

# CH2MHILL® ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

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## Publisher's Note



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Greetings everyone,

I hope everyone is doing well and your start for 2022 is good. Omicron is not helping, however, with most folks vaccinated and many “boosted” now, the outlook for the rest of the year is encouraging.

I am keeping this message short and focusing on several major items. Our CHAA has evolved amazingly well this last year and has far exceeded where we thought we’d be by now. Please take the time to read Rick (our “Prez”) Luebbers’ column (page 14) for an insight about the depth and extent of how we are serving our members and all alumni, including plans for the coming year. Another other exciting (breaking) news is the new CHAA/OSU Alliance that Bob Chapman is leading (page 20). Our new renewed webpage is highlighted by Don Marske (page 18)...you’ll love it!

Please continue to share your updates, stories, hobbies and leads for other alumni to contact for their news. Remember that no story is too big or small for our newsletter (that’s why we have the “Tidbits” section). Same for feedback, suggestions, kudos and concerns (if any). Our goal is to celebrate everyone’s career and life as a member of the CH2M HILL family. Thanks also to those of you who let us know of the loss of any dear friends, colleagues, and spouses. It’s a sad but important part of our newsletter. We couldn’t do this without your help!

Again, a special thanks to our entire CHAA team for their efforts, especially our superb newsletter production duo: Angie and Sarah; Don, our CHAA treasurer, mailing list guru and helper for getting all our new members on board; and Dan, our webmaster extraordinaire who keeps us open for business and visible to all!

Best wishes to for continued good health and safe travels in 2022!

*Gordon*

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## Retirees/Alumni News

### OUR MOVE TO TEXAS

By Stanley Smith ([ssmithnw@comcast.net](mailto:ssmithnw@comcast.net))

Greetings Y'all!

Since I retired from the Sacramento Office of CH2M in 2000, Pat and I have been Californians, Oregonians, Washingtonians, and now TEXANS.

We moved from Sacramento to Bend Oregon in 2000. The hunting, fishing, golf and snow skiing were great and I worked for the City of Bend as a temporary, part-time employee for 4 years, training and mentoring their engineering staff in the design, contracting and implementation of numerous City projects.



*Pat and Stan with son Daryl and grandsons Josh and Matthew at Lake Padden, Bellingham, Washington.*

In 2007 we moved to Bellingham, Washington, to be near our son and his family, which included our two grandsons (only grandchildren we have). Bellingham had great summers and the nearby North Cascades provided many high mountain hiking experiences and fantastic winter snow skiing for the “over the hill gang.” Pat and I were heavily involved in our church and being a trustee occupied 1 to 3 days a week of my time over a 11-year period.

Near the end of April of 2021, my son and his wife called and informed us they were considering moving and wanted to know if we would move with them. We said sure, just find a good location. For the next month, we evaluated communities in Idaho, Utah, Arizona, and Texas. After they took a 4-day scouting trip to Texas, they selected the Texas Hill Country, north of San Antonio. They were impressed with the warmer climate, school systems, and friendly culture.

The hot housing market greatly facilitated our move. Our son bought a place in Texas and sold their Bellingham home in less than a week. We sold our home to a friend of a friend and didn't even have to list it. The biggest challenge was finding a moving company that could move our household goods within 6-8 weeks. Movers were extremely busy due to the hot housing market.

Our kids moved to Texas in mid-July and we followed on August 20. It was a 5-day trip to drive our two heavily loaded vehicles the 2,300 miles to Texas. We hadn't found a new home yet so we stayed with our kids. Within a week Pat found us a place online in the same development as our kids. After participating in a bidding frenzy, our offer was accepted on Pat's birthday, September 2, and we moved in on October 13.

Our new home is located in Vintage Oaks, a 3,900-acre development about 8 miles west of New Braunfels. We are on a 1-acre lot loaded with live oak trees with a Texas style ranch house. (That seems appropriate if you are going to all that trouble to move to Texas.)



*Stan and Pat at their first Texas high school football game.*



*First BBQ at the Texas ranch house.*

New Braunfels and much of the nearby Hill Country were settled by a large number of German immigrants starting in 1845. The countryside retains substantial German influence including wineries, German restaurants and festivals. The Wurstfest held in New Braunfels in November was attended by 250,000 over a 10-day period.

