



Alaska Designs

Volume 39, No. 4, April 2016

The Official Newsletter of the Alaska Professional Design Council

R&M Consultants Issues Wellness Challenge

Log 100 Miles in May and Support Healthy Futures

By Andrea Story, CPSM

Each May R&M CONSULTANTS, INC. (R&M) issues a wellness challenge to our employees. We challenge our employees to log 100 miles during the month of May. Using a conversion chart, our employees log miles through a variety of activities, including walking, running, biking, softball, yardwork and much more. See the chart on page 2 for the types of activities logged in our challenge.

In 2013, R&M decided to use our 100 Miles in May Challenge as a way to benefit an important community organization - Healthy Futures. Healthy Futures is an Alaska-based statewide grassroots initiative founded in 2003 by two parents - the late Bonny Sosa Young and her husband, Sam Young. Bonny and Sam were concerned about the growing obesity epidemic in Alaska and felt if they stood by doing nothing, they were part of the problem versus part of the solution.

The mission of Healthy Futures is simple - to empower Alaska's youth to build the habit of daily physical activity through two core programs: the Healthy Futures Activity Log and increasing youth attendance at recreational events. In addition, Healthy Futures provides youth with access to positive, physically active role models through their partnership with the Alaska Sports Hall of Fame, the collaborative literary publication Healthy Heroes, and classroom/event participation by local celebrity athletes such as Olympians Kikkan Randall

and Holly Brooks.

Over the last three years, the companies and agencies participating in the challenge logged more than 125,000 miles and raised nearly \$25,000 for Healthy Futures. In 2016, R&M will again donate \$0.25 to Healthy Futures for every mile logged by our employees during the month of May. Last year, R&M employees racked up an impressive 8,821 miles. Because it was such a success the past three years, we are once again issuing a challenge to other local A/E/C firms and client organizations to join us in this challenge and see how much money our community can raise to benefit Healthy Futures. In 2015, we had 13 firms (Bettisworth North, Coffman Engineers, Corvus Design, CRW, Shannon & Wilson, Golder, HDL, MBA, PDC, PND, R&M, RSA and Safelite) and one agency (DOT&PF Central Region) participation. We'd love to include even more!

Here's how it works:

• If your firm or agency is interested in participating in the 2016 100 Miles in May Challenge to benefit Healthy Futures, e-mail me at astory@rmconsult.com. Let me know how much per mile your firm is pledging to the challenge and who your firm contact will be. The deadline for registering your firm is Monday, April 25.

• R&M has developed an easy-to-use spreadsheet system that automatically converts activity miles, allows each employee to track their miles individually, and links back to a master spreadsheet. R&M will

provide this spreadsheet and train participating firms in how to set-up the system to work in their office. All participating firms will report their weekly miles to Sarah Hall at R&M, who will track the overall mileage.

• For firms that pledge money to Healthy Futures as part of this challenge, R&M will provide everyone who logs 100 or more miles with a 100 Miles in May shirt. The shirt will have 100 Miles in May artwork (designed by Fairbanks artist Brianna Reagan) on the front and the names of all participating firms on the back. As additional incentive, if any participating firm logs more miles than R&M, we will host a barbecue for that firm's participants.

I hope you will consider joining R&M in this wellness challenge

Continued on Page 3

Inside This Issue

APDC Officers, Contacts.....	Page 3
Sustaining Members	Pages 10 - 11
Calendar of Member Events.....	Page 12

Features and Member News

APDC LLC Letter re: HB24	Page 3
APDC Welcomes ITE Alaska.....	Page 4
ASCE Alaska Report Card.....	Page 4
SEAAK Meeting Schedule	Page 4
Material, Energy & Water	Page 5
Tanana River Bridge.....	Page 5
Moffatt & Nichol: Obituary	Page 6
Shannon & Wilson Staff News	Page 7
Chris Black Promoted.....	Page 7
Cohen Retires, Preston New VP..	Page 8

