

## Some Editorial Comments

BY GORDON KOBLITZ

As one would expect, there have been many changes since our last newsletter in July. The saddest, of course, is the passing of Ralph Peterson in October. Although most of you are aware, quite a number may not have seen the eulogy by Bud Ahern, so we've included the link for it below.

We again have highlighted a number of retirements, updates of retirees and alumni, the 2009 Retiree/Emeritus Retreat in Sun Valley, and some of the incredible projects CH2M HILL is doing around the world. The Haiti tragedy is still unfolding, but Lee McIntire's update is included regarding some of our staff and our firm's response and needs as we try to help.

My thanks again to those nice folks who responded for updates and stories regarding retirement activities. Thanks also to Suellen Ehrmann/SAN, Vicki Starr/CVO and Karen Hancock/DEN and crew for their help in getting this edition out the door.

With warmest wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year!

## Ralph Peterson, 1944-2009

If ever there was a leader's leader, it was Ralph Peterson. He thought of CH2M HILL employees as his extended family. He passionately dedicated his 44 years of professional life to the firm, nearly two decades of that as chief executive. He was a visionary, a mentor, a friend.

If you haven't seen it yet, please read Bud Ahearn's [transcript](#) of a eulogy he delivered on September 5 at Ralph Peterson's Funeral Mass. It is a wonderfully poignant tribute to this brilliant and caring man.

To support an organization that was very important to Ralph, memorial contributions can be made to The Joshua School, a nonprofit dedicated to helping children and young adults with autism. For information or to make a contribution in his name, go to [www.joshuaschool.org](http://www.joshuaschool.org). A contribution can also be made by sending a check made payable to The Joshua School to: The Joshua School, 2303 E. Dartmouth Ave, Englewood, CO 80113

## Update on the Earthquake in Haiti

I wanted to send you all an update regarding our response to the earthquake in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. Our people working for USAID in Haiti are safe. We are in contact with them and we are helping them manage through this crisis. We have been notified that we



*Ralph Peterson*



*Ralph and Betty at the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia*

may be called to action by the U.S. Government to assist in disaster response and are preparing for this potential outcome. At the same time, we are evaluating appropriate ways we might lend our expertise and resources to assist beyond these efforts in both the short- and long-term. Please look for additional updates on the Virtual Office news page. Our hearts and minds go out to the Haitian people in these difficult times... Be safe, Lee

Volunteers for a possible FEMA contract support effort are also being sought. Contact Karen Hancock/DEN ([Karen.hancock@ch2m.com](mailto:Karen.hancock@ch2m.com)) for further information if you have interest.

### **UPDATED 1/21: MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS FOR HAITI EARTHQUAKE RELIEF**

"We have partnered with the Red Cross/Red Crescent in many parts of the world for decades and find that their ability to create immediate benefits and provide help to people affected by disaster is excellent. They know what they're doing, in other words," said CH2M HILL CEO Lee McIntire. "We are pleased to share that we will match our global employees' contributions to the Red Cross/Red Crescent organizations during this time of great human need." "During times of crisis, our people demonstrate amazing compassion and ingenuity," said Patrick O'Keefe, senior vice president of corporate affairs. Through personal and professional networks, we bring together great thinking and solid partners to address humanitarian crises. The greatest asset we can bring to bear is the technical expertise of our people. We will no doubt identify a variety of ways to help during coming weeks and will share those plans with employees as they evolve."

### **The Sun Valley Retreat Highlights**

Note: The following is a synopsis of the Alumni Connect write-up minus a bunch of photos. Please refer to the Alumni Connect for the complete package ([www.alumni.ch2mhill.com](http://www.alumni.ch2mhill.com)).

The Sun Valley Retreat was a great success. Ninety two people enjoyed four days of absolutely beautiful weather. The Sun Valley Lodge and Resort staff did a wonderful job taking care of all our needs. The resort was a wonderful place for the Retreat, providing an extraordinarily relaxing setting, beautiful accommodations, and excellent meals. The nearby town of Ketchum, a delightfully small town with an upscale western motif, offered many options for shopping and eating. The committee and event staff designed a great agenda that gave everyone an opportunity to enjoy a variety of different activities including a bus tour of the area, golf, horseback riding, a company update, a time to learn about our new retiree/alumni relations program, and of course, personal time to catch up with old friends.

## TOUR OF THE VALLEY

CONTRIBUTED BY MIKE ANGLEA & DAVID BENNION



The Sun Valley Bus Tour Company provided an outstanding bus tour around Sun Valley and the Stanley Basin.

Our first stop was a surprising visit to small hot springs that used to serve as an old stage stop. It was surprising in a couple of ways. First of all, most anyone driving along the stretch of road would miss the hot spring all together. It's unmarked and set back off the roadway. But what was even more surprising was that, as we walked to the springs, we had a bit of an uncomfortable moment when we passed a woman who obviously had been enjoying a morning swim. Luckily, she'd heard us coming and had enough time to redress and head home. None of us, on the other hand, were brave enough to get in further than our toes.

We had a continental breakfast along the highway near the Galena pass summit. It was a little chilly and the valley below was



filled with fog. As the sun came over the mountains the fog began to dissipate, and by the time we continued down to the floor of the valley the fog had cleared to reveal the Sawtooth Mountain range which is spectacular.

On the way to our lunch at Redfish Lodge, we stopped at the Sawtooth Fish Hatchery. This is just one of the many hatcheries that Roy Taylor and the Boise staff designed during his career in the Boise Office. We were given a thorough tour by hatchery staff that included a tagging trailer where

fingerlings are implanted with GPS tracking devices. The program tracks hundreds of thousands of salmon and steelhead that run in the Salmon River Basin.

It was a proud moment knowing that several people on the tour were involved with the early days of this remarkable recovery program.

During the afternoon, we browsed the Redfish Lake shoreline and enjoyed the spectacular Sawtooth Peak views. In Stanley, located at the confluence of Valley Creek and the Salmon River, we toured the historical museum, which is the old restored Sawtooth Forest Ranger Station and includes stables and ice house. The view of the Sawtooth Mountain Range and the Stanley Basin from the museum grounds was spectacular. By the end of the tour, we were all ready to head home for the evening festivities.

## EVENING EVENTS

CONTRIBUTED BY KAREN HANCOCK/DEN

The first night we had a welcome reception and barbecue at the Trail Head Restaurant. Bill Dehn, who is currently serving as the firm's Executive Vice President – Special Projects, gave an excellent overview of the company and where it is headed.

