

SPRING  
2007

# Bulletin

Volume 1 Issue 3

## 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.*



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## NAC Foundation Fund Established!

Thanks to the generosity of our founding executive, Dr. Richard Tucker, and his wife Shirley, the NAC Foundation Fund has been established at the University of Texas and will be managed by UTIMCO (the University of Texas Investment Management Company). With their generous donation of \$30,000, the fund is now open and ready to grow.

The NAC Executive Committee on 19 February approved the NAC Foundation "framework" plan and has appointed five trustees: Richard Tucker, Ben Montoya, Doy Cole, John Lamberson, and Mike Goodrich. The plan describes the NAC Foundation Fund, outlines how it will be governed and managed financially, and provides an outline for raising funds. A copy of the plan has been furnished to all members.

### Purpose and Use

The Fund will be used for the benefit of the construction industry including supporting and sponsoring activities to improve the construction profession and industry as a whole. Annual disbursements from the Fund will be allocated for the following initiatives:

- Support of research initiatives directed to improvement of the construction industry, performed at various universities and institutions.
- Provision of awards, scholarships and similar support to enhance the construction profession.
- Other initiatives, including workshops and seminars, deemed to enhance or improve the construction industry.
- Administrative support and ongoing operations of NAC not covered by NAC annual dues and other gifts to NAC; this amount shall not exceed a percentage designated by the Fund's trustees.

### The Goal

The Fund's ultimate goal is establishing a corpus of \$10,000,000. An annual distribution rate of 5 percent would generate \$500,000 per year, which should adequately cover the NAC's administrative costs and provide a substantial amount for the initiatives listed.

### Life Member Status Approved to Prime the Fund

Two levels of Lifetime Membership have been approved. In keeping with our low-key approach to our membership, NAC is simply making members aware of this opportunity.

- Silver Life Member: \$5,000 up to \$25,000 (Dues waived for lifetime)
- Gold Life Member: \$25,000 or more (Dues waived for lifetime and complimentary annual meeting registration for the donor and his or her guest)

Should a member wish to consider alternatives to cash gifting (such as deferred gifts, life insurance, and multi-year pledges) please contact Doy Cole, who chairs the Foundation Ad Hoc Committee: doyle@aol.com. It is worth noting that a one-time charitable giving IRS regulation may be attractive to some members. Those age 70½ or older are

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Vince Kontny,  
2007 NAC  
President

## From the President

Your Executive Committee is active. Recently we had our first meeting with a full agenda and all members present and participating.

The most notable result of this meeting was the approval of the NAC Foundation Trust. Doy and his committee did an admirable job of creating this trust, which will be invaluable as the NAC continues its thrust to improve our construction industry. Doy's report is on Page 1.

The Executive Committee also identified other issues we elected to address this year, and we also agreed that there were certain issues that

did not warrant immediate attention, i.e. a review/rewrite of the By-Laws.

Several of our ad hoc committees are progressing with their agendas and report progress. In subsequent pages are some brief articles by the chairs of these committees.

Planning continues for our annual meeting in Denver October 18-19. It should be a good meeting, so please make plans now to attend.

*Vince Kontny*

[vincekontny@starband.net](mailto:vincekontny@starband.net)



## Safety

The NAC Ad Hoc Safety Committee continues to issue the NAC Safety White Papers (SWP). The objective of the SWP is to give insight to a broad audience into the CII research of how some companies can work injury free for extended periods while others cannot. Each of the nine CII zero-injury safety leadership categories is being covered by a SWP. Other important safety leadership initiatives extracted from the CII zero-injury research may from time to time be highlighted as well by a SWP. At present, we have issued seven SWPs and have another seven or so in the planning phase.

*Emmitt Nelson, Chair  
Safety Committee  
[nelsonci@worldnet.att.net](mailto:nelsonci@worldnet.att.net)*

### NAC Foundation Fund, continued from page 1

allowed (2006 & 2007 only) to make tax-free distributions up to \$100,000 from an IRA to a charity. A deduction can't be taken, but the income doesn't have to be reported, either. Check with your accountant.

### Sources of Revenues

The foremost principle in the fundraising approach to NAC members is to maintain the NAC commitment to a low-key fundraising approach to all members. Vince Kontny's letter to all members announcing the fund with its attached framework agreement and this article will be the only direct appeal to the membership.

