. Define problem/opportunity statements
2. Assess the current state
3. Develop consensus of the ideal state
4. Identify key gaps between the current and idea state
5. Develop recommended actions to eliminate gaps

Each group developed and presented their action plan to the representatives at the meeting. These action plans are not giant leaps forward but more essential first steps. The plan is to continue work on the action plans in the next calendar year, and year by year add organizations, additional steps and new issues to the forum.

Attendees discussed additional issues at the end of the Forum but agreed we need to get further along on the three workstreams prior to taking on more issues.

Leadership at the forum was provided by NAC members Jim Porter and Jimmy Slaughter, Co-Chairmen; JJ Suarez, John Dalton and Edd Gibson, facilitators.

Additional NAC members that represented attending organizations: Richard Anderson (NYBC), Stuart Anderson (Texas A&M), Wayne Crew (CII), Edward Jaselskis (NCSU) and Janice Tuchman (ENR). Thanks to Jerry Eyink (NAC) we were able to get three union representatives to the forum on short notice.



# National Academy of Construction Safety White Paper



Emmitt Nelson

Since the advent of safety professionals in the construction industry there have been accountability issues (some recognized and some not recognized) with the question of “Who is in charge of safety?”

The research of the Construction Industry Institute, Austin, Texas has shown that safety excellence includes a top corporate executive charged with the oversight of safety administration; often along with employee health issues, plus some also add to the job role oversight of environmental issues. This paper will only address the safety portion of that role and address it in terms of safety accountability, with the focus on safety accountability extending throughout the organization. All too often employees will simplify the roles of the safety professionals viewing them as all encompassing. All encompassing, to the point that if an issue arises bearing on the subject of safety, then the view of all is, it belongs to the Safety Organization. All encompassing, to the point that if there is an injury the conclusion is; it must be the fault of the safety department.

When this scenario becomes a reality in an organization it is because organizational roles have not been defined or if defined, not defined in accord with the CII research. The CII research spells out the essential fact that when the objective is the elimination of all injuries the resolution of safety related issues should have voice that reports directly to the CEO. Yet the same research also points out that line management must be both responsible and held accountable for the safe execution of all work. These findings when implemented create an organizational “cross-pull.” The Safety Department is “pulling in” responsibility so they can be properly accountable for corporate administration of safety while at the same time the line leaders are told to “pull in” safety responsibility and be accountable for safe work execution. It is easy to see the potential for conflict in such a scenario.

(See NAC SWP 25A at [www.naocon.org](http://www.naocon.org) for an inserted typical Case Study Scenario.)

How does an organization solve this problem? The answer is by simply defining job roles. Defining job roles in the area of employee safety is not an easy thing to do because of tradition. The CII research on how some employers have left tradition behind to create safety cultures where recordable injury is rare to non-existent creates an opportunity to change this tradition.



*To read the full Safety White Paper, visit [naocon.org](http://naocon.org)*

## Spotlight on Spouses

### Sherry Wright

is the wife of NAC member Duke Wright. She was born in Savannah,



Georgia and spent most of her childhood in Greenville, South Carolina. She met Duke shortly before he graduated from Clemson University and commissioned a second lieutenant in the Air Force.

They were married in 1957. She quickly adapted to the nomadic and often lonely life of a military wife. She grew to become a true partner and for some thirty-one years was the family anchor and understated influence on Duke's career.

She was a stay at home mom raising four children while moving some eighteen times around the world.

Her children, their spouses and six grandchildren are now the joy of her life.

While living in the Washington, DC area Sherry was a docent for several years leading tours through the Smithsonian's Museum of American History.

Sherry has always been a prolific reader and over the past few years

become an accomplished artist. One of her favorite experiences in the world of painting was a trip in 2006 with several artist friends to the Normandy region of France following the steps of the Impressionists.

She loves a casual beachfront lifestyle on Sullivan's Island, South Carolina and spending time during the heat of summer in Highlands, North Carolina.

### Duke Wright



### Noel Fort

has spent most of her life associated with the U.S. military services.

The daughter of a career Air Force officer, she and NAC member, retired Rear Admiral Art Fort, have been married for fifty-two years. They met while students at Auburn University, and she gave Art his first Navy "career counseling" on their first date. She was a very positive factor in his careers with the Navy and at the U.S. Department of State.