Everyone appreciated the open discussion and the chance to hear that the firm is in good hands and headed in a positive direction. Tuesday evening, Mark Bowen chaired the evening's recognition program for honoring Earl Reynolds and the Boise office. It's incredible to realize that this successful office all began when Earl had the bright idea expand CH2M HILL's footprint by opening up the second office. It was fun to remember that the office was built day by day, relationship by relationship, and project by project. It took the dedicated staff led by Earl and the leaders who've followed in his footsteps to make it the office it is today.

## **THE BIG VALLEY RIDE**

*CONTRIBUTED BY TIM HASSETT*



Eight of us braved the wild wilderness of Sun Valley by horse back on Wednesday. Tim Hassett, Mary Koblitz, Megan Snider, Patricia Graham, Art and Sharon Storbo, and Mike and Sharon Anglea.

We all met at the stables around 10:30 a.m. to receive our sturdy mounts and head out into the wilds of Idaho.

Tim was on Budweiser, Megan on Ug-Bug, Patricia on Name Unknown, Mary on Big Enough, Art on Stormy, Sharon on Oreo, and Mike on Foghorn, and Sharon on Blondie. Our trusty guide was Wayne.

We had a wonderful ride with just awesome views of the valley and surrounding area. Although we were only gone an hour and a half it was still very memorable.

## **A CHALLENGING DAY ON THE GOLF COURSE**

*CONTRIBUTED BY JOHN ECHTERNACH*

Sixteen of us had the pleasure to play the Trail Creek course. Jean Ann went along for the ride as well. The course is long and narrow due to evergreen and spruce lined fairways. And when that was out of the way, there were numerous small creeks meandering throughout. The course is very picturesque, with vistas of Mt. Baldy and the surrounding mountains. It's in immaculate shape. No formal competition was arranged, and I can only vouch for my own score, an 80, which is 4 higher than my handicap, but indicative of the challenges faced. Vern Nelson's wife, Carol Ann, scored a 92. She played very well. Many holes presented daunting elevation changes, blind approaches, and slick greens. Yardage from the blue tees was approximately 6,700 yards, but at that elevation distance is secondary to direction. The club house is new, and absolutely stunning. The staff was very courteous. All who went on the bus tour saw the beautiful homes featured at the start of the tour. The golf group received a "double tour" as we saw all of those homes from the golf course side. Don't know who owns the home with seven chimneys, but one of my better drives is in his back yard. Oh, well.

Deer pranced across fairways, thus the general feeling was certainly one of communing with nature in beautiful Sun Valley.

## **FROM THE SPOUSE'S POINT OF VIEW**

*CONTRIBUTED BY MARY KOBLITZ, SHARON ANGLEA, AND  
GRETCHEN WILLIAMS*

From a wife's point of view, another great retreat! It was just a joy to renew friendships over lunch and dinner in such a beautiful environment. Flower boxes overflowed with color, swans glided on ponds, and networks of sidewalks and hiking paths allowed for strolling or hiking all over the Sun Valley community. Some of us shopped while others played tennis or went horseback riding. Reconnecting we do best, but we're missing some friends from the past that we surely hope will join us in two years when we come together again.

We really would like to "Make Welcome" singles of our Alumni. We really have missed you. If your spouse is unable to attend or is no longer with us, please still consider joining your friends. We also have a special request. We are collecting reflections and current bios from the wonderful spouses whose steadfast support also helped build CH2M HILL. How about giving us a little "mini bio" and description of your interests, gifts, hobbies and maybe a tidbit about health and family happenings? We might need a little of your experience and/or advice for planning future activities for spouses too. Please feel free to get in touch with us by sending an e-mail to [alumnirelations@ch2m.com](mailto:alumnirelations@ch2m.com).

## **NEW RETIREE/ALUMNI RELATIONS**

*CONTRIBUTED BY KAREN HANCOCK/DEN*

The retreat was a terrific opportunity for me to get to know many of the great people who have built CH2M HILL. I left the retreat feeling incredibly proud and filled with a great sense of purpose. I am humbled to do what I can to help the firm's retirees stay connected to each other and the company. About 20 retirees and their spouses spent time learning about the Alumni Connect social networking website. I know many were nervous entering this new realm, but by the end, it sure seemed like they were enjoying themselves. It was fun searching the membership profiles for others who live and work in the same area and are interested in the same things like gardening, genealogy, aviation and travel. Keep those profiles updated and keep checking back to see who else has joined the site!

As we move forward, and begin building out meaningful ways for retirees (and their spouses) to stay engaged in the firm, I can't emphasize enough, that we're going to need your support. It's going to be fun and rewarding. We welcome all who want to get involved. If you think you might be interested, get in touch with either Gordon Koblitz ([Gordon.koblitz@ch2m.com](mailto:Gordon.koblitz@ch2m.com)) or me ([Karen.hancock@ch2m.com](mailto:Karen.hancock@ch2m.com)).





Gerry Abrams  
 Jory Abrams  
 Alan Amoth  
 Diane Amoth  
 Mike Anglea  
 Sharon Anglea  
 Eleanor Benedict  
 David Bennion  
 Susan Bennion  
 Julie Bielman  
 Ken Bielman  
 Arlen Borgen  
 Mark Bowen  
 Norm Brazelton  
 Gail Reid-Brazelton  
 Dale Cannon  
 Karen Cannon  
 Bob Chapman  
 Meredith Chapman  
 Robert Crittenden  
 Bill Dehn  
 Jean Ann Echternach  
 John Echternach

Jerry Eggleston  
 Valerie Eggleston  
 Carol Evans  
 David Evans  
 John Filbert  
 Mike Fisher  
 Sue Fisher  
 Sue Fisher  
 Jim Goetz  
 Pam Goetz  
 Starla Haislip  
 Tom Haislip  
 Karen Hancock  
 June Ann Hassebroek  
 Lyle Hassebroek  
 Tim Hassett  
 Bill Irving  
 Carolyn Irving  
 Katherine Johnson  
 Vicki Johnson  
 William F Johnson  
 Pam Klampe  
 Patrick Klampe

Gordon Koblitz  
 Mary Koblitz  
 John Lee  
 Steve Lee  
 Yvonne Lee  
 Don Marske  
 Joan Marske  
 Dorothy Mejdell  
 Harry Mejdell  
 Bob Morrison  
 Sandie Morrison  
 Carol Anne Nelson  
 Vern Nelson  
 Carlene Ott  
 Ron Ott  
 Connie Otter  
 Paul Otter  
 Bob Pailthorp  
 Dot Pailthorp  
 Bonnie Reeder  
 Harry Reeder  
 Earl Reynolds  
 Jodi Reynolds