Mileage Conversion

Activity	Unit	Recreation Mileage
Aerobic/Fitness Class	30 Minutes	2
Badminton	15 Minutes	1
Baseball	60 Minutes	1
Basketball	60 Minutes	3
Bike - casual	15 Minutes	1
Bike - intense	10 Minutes	1
Bike – very intense	5 Minutes	1
Bowling	30 Minutes	1
Boxing, Sparring	30 Minutes	3
Cross Country Skiing/Nordic Track	60 Minutes	4
Curves Workout	30 Minutes	2
Cut/Stack Fire Wood	15 Minutes	1
Dancing	30 Minutes	2
Gardening/Yard Work	30 Minutes	1
Football (not fantasy football!)	60 Minutes	2
Golf (w/o cart)	9 holes	2
Jog/Run/Walk/Hike/Elliptical	1 mile or 2500 steps	1
Jump Rope	10 Minutes	1
Kayak/Canoe/Rowing	15 Minutes	1
Mowing with push mower	15 Minutes	1
Pilates, Tai Chi, Yoga	30 Minutes	1
Racquetball/Squash	60 Minutes	3
Raking Leaves	30 Minutes	1
Rollerblading	15 Minutes	1
Soccer	60 Minutes	3
Spinning	30 Minutes	3
Step Machine	15 Minutes	1
Swimming	15 Minutes	1
Swimming – intense/fast pace	10 Minutes	1
Swimming – very intense/race	5 Minutes	1
Tennis	60 Minutes	2
Volleyball	60 Minutes	1
Weightlifting/Resistance Bands	30 Minutes	1
*Yoga, vigorous	30 Minutes	2
Wii Fit-aerobic (use yoga conversion above)	30 Minutes	2

Tracking steps with a pedometer? 2500 steps = 1 Mile!

APDC LLC Letter Re: House Bill 24

Editor's Note: Following is the text of a letter to Rep. Sam Kito, signed by APDC Legislative Liaison Committee (LLC) Chairman Dale Nelson, PE, regarding House Bill 24. This letter was delivered by hand during the annual LLC Fly-in to Juneau in February.

The Alaska Professional Design Council (APDC) supports HB-24.

APDC is a consortium of professional societies representing design professionals including architects, engineers, land surveyors, landscape architects and interior designers. We have a combined membership of over 1,500 and represent approximately 5,000 licensed design professionals in the State of Alaska. APDC collaborates on issues of shared interest through educational offerings of our professions at the University of Alaska and local schools (K – 12) and governmental advocacy at the local and state level. We are deeply rooted in the business of architecture and engineering, and committed to the long term health and vitality of our state.

Using cost as a selection factor for professional services is not consistent with Alaska State Statute and the Federal Brooks Act (Public Law 92-582). The State of Alaska Departments for the most part follows the requirements of the State Procurement Code using Qualification Based Selection (QBS) however when State funds are provided to others (i.e. communities) the State's Statute is not often followed. HB-24 would assure that the intent of the Statute would follow those funds provided by the State.

Price would be a factor only after the most qualified firm has been identified and the firm and the owner have jointly developed a scope

of work. If, in the owner's view, a fair and reasonable price cannot be concluded with the highest-ranked firm, negotiations may then proceed with the next highest-ranked firm.

This requirement is also applicable when State or Federal funds are included with other funding sources on a project.

Procurement of professional services through the QBS process allows for the selection of the design firm best suited for the project based on competence, creativity, and performance to more closely meet the owner's requirements. The QBS process also provides the best value because it ultimately leads to potentially lower construction costs and lower life-cycle costs. Another benefit for not using low-cost procurement is a decrease in construction change orders and future project maintenance costs. Both of these are expensive to the owner during construction and over the life of facility.

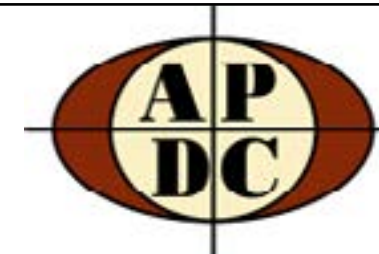
We ask for your support of HB-24.

Should you have any questions, the Alaska Professional Design Council and the Legislative Liaison Committee is willing to meet with you to discuss those questions you may have. Please contact me at 907-947-1855 if you have questions. ❖

R&M Wellness Challenge

Continued from Page 1

to benefit Healthy Futures. It is an excellent opportunity to encourage physical activity among your employees, build camaraderie and engage in healthy, fun competition with fellow A/E/C community members, while at the same time supporting an important community organization. Please let me know if you have questions. ❖



The monthly newsletter of the Alaska Professional Design Council does not necessarily express the opinions of the Council, the member societies, or their members.