The Ad Hoc Committee will now address additional fundraising with the following potential sources in mind:

- Corporations
- Government
- Construction Organizations (e.g. AGC, ABC, etc)
- Philanthropic Organizations
- Other sources yet to be identified

If you would like to be involved with this fundraising effort, please contact:

*Doy Cole, chair  
NAC Foundation Committee  
[doycole@aol.com](mailto:doycole@aol.com)  
830.625.3309*

### Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: What happens if I choose to become a silver or gold life member in 2007 and have already paid my \$250 dues?**

**A: Your full payment for the life membership can be reduced by the \$250 dues paid.**

**Q: Can I become a life member using the alternative methods of contribution mentioned?**

**A: Yes, of course. The life member status will occur when the full payment has been received by the fund.**

**Q: Can contributions to the Fund be restricted for a certain purpose?**

**A: While we encourage contributions be free of restrictions allowing the Fund's allocation rules to govern, if a contributor wishes to make a restricted gift, the Fund will be able to separate this contribution and its allocation for the restricted purpose.**

**Q: Can a contribution be made for a specific purpose in a given year?**

**A: If a contributor wishes to fund a specific activity, this contribution can be made to the Foundation and would all be used to support that purpose and would not be invested in the Fund's corpus. This allows use of the full donation.**

**Q: To whom should a contribution to the Fund be made?**

**A: The University of Texas at Austin, designated for the NAC Foundation Fund.**





*Brown Palace Hotel, Lobby and Atrium*

## Annual Meeting

Arrangements have been made for the 2007 NAC Annual Meeting at the Brown Palace Hotel and Spa in Denver, Colo., October 18 and 19. A block of rooms at the Brown Palace Hotel and Spa, and also at the Comfort Inn (directly across the street) have been reserved. Rooms start at \$119/night at the Comfort Inn and range from \$229 - \$309 at the Brown Palace Hotel. When making your reservations, please mention the National Academy of Construction. Denver has much to offer, so make your reservations now! The number to call for reservations at either hotel is: 800-321-2599 or 303-297-3111

*Alicia Zapata*  
[alicia@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:alicia@mail.utexas.edu)

## Membership

On behalf of the Membership Committee, I urge you to participate in the next election cycle for the National Academy of Construction. Your involvement can help ensure that we continue to honor distinguished members of the engineering community and grow our organization's capabilities.

I strongly encourage you to nominate outstanding candidates and to serve as a reference for exemplary candidates nominated by others. Some members of the NAC did

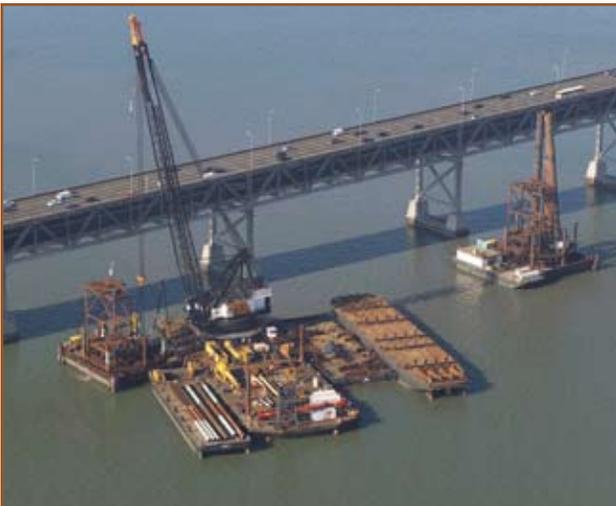
this for you when you were elected, and it is an important part of belonging to the NAC. We are responsible for generating nominations of highly qualified individuals from underrepresented fields, the business work sector, geographical areas, and in addition, to seek nominations for qualified women and minorities. Our membership

committee can advise and assist you in the preparation of nomination forms to present candidates in the strongest possible way.