Jim Schwing  
 Mary Schwing  
 Davy Sellman  
 Wayne Sellman  
 George Silkworth  
 Sue Silkworth  
 Megan Snider  
 Art Storbo  
 Sharon Storbo  
 Cas Strouse  
 Babs Suhr  
 Gene Suhr  
 LeRoy Taylor  
 Velma Taylor  
 Frank Thompson  
 Linda Thompson  
 Patti Wiedemann  
 Peter Wiedemann  
 Les Wierson  
 Myrna Wierson  
 Gretchen Williams  
 Kenneth Williams  
 Jean Worth  
 Joe Worth

## WRAPPING UP

CONTRIBUTED BY PATRICIA GRAHAM

We had breakfast on Thursday morning with some 60 hearty souls in attendance. The wrap-up portion was lively, with discussion on the pros and cons of this year's retreat. Here are some of the suggestions we will consider for future retreats:

- Schedule breakfast in a location with a more appropriate climate for early mornings (the patio was too cold)
- Receive an attendee list and agenda in advance of the meeting
- Make sure the location and activities are ADA accessible

- Although everyone agreed they liked the Sun Valley location and schedule of events, there is a need to choose a location that might draw more attendees

Our thanks go out to the eight gentlemen who volunteered to help with the 2011 Retiree/Emeritus Retreat – Mike Anglea, Bob Chapman, Bill Irving, Pat Klampe, Gordon Koblitz, Don Marske, Ron Ott, and Gene Suhr. If anyone else is interested in helping out, please get in contact with Gordon Koblitz at [gordon.koblitz@ch2m.com](mailto:gordon.koblitz@ch2m.com) or [alumnirelations@ch2m.com](mailto:alumnirelations@ch2m.com). See you in two years!

## New 2009 Retirees/Alumni

Congratulations to the individuals who entered fulltime retirement 2009! Thank you so very much for your dedication and hard work. CH2M HILL is what it is today because of you. The following is a list of employees who officially retired in 2009, including many who have been on flex-time roles for several years. If you would like to share retirement stories, photos, or presentations, please forward information to [alumnirelations@ch2m.com](mailto:alumnirelations@ch2m.com) along with anyone's name inadvertently left off the list.

Patty Sather	Jan 2	Kenneth Miller	May 1	Frank Aquilante	Sep 08
Dennis Newman	Jan 2	Ellen Moore	May 1	Rush Flanagan	Sep 30
Roger Bothof	Jan 2	Gary Moore	May 1	Butch Reed	Oct 2
Dan Lucas	Jan 9	David Bennion	May 6	Roz Wilson	Oct 30
Joseph Rives	Jan 13	Al Wollmann	May 12	Jim Hawley	Nov 1
Roy McCracken	Jan 14	Larry Cramm	May 14	Roger Yorton	Nov 1
Dale Green	Jan 23	Raymond Williams	May 16	David Crown	Nov 5
Linda Ellison	Feb 4	Rick Reid	May 22	Larry Scott	Dec 10
Jim Goetz	Feb 6	Wayne Hanson	May 26	John Thomason	Dec 10
Howard Wilson	Feb 9	Carl VonDreele	May 26	Mike Hayes	Dec 11
Howard Nelson	Feb 10	David Koch	May 29	Al Sloan	Dec 14
Julie Nakao	Mar 11	Paul Sheehan	June 8	Tony Ustinowich	Dec 15
Jim Hawkey	Mar 31	Dale Allen	June 17	Marlene Bishop	Dec 17
Doug Hamer	Apr 3	Odis Carter	June 27	Mary Hensley	Dec 17
Cliff Thompson	Apr 6	Mark Okey	Aug 27	Jerry Lyle	Dec 18
Pat Klampe	Apr 10	Timothy Pool	Aug 27	Steve Aasheim	Dec 31
Bob Moses	Apr 10	Gary Stucki	Aug 27	Duane Barnes	Dec 31
Wilmar Kohne	Apr 23	David Rosamond	Aug28	Ginny McKoy	Dec 31
Joe Maurais	Apr 24	Teddy Stavedahl	Aug28	Ginger Moore	Dec 31
Ron Advani	Apr 29	Edward Pugh	Aug31	Mike Mynheir	Dec 31
Robert Ghiotto	May 1	Kats Amasuga	Sep 4	Ron Skabo	Dec 31
Charles Gibbs	May 1	Ron Gates	Sep 4	Anne Wallace	Dec 31

## Deceased Retirees/Alumni

William "Dip" Sinclair	July 14	Paul Frigon	Sep10
Roger Pepowski	July 22	Robert Schilling	Sep 10
Stevan Bailey	July 23	Fred Harem	Sep 30
Thomas Sexsmith	July 27	Gregory Parker	Sep 30
Marcy Merkel	Aug 18	Gene Miller	Oct 08
Dave Hampton	Aug 19	Gary York	Oct 15
Charles Grove	Aug 20	Donald Leahy	Nov 20
Joseph Sulda	Aug 23	Robert Krahn	Nov 27
Ralph Peterson	Sep 01	Ray Hansen	Dec 17
James Stark	Sep 08		

## Alumni History Keeps Growing; Seeks Input

In case some folks aren't aware, there's a dedicated group working 24/7 (slight exaggeration) behind the scenes to carry on the Alumni History work that Gus Pantazi and some early pioneers started many years ago. They met at Gene Suhr's home in September where Gene and Babs hosted a great BBQ for the group including Dave Evans, Les and Myrna Wierson, Don and Joan Marske, Bob and Meredith Chapman, and Gordon and Mary Koblitz. To make it official Gene, our Supreme Editor-in-Chief, called a meeting to order after dinner, and we conducted some "official business" in addition to swapping stories and recollections. We're always looking for volunteers, stories and updates! Come visit the Alumni History web site through the Alumni Connect web site or directly by clicking this link: <http://history.ch2mhill.com/>. Please send Gene an email at [genesuhr@comcast.net](mailto:genesuhr@comcast.net) if you have any comments or stories or would like to help in any phases of the History project.



*The heart and soul of the Alumni History website met at the Vancouver, Washington, home of Gene and Babs Suhr. (L to R) Gus Pantazi, Don Marske, Dave Evans, Gordon Koblitz, and Gene Suhr*



*Glad to be at the Suhrs' place were (L to R) Myrna Wierson, Joan Marske, Mary Koblitz, Babs Suhr and Meredith Chapman*



*Col. Ray S. Hansen*

## **IN LOVING MEMORY OF COL. RAY S. HANSEN**

Col. Ray S. Hansen passed away on December 17, 2009 following a ski accident in the Cascade Mountains. Col. Ray S. Hansen will be remembered as a husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. He will also be remembered for his work for CH2M HILL's Ports & Harbors Division, his devotion to so many charities, his avid love for travel, and for his service in the Army Corps of Engineers – synonymous for so many landmark accomplishments... his work on Niagara Falls, the Panama Canal, projects in South Vietnam, and the restoration of Lake Erie, just to name a few.