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APDC Welcomes ITE Alaska

By Erica Jensen, PE, PTOE

Editor's Note: APDC announces the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) – Alaska Chapter as the newest member and welcomes Erica Jensen to the Board of Directors.

The Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) is an international educational and scientific association of transportation professionals who are responsible for meeting mobility and safety needs. Through its products and services, ITE promotes professional development of its members, supports and encourages education, stimulates research, develops public awareness programs and serves as a conduit for the exchange of professional information.

The Alaskan Transportation Engineer must possess the skills to complete projects in urban, rural, coastal, and roadless communities. They must balance innovation with practicality while accounting for a wide range of climates, severe temperatures, and extreme terrain. The ITE Alaska Section is committed to enriching the Alaskan way of life by providing members with unique experiences, informative speakers, professional development, enhanced skills, and useful information.



ITE Alaska is excited to be part of APDC and we feel there is great value for both APDC and ITE in joining together. We look forward to working with APDC to promote the common interests of the design community of Alaska through active involvement, including with the legislature and AELS board.

ITE strives to be involved in the community we serve and host many excellent events towards this goal. Look for information in upcoming newsletters about our Beer & Wine Tasting Silent Auction – Student Scholarship Fundraiser, student scholarship applications, E-Week involvement, membership appreciation BBQ, training opportunities, and conferences.

The link for the ITE Alaska Chapter is <http://alaskaite.blogspot.com/>. ❖

Next Meeting April 21

SEAAK Announces Meeting Schedule

The Structural Engineers Association of Alaska (SEAAK) will hear a presentation by Alex Therien from New Millennial Building Systems at a special meeting April 21. The meeting is at the BP Energy Center, and doors open at 11:30am. The meeting will start around 11:45 with the goal of wrapping up by 1pm. RSVP to Peter Giessel if you plan to attend, peter@giessel.org.

Regular meetings are scheduled for:

Wednesday May 11, 2016: Regular Meeting, Rich Giessel, Unintended Consequences of Change Orders

Wednesday July 13, 2016: Regular Meeting, Presenter TBD

Tuesday September 20, 2016: Annual Meeting, Presenter TBD

Wednesday November 16, 2016: Regular Meeting, Presenter TBD

Wednesday January 11, 2017: Regular Meeting, Presenter TBD

Wednesday March 8, 2017: Regular Meeting, Presenter TBD ❖

ASCE Alaska Report Card for Alaska's Infrastructure on Track for Fall Release

The effort to create an ASCE Alaska Report Card for Alaska's infrastructure continues. The categories that we include in the report card are Aviation, Dams, Bridges, Roads, Marine Highway, Rail, Water, Wastewater, Solid Waste, Energy, and Schools.

During March, most of our work groups wrapped up the gathering of data for the report card. We have now moved into developing the letter grades and preparing a first draft of the report card for peer review. We anticipate that the peer review will start in early May for most categories and a little delayed for a category or two as the leads are preparing for the PE exam.

About 20 members from the Fairbanks, Matsu, Anchorage, and Juneau branches are actively participating in this effort. Another six (so far) have agreed to help with peer review in May, and we also have two members that will take the lead on the graphic design once we get to a production stage (anticipated in July/August).

We are confident that we can stay on schedule for a release of the report card at the end of September.

Contact Tor Anderzen at TJAnderz@mtu.edu or 907-306-3450



(outside office hours, please), and ask how you can help. ❖

Material, Energy & Water Workshops

AIA will observe Earth Day with two Material, Energy, and Water Workshops and a Community Resilience Panel Presentation Friday, April 22, at McCool Carlson Green - Historic Anchorage Train Depot, 421 W. 1st Avenue, Suite 300, in Anchorage.