Only active members of the NAC can nominate candidates for membership, but emeritus members may serve as references. The chances of success for a candidate will be maximized by an organized, convincing and accurate nomination package. Confidentiality throughout the process of selecting candidates for the final ballot is absolutely essential. Candidates should not know that they are being nominated, and the names selected for final review by peer committees and placement on the ballot should be kept in the strictest confidence until the official announcement of new members.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact me. Those of you that are NAE members will note that I have "borrowed" this approach to remind members.

*John C. Mihm, Chair*  
*Membership Committee*  
[jcmihmr66@aol.com](mailto:jcmihmr66@aol.com)



## NAC Liaison with Other Organizations or Groups

All of our members undoubtedly contribute much each year by serving on committees to enhance the construction industry in some form or fashion. We don't want to reach a stage where we are going out searching for something that our members could already be doing, but we do want to know where our expertise is in case we are approached for assistance from various officials seeking advice.

We need to know what our members are capable of providing on a volunteer basis. If you will take the time to fill out the questionnaire just mailed to you listing some of the past volunteer boards or committees you have served on and your particular area of expertise, we will keep this information on record for future reference.

You won't be volunteered for anything without your advance approval. While we most certainly want our members to volunteer to be of service, we also want to ensure that we don't undertake projects in the "name of the NAC" without the approval of the Executive

Committee. The Executive Committee will have a central clearing house, so to speak, to insure coordination of efforts to best support the desires of the NAC membership and hopefully insure that the goodwill of our members is not abused.

Please complete the questionnaire you received regarding your areas of current and possible future volunteer service in the name of the National Academy of Construction, and mail it to Alicia Zapata in Richard Tucker's office in the envelope that accompanied the questionnaire. Thank you very much for your support.

*Jack Buffington, Chair  
Interfacing with Other Agencies  
[jebuffi@uark.edu](mailto:jebuffi@uark.edu)*



# Vale



*Ben was the ethical and professional compass for his company and for many engineers in our profession.*

## Ben Gerwick, Jr. 1919 – 2006

The National Academy of Construction has lost one of its early members with the death of Ben Gerwick, Jr., on 25 December 2006, at his home in Oakland at the age of 87. Family and friends celebrated Ben's full life at a memorial service in Berkeley February 3. "He was an engineer's engineer," said his son, Bill Gerwick. "Right until the day of his death, he was sharp in his mind, and incredibly thoughtful and wise. He had an exceptional kind of wisdom that was sought after by many people."

Ben, who was a professor emeritus in civil engineering at the University of California, was known worldwide for his pioneering work in prestressed concrete and his creative innovations in marine construction and deep foundations. One of Ben's major contributions to the construction industry was his role at Berkeley where he initiated and led the highly successful graduate program in Construction Engineering and Management at UC Berkeley from 1971 to 1989.

In addition to his creative and innovative mind, Ben was a highly skilled communicator. His prolific writings include more than 200 technical papers on marine and foundation construction, prestressed concrete and Arctic construction. He authored chapters on "Marine Concrete" in the *Handbook of Concrete*, and the *Handbook of Ocean and Underwater Engineering*, and chapters on "Cofferdams and Caissons" in the *Handbook of Temporary Structures* and the *Handbook of Heavy Construction*.

He authored three technical books widely used in the construction industry today:

- *Construction of Prestressed Concrete*,
- *Construction Marketing for Major Project Services*, and
- *Construction of Marine and Offshore Structures*, currently in its third edition.

He had just recently completed in 2005 his fourth book, "The Bridge Beyond," a novelistic autobiography of a career in engineering.

Ben was born in 1919 in Berkeley, California, the son of a renowned engineer and contractor. He received his BSCE summa cum laude

with the class of 1940 from the University of California at Berkeley. Upon graduation, his Naval Reserve Training Corps unit was called into service, more than one year before the Japanese navy's attack on Pearl Harbor. In the South Pacific, Mediterranean and Atlantic, Ben served as a line officer, ending up as Commander (the youngest commander in the U.S. Navy) of the attack cargo ship USS Scania. Following the end of WWII in 1946, and his sixth year in the Navy, Ben returned to San Francisco and joined Ben C. Gerwick, Inc., the heavy marine construction firm founded by his father in 1926.