## **EARL REYNOLDS**

On November 1st, Mark Bowen/BOI presented *Earl Reynolds, Jr. and His Influence on the Boise Office*, documenting how much the former chairman had to do with that office's genesis and growth. Earl joined the firm in 1947, and opened the BOI office in 1950. The presentation quotes Earl's note, "...purchased 3 good oak chairs for \$10...clients can start coming through the door anytime."

## **MIKE HARRIS**

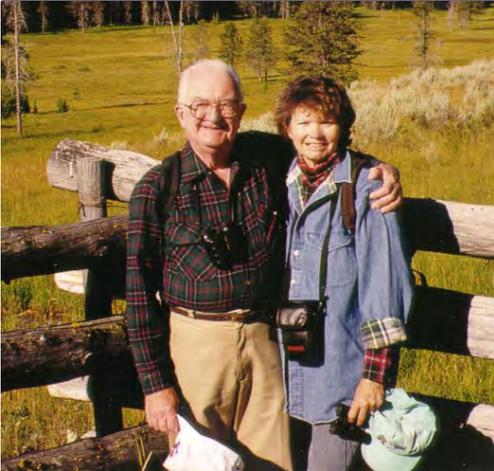
*CONTRIBUTED BY CHARIS JOLLIFFE/SPB*

To celebrate 37 years with CH2M HILL, the Atlanta office honored Mike Harris, Director of Consulting and Design (C&D) for the Government Facilities and Infrastructure (GF&I) Group with two special events. On December 21, after a GF&I C&D meeting at Mike's favorite restaurant, Chequers, everyone shared stories of his early years with CH2M HILL. He was presented with a framed picture depicting major award-winning projects that he skillfully and successfully contracted during his long career.

Mike started with GF&I on October 31, 1972, when he was hired by Ralph Peterson, who was a creative, innovative mentor. "Mike helped me in the early years in Texas (late 80s) when we were just getting started here," says Gordon Koblitz, "and he was great fellow to work with and helped us immensely!"

Mike is a devoted husband, father and friend and we all wish his wife Melanie and he the best of luck as they begin the next chapter of their lives. He is preparing for a comfortable retirement yet continuing as a flex, giving CH2M HILL the "I" every day of the week to grow the enterprise.

Here's a link to Mike's retirement presentation <http://alumni.ch2mhill.com/?page=MikeHarrisRetires>.



*Earl and his wife Jodi*



*Mike Harris is shown at work and play with his wife, Melanie. The day Mike started work at CH2M HILL, Gaylord Perry won the American League Cy Young award*

## Where In The World Are They?

### NEWS FROM FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES

**Carl Ryden: (with a contribution from Mike Doleac/SEA)**

Mike Doleac, VP and CH2M HILL Construction Management Director, received a nice letter from Carl and Holly Ryden who are in an assisted-living facility in the Seattle area. The letter included this great shot of Carl (sporting a CH2M HILL cap) at a Christmas event.



*Carl Ryden in his CH2M cap!*

When asked about Carl, Mike replied, he "is a mechanical engineer who started work for us in CVO in the '40s. I believe he had a two-digit employee number. He moved to SEA in the '60s and retired as a Senior VP Division manager. He is a great guy. The only bad thing he ever did was to hire me in 1972."

Their phone number is 206.268.3110 in case you want to wish them a Happy New Year. Thanks, Carl and Holly!

**Dennis Sandretto ([dsandretto@earthlink.net](mailto:dsandretto@earthlink.net))**

Worked on the PR (Puerto Rico) Program for 10 months; took the family to Israel; installed a bathroom in my basement until getting a call from Blake Jeffcoat asking if I wanted to work in HI for a year (I did); went with my church group to develop a new site for an orphanage in Ecuador (I don't think that I have ever worked so hard physically and intensely in my life!); volunteered to go with Mike Mynhier's church group to assist in rebuilding a home in Biloxi (laying engineered flooring); went to Tennessee for 2 weeks to work at my son-in-law's bio-diesel business (I was the second person on a two-person day shift helping process 36+ tons of turkey fat); drove down to Texas with a truck load of my son's "stuff" and tools for 2½ weeks of 10-hour days to help my son with his new old home remodel; went to fix my pregnant daughter's home in Alabama (yes, I have my first grandchild on the way); went to my daughter's mother-in-law's house for a baby shower, installing a toilet, and helping trace an electrical problem in the house that was needed to help make the baby shower a success; drove down to Texas with another truckload of my son's "stuff" to be best man at his wedding; all the while increasing the usefulness and width of our kitchen Island by 18 inches, including adding 8 cabinet doors and 4 drawers, tearing off the old counter top, and replacing it with new laminate top; and now building a garage for our new low-speed vehicle (a high-class golf cart) while preparing to go back to Alabama for to tear out a hallway ceiling and bathroom tiles, and finish painting the nursery.



*MaryLou and Dennis Sandretto visited Bet She'an, Israel, a town that dates back to the 4th century B.C.E.*



*Dennis Sandretto with darling little Rosa at La Casa de Fe Orphanage in Shell Mera, Ecuador*



*Dennis mixing concrete in Ecuador, where he joined others preparing the site for La Casa de Fe*

What is next? Well I am planning to make a black walnut bedroom set for my son and new daughter-in-law, as well as a trip back to Ecuador in June to help at the orphanage and then go on with my wife to the Galapagos Islands. I took the FEMA Public Assistance Operations training early in the year with the intent to help CH2M HILL with disaster relief through employment using Agile1, and I have indicated a desire to continue working with CH2M HILL on other short-term assignments if there is a mutually beneficial opportunity.

**Jim McKibben ([jimmckibben@att.net](mailto:jimmckibben@att.net))**

I am now the owner of Critical Workflow Solutions LLC, Inc. (at 67 years old!) with two major business process modeling contracts (6 to 8 months of work) with the Bureau of Reclamation. Current project is developing emergency evacuation procedures for their Lower Colorado River Ops Center. Diana and I are on the "work till we drop" retirement plan. I'm still battling with MS but managing to control it OK. Diana is still working. She is spearheading an award-winning school and the district wants her to move to their office, but she wants to stay a 180-day person. Daughter Kelly is getting married in June.