We are enjoying our new life as Texans and our oldest grandson has already been accepted into Texas Tech's engineering program. Looks like I will have to find new hobbies and interests as high mountain hikes and snow skiing aren't readily available. We have found out that we have a half dozen relatives in Texas we have either never met or haven't seen in 50 years.

If you have any reason to be in the San Antonio area or want to visit the Hill Country, let us know.

## MY LIFELONG HOBBY

By Rob Norton ([RNorton@preappinc.com](mailto:RNorton@preappinc.com))



Hello everyone! It's Rob Norton here. I worked at CH2M from 1969 until 1990. As a Salem, Oregon, teenager in the 1960s, I shared the car crazy culture alongside nearly all of my classmates. On Friday and Saturday nights, we "cruised the gut," which was a specific route through several hamburger joints. Always curious how things work, technically oriented, and having a father who was an auto mechanic contributed to my being branded as a "gearhead."

During a career in civil engineering, I was never without some kind of car-related project at home. Now retired, I stay busy fabricating things in my shop and helping fellow hot-rodders and budding gearheads with their projects.

Since retiring, Gretchen and I enjoy traveling in an RV and have built a home with room for my avocation and her horses. At 75, I am still doing something fun almost every day! Though leaving CH2M after 20 years to pursue other adventures, I cherish the memories of my time there and feel blessed to enjoy the many enduring friendships acquired during that time.

And finally, thanks so much to those alumni who carry forward the legacy of CH2M. I sincerely enjoy the newsletters and hope to one day attend a reunion.

Click [here](#) to read more about Rob's story.



*Rob and wife Gretchen.*



*Rob's 1935 Ford coupe that he has kept stock except for making it safe, reliable, and comfortable to drive.*

## MENTORING AND CALLING THE SHOTS

By Steve Newton ([refstevo75@gmail.com](mailto:refstevo75@gmail.com))

I joined the firm in May of 1978 in the Montgomery office. I was given the opportunity to work on many interesting and challenging projects, including the Love Canal remediation in New York and, more recently, the Duck River dam project in Alabama. I served as a subject matter expert on protecting water quality during construction. While with CH2M, in 1999, I developed an Alabama training seminar series for the Qualified Credentialed Inspector program and continue to be the sole presenter, recently surpassing my 300th 8-hour seminar.

I helped open up the Birmingham office in the mid-1990s and retired in May 2018. I also opened a Birmingham office for an Alabama-based engineering firm, TTL, Inc. I still coordinate with Jacobs on mutual opportunities. In addition, Alabama Governor Kay Ivey recently appointed me to a 5-year term as a Commissioner on the Alabama Surface Mining Commission. I continue enjoy working with and mentoring young engineers. I frequently speak at ASCE and AWWA conferences

My wife, Dottie, and I live in Vestavia Hills, Alabama (suburb of Birmingham). We have three wonderful children and their spouses along with 8 grandchildren, all near us. We are so blessed.

After 46 of officiating high school football, this is my last season. I am part of the Southeastern Conference Collaborative Instant Replay group so that is where I spend my Saturdays during football season.



*Steve and wife Dottie.*



*Steve serving as referee.*

## FANTASY FOOTBALL MAYHEM

By Roger Haines ([rhaines123@bellsouth.net](mailto:rhaines123@bellsouth.net))

Today, playing fantasy football is easy-peasy!

Our Gainesville (+) league just completed its 34th season, and none of the participants ever saw or even talked directly to one another! Our 10 (sometimes 12) members are scattered all over the eastern US, and all of the gory details — up-front drafting, scoring, rosters, player transactions, standings, etc. — were handled instantly and flawlessly (at no charge) by ESPN's online platform!

But when this league started, back in 1988, things were very different. All the participants were CH2M employees, working out of the Gainesville office. We saw each other every day. When it was time for our league draft, or our weekly free-agent adds/drops, we'd all assemble, at someone's house or during lunch hour at the office. Scores, stats, standings, etc., were all done manually (yes, pencil and paper). For information, there were no websites or podcasts or fantasy football shows or the like. Instead, there were one or two fantasy football magazines, published months before the season started!



*Roger Haines, son Benjamin, and grandson Cameron.*

Finally, sometime in the late 1990s(?), after computers became reasonably available at the office, we acquired a fantasy football software program called Couch Potato. So far back, it ran on a 3.5-inch floppy disk. We still had to enter data, but it did a lot of the rest of it. Then, in 2009, with lots of worry and only after a big debate among the owners, we pulled the trigger and went fully online.