Noel's adult life has been dedicated to her family, her faith, and to numerous volunteer endeavors. From the earliest days of Art's career she was involved with Navy Relief counseling of young service members and worked as a Red Cross aide at numerous medical facilities. While located in Hawaii, she co-authored a groundbreaking report on quality of life and educational conditions for young military families stationed in the Islands. That report was published by the National Military Family Association and led to reforms and improvements for Service families In Hawaii.

Now living in Williamsburg,



Virginia, Noel continues to serve her community. She generously works as a volunteer docent at Colonial Williamsburg, conducting tours at several of the preserved landmarks. She has been elected to the Parish Council and currently serves twice weekly as a sacristan at St. Bede Church in Williamsburg. In her “free time” she enjoys golfing at the Ford’s Colony Country Club. She has been a mentor to the club’s “Four Tees” ladies beginners program, and is the reigning Ladies Super-Senior Champion at Ford’s Colony!

Since Art was away from home for much of his naval career, Noel literally raised their family of three daughters and a son. Each of them has gone on to a professional career. Son, Steve, was recently named a Senior Vice President of Turner Construction Company in Chicago.

Art Fort



## Lisa Dalton

wife of NAC member John W. Dalton, Sr., was born in Kingsport, Tennessee. She met



John while they were working for Bechtel, Inc. in the mid 80’s. During their 23 years of marriage, they have moved 9 times and have two wonderful children. John has three older children and they have a total of seven grandchildren. The Daltons currently reside in Houston, Texas which is John’s hometown. Lisa spent most of her time together raising children, participating in bible studies, writing children’s books, and preparing for the next move. With John being in the Engineering Construction business all these years, they have had the pleasure of traveling to many parts of the world. The couple’s children have experienced different cultures that have broadened their perspective and this has been invaluable to their growth as well as Lisa’s. Lisa left her career in Information Technology to raise their children and travel with John as much as possible. However, with their son Brad entering his Junior year of college, and their daughter Ashley entering her Junior year of high school, things are starting to settle down. After much prayer, Lisa

decided to enter nursing school. She has one year left to complete the RN program. After her completion, Lisa looks forward to giving back by volunteering at various Christian organizations that support the health and wellness of others.

In her spare time, she enjoys their second home in Colorado. It is the Dalton’s place of refuge from the craziness of life. Recently, Lisa asked her daughter what one word she would use to describe her childhood and after much thought she said, “full”. That is Lisa’s description of the time spent over the last 23 years supporting her husband and family. Life is good and life is “full”.

John Dalton



# KUDOS!

Ku • dos [koo-dohz, kyoo- dos, -dos,], n. [Gr. Kydos, glory, fame], [Colloq.], credit for an achievement; glory; fame; praise or accolades, prestige.

★ **Bob Bittner** is now President of Deep Foundation Institute

★ **Jim Lammie** has received the SAME Golden Eagle Award for Contributions to Engineering.

★ **Emmitt Nelson** has been selected to receive the ECC Achievement Award.

★ **The James B. Porter, Jr. Award for Technology and Leadership** has been created by FIATECH. It's been awarded to Her Majesty's Government and the UK Construction Industry in 2013.

★ **Clyde "Bob" Tatum** has been selected as recipient of the 2013 Peurifoy Construction Research Award by ASCE.

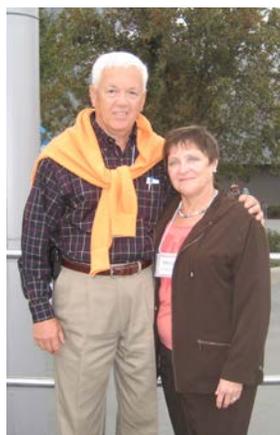
**Editor's Note:** We intend to include this item in all future editions of the NAC Bulletin to recognize NAC members who receive distinguished awards, appointments, etc. If you or a member known to you has received such an honor from a university, professional organization or similar entity, please send the information via e-mail to the group listed below for vetting and inclusion in a future edition.

Dave Nash, 2012 NAC President; Richard Tucker, NAC Secretariat; Cristina Calderón, NAC Bulletin Editor.

Send Kudos!