**John Echternach ([jechter@hotmai.com](mailto:jechter@hotmai.com))**

When describing Ireland,] one word comes to mind over all others; wet. Ireland of course has great natural beauty, lovely countryside, rock wall-lined green pasture and the like. It has cold windy rainy weather fairly constantly. People are very friendly and outgoing, ready to engage one in conversation. The pubs are fun, especially after the 2004 smoking ban. Dublin is a lot more grimy than I would have thought. The western areas are wild and rugged. Lots of low-lying rocky mountains, lakes, and rugged sea shore. Great fish chowder available everywhere. Never had better oysters. Guinness fresh from the brewery tastes very different than the product here in the States. It's expensive, mostly because of the Euro trading at 1.43 to the dollar. Frankly, those currencies ought to be at par value.

The roads are another matter. When leaving any major city, motorways are in evidence for the first 40 to 50 kilometers or so. Great roads, divided highways, 4 lanes, well signed and paved. Once out into the countryside, it's horrific. Narrow is not a good enough description. Bumpy, poorly maintained, grass and rock-wall lined everywhere, barely enough room to squeeze by oncoming vehicles, let alone a thing of terror, the oncoming tour bus. Into the hedge or die would be the best description I can muster. So, in sum, if one does a lot of driving (and you can't see the country if you do not), it is a mixture of white knuckles and great views. This is materially worse than the English and Scottish countryside drives. We were on one road in Adare where our outside mirrors on both sides of the car were hitting the hedge at the same time. Brother... Every road goes right through villages in the area. The "bypass" has not been invented in Ireland. However, the tradeoff is being able to see all the little villages, instead of skirting them. Thus short distances between points take a good deal of time to cover. Thatched-roof houses genuinely still exist. We stayed in one castle, which is a hoot. Bring lots of layered clothing combinations. You will use them. Still in all one should go if never there previously. (Editor's note: We wanted to see John's Ireland, but when asked, John replied, We don't do pictures so can't forward any to you Sorry.)



*John and Jean Ann—from the CH Retreat bus trip*

**David Etchart ([dychart@gmail.com](mailto:dychart@gmail.com))**

I left CH2M HILL's IDC subsidiary in 1997 after 30 great years with the CH2M HILL companies with the objective of focusing on a construction industry career. I joined Fluor Corporation and managed two different business units providing EPC services to clients all over the world, including Malaysia, Philippines, Brazil, Iraq, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan, Russia and several other interesting places. I learned a great deal about the different ways to accomplish significant projects across this wide range of rich cultures and peoples, and I learned many good lessons on the common needs and dreams that we all share across this gorgeous planet that we live on.



*David Etchart (far left) and cousins fishing the Deschutes River in 2008*

Among those many lessons, I learned just how fortunate that I had been to start and develop my career in the CH2M HILL environment with its wonderful value system and collaborative style. This value system and the associated genuine concern for my fellow working associates have served me well everywhere that I have worked.

I am wrapping up my active professional career leading a growing Afghan-American company providing logistical and security services to the U.S. military and private clients in Afghanistan and the Middle East. Since I helped the current owner (a Rhodes Scholar Afghan) start the company in 2006, it has grown rapidly and our task is now to manage this growth and put additional structure into its operation. I find, once again, that the collaborative and highly ethical style of my CH2M HILL years to be a model for the company culture we are shaping here.

In planning for upcoming retirement in a few years, Pearl and I have a home in Bend, Oregon and a small home in Italy, located in southeastern Tuscany. After retirement, we plan to split our time between Italy and Oregon enjoying the Italian pace of life and friends, grown children and grandchildren, in the U.S.

**Jose Ignacio Garcia Bengochea ([jgarcia@ch2m.com](mailto:jgarcia@ch2m.com))**

Our Retirees Leader, Gordon Koblitz, has asked me to write some few words on what is keeping me busy these days. He does not know that my wife Carmen and I have 5 married children and 12 grandchildren spread all over the world, from Doha, Qatar, in the Persian Gulf to Claremont and L.A., California. Most of the grandchildren are also spread all over, working or in college. One of the granddaughters graduated from Harvard in Boston, had her graduate work done at the International University of Singapore, married in Helsinki, Finland (fortunately in the summer, other-wise we would have never attended the ceremonies), got her first job in London with Shell Oil and shortly after got transferred to Houston, Texas, where she lives with her husband, an international attorney.

Carmen and I try to maintain contact with all of the above plus a very close nephew and niece, both married and with children in Jacksonville, Florida. All our children and their cousins grew up in Gainesville but now only meet in Crescent Beach by St. Augustine, where we have an ocean-front condo and our nephew and niece each have theirs very close to ours. This activity takes part of my retiree time. The other parts are consumed by CH2M part-time work for some old clients, by managing our own personal things and taking care of our health. We note that our previous annual travels and the part-time work at CH2M are decreasing and taking care of our health is significantly increasing.



*Ignacio's wife, Carmen, is fourth from left with sun glasses and Hawaiian blouse. She is surrounded by their youngest son, their oldest daughter, and oldest grandson (behind Carmen). Ignacio is third on the right. "I used to be 6' 2", he says, "but I have grown down to 5' 8" in my retirement!"*

## WHAT A NICE 76TH BIRTHDAY PARTY!

PHOTO AND COMMENTS PROVIDED BY BOB CHAPMAN



Some very special friends gathered to celebrate Gene Suhr's 76th birthday on January 26th where they enjoyed a great meal topped off by Babs' home-baked Granny Smith apple pie. Bob Chapman and Les Wierson joined Gene's church and PEO retired friends, plus parish priest, Father Joe (immediately behind Gene in the picture, Les to his left and Bob, kneeling), to celebrate and swap stories.

## RAY TOPPING RETIRES

TRIBUTE PROVIDED BY JACQUE RAST/DEN

After 28 years with CH2M HILL, Ray Topping has decided to retire and pursue other career interests. Ray has made so many contributions to CH2M HILL including, most notably, his 12 years as Director of Design and Construction Management Services that evolved from Design and Construction Operations (DCO) to the Engineering Design Group (EDG) in CH2M HILL's EPC (Engineer-Procure-Construct) organization. During his tenure as Director of DCO and EDG, Ray led consolidation of design and construction management services into a collaborative group. In his role as Director of DCO and EDG, Ray also served on the firm's Global Operations Team.

In addition, Ray was a key contributor to CH2M HILL's Dam, Levee, and Impoundment Policy Review Committee.

Ray has served as Regional Manager for both the Oregon Pacific Region and the South-central Region. He also supported our international operations, including projects in the UK, Latin America, and the Middle East. Recently, Ray contributed to the development of CH2M HILL's Enterprise Program Management Framework.