This season, our league had 10 teams. Two of the “owners” are current Jacobs employees (Jeff Peuser and Brad Irmen), three are retired (Bob Bergman, Kent Cori, and myself), one is a former employee still working (Paul Dekeyser), two are offspring (Paul’s son and Kent’s daughter), and two are friends of owners. Only four live in Gainesville. Kent and I have played in this league all 34 years! Another (retiree Dave Herr), who had played from the start, had to miss the last 2 years, but says he’ll be back next season. Amazingly, Paul has been playing this game even longer! Before the GNV league began, Paul had been part of a league in the WDC office, and he had a hand in getting GNV going.

Over the years, I’d guess that 30–40 folks have played in this league — most (but not all) of them CH2M/Jacobs. Apologies, because I know this is far from complete...the CH2M/ Jacobs list from the past includes Jim Parrish, Bill McElroy, Dean Bedford, Clay Sykes, Jim Lozier, Martin Brungard, Jeff Nash, Tim Ptak, Tim Svatos, Kevin Flanagan, Tom Standridge, David Crown, Bob Bailey, Bob Wessels, Rick Lecznar, David Fitzgerald, Matt Shurtliff, Bob Marmon, and

Alan Hinchman. I must also add the infamous co-owner duo of Kirsten Horton and Pilar Doran (current GNV office manager), who unabashedly stated that they assembled their starting lineup each week based on “which players had the best butts.”

I know these guys will forgive me for sharing a couple of memorable (some say legendary) stories:

- To this day, we have a weekly award, named after Bob Bailey, called the “Closest-to-Zero Award.” It goes to the team with the lowest score. It’s named after Bob because, in one of the early seasons, his team (Bailey’s Ballerinas) somehow managed to score ZERO points!
- One year, we gathered for our preseason draft at Kent Cori’s house. That night, Jim Parrish turned in a truly spectacular set of draft-night gaffes. First, he picked on Kent’s dog, who only had three legs. Then he dumped a beverage on Kent’s VCR tape player. Lastly – Jim was clearly not on his game that night – he drafted a deceased player!

Part of the fun has been a weekly newsletter (results and trash talk), plus routine banter among the owners. Another aspect that’s pretty fun is the owners’ team name selections. Here are a few of my favorites over the years: Berserkers, Hags-to-Richie, Celtic Whores, Sweet Queens, Well-Hung Ditkas, Asesinos Suramericanos (look it up), Cartel Babes, Total Hardness, Star-Bellied Sneetches, and Shady Acres Laces Out.

This silly, 90%-luck game has brought fun and camaraderie to those who’ve participated, and it fosters a bunch of valued connections among former colleagues, friends, and even family. We’re eagerly looking forward to next season, and year 35!

## BUILDING MUD MOUNTAIN DAM

By Art Storbo ([astorbo@nwlinc.com](mailto:astorbo@nwlinc.com))

One's engineering career doesn't have to end with retirement. In May 2021, as a board member of the Enumclaw Plateau Historical Society Museum (EPHSM), I was contacted by staff at Mud Mountain Dam (MMD). MMD lies in the Cascade foothills 4 miles from the Enumclaw farm where I grew up. Their question: Did I know anyone or any outfit that could digitize some old construction photos? These were 8x10 black and white prints, taken between 1937 and 1948, with good detail – 4,000 of them. This was an opportunity I couldn't pass up, so I said yes, I can do that. I began working for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers under a volunteer service agreement. No pay, but a great learning opportunity, and EPHSM would receive a copy of the digitals to bolster their historical collection.



*Mud Mountain Dam, upstream side.*



*Art hard at work digitizing old photos.*

After 45 years with CH2M, I'd get to work on a dam project. In addition, I'd learn about the complex geology in the MMD area, something I had puzzled over since 2017 when I developed a brochure for the Ice Age Floods Institute featuring Ice Age geology in the Puget Sound basin.

As of mid-December 2021, I am half done with the project, having digitized over 2,000 photos. I expect to complete the work by May 2022, and later in 2022 I plan to create a photo exhibit of dam construction for the EPHSM. Altogether, this has been a very interesting project to round out my engineering career.

P.S. I received CoE permission to use these photos, not just at the museum, but in other situations that contribute to CoE's public outreach goals.

Editor's Note: A more complete story of Art's work and a description of the construction of the dam, including some amazing photos, can be found [here](#) on the CHAA website.