## NAC Spousal Involvement

In keeping with the NAC Strategic Plan that was presented at the Members Business Meeting in Atlanta, the NAC is delighted to present the Spousal Involvement Committee, chaired by Shirley Tucker. One of the Academy’s principal objectives is collegiality, and this Committee will further enhance the “Energize” objective of the Strategic Plan. Other spouses principally involved in this Committee are: Rivanna Crew, Sherry Schroeder, and Ginger Suarez. The first area where we would enjoy receiving more input is regarding the Annual Meeting, specifically regarding location destinations and tourist attractions to visit. The second area occurs in-between Annual Meetings. Until now, spousal involvement has been in the form of “Spouse Spotlights” in the NAC Bulletin, as well as a “Compilation of Spouses” Booklet in the Hospitality Room at the Annual Meeting. It is our hope that some form of a spousal communication network can be set up, where mailings and notifications can also be distributed not only to Members’ email and work addresses, but also to spouse emails and home addresses. If your spouse would like to get involved, or has any ideas about to improve the Spouse experience at the Annual Meetings, please contact Shirley Tucker at [stucker@austin.rr.com](mailto:stucker@austin.rr.com).



## In Memoriam



**Ted C. Kennedy**  
1930-2012

Theodore “Ted” Clifford Kennedy, charter member of the NAC, passed away on May 8, 2012 in Birmingham, AL. The eldest of two sons, he was born in McKeesport, PA on May 26, 1930.

Ted grew up in the construction business moving from job to job with his family. Following graduation from Duke University, he joined Rust Engineering Company, interrupting his career to serve two years in the US Navy Seabees. Ted resigned from Rust in 1972 as Vice President of Operations to form BE&K, Inc., which was to become one of the nation’s largest privately held engineering and construction firms.

On the national construction stage, Ted earned a reputation as an industry innovator and campaigned for modern, flexible craft-worker training and safe worker-friendly construction work sites. ENR named him one of the top 125 leaders in the past 125 years.



**John Lamberson**  
1933-2012

John R. Lamberson passed away on September 12, 2012 at the age of 79 after a brief battle with cancer. John was active with business and personal affairs until the very end. John was inducted into the NAC in 2004 and was a tireless supporter of the organization, leading the effort to create an endowment for the organization.

Born in Aurora, MO in 1933, John’s family settled in Alameda, CA. After graduating from UC-Berkley in 1954, John was drafted into the US Army. While stationed in Ft. Lewis, WA, he met his wife, Ginger.

John had a 32 year career with Corroon & Black, retiring as CEO and a member of the board of directors in 1998 and then went on to found Lamberson Consulting. He was a leader of many industry organizations, including the NAC, and a major contributor to several universities.

*A full memoriam to Ted and John can be found on the National Academy of Construction website and will be included in the next issue of the NAC Handbook.*



**Kris Nielsen**  
1945-2013

Kris Nielsen, husband of NAC member Pat Galloway, passed away on February 16, 2013, at the age of 67. Kris was featured in the Spotlight on Spouses in an earlier Bulletin.

Kris was diagnosed with a rare form of soft tissue cancer in July 2010. He worked full-time and travelled the world until December 2012. He and Pat decided to get trained as mediators and attended a mediation course at Pepperdine University after his diagnosis and during his treatment. He and Pat continued to enjoy their ranch in Colorado until recently.

Kris Nielsen was an icon in project consulting circles and the community. He was buried on their ranch in a mausoleum constructed to years ago in a vault housed in a replica of a famous church in California.

## 2012 NAC Executive Committee

President	Bud Ahearn 720-286-2179	<a href="mailto:budahearn11@comcast.net">budahearn11@comcast.net</a>
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### Other Elected Positions:

- NAC Trustees: Richard Tucker, Jack Buffington, Bill Heine
- Endowment Trustees: Doy Cole, Art Fort, Russ Fuhrman, John Nobles, Keith Roe, Bob Rubin

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

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

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### Membership Committee:

Dominick Servedio (Chair)

Owners: Melissa Herkt, Charles DeBenedittis, Jerry Eyink

Contractors: John Dionisio, John Nobles, Chuck Thomsen, Ron Gafford, Tom Traylor, Dennis Schroeder

Services: Jan Tuchman, Ed Merrow, Hugh Rice

Academia/ Research: Jesus de la Garza, Dan Halpin, Wayne Crew, Edd Gibson

Development Group: Ralph Larison (chair), Bud Ahearn, Bill Badger, Doy Cole, Ralph Larison, John Mihm, Jim Porter, Hugh Rice, Tom Sorley

Strategic Planning Committee: Jim Porter (chair), Jim Braus, Jack Buffington, Doy Cole, John Dionisio, Ted Kennedy, Vince Kontny, John Lamberson, Jimmy Slaughter, J.J. Suarez

### 2012 Annual Meeting

Bill Badger (chair)