During his career, Ray held several leadership roles in professional and community associations. Currently, he sits on the Board of Directors for FIATECH – IFully Integrated and Automated Technologies. This consortium of EPCs, contractors, owners/operators, academicians, and government agencies is dedicated to accelerating the vision of fully integrating and automating technologies.

Thank you Ray for the many contributions to CH2M HILL over the past 28 years. We wish you all the best in the future!

## **LENNY BURNS RETIRES**

*CONTRIBUTED BY PETE PRIMM (SR. VP, CHEMICALS PROJECT OPERATIONS)*



*Lenny Burns*

In 1974, Lenny Burns joined the Mechanical Engineering Department of Lockwood Greene's Atlanta office when it had barely 100 people. Over the next 20+ years, he was instrumental in growing the office to more than 500 employees and served in many positions, from project engineer to senior project manager. In the mid-90s, Lenny moved to St. Louis to start that office, which became highly successful. In 2002, he was asked to move back to Atlanta to assume the role of VP/Manager of Operations. In 2008, he was asked to relocate to Singapore as the Chemicals VP/Regional Business Group Manager.

In 2009, Lenny shifted to part time where he continued his association with Asia and other key clients for the business group. Now in 2010, he has become a flex employee, offering to assist the business group and the enterprise any way he can.

Lenny is a prime example of value that can be derived from someone who has spent more than 35 years growing knowledge and relationships in our business. He has worked in many sectors, from industrial to federal, both domestically and internationally. CH2M HILL recognized this, and thanks to his willingness to continue in other ways, allowed him to phase out of his career instead of just letting the value he brings go away. It has worked out well for both parties.

## DUANE BARNES RETIRES

CONTRIBUTED BY SHAUN GREER/BOI

Duane Barnes started in our Corvallis office in November 1971. He then accepted a promotion as the Boise office Graphics Manager. Duane's last day with the firm was December 31st. Celebration included a Boise office-wide gathering to celebrate Duane's 38-year dedication to CH2M HILL.



*Among those celebrating Duane Barnes's retirement were (L to R) Chris Curtis, Kevin Bartlett, John Hatten, Mike Kutz, Clay Cirino, Duane, and Shaun Greer.*



*Duane Barnes started in CVO the same month that DB Cooper parachuted from Northwest Airlines Flight 727 with \$200,000*

For those who were not able to attend, you missed some great stories and laughs from Duane and co-workers. Duane explained how technology in graphics has changed since he joined CH2M HILL. Specifically how he started out using linen, then vellum, then 2-D CAD, and now we are moving into 3-D CAD. Duane was presented with a Reward and Recognition Award for his service to our St. Luke's Hospital client who he has served for the last several years.

The evening was filled with more laughs, stories and smiles at Duane's favorite downtown restaurant. A small group of CH2M HILL co-workers who have worked with Duane primarily on St. Luke's Hospital projects attended the dinner. A special appearance (straight from an 18-hour flight) was made by Mike Kutz, who has been serving on a CH2M HILL Afghanistan assignment and who has mentored and worked very closely with Duane over the last 14 years.

Congratulations, Duane. CH2M HILL will miss you!

Here's a link to Duane's retirement activity presentation:  
<http://alumni.ch2mhill.com/?page=DuaneBarnesRetires>.

## JIM HAWLEY RETIRES

CONTRIBUTED BY JOSH CROWE/BTR

Jim Hawley/GNV recently retired after almost 30 years of service.

In 2007, Jim transitioned from the Knoxville SSO Program to the Baton Rouge (BTR) SSO Program. Jim served in both locations as program manager, guiding the planning and implementation of two multimillion-dollar sewer rehabilitation efforts. Jim also provided, and continues to provide, mentoring and leadership to the current management team.

Jim's post-retirement role on the Baton Rouge program is two-fold. He serves as the project manager for the program's major redesign of the South Wastewater Treatment Plant. The project involves the consolidation and closure of an existing plant and re-routing flow to the South Plant. The South Plant capacity is being substantially increased as part of the project. In addition, Jim continues to provide leadership consulting and mentorship to the management team.

Jim did not want a big party, so we honored his request. To celebrate his retirement, he was the guest of honor at an intimate dinner gathering in Baton Rouge (BTR) with several members of the program leadership team who worked with Jim over the past several years.

## RON SKABO RETIRES

TO RANAE DECKER/DEN



*Ron and his family; wife Verona; granddaughter Reanna, daughter Randine, and daughter Kari*

Ron Skabo, Principal Corrosion and Materials Engineer, has retired from CH2M HILL on December 31, 2009. Ron joined the firm in 1987 as Discipline Director of the Corrosion Group. His entire career with CH2M HILL was in the Denver office. "Developing a Corrosion Awareness" was a series of training classes developed by Ron and presented to many employees in several offices throughout the USA. This training was also presented to water utilities in Ukraine, as part of a USAid project.

For 10 years, Ron wrote and distributed monthly technical articles called "Korrosion Korner". These monthly articles covered a broad range of subject matter covering corrosion and materials. The entire series is still available to employees from the Virtual Office.

Ron's retirement ends a 50-year career in the engineering, chemical, and petro-chemical industries exclusively focused on corrosion control and materials selection. During that period, he was active in NACE International (corrosion technology), ASTM, AWWA, and SSPC (coating society). He recently served as an editor in the re-write of MOP 8 by the Water Environment Federation.

Visit the link below for extensive pictures of Ron's party, life and well wishes from folks around the country (<http://alumni.ch2mhill.com/?page=RonSkaboRetires>).

## News of Interest

### **CVO SIGNS LEASE IN HP'S BUILDING 10**

*(By MATT NEZNANSKI, GAZETTE-TIMES REPORTER)*

After 25 years in its Walnut Boulevard offices, Corvallis-founded engineering firm CH2M HILL is moving. Across town.

The company announced that it will relocate to Hewlett-Packard's Building 10 and move all of its 375 local employees to the new space. The move from the current offices at 2300 N.W. Walnut Blvd. won't take place until September.

"Our lease is up and, like any business, we took a look at our options," said company Vice President Elizabeth French, who manages the firm's Corvallis office. "It turned out the HP option was a better option."

French said the 78,000 square feet of office space CH2M HILL will lease from HP offers more flexibility and more modern options for how offices are laid out. While the company technically has more space at its Walnut Boulevard offices, an open floor plan at the HP campus will provide room to expand the company's laboratory space.

CH2M HILL labs perform soil, air and water analysis as part of the company's building projects.