## ENGINEERING SHORT STORIES

By Kathy Freas ([kefreas1@outlook.com](mailto:kefreas1@outlook.com))



Hello from northern New Mexico, Land of Enchantment and green chile. I love reading everyone's retirement stories, and especially enjoy the photos of fishing expeditions. So many of you fellow retirees have been very active in your retirement, pursuing dreams that you had throughout your career years and finding new ones.

When I went to full time retirement in 2016, I also began to look around for something exciting to do. My second career had to be much like life at CH2M: hard work, fun, making a difference. Specifically, I wanted to help kids understand the wonderful experiences life that has to offer if they are willing to take on opportunities without fear.

I decided to combine my love of writing with my life adventures, some of which were at CH2M, to create short stories that encourage kids to pursue lives in science and engineering. The stories are based on my experiences before and while with the company; I am not the protagonist in any of them. In one story, a young scientist is stranded with two colleagues on an island in the Straits of Magellan off the coast of Chile. Sunny beaches combine with sleet storms at the tops of the islands—within minutes of each other. The team is running out of food with no way to contact the mainland. This is a tale of great fun, hard work, and a bit of angst while we wait for a fishing boat to rescue us (it's also true—the fishing boat arrived, though three days late).

Another takes place in the Middle East. The same (but much older) scientist learns to appreciate the fun and hard work of sharing the technical capabilities that a world class engineering firm offers to solve complex agricultural, environmental, and drinking water problems.

It turns out that writing fiction is nothing like technical writing, so the experience, while lots of fun, is hard work. With any luck, some of these stories will make it into the hands of kids who are looking for a future in science and engineering that includes fun, hard work, and making a difference.

## PROJECT RENDERING ART

By Robert Kinkead ([rkink7@gmail.com](mailto:rkink7@gmail.com))



I'm a forester by education; but in 1960 became unhappy in my work, so I took some drawings I'd done to Clair Hill's office. Clair hired me as a computer/draftsman, mainly, I think, because he had a soft spot in his heart for disillusioned foresters, since he had been one himself! I began drawing pictures on the side, of pump stations and minor projects for some of the engineers. As the company grew with the CH2M merger, so did the demand for pictorials; and soon they were paying me for it!

I also did cartoons and caricatures celebrating project events.

Click [here](#) to read the full story about Bob's amazing drawings.



*Sacramento River Bridge on Bend Ferry Road, Tehama County, California.*



## POST-RETIREMENT: WHAT KIND OF STUFF SHOULD WE DO?

By Jerry Anderson ([jerry.l.anderson.11@gmail.com](mailto:jerry.l.anderson.11@gmail.com))



Most of my professional career at CH2M involved drinking water projects. Water For People was established in 1991 by the American Water Works Association when CH2M's Ken Miller helped found the organization and served as the first president, so I was attracted to this organization's work early on.

In 2003, I joined a small group of other Water For People supporters and traveled to India to visit several Water For People projects. After that experience, I was sold on the need for safe drinking water as a first priority goal for any developing community.

After retirement from CH2M in 2014, I began checking on opportunities to volunteer in Louisville, Kentucky, where we live. One opportunity for volunteer work was obvious – the

WaterStep organization, a nonprofit headquartered in Louisville.

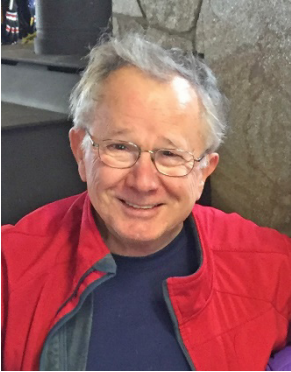
I work with a team of local volunteers, usually one day a week, at the WaterStep warehouse in Louisville to manufacture chlorine generators and BleachMakers. After manufacturing, volunteers test each device for leakage and proper operation, then pack the equipment for shipment to areas of need. Since 2006, over 1,300 M-100 chlorine generators and 1,400 BleachMakers have been manufactured, helping more than 4.3 million people in 58 countries.

Click [here](#) to read more about Jerry's story.



## REACH FOR THE TAUT ROPE, A MEMOIR BY DELBERT “SKIP” MARTIN

By Skip Martin ([dgskipmartin@gmail.com](mailto:dgskipmartin@gmail.com))



How and when did the memoir writing start for me? Late summer 2018, Eric and Amalia stood with me on the bluff overlooking the windsurfing lake, called Lake Floras, on the southern Oregon coast, near Langlois, Oregon. “So why do you keep working?” Amalia asked me. “You don’t need the money, do you?”

