



Howland awards spotlight community enrichment

“Let’s everybody be generous. It is especially important that those at or near the top of the heap be willing to spread the returns in dollars and recognition around” — *Excerpt from Jim Howland’s Little Yellow Book.*

Since 1989, CH2M HILL has partnered with the National League of Cities to provide the James C. Howland Awards for Urban Enrichment. These awards are presented annually to U.S. cities for excellence in preserving or enriching the environmental quality of life for their residents.

Howland, often cited as providing the heart and soul of CH2M HILL, wanted something to recognize cities that take care of their people. He came up with the idea after completing a community beautification program in his hometown of Corvallis, Ore.



Jim Howland presents the award to representatives from the City of Las Vegas whose youth program provides teens with an opportunity to lead community improvement projects.

“After the original partners retired, the next management group decided to sponsor some sort of a national competition in the name of each original partner. When my turn came, I had two thoughts. First, that it would

be good to do something that connected the firm to clients and potential clients. Second, my wife, Meisy, and I had been working on a project to make a Corvallis street more of an attractive people place, and we felt something rewarding improvements such as this would be good.”

The awards recognize two winners in four population categories, and each award comes with a financial donation to the city’s charity of choice. To date, more than 100 awards have been presented and \$130,000 in contributions made. Funding

for the awards comes from the CH2M HILL Foundation.

Recently, the National League of Cities announced that it is making the Howland Awards for Urban Enrichment its flagship awards program beginning in 2003.

For more information about the Howland Awards, visit www.nlc.org, or contact Joanna Monahan, 720-286-2260 or jmonahan@ch2m.com.

MORE ONLINE
<http://projects.ch2m.com/unlimited/>
 Visit e-Unlimited for information about the 2002 Howland Award Winners.

Designing in memory

As a large set of drawings is spread out on the table, the chatter starts to dwindle among the 14 employees gathered around them in Corvallis, Ore. They begin to focus on the task at hand. Are these CH2M HILL employees reviewing the latest water treatment plant or bridge design?

Actually, they’re using their lunch breaks and after-work hours to volunteer on a project close to their hearts. In memory of Bob Wehnert and Mike Popken, two colleagues who recently succumbed to cancer, the team is donating design services to build a guesthouse at the Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center in Corvallis. When complete, the 12-room home away from home will



Team members review drawings of a 12-room guesthouse they are helping to design.

provide families a place to stay while loved ones receive medical treatment.

“At CH2M HILL, we feel a real sense of community among employees. We were very aware of what Bob’s and Mike’s families were going through and how stressful it became for them,”

said Ed Barlow-Pieterick, project manager. “Helping to build this guesthouse seemed an appropriate way to express our concern for families who have to deal with such devastating illnesses. We hope that our small tribute to our friends will help make it easier for others

to deal with the stress of treatment.”

The guesthouse project began as a generous private donation and donated architectural plans from a local family. The CH2M HILL team is currently working on modifying the plans to meet the needs of the medical center and requirements of the community. Final pre-design will be finished in January, with final design completed in March 2003. When construction begins in the summer, the CH2M HILL team members will also volunteer their time for services during construction.

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<http://projects.ch2m.com/unlimited/>
 View the team roster on e-Unlimited.