The Earth Day celebration includes a full day of innovative workshops focused on Material, Energy, and Water, led by Kathleen Smith, LEED Fellow, International Living Future Institute. The day will start with a workshop focused on Material innovation and transparency in the marketplace and the Living Building Challenge™. In the afternoon, we will take a look at truly groundbreaking energy and water strategies to help your project become Net Positive. These informative, interactive workshops will focus on strategies and case studies of whole building as well as commercial interior projects. Learn about what's happening around the world, but also at home in Alaska. Workshop space is limited!

Our day will conclude with a panel on community resiliency. This year Anchorage became one of the first cities in the nation to participate in Cities of Service's Resiliency AmeriCorps initiative. Kathleen Smith, Living Building Challenge Vice President; Travis Smith, Municipality of Anchorage Resiliency Coordinator, and Anchorage's very own Resiliency VISTAS (Cities of Service) will lead a panel on Community Resiliency. Moderated by John Weir, Principal of McCool Carlson Green, the panel will inform us of how to address the impacts of climate change. Closing remarks will be by Mayor Ethan Berkowitz.

You may purchase a ticket to one or both workshops—please see pricing below. The public can attend the Community Resiliency panel

with or without a ticket to the workshops.

For more information or to register, visit: <http://living-future.org/events/alaska-earth-day-symposium-ilfi>.

Schedule

8-12 pm: Tangible Change: Materials & the Living Building Challenge - 4 AIA/GBCI/IDCEC CEUs

12-1:15 pm: Break for Lunch (not provided)

1:15-3:15 pm: Energy & Water Workshop - 2 AIA/GBCI CEUs

3:30-4:15 pm: Community Resilience Panel Presentation

4:15-4:30 pm: Q&A

4:30-5 pm: Closing Remarks by Mayor Berkowitz

5-6 pm: Earth Day Celebration Happy Hour at Williwaw (no host)

Cost

2 hour Workshop: \$65 members/\$100 non-members

4 hour Workshop: \$130 members/\$200 non-members

Both Workshops: \$160 members/\$265 non-members

Community Resilience Presentation: No cost ❖

Tanana River Bridge Honored as Finalist for ASCE OCEA Award

Alaska's Tanana River Bridge honored as a finalist for ASCE's Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement award

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — The Tanana River Bridge in Salcha, Alaska, was recognized as one of six finalists for the American Society of Civil Engineers' (ASCE) Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement (OCEA) award during ASCE's annual Outstanding Projects and Leaders Gala, March 17, in Arlington, Virginia. Hanson Professional Services Inc. designed the 3,300-foot-long bridge.

According to ASCE, the award "honors the project that best illustrates superior civil engineering skills and represents a significant contribution to civil engineering progress and society. Honoring an overall project rather than an individual, the award celebrates the contributions of many engineers."

"It was a privilege to be recognized as a finalist for ASCE's distinguished OCEA award. Hanson is proud of its efforts on this project. We're grateful for the opportunity

Continued on Page 6



Tanana River Bridge Honored as OCEA Award Finalist

Continued from Page 5

to work with our client, the Alaska Railroad Corp., and an outstanding project team to design and build Alaska's longest bridge on time and under budget. This bridge was about building connections for our client, the U.S. military and the people of Alaska," said Sergio "Satch" Pecori, P.E., Hanson's president and CEO. The project delivery team included HDR Alaska Inc. and contractor Kiewit Infrastructure West Co.

The bridge is the first phase of the Alaska Railroad Corp.'s Northern Rail Extension, a project that will create an 80-mile railway between North Pole, Alaska, and Delta Junction, Alaska. The extension will provide a safer, all-weather transportation option and give the military improved, year-round access to a one-million-acre training range south of the Tanana River. Hanson has been providing design engineering services since 2006 for the four-phase extension project, including hydraulic and structural engineering services and addressing geotechnical, hydraulic and seismic issues for the bridge.

At 3,300 feet, the bridge is the state's longest and is designed to serve roadway and railroad traffic with a single bimodal deck. The 20-span bridge was built for \$187 million — \$1 million under budget — and on time, with a three-year construction process. The designers had to account for wind, water pressure, scouring, sheet ice, ice jams and severe flooding in an area with a broad floodplain. The bridge crosses the glacier-fed, braided Tanana River at a remote site in an area with active and potentially active seismic faults and temperatures that range from occasional highs near 90 degrees to lows near 70 below zero. During construction, piles for the bridge were driven and concrete was placed at 20

below zero in the winter. Ice flows and damming during ice breakup in the spring required the construction causeway and temporary bridging to be removed and replaced.