“Well, I think it is a job I am supposed to do. The work has some meaning, and the pay is decent.”

“Hey! Seems like you’re here a lot and we really like this stuff— ‘high winds blowing sails and kites with people hanging on for all they are worth,’” then she laughed.

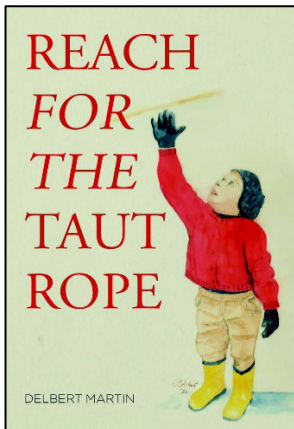
“So, don’t you like windsurfing better than working?” she asked.

“Yeah, you bet. But maybe I would be bored with it if that was all I had to do. Say I windsurfed here like your dad, but when the wind stopped, then what?”

“Hmm,” she paused, looking at me full on. “Say uhhm..., say you write your memoirs during the lulls?”

So that’s how and when it started for me. Three beautiful women: Amalia, Elizabeth, and Deborah. Amalia queried me on the cliff overlooking Floras Lake. Elizabeth, a published author, taught me 30 weeks of memoir writing classes. Deborah, my wife, read the drafts, and encouraged me to keep going. Why?

Short answer is that maybe this was something I could do during my waning retirement years. As a matter of record, I followed Amalia’s advice, quit the job in Bend and set up a 40-year-old Airstream trailer at Lake Floras and completed writing the first slice of my life in 2020.



*Editor’s note: If you would like to read Skip’s book, it is available on Amazon.*

In November 2020, I was contacted again by a literary agent representing Christian Faith Publishing. “How is your book coming?” She had called me about twice a year since late 2018. I kept telling her I thought it would be 6 more months, then I reneged when the target date came and went. Finally, I sent in the draft in December 2020, and it was accepted in January 2021 and published about 6 months later. To read more about Skip’s book, click [here](#).



*Floras Lake Campsite, my office, summer 2020.*

## ARCHITECTURE TO OPERA

By Luigi Grande ([luigiq2288@verizon.net](mailto:luigiq2288@verizon.net))



I was born in Cairo, Egypt, in 1946. The law there allowed newborns to obtain the citizenship of their parents, so, I was considered an Italian citizen. I attended Catholic schools in Egypt run by the Salesian priests: "Istituto Salesiano Don Bosco." Between 1960-1966, there was an exodus of most of the Italian families to other countries, and my family left for the US in 1967.

A new chapter in my life began. Uncle Sam did not wait too long to draft me into the Army in 1968. I was not fluent in English, and due to language barriers, I was always late executing commands from my drill sergeant. Still, after 2 months of extra pushups and KP duties, I excelled in basic training and Military Police School. During my 2 years of service, I became a patrol supervisor and obtained a full three stripes equivalent to sergeant ranking. And I became a US citizen 2 months before being discharged from the US Army. I was on duty at Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington, DC, where I met my wife, Diane. We have two children, a daughter Kerian, and a son Justin, and four grandchildren. Diane passed away in March 2017.

After the Army, I worked for Engineering Science and at Greenhorn & O'Mara Inc. and received a Bachelor of Architecture degree from the University of Maryland. In February 1978 I joined CH2M at the Reston office as employee #1904. The Reston office at that time was very small, 10 to 12 people, and mostly engineers. George Gunn was the office manager with Glenn Rehberger as second in command. I was the first architect at the Reston office.

During my tenure with the firm, I provided a broad range of architectural services and architectural quality assurance and quality control for all projects developed in the region, and at times beyond the region, including the Washington Aqueduct Residuals Collection and Treatment Facility in Washington, DC, the Broad Run Water Reclamation Facility Project in Loudoun County, Virginia, and Jacksonville International Airport in Jacksonville, Florida.

I retired as an architect in November 2014, after 36 memorable and productive years working for CH2M. In my retirement, I have traveled with my family to beautiful Italy, spent quality time with my grandchildren, and I have pursued an education in the field of music. My favorite activity is singing Italian opera as a tenor and performing in such places as Strathmore Music Hall in Bethesda, Maryland.