In the early 1950s, he became interested in the potential of prestressed concrete and converted the company's existing precast concrete manufacturing plant into the new technology of pretensioning. Ben pioneered development of long prestressed concrete piles that were installed by his firm for deep foundations, bridge piers and other marine structures. Later the firm developed the deflected-strand process for pretensioned bridge girders, the precast match-casting process for bridge girders, and pretensioned railroad ties.

In 1952, Ben became President of the firm, and they participated in setting up prestressed concrete fabrication plants in Kuwait and Singapore, and domestically, on projects including the overwater extension of La Guardia Airport in New York. Starting in the 1950s, the firm became heavily involved in the design and construction of deep foundations with the use of prestressed piles. This experience led to the design of shoring systems for deep excavations, and the development and patenting of a special slurry wall construction system incorporating soldier beams, known by the acronym "SPTC walls." This system was used successfully to build the deep foundations for the underground BART stations through downtown San Francisco and many of the deep foundations for high-rise buildings in the city.

Ben was active in the Prestressed Concrete Institute, serving as its President in 1957, and in the International Federation of Prestressing, serving as its President from 1974 to 1978.

The firm first merged with J.H. Pomeroy, and then in 1967, the firm became part of Santa Fe International, and Ben was given responsibility for international construction. In 1971, he joined the faculty of the University of California at Berkeley as a Professor of Civil Engineering. Concurrently, he set up a specialized consulting engineering practice, continuing the former construction company's name of Ben C. Gerwick, Inc. In 1988, this firm became affiliated with COWI A/S, Consulting Engineers and Planners, Lyngby, Denmark.

As a contractor, Ben participated in construction of the marine precast concrete bridge piers for such major bridges as the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge, and the San Mateo-Hayward Bridge, and the construction of the concrete North Sea platform the Ninian Central. As a consultant, he participated in the development of several subsequent major offshore concrete oil platforms in the North Sea, including: Ekofisk, Beryl and Statfjord. His work on offshore platforms led to extension of prestressed concrete to offshore structures for the Arctic and Subarctic to resist sea ice and icebergs. He participated in design and construction of the concrete offshore platforms in the Beaufort Sea (Arctic Ocean); Tarsuit, CIDS and Amauligak, including conceptual design of the iceberg-resistant offshore platform Hibernia.

His work in the North Sea and Arctic led to his work on the floating concrete structure Ardjuna Sakti for cryogenic gas storage, and of the first long-span cantilever segmental bridge in the United States.

He was a consultant on major prestressed concrete bridges in Europe, the Middle East, and Asia, as well as in the United States. He advanced the concept of large-diameter steel tubular piles to major overwater bridges such as the Jamuna River Bridge in Bangladesh, the seismic retrofit of the major bridges in the San Francisco Bay Area, and the Cooper River Bridge in Charleston, South Carolina. He was construction consultant on the design and construction of deep cofferdams for bridge piers such as the Delaware Memorial Bridge and the Bisan Seto Bridge anchorage in Japan. He provided construction engineering for the marine foundations on more than 26 major bridges worldwide, including:

- five major bridges in the San Francisco Bay Area,
- the Great Belt Bridges in Denmark,
- the King Fahd Bridge connecting Saudi Arabia to Bahrain,
- the I-205 Columbia River Bridge,
- the Prince Edward Island Bridge in Eastern Canada,
- the Tsing Ma Bridge in Hong Kong,
- the Woodrow Wilson Bridge in Washington, D.C.
- the Hangzhou Bay Bridge in China, and
- the Sutong Bridge across the Yangtze.

Among Ben's honors and awards were membership in the National Academy of Engineering and the National Academy of Construction. He received Honorary Membership in the Concrete Societies of Great Britain, Germany, Sweden, Norway and France as well as Honorary Membership in the American Society of Civil Engineers, the American Concrete Institute and the Prestressed Concrete Institute. He was presented with the Freyssinet Medal from the international Federation of Prestressing (FIP), and the Medal of Honor from the Prestressed Concrete Institute. He was honored with the "Golden Beaver" Award for Engineering from the heavy construction industry, the Distinguished Service Award from the Deep Foundation Institute and the Outstanding Projects and Lifetime (OPAL) Award from ASCE.

As professor of Civil Engineering at the University of California at Berkeley, and in his many lectures to students and professional groups, he stressed the inculcation of a creative and innovative attitude in addressing engineering and construction challenges.