For more information about this year's winner, Vietnam's Dragon Bridge, and the other five finalists and to view videos about the projects, visit ASCE's website at <http://>

Moffatt & Nichol Announces Passing of Chairman, Former President and CEO Robert Nichol

Long Beach, California, March 17, 2016 – Moffatt & Nichol has announced with deep sadness the passing of Robert D. Nichol, the firm's Chairman and former President and Chief Executive Officer. Mr. Nichol has guided Moffatt & Nichol since he became the company's second president in 1975, leading it to its global prominence in the engineering industry as a top maritime and transportation design and advisory firm.

Until his retirement in 2006, Mr. Nichol directed the firm's steady growth, building a reputation for innovation and integrity while positioning the firm as the premier waterfront consulting engineering firm in the marketplace. Mr. Nichol was a Commissioner of the National Commission of the U.S. Section at the Permanent International Association of Navigation Congress (PIANC). He served as a member of the National Research Council Commission on Engineering and Technical Systems and is a Fellow of the Society of American Military Engineers. He was conferred the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Distinguished Member Award (2011), Outstanding

bit.ly/1UaIOGe.

Hanson is a national, employee-owned consulting firm providing engineering, planning and allied services. The firm's corporate headquarters is located at 1525 S. Sixth St., Springfield, IL 62703. The office may be reached by phone at (217) 788-2450. ❖

Projects and Leaders Award (OPAL) Lifetime Achievement Award for Management (2010), and ASCE California Lifetime Achievement Award (2013). He also received the 2005 Golden Beaver Award for Engineering from The Beavers, a heavy construction organization.



Mr. Nichol's son, Eric Nichol, assumed the role of Moffatt & Nichol President and Chief Executive Officer in 2006 and continues to lead the company's day-to-day business activities. He says his father will be deeply missed, but he will be remembered for his many professional contributions to the industry and will live on in the enduring culture that he established at Moffatt & Nichol.

In addition to Eric Nichol, Robert Nichol is survived by his son, Douglas, wife, Georgia, and two grandchildren. He was 84 years old. ❖



Chris Black is Promoted

Chris Black, PE has been promoted to Senior Project Engineer at R&M CONSULTANTS, INC. (R&M).

Chris first joined R&M's Engineering Department as a Project Engineer in January 2015. As a Senior Project Engineer in the firm's Site Development Group, he is responsible for coordinating with clients, and performing analysis and design tasks related to site development projects. This includes



development of site design analysis; site layout plans, including grading, drainage, utility services and permitting; and roadway infrastructure connections, along with mentoring of staff engineers and QA/QC of peer work products.

"I'm very excited about moving to the next level in my career," said Chris. "This will be a great benefit in communicating with R&M's clients and my peers in the engineering community."

Chris has more than 22 years of construction and civil engineering experience. His experience includes site and road design, water and wastewater systems, storm water collection systems, earthwork calculations, engineer cost estimates, traffic impact analysis and permitting. He has worked on projects for a variety of public entities, including the Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities, Anchorage Water & Wastewater Utility, and Alaska Railroad Corporation.

Chris is currently working on drainage improvements at the railroad crossing on West Northern Lights and Loon Cove for the Municipality of Anchorage; site design for Kings Landing Phase III and Eielson

F-35A Earth Covered Magazines for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; park improvement projects at Denali State Park and Muldoon Road; and the Anchorage Museum Expansion.

"I enjoy seeing a project constructed that has sometimes taken years in planning and feeling a sense of ownership in it," said Chris.

Chris has a B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Alaska Anchorage and is a professional civil engineer licensed in Alaska. He is a life-long Alaskan, born in Juneau, and has lived in Anchorage for more than 40 years. He calls the Jewel Lake area where he grew up home, and lives there with his wife and two kids.