Click [here](#) for a link to Luigi's YouTube page, including a recent music recital at the Music Department of Northern Virginia Community College.



*Luigi's opera performance at the Strathmore Music Hall. From left to right: Vocal Coach: Doctor Roh, Soprano Lee, Soprano Mills, Soprano Pizana, Tenor Luigi, and Pianist Yoo.*

## ALEXANDRIA, EGYPT DAYS – A FOLLOW-UP

By Ted Downen ([ted.downen@gmail.com](mailto:ted.downen@gmail.com))

In the July 2021 issue of the CHAA Newsletter, I expanded on my previous Alexandria, Egypt, articles to focus on the first project director, Les Wierson. I introduced the first CH2M team that began the detailed effort to improve the wastewater situation in Alexandria. This team, in association with staff from Metcalf & Eddy, and two local Egyptian firms, worked under a joint venture umbrella called the Waste Water Consultants Group (WWCG). (For a most interesting read in the CHAA website, refer to the Alexandria project description, as well as other projects in Egypt [here](#); regarding Les himself, click [here](#).)

I had intended to meet up with Les and his wife, Myrna, sometime this past summer to obtain additional background and insight of the project, as well as to collaborate on our mutual experiences of living in that interesting city and the country of Egypt overall. Well, a summer rendezvous didn't happen, but this fall it did. We were finally able to meet in October, out at Les and Myrna's beautiful home in Cannon Beach, Oregon! Not only did we see Les and Myrna, but one of their daughters, Marki, was there, plus, Rich Frankenfield and his wife Michelle, from Corvallis, were also able to join us.

You might recall from my introductory article that I included a photo of the first CH2M Alexandria team that Les showed me back in March of this year. Although I attempted to identify those in the photo, I couldn't put names with everyone. Bingo! I had the bright idea of having a contest in hopes that one of our CHAA readers might be able to fully identify the team members. Well, we've had success! The first person who responded with all of the correct names was Rich. His quick and accurate reply won him a trio sampler of extra virgin olive oil from the Durant Olive Mill in Dayton, Oregon. Congratulations Rich!



*Historical photo from the Alexandria project, with names added, courtesy of Rich.*



*Rich with his winning certificate, Les with the photo that has the names, and Ted. Note the beautiful view of the Pacific and of the Cannon Beach area from the Wiersons' deck.*

So, let's return to the visit we had. When Rich, Michelle, DaLynn and I arrived at the Wiersons' house, Les & Myrna met us at the door and ushered us in. And then, without so much of a moment's delay, the conversations began in high gear! I set down on an authentic Egyptian camel saddle that Les arranged to have shipped back to the US (via Canada). From my vantage point, I was poised to listen and chime in.



During the discussion about our experiences in Egypt, Les and Myrna also filled us in on their Cannon Beach house. Originally, the property belonged to Fred Merryfield's (Oregon State University) first wife, Mildred, and was purchased for \$100 in the 1930s (can you just imagine what the land would cost now?). It was Les and Myrna's understanding that the property was used for camping. The Wiersons' purchased the property from the Merryfields and built their home there in 1991. Not only does it have fantastic views, but it's located above the tsunami seismic sea wave elevation. They designed and constructed the house so there would be no obstructions of view from both the living room and the kitchen/dining area. Such a beautiful place. (For detailed background information about Fred Merryfield (the "M" in CH2M, of course), click [here](#).

Not only did Les and Myrna host us, but they also prepared a lovely lunch featuring two types of soup that were absolutely delicious. This was very gracious of them. Because of the pandemic, it was felt this was a much better approach than meeting up at a restaurant. Plus, we could continue to enjoy the beautiful views and it gave us more time to chat. Our reminiscing continued through lunch. As we were finishing up, that's when I presented envelopes to Les and Rich with copies of photos, articles and, in Rich's case, the winning certificate.





*Left to right: Michelle, Rich, Ted, DaLynn, Myrna, and Les on their beautiful deck.*

The time flew by so quickly that before we knew it, it was 4:00. Rich and Michelle needed to leave for home so that it would be easier to travel the coastal route while there was still some daylight. DaLynn and I also had a commitment in Seaside, so we needed to depart as well. However, before we left, we did have time to scan through some photos that Rich brought. Unfortunately, there just wasn't enough time to view all of them thoroughly. Consequently, as we left, the general consensus was that we should try to arrange to meet up again and continue sharing insight about the project and our experiences in Egypt.