According to Cushman and Wakefield, the company brokering office space on the HP Corvallis campus, HP has more than 200,000 square feet on three floors available for lease. In 2008, HP donated use of all of its 80,000-square-foot Building 11 office space to microtechnology and nanoscience research at Oregon State University.

## Notes on a Remarkable Project

*By LYN LARSON/CVO*

Ray Topping gave a fascinating brown bag on our work on the Panama Canal upgrade that is currently in the design stage. The construction contracts were awarded in July, with a Spanish-led consortium that includes Montgomery Watson Harza outbidding two other contenders, one Spanish and the other U.S. led (this one included Bechtel). Although the Owner is the primary lead, CH2M HILL has a shared "salt-and-pepper" role on the project as program advisor and administrator of their risk management program. We developed their program controls system using the Project Management Information System (PMIS) off of Primavera P3.

Ray was in Panama in November to review the bid documents, and returned in May to participate in scenario-based training whereby various events were designed in order to stimulate thinking on how management will communicate and address program issues that might arise. These included such things as incorrect pay estimates, equipment that is damaged en route to the site, a warehouse fire, landslides, extreme weather, storage problems, and deaths and injuries.

The original Panama Canal was built in 1914 and hasn't changed substantially since, relying on gravity to move the water through the locks. The current project is being driven by the need to accommodate the super-sized container ships that deliver freight world-wide. The old locks are too narrow, leaving only 2 feet of clearance on either side of the ships it was designed to carry; that is, the largest battleship in the U.S. fleet. Both the old and new locks will be used when the project is finished.

Currently about 14,000 ships go through the Canal each year, 24 hours a day. These include some military vessels. It takes 54 million gallons of water to complete one passage through the Canal, and 8 to 10 minutes to fill a lock. Passage takes 8 to 12 hours (it takes about 1½ hours to drive across the Isthmus of Panama at this location).

In response to a question, Ray said the public is concerned about the revenue stream. Even though tolls will be increased by 50 percent over a 3-year period, the economic slowdown has decreased the Canal's throughput by about 15 percent. There is not much controversy over the buildings, or environmental concerns. However, whereas the Canal had been operating independently of Panamanian environmental laws, that will change once the Canal is fully operational.

An interesting note is that the captain of any ship going through the Panama Canal is required to relinquish his piloting authority to an experienced Panamanian captain, to avoid having ships hit the sides of the locks.

For more details on the project, search Google/USA Today/Panama Canal for an article that ran recently. Ray also recommended *The Path Between the Seas: The Creation of the Panama Canal, 1870-1914* by David McCullough.

## The Fascinating Complexities of the London Olympics

BY LYN LARSON/CVO

Jerry Morgan, a staff architect on TDY to London, gave a riveting noon presentation on his work at the London Olympics project site. He has mostly been involved with the Velodrome and Aquatic Centre venues, but in 2010 he'll be the lead design manager for the entire park. He began his presentation by describing the CLM group's organization, which includes CH2M HILL, Laing O'Rourke (a large UK contractor), and Mace

(project management specialists). CLM is responsible for day-to-day interfacing with, and regular reporting to, the client (Olympic Development Authority); establishing procedures; and distributing work requirements to the various venue teams.

Priority themes for the overall project are sustainability, security, technology, health and safety (which is huge in the UK), and constructability. The standards for sustainability alone are high, and they are contractual. This project is intended to set the bar worldwide for sustainability, and to that end the UK is subsidizing the facilities for a 50-year legacy period. Sustainability goals include:

- 40% water savings at every venue compared to comparable projects (for example, rainwater harvesting, waterless urinals, using pool filter backwash water for toilet flushing)
- 15% energy savings beyond Britain's energy code
- 50% of materials delivered to the site must come by rail or water (a waterway was dredged and widened in order to meet this benchmark)
- Use 25% recycled materials on the project
- Recycle 95% of the materials onsite (240 buildings were demolished in site prep; most of the material was recycled)
- Responsible resourcing (contractors must track and document the sustainability of the materials they use)
- BREEAM (like LEED) excellent rating
- Use FSC-certified timber
- No HFC or PVC used (they are using a phthalate-free PVC shell on the Aquatic Centre roof that has never been tested in such an application before)
- Accessibility for the disabled
- Inclusivity (community involvement, local hiring as much as possible, consider race, gender, etc.) All this must be documented.

In addition, limited parking on this constrained site is meant to encourage the use of public transportation, buses, and trains rather than private automobiles.

## **AQUATIC CENTRE**

The remarkable architecture of the main building has been dubbed "The Ray" because of its resemblance to a manta ray. There's not a single straight piece in the entire roof. "Wings" on either side of the main structure expand the seating to 17,500 for the Games. Sweeping lines characterize the entry walkways approaching the building, as well as the remarkable cantilevered diving boards, which required 10-foot-deep foundations. The floors around the pools are heated. Low-velocity air will be blown into the building, but cooling to the top of the stands will be provided by natural ventilation. This meant that 74 exhaust fans

could be jettisoned from the design. Because the pools are so broad, sensors in the floor will alert the lifeguards if an object remains on the pool bottom for longer than 10 seconds. Broadcast lighting in the building needed to accommodate cameras trained on the finish line where split-second times are recorded. An extra £2M was spent for better lighting.

The Aquatic Centre has been designed as a “legacy” building (along with the Stadium, Velodrome, Olympic Village housing and the Broadcast/Media Centre) in that it will be modified after the Games and will remain in the community to regenerate the economy in this poor part of London. The “wings” on either side of the building will be dismantled and seating will be reduced to 2,500 (the excess seats will be sold, and may end up in Rio for their Games!). All connections are bolted. No welding has been done so that the wings can be removed for the legacy building configuration. Eleven rented elevators will also be removed at that time. The pools have movable floors for post-Games flexibility.

Soil contaminated from hundreds of years of heavy industrial use had to be excavated to 4 feet, “washed,” and returned to the site (none was hauled offsite). Three prehistoric human remains were found, as well as coins dating back to 335 BC!

## VELODROME

The Velodrome, which Jerry worked on initially, is another legacy venue that will remain as-is after the Games are over (bicycle racing is very popular with the British). Preliminary geotechnical site work revealed that there was unexploded ordnance on the site, a remnant of World War II German shelling. Every one of the 1,100 pilings needed to have rods sent down to probe before drilling.

## Recent Advances in the Panama Canal Project

In December 2009, the Panama Canal Authority will receive the proposals for the second most important project of the Expansion Program: the fourth and last excavation contract for the Pacific Access Channel (PAC-4), that will connect the new Pacific locks to the Gaillard Cut, the narrowest point of the inter-ocean way.