In 1999, Engineering News Record (ENR) editors identified Ben as one of the "125 Top People" whose efforts within the construction industry over the last 125 years have singularly and collectively helped shape this nation and the world. That same year, Ben reflected on what he considered to be the most rewarding aspect of his successful 54-year career in construction and engineering. He said that it was not the many awards and recognition he had received over the years or even the exciting projects in which he had been involved. For

Ben, the most valuable return were the many close contacts and friendships he had had with people who were dedicated to and enthusiastic about getting something done; people who faced new challenges with creative thinking and had the courage to use their training and technical skills to accomplish great things. He found these people, both contractors and engineers, during the design and construction of major bridges around the world; he found them working in the North Sea installing massive floating concrete structures, in the Netherlands constructing innovative surge barriers to protect their country; and he found them along the inland waterways of the U.S. building locks, dams and marine terminals. As an added reward, Ben found that many of these engineers and contractors had been his students at UC Berkeley.

Ben is survived by his wife, Ellen Chaney Gerwick; children Bill Gerwick, Beverly Brian of St. Joseph, Mo., Virginia Wallace of Bainbridge Island, Wash., and Clifford Gerwick of Indianapolis; seven grandchildren; and four step children. His first wife, Martelle Beverly Gerwick, died in 1995. Ben and Martelle were married for 54 years.

Ben was a brilliant engineer, but he was also able to lead and inspire people because of his human qualities and his sincere interest in others. He respected others and encouraged their best efforts while setting a high standard of professional excellence and ethical behavior. Ben was the ethical and professional compass for his company and for many engineers in our profession. We all consider ourselves fortunate to have known and worked with Ben. We will miss him dearly and continue to long remember him.

*Robert B. Bittner*

Vale



*Dick set an example in his professional and private lives worthy of our finest leaders and exemplary of the qualities that the National Academy of Construction promotes.*

## Richard R. Bryan 1932 – 2006

Dick Bryan, a charter member of the National Academy of Construction, a retired Executive Vice President of the H. B. Zachry Company, and the CII Chairman in 1993, passed away December 8, 2006, in Galveston, Texas, at the age of 74.

Dick's father was an engineer, so he grew up in the industry with a healthy dose of engineering and construction interest in his blood and genes. Dick was born in Iowa, but he moved with his family in the late 1930s to Texas. During World War II, his father built the Fort Hood water and sewer systems. Dick's son, Scott, said his dad held a lifelong interest in building projects, and his impressive résumé certainly reflects this.

In addition to a lifetime of commitment to the industry, Dick was a proud and generous Texas Aggie, a fact not lost on H.B. Zachry executives. After receiving his undergraduate degree in Civil Engineering from A&M in 1956, Dick went on to earn a Masters from Stanford, then attended the Advanced Management Program at the Harvard Business School in 1986.

Dick was never content to rely exclusively on his engineering education and experience; in fact he was listed in *Marquis Who's Who in Business and Finance* ten years before he achieved listing in *Who's Who in America*. He enjoyed executive status in the development community, with both the Cadillac Fairview and Gerald D. Hines companies.

Projects with which Dick was intimately involved while at Cadillac Fairview included several Houston Center elements, such as the Houston Center Club and the Houston Center Park, a 1.5 million-square-foot multi-use office and retail development; the Gulf Tower; and the Four Seasons Hotel complex. While with the Gerald D. Hines firm, he was Project Officer of the United Bank of Denver project, a 1.3 million-square-foot office tower.

Dick was Project Director of the 1.4 million-square-foot twin trapezoidal office towers known as Pennzoil Place in Houston, Texas, where he worked with the architectural

team of Phillip Johnson and John Burgee. He represented the Hines organization as Director and General Manager of Hines Overseas, Ltd. In this capacity, he traveled extensively from his base in Athens, Greece, to Europe and the Middle East. This engagement involved design and construction of the World Trade Center in Cairo, Egypt.

Dick worked at H.B. Zachry twice during his career. He served as a project manager and later as a senior project manager from 1957 until 1970. For four years, he represented the company in South America as manager of a joint venture with Peruvian contractors building about 150 kilometers of transcontinental highway from Lima to the headwaters of the Amazon through the Amazon jungle.