(Just for reference, the previous Alexandria, Egypt, articles in the CHAA Newsletter can be found in the January 2021 (p.7) and January 2019 (p.24-25) editions.)

## Alumni Quick Notes

### AN UPDATE ON BERNIE MILLER



Editor's Note: Don received the following note from Susie Miller, Bernie's wife. She asked Don to share with his friends.

I think the time has come for me to let everyone know about Bernie's Alzheimer's. Being in denial doesn't help him or any of us. Bernie looks and feels great! The problem is his memory. At first it was just short term but now he also struggles with (some) things from the past.

For instance: I showed him your Christmas card with the photos. I asked if he knew who Don and Joan are in your signature. He didn't until I said Marske. Then, he said, "Maui"? 🌈 When I asked him who he had worked for, he couldn't remember either CH2M or OMI until I said the names.

Little flickers of memory are there but not like they used to be.

We are not sad; we live a very full life. Bernie and I bowl every Monday on a seniors league. We have good friends and loved ones close by - life is good!

Susie and Bernie

[pdxsusie@gmail.com](mailto:pdxsusie@gmail.com)

### NEW EMAIL

Jerry Eggleston has a new email thanks to an MIA response 😊: [Jerry.eggleston@gmail.com](mailto:Jerry.eggleston@gmail.com).

## CH2M HILL Alumni Association President's Corner

By Rick Luebbers ([rluebber@hotmail.com](mailto:rluebber@hotmail.com))



Greetings Fellow CH2M HILL Alumni,

New Year's greetings to everyone! I hope you all enjoyed time with family and friends over the holidays and ended 2021 on a high note. I find that I finished the year with a bit of survivor's guilt. I am grateful to slide through so easily but, with so many enduring so much, I have wondered, "Why me?" I have done most of the preventative measures, but I also traveled by land or air to 13 states over the course of the year. I have been in airplanes, hotels, and restaurants across the country, following local mandates, without any ill effects. In the end, there is no real answer – maybe good genes or just good luck. So, what to do with the positive energy? I am happy to be spending some of it on activities for the CH2M HILL Alumni Association. Despite COVID limitations, the CHAA is accomplishing much. Here is a quick review of recent activities and a look ahead at what's planned for 2022.

As 2021 began, the CHAA Board members stepped up to take on committee assignments. Because of their dedication, an amazing amount of work was undertaken during the year.

Committees:

- **Governance Committee:** This team updated the Strategic Plan, proposed changes to the CHAA bylaws, recommended candidates for Board of Directors, and continued working on operating procedures.
- **Membership Committee:** This team updated the alumni roster, developed a new database system for alumni information, posted a new value proposition statement, and refined the membership renewal process.
- **Activities Committee:** After 3 years of hard work, this team reluctantly postponed the Alumni Reunion once again due to COVID issues. Although nearly exhausted from planning activities for the 2021 Reunion, the team doubled down and began planning for the October 2022 Reunion. Please thank Bob Chapman and his team for their tenacity.
- **History Committee:** This team continued its longstanding work with personal bios, alumni activities and hobbies. They also worked with the Benton County Historical Society and the CH2M HILL Alumni Center at Oregon State University to secure commitments for archiving materials and establishing displays for CH2M HILL.
- **CHAA Website:** This team continued to update and refine the CHAA website, including a link to the Oregon State University Libraries that will download and store CHAA website indefinitely into the future. They began planning to incorporate information for local CH2M HILL groups. They are also working hard to prevent outside hacks of the website. However, it is not a perfect world so there may always be an occasional intrusion. Please be patient and delete anything that looks like a hack. If in doubt, send a note to [ch2mhillaa@gmail.com](mailto:ch2mhillaa@gmail.com).

**Task Forces:** Several special purpose task forces were initiated in 2021.

- **Value Proposition Task Force:** This team set out to determine why CH2M alumni joined, or did not join, the CHAA. It was found that the primary reason for joining was to maintain relationships and continue friendships established over the working years. In this regard, they developed a new value statement for CHAA: "Our Special Legacy Lives ... Connect with Old Friends & Make New Ones."