The PAC-4 includes the excavation of approximately 27 million cubic meters of material and the clearing of 80 hectares, in order to remove potentially hazardous Munitions and Explosives of Concern (MECs) that remained from the United States military presence in Panama.

The PAC-4 also contemplates the construction of the 2.3-km Borinquen dam, which will separate the new access channel from the Miraflores lake, located between the Pedro Miguel and Miraflores locks.

Once the PAC-4 is awarded, the Panama Canal Authority will have 97 percent of the Expansion Program contracts in execution.



This percentage includes the Canal's Atlantic entrance navigational channel dredging contract.

This contract includes deepening the approach channel to 15.5 meters below mean low water level, which will require dredging some 14.8 million cubic meters and excavating an additional 800,000 cubic meters of material.

An area of approximately 13.8 kilometers will be dredged to widen the Atlantic access channel from its 198 meters to a minimum 225 meters and the north access channel to the new locks on the Atlantic side to a minimum 218 meters.

This contract was awarded on September 28 to Belgian company Jan de Nul n.v, for \$89.6 million.



Meanwhile, the dredging of the Pacific entrance navigational channel, executed by Belgian company Dredging International, reported a 50 percent progress by November 2009, while the dredging works in Gatun Lake and Gaillard Cut had a 23 percent progress.

The two first dry excavation contracts for the Pacific Access Channel are on their final phase, reporting a 98 percent and 95 percent progress, respectively, by November 2009.

The third phase of the dry excavation works reached a 43 percent progress by the same time period.

After the ACP awarded the contract for the design and construction of the third set of locks to Grupo Unidos por el Canal (GUPC, by its acronym is Spanish) in July 2009, the consortium has submitted their work plans in order to proceed with the equipment mobilization to the expansion site. GUPC also held training courses on quality, safety, environment and program management.

## Historical Lockwood Greene engineering records on display at Smithsonian

From January 19 to March 31, the Archives Center at the [National Museum of American History](#), Smithsonian Institution, will display "Recent Acquisitions: Selections from The Lockwood Greene Engineering Records, 1871-2004."

The exhibit includes engineering drawings, meeting records, and financial documents that help preserve the history of American engineering. (CH2M HILL acquired Lockwood Greene in 2003.)

If you are in the Washington, D.C., area during this timeframe, stop by the museum to view the exhibit. The National Museum of American History is located at 12th and Constitution Avenue, and the exhibit is outside the Archives Center's entrance on the first floor.

For more information about the collection, contact document and facility manager David Rush/SPB, ([david.rush@ch2m.com](mailto:david.rush@ch2m.com)) who catalogued all of the artifacts into the rare collection now on display at the Smithsonian.

## Painting & Drawing Live In Italy

**E. Benno Philippson**  
**June 26 – July 10, 2010**  
**La Romita School of Art**  
**Terni in Umbria, Italy**



*Benno Philippson*

**The Course:** Benno Philippson, retired IDC architect and watercolorist, has developed a thoughtful system for showing you how to prepare to paint by examining and sketching the underlying structure of what you see, so that you are ready to complete larger works in the studio. His travel journals that he will share with you are jewels of plein air sketches, tiny watercolors, value and gesture studies as well as journal entries. In the richness of the Umbrian landscape, in a different location every day, Benno will support artists of a wide variety of skill levels to find their own way. Demos on perspective, composition and form, the figure in the painting, the use of light, color and scale will include techniques specifically for the traveler who wants to paint on site. Over two weeks the neophyte artist will find a way of seeing and capturing on paper that new understanding. The experienced artist will be supported into expanding personal directions in painting. The media of instruction will be pencil, ink and watercolor. Benno will share his own methods for journaling that include drawing and painting with anyone interested. Participants who prefer to work in acrylics or pastels will still find what Benno teaches to be of value.

**The Setting:** The Italian hill towns of Umbria, beginning at La Romita located in the hills above Terni, 100 miles north of Rome

**The School:** La Romita School of Art, a non-profit summer art school founded more than forty years ago, presents a series of





two-week workshops from late spring until late October. Founded by Enza and Paola Quargnali, it is now run by Enza and her husband, Ben Benson. Edmund Zimmerman is the director on site.

The setting is a former monastery renovated for its current use as an art school. Students typically come from the United States, Great Britain, Canada and Australia. All instruction is in English.

**Meals:** Almost all meals are included, with an occasional lunch in a town we are visiting for a full day. The La Romita chefs are superb, keeping very much to the Umbrian tradition for fine cuisine.

**A Typical Itinerary:** [the actual plan may vary] Every day you go to a new place to draw and paint.

- Day 1* Arrival at the Rome international airport for transport as a group to Terni and La Romita.
- Day 2* San Gemini (medieval hilltop jewel)
- Day 3* Carsulae (ruins of a Roman town)
- Day 4* Assisi (mystical home of St. Francis)
- Day 5* Orvieto (the incredible Cathedral)
- Day 6* Stroncone (classic walled town)
- Day 7* Civit  di Banoreggio (a Rick Steves favorite)
- Day 8* Scheggino (riverside known for trout and truffles)
- Day 9* Todi (a favorite with US artists)
- Day 10* Labro (A river spills down the hill like frosting)
- Day 11* Villa Lante (the perfect renaissance garden)
- Day 12* Perugia (capital of the Etruscan confederation)
- Day 13* Spoleto (home of the Festival of Two Worlds)
- Day 14* Valle San Martino (tiny, perched on a mountain top)
- Day 15* Morning departure

Many of the towns are not on the tourist route, so you can see Italian country life in Umbria exactly as it takes place every day.

**Costs:** For 2010 each session is \$3450. The cost includes room and almost all meals, all instruction and painting excursions. Airfare is not included.

### **Benno Philippon: A Short Bio**

Benno graduated from the University of Illinois with a bachelor's degree in architecture, a masters degree in urban planning and nearly enough credits in art for a second major. He has been drawing and painting since childhood—ever since he could hold a pencil or a brush. His works are held in private collections in the United States, Europe, Great Britain, New Zealand and Japan.

He has taught art to architecture students and still teaches third graders about architecture each spring in the Architecture in the Schools program in Portland, Oregon. He regularly shows his work at the Village Gallery of Arts in Portland and has shown in group and one man shows in the Pacific Northwest for more than three decades. He is a life member of Oregon Watercolor Society. Benno is organized, systematic, relaxed, gentle in his critiques and generous with his time and experience. A past participant at La Romita, he was delighted to join the teaching faculty for 2008 and now for 2010.

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Website where you can see more of Benno's artwork:  
[www.gaidurhamarts.com](http://www.gaidurhamarts.com) [look for Benno's Pages at the site]

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