During the latter two years of this first time with Zachry, he was General Manager of a Zachry subsidiary that produced aggregates and ready-mixed concrete. In March 1985, Dick rejoined the Zachry Company as Vice President and Manager of the Commercial Buildings Division and Director of Zachry's real estate subsidiary. In 1987, he was promoted to Senior Vice President of the Industrial Group; concurrently he was elected to the Zachry Board and he became a member of its Executive Committee. Prior to his retirement from Zachry, he was again promoted, this time to Executive Vice President.

Dick Bryan was Chairman of CII in 1993. He presided over CII's 10th anniversary festivities, and it was during his tenure that the Process Industries Practices (PIP) initiative was undertaken. He considered his CII service, and especially the year of his chairmanship, as an especially satisfying part of his career. This feeling was clearly communicated by the conscientious way he approached the CII challenge.

Dick's family, church, and community were terribly important to him. He was devoted to his wife, Shirley; his daughter, Shari; his son, Scott; Scott's wife, Helen; and his grandson,

Jeffrey, and his wife, Julie. His beloved family includes a brother and sister, their spouses, and nine nieces and nephews and their respective families. He was active in the Alamo Heights United Methodist Church in San Antonio.

Extending his interest from passive to active, he served for several years on the Board of Governors at Methodist Hospital in San Antonio. Dick worked to develop a unique and highly effective 50-50 partnership between the non-profit Methodist Hospital and the for-profit Health Corporation of America. This partnership was established in 1996 to provide quality healthcare in San Antonio. The non-profit organization's share of proceeds has been directed to a new organization, which Dick helped to found and which he served as a board member and board president. Methodist Healthcare Ministries of South Texas has become a \$40 million-per-year source of healthcare to the underserved in a wide region of Texas.

Dick and his wife, Shirley, helped to establish a local Burn Survivor's Association to help youngsters adjust following their injuries and treatment. Dick was active in the San Antonio United Way organization. Feeling that engineers fail to fully appreciate the contributions of art and literature to their lives, the Bryan family has established the "Humanities for Engineers" endowment at the Texas A&M University library to expand opportunities to engineering students.

Rounding out the interests and activities of this broadly experienced engineer, Dick accepted leadership roles in the Urban Land Institute. He was a member of the City/County Government Commission of San Antonio and Bexar County. He was a licensed professional engineer in Texas, and a Fellow in the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Dick served his alma mater as a member of the Texas A&M Committee on the Visual Arts, and he was a member of the Texas A&M University Graduate Program Advisory Committee. He was a life member of The Association of Former Students. After but a single semester at A&M, his Texas Air National Guard unit was

called to federal service during the Korean War. Dick answered the call in spite of qualifying for an education deferment. He served for two years beginning in 1950 before returning to the campus to complete his undergraduate studies in 1956.

Dick Bryan was so accomplished in so many ways. Contrary to the stereotype too often associated with engineers, he was much, much more than an accomplished professional in his chosen field of building. He expressed his concern for the perception that construction was not a field attractive to the best and the brightest. He worked hard, by both word and deed, to erase this negative image. He set an example in his professional and private lives worthy of our finest leaders and exemplary of the qualities that the National Academy of Construction promotes. Dick will be missed by all who were privileged to know him.

*Chuck McGinnis  
March 2007*



## From the Secretariat



Richard Tucker

The National Academy of Construction is an organization whose time has obviously arrived! From a small base of about 25 charter members in 1999, we have experienced a controlled growth which will reach almost 100 this year. As a reminder, NAC was formed with three purposes:

- to recognize those with distinguished lifetime accomplishments
- to provide a body of expertise available for service
- to undertake selected initiatives for benefit to our industry

The NAC is progressing well in all three areas. Our membership selection process is working well, as evidenced by the 10 outstanding new members we elect each year. We are establishing an atmosphere of camaraderie, with emphasis on spouses. Although we are saddened by the deaths of members, we have recently sent a letter to their surviving spouses inviting them to continue their association with NAC.

We have numerous members who are providing service to our profession and society. Among those are several members who are also members in the National Academy of Engineering and other honorary groups. Many members have leadership positions in

professional societies and civic organizations. In particular, many members find satisfaction in continuing their professional involvement after retirement.