Founded in Alaska in 1969, R&M offers civil, structural, geotechnical and waterfront engineering; surveying and mapping; GIS services; geology; hydrology; environmental services; transportation and land use planning; public involvement; right of way and lands consulting services; construction administration; materials testing; and special inspection. R&M has offices in Anchorage and Fairbanks. ❖

Shannon & Wilson Announces New Office Manager, Staff Changes

Shannon & Wilson is pleased to announce that Matt Hemry has been named as the Anchorage Office Manager. Matt is a life-long Alaskan and joined Shannon & Wilson in 1992 after earning a degree in engineering science at Dartmouth College and his masters degree in environmental engineering from Duke University.

Matt has worked at Shannon & Wilson for over 23 years, and is currently serving on Shannon & Wilson's Board of Directors. He has also been involved in the Anchorage community as a board member of the Anchorage Community Development Authority (ACDA) and several other non-profit organizations, and has coached high school tennis for many years.

Matt's former role of Environmental Group Leader will be filled by Dan McMahan. Dan is also a life-long Alaskan and first joined Shannon & Wilson in 1997. Dan earned his degree in environmental conservation from the University of Colorado in 1993.

Former Office Manager Stafford Glashan will continue with Shannon & Wilson as a Senior Engineer. ❖



APDC Member Societies

Alaska Society of Professional Engineers (ASPE)
Alaska Society of Professional Land Surveyors (ASPLS)
American Institute of Architects Alaska Chapter (AIA)
American Society of Civil Engineers Alaska Section (ASCE)
American Society of Landscape Architects Alaska Chapter (ASLA)
American Council of Engineering Companies of Alaska (ACEC)
American Society of Interior Designers Alaska Chapter (ASID)
Institute of Transportation FEngineers - Alaska Chapter (ITE)
Structural Engineers Association of Alaska (SEAAK)

Stantec Welcomes Niemiec to Team

Stantec is pleased to announce that Andrew Niemiec, PE, has joined the firm as transportation manager in its Anchorage office. He has more than 28 years of in-state project development experience, spending most of his professional career working for the State of Alaska in a variety of capacities. He is an associate of the firm.

Niemiec's experience includes design and construction management, complex environmental documentation and development of contract documents for alternative project delivery methods.

"We are excited to have Andrew join Stantec to lead our transportation group," said Zane Shanklin, PE, Stantec principal. "His experience across Alaska is extensive. He understands state and federal agency coordination. He has some very specialized experience with Public-Private Partnerships and managing complex projects, which will serve our clients well."

At Stantec, Niemiec will provide senior design leadership and management for a variety of transportation projects. He will manage Stantec staff working on transportation projects based out of Anchorage, Fairbanks, Wasilla and Juneau.

Niemiec was the executive director of the Knik Arm Bridge and Toll Authority for more than six years. Additionally, he worked with the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities in its Nome, Anchorage and Fairbanks offices.

Niemiec is a graduate of the



University of Alaska Fairbanks and a charter member of Alpha Kappa Chi, the civil engineering honor society.

About Stantec: We're active members of the communities we serve. That's why at Stantec, we always design with community in mind. The Stantec community unites more than 15,000 employees working in over 250 locations. Our work — professional consulting in planning, engineering, architecture, interior design, landscape architecture, survey-

ing, environmental sciences, project management, and project economics — begins at the intersection of community, creativity, and client relationships. With a long-term commitment to the people and places we serve, Stantec has the unique ability to connect to projects on a personal level and advance the quality of life in communities across the globe. ❖

Share News in Alaska Designs

Alaska Designs is a place for APDC Member Organizations and Sustaining Members to share information with the Alaska design community about anything from fundraisers and anniversary celebrations to triumphs and tragedies. We share news that matters to people beyond your corporate or organizational boundaries.

Please submit by the 20th of the month for the next month's newsletter *if possible*, or coordinate with the editor for later delivery if necessary: sterlingtouch@gci.net. ❖

ASCE Anchorage Branch Plans 20th Annual Golf Tournament in July

The ASCE Anchorage Branch's annual golf tournament will be a special one this year: It is the 20th anniversary. We have already reserved Moose Run, so keep 12 July 2016 open on your calendars. There will be special prizes and events in honor of the tournament's anniversary.

Not only is the tournament a fun way to spend an afternoon, it is also a great opportunity to support the ASCE Anchorage Branch. Come just to play with friends and colleagues, or come to expand your professional network.