However, the biggest finding was a clear distinction between legacy CH2M staff and local CH2M staff. Legacy staff tend to be those who are older and who spread across the country and the globe to start new offices, new programs and new technical disciplines. Local staff are those who are mostly younger and who worked most of their careers in one region to deliver projects. The legacy group has been the primary attendee of the biennial CHAA Reunions, which attract people from all over the country. The local groups have much more affinity for people with whom they worked closely, and they are much more interested in smaller, local events. This finding was obvious once discovered and became the baseline for work by the Local Groups task Force.

- **Local Groups Task Force:** This team started with the findings from the Value Proposition Task Force and began planning to find local CH2M groups. These are typically small groups that meet regularly or informally to be with friends and share old times and new adventures. The goal is to locate as many local groups as possible and establish a connection with the CHAA. Then, the plan is to establish links that are mutually beneficial and to provide a platform in the CHAA website to share information. COVID protocols have curtailed many activities of this type, and some local groups may not be very active right now. We will need help finding them. An opportunity for a call to action was lost when the 2021 Alumni Reunion was rescheduled for 2022. Instead, look for an email request in early 2022 to help find local groups. In the meantime, if you know of a local group, please send a note to [ch2mhillaa@gmail.com](mailto:ch2mhillaa@gmail.com).
- **Database Task Force:** This team started with a review of the existing Excel workbooks and spreadsheets, and other data files, followed by a search for a solution for easier data maintenance and reporting. After several iterations, a transition to an Access database was selected. Work is underway to prepare the migration of existing data from Excel to Access. A first step was to review the existing alumni roster and verify or purge entries prior to the transition. This will be followed by development of data entry and reporting tools to streamline necessary process. Look for major progress in 2022.

#### Volunteers:

The CHAA currently has more than 400 active members. Some of them contribute articles about their travels, hobbies and other activities that appear on the CHAA website or in this newsletter. As indicated above, much of work in support of CHAA is shouldered by the 13 Board members, including the current officers. Several folks continue to work with the Alumni History Committee. They include Dave Evans, Susie Gaare, Mike Gallagher, Mike Schweitzer, and Mike Sailor, among others.

We are always looking for new talent and are actively seeking volunteers to add capabilities and energy. We are very fortunate that Mike Morrison has stepped up to serve as the Assistant Treasurer. Thank you, Mike! In addition, Dan Joy is applying his extensive database skills in the transition of membership rosters and financial statements. Many thanks, Dan.

Our greatest needs currently are for:

- An assistant editor to help Gordon Koblitz publish newsletters like this one.
- An assistant for Jim Schwing to manage the Greenvelope program that CHAA uses to send invitations and manage registrations for Alumni Reunions.
- A webinar guru to help CHAA assess and develop a program for members to share information and adventures through scheduled webinars.

If you have interest in these opportunities to work alongside Board members and improve CHAA's organization and services, please contact us at [ch2mhillaa@gmail.com](mailto:ch2mhillaa@gmail.com).

It is my pleasure to serve as President of the ch2m hill alumni association. I hope you are pleased with our ongoing activities and the initiatives we have underway to move the organization forward. We encourage your comments, suggestions, and questions.

Be safe, stay well,

Rick Luebbers  
CHAA President

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## CH2M HILL Alumni Association News

By Don Marske ([donmarske@gmail.com](mailto:donmarske@gmail.com))



Greetings all...

Thanks to all of you, 2021 was another good year for the Association!

As of January 4, 2022, we are 360 paid members! This is down from 390 in 2020; however, it does not include 90 subscriptions that expired in 2021 but have yet to be renewed. Thank you all who joined and renewed.

Our Master Roster of CH2M alumni stands at 1,230. This is down from about 2,200 because, in preparation for transitioning to an Access database, we have reluctantly set aside our fellow alums who have not opened CHAA emails since 2019. That extra 1,000 accounts has been a burden for us.

Per the direction of our Strategic Plan, we have established a Membership Committee whose goal is to attract, retain and serve the membership. To this end, we plan to continue to reach out and convert folks who forgot to renew (90), to those who have gone MIA (85), to those who have opened our emails but not yet joined (450+), and to recruit new members (50). For all of this, we appreciate your help. Please give us a holler if you hear of a colleague who is looking to join.

For 2022 we are budgeting a membership goal of 486. This is clearly a stretch goal for us, but for the first time, we have a real Membership Committee with high expectations. With the execution of the membership drive plan and a few more generous donations, prospects for another financially sound year look good. In 2022, annual dues will remain at \$20. Lifetime memberships are also available