NAC initiatives to improve our industry are more elusive, but are progressing. Of note is the workshop sponsored by NAC with BICE of the National Research Council; those proceedings are forthcoming. The ninth issue of the NAC Safety Papers has been recently distributed. The Leadership Characteristics Study at Arizona State University, with participation of many NAC members, is under way.

Our recognition of the need for long-range funding has resulted in the creation of the NAC Foundation Fund. That fund should provide the resources to support the growth and development of our purposes and mission for future years.

All of the above topics are discussed in detail in other articles in this Bulletin. Our standing and ad hoc committees have accomplished a great deal since the last Bulletin.

The NAC is a great organization, with a small staff but dedicated volunteer efforts from its elite membership. We can all be proud of this unique academy.

*Richard Tucker*  
*Secretariat*

[rtucker@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:rtucker@mail.utexas.edu)



## Editor's Column

### Kudos to the Tuckers

Richard and Shirley have dedicated their adult lives to the advancement of the construction industry. Richard contributed for many years as a professor motivating and educating newly minted managers. Then, working with Lou Garbrecht of Texaco, he was instrumental in establishing the Construction Industry Institute, which has made an invaluable contribution to the advancement of our industry. Lastly, he spearheaded the creation of our National Academy of Construction to recognize individual leaders and make their expertise available for the improvement of the industry. Few, if any, have made a greater contribution to construction.

Now, in an act of admirable generosity, Richard and Shirley have stepped forward to seed our NAC Foundation Fund with a \$30,000 gift. The NAC and the industry are indeed indebted. Thank you!

### A Salute to Dave Nash and Ken Stinson

Recently it was announced that these two gentlemen were elected to the National Academy of Engineering, joining the ten members of NAC that were named in our last Bulletin. Our most sincere congratulations, for this is indeed quite an honor.

If one ever needs an example of a patriot, look no further than Dave Nash, who has loyally and zealously supported his country all of his adult life. For some 33 years, he served in the Navy Civil Engineer Corps, rising to the top of that elite group as Chief of Civil Engineers. More recently when duty called, Dave responded by volunteering to lead the post-war reconstruction in Iraq during 2003-04, perhaps the most demanding assignment in our industry.

We tell our children they will be judged in part by the company they keep. Ken Stinson will forever be judged by the company he kept—Peter Kiewit Sons, Inc. It has been – since its founding – an absolutely remarkable company. How am I qualified to make such a statement? Because PKS was my first employer out of college. By choice, I started as a heavy equipment operator and later made grade foreman. The company respect and loyalty of my co-workers was extraordinary. Ken joined PKS after he secured his MSCE from Stanford in 1970, and only recently retired as Chairman and CEO. He has created an amazing legacy!

### Lest we forget...

Ted Kennedy has always stressed the need to include spouses in our activities and not to forget the spouses of our deceased comrades. So after some discussion, Richard Tucker has initiated contact with the surviving spouses of our deceased members to invite them to attend our annual meetings and to ensure they receive relevant correspondence on NAC activities such as the Bulletins.

*Vince Kontny*  
[vincekontny@starband.net](mailto:vincekontny@starband.net)



### Bulletin Photos

Perhaps you have noticed that our construction activity photos in the Bulletin have improved since our initial issue. Credit goes to several members who responded to our call for photos. Still missing are shots depicting construction in the military (Corps or Seabees in action in Iraq or even historic pictures such as the Super Cs at Subic Bay). Also, we need something from our friends in academia (i.e. field trips, classroom sessions, et al). If you have images you're willing to share, please send high-resolution versions (can be TIFF or JPG format) via e-mail to [parker@doubleshoe.com](mailto:parker@doubleshoe.com).

### Thank You, Alicia

A special thank you, Alicia, for all you have done for the NAC. Though you can only devote part of your time to NAC, you give full-time effort. You are always pleasant and helpful, and you and Gonzalo have come to be an integral part of our annual meetings—we can't thank you enough for all you both do to ensure the success of these occasions.



## 2007 NAC Executive Committee

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[Click here to send messages to all members of the NAC Executive Committee.](#)

## Ad Hoc Committees

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