Since it is the 20th anniversary of our golf tournament, we want to make it the best. You and your company can help us! There are several ways to sponsor including hole sponsors, awards donations, prize donations, food sponsorship, drink cart sponsorship, and more. These kinds of contributions are a great way to get your company recognized at the largest Branch activity of the year.

For more information or to become a sponsor, please contact Doug Simon at DSimon@HDLAlaska.com.

There are several opportunities to volunteer for our 20th Annual Golf Tournament. We are still in the planning stages, and if you are interested in helping, please contact Brian Gastrock at BGastrock@Stephleng.com. ❖



Tuesday July 12, 2016

Cohen Retires and Preston Becomes VP of Geomatics

Effective February 18, 2016 Bill Cohen, PLS retired from R&M CONSULTANTS, INC. (R&M), where he served as Senior Vice President of Geomatics since 2008. Bill Preston, PLS, GISP has been named as the firm's new Vice President of Geomatics.

As R&M's new Vice President of Geomatics, Preston will be responsible for management of the R&M's Geomatics Department, which includes land surveying, right of way (ROW) services and geographic information systems (GIS).

"Our Senior Land Surveyors, ROW Professionals, and GIS Professionals at R&M have an unbelievable amount of experience and are extremely well respected in Alaska," said Preston. "As Vice President of Geomatics, I am following in the footsteps of two great professionals that I have learned, and continue to learn a great deal from. I'm not sure I can articulate exactly what it means to me to have the faith and confidence of my co-workers to perform in this new position. I plan on coming to work every day and doing my best to help us all be successful."

Preston has been with R&M since 2000 and offers more than 15 years of experience in field and office work. He has worked on many significant projects involving aeronautical, engineering design, planimetric, topographic and route surveys, and detailed utility as-built surveys. He is an excellent surveyor with good leadership abilities and skills in providing highly accurate surveys and deliverables. Preston's primary focus is on the integration of differing client standards and new technology

into efficient everyday use for data collection and production of mapping products and the integration of that data into a GIS compatible format. His experience performing aeronautical surveys and creating survey accurate GIS databases in Alaska is unequalled.

"I get to use incredible equipment and computer systems to make maps," said Preston regarding his profession as a surveyor. "I like being part of a profession where I get to do the right thing no matter what. As a surveyor, I am finding facts and evidence. My conclusions must be supported by evidence. It's much different from what people do on the internet and on television."

Preston holds a B.S. in Geomatics from the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA). He is a professional land surveyor licensed in Alaska and a certified GIS professional. Preston is a lifelong Alaskan, growing up in Homer and moving to Anchorage when he was 11. He spends his free time with his wife and two fairly wild kids or outside in the mountains. Right now he's into seeing his kids learn new things; just the other day his son made his first map in pre-school.

Cohen joined R&M in 2008. Over his 40-year surveying career, he participated in hundreds of surveys for Municipal agencies and performed surveying and mapping on many large projects throughout Alaska, including projects for Anchorage Water & Wastewater Utilities, Municipality of Anchorage, Parks and Recreation, Heritage Land Bank, Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,

Alaska Railroad Corporation, UAA and Anchorage School District.

Cohen's addition to R&M's Geomatics Department was very important to the firm's succession plan. Not only did his assumption of management of R&M's Geomatics Department allow former manager Len

Story to move into the COO role, but he brought other talented staff with him, facilitating the continued growth of the Department. Bill's commitment to client service and innovations to improve efficiency helped him continue R&M's proud history and reputation for quality and cement the firm's position as the Alaskan leader in surveying and mapping services. His dedication to staff training ensures R&M's clients will receive the same level of responsiveness and quality services moving forward, even after Bill's retirement.

"R&M is the best place I ever worked," said Cohen. "It's a company that has great people and cares about its employees. I wish I had worked there sooner in my career."

Cohen is looking forward to his retirement. He's taking a few years to ride his bicycle, see the country and explore places he's never been. He plans to start his adventure in Tucson, but has no idea where he will end up. He may even end up back in Alaska. ❖



Directory of Sustaining Members



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Continued on Page 11

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Alaska Professional Design Council Calendar

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

ACEC Board, 4:00 p.m., Shannon & Wilson, Anchorage (2nd Tues)

Wednesday, April 13, 2016

ASCE Juneau Branch and ASPE Juneau Chapter jointly hold membership meetings at Noon at the AEL&P 2nd Floor Conference Room from September through May (2nd Wed)

ASLA Alaska Board, 12:10 p.m. in the URS 3rd floor conference room (2nd Wed)

ITE Alaska Fairbanks Chapter, Noon (2nd Wed)

Thursday, April 14, 2016

ASPE Anchorage, Noon, BP Energy Center (2nd Thurs)

Tuesday, April 19, 2016

ASCE Anchorage, Noon, Moose Lodge on Arctic Blvd. (3rd Tues)

ASPLS Anchorage, Noon, BP Energy Center (3rd Tues with even months at Noon at the BP Energy Center and odd months at 5:30pm at Lone Star)

Wednesday, April 20, 2016

ASCE Mat-Su Branch, Noon at the Mat-Su College (Mile 2 Trunk Road) in Room FSM 206 (3rd Wed)

ASCE Fairbanks, Noon, WestMark (3rd Wed)

Deadline for the May issue of *Alaska Designs* (20th of each month, or Monday)

Thursday, April 21, 2016

SEAAK Special Meeting, 11:30am, BP Energy Center, New Millennial Building Systems

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

ASPLS Fairbanks, Noon, WestMark Hotel (4th Tues)

Wednesday, April 27, 2016

ASPLS Valley, Noon, Windbreak, Wasilla (last Wed)

Monday, May 2, 2016

ASPE Fairbanks, Noon, WestMark Hotel (1st Mon)

Tuesday, May 3, 2016

ITE Alaska Anchorage Chapter, Noon, Aviation Heritage Museum (1st Tues except June, July & August) (Note, meetings will move to the BP Energy Center in September)

Thursday, May 5, 2016

ASPE Anchorage Directors, 7 a.m., McDonald's, 800 W Northern Lights Blvd. (1st Thurs)

APDC, Noon, Atwood Building 6th Floor, Anchorage (1st Thurs)

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

ACEC Board, 4:00 p.m., Shannon & Wilson, Anchorage (2nd Tues)

Wednesday, May 11, 2016

ASCE Juneau Branch and ASPE Juneau Chapter jointly hold membership meetings at Noon at the AEL&P 2nd Floor Conference Room from September through May (2nd Wed)

ASLA Alaska Board, 12:10 p.m. in the URS 3rd floor conference room (2nd Wed)

ITE Alaska Fairbanks Chapter, Noon (2nd Wed)

SEAAK Noon, BP Energy Center, Rich Giessel, Unintended Consequences of Change Orders (every other month, usually 2nd Wed)

Thursday, May 13, 2016

ASPE Anchorage, Noon, BP Energy Center (2nd Thurs)

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

ASCE Anchorage, Noon, Moose Lodge on Arctic Blvd. (3rd Tues)

ASPLS Anchorage, Noon, BP Energy Center (3rd Tues with even months at Noon at the BP Energy Center and odd months at 5:30pm at Lone Star)

Wednesday, May 18, 2016

ASCE Fairbanks, Noon, WestMark (3rd Wed)

ASCE Mat-Su Branch, Noon at the Mat-Su College (Mile 2 Trunk Road) in Room FSM 206 (3rd Wed)

Friday, May 20, 2016

Deadline for the May issue of *Alaska Designs* (20th of each month, or Monday)

Tuesday, May 24, 2016

ASPLS Fairbanks, Noon, WestMark Hotel (4th Tues)

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

ASPLS Valley, Noon, Windbreak, Wasilla (last Wed)

Send calendar notices / updates by the 20th of each month to Vicky Sterling, sterlingtouch@gci.net.



When and Where

Always check locally to confirm meeting times and locations. Some organizations suspend or reschedule meetings in summer months. The newsletter publication calendar generally does not allow time to include holiday and last-minute schedule changes.



Alaska Designs Welcomes Articles

Alaska Designs welcomes articles and letters on subjects of interest to design professionals. The deadline is the 20th of each month for the following month's issue. Items may be edited for length or content and will be published as space is available.

Submit items to the editor, Vicky Sterling, via email: sterlingtouch@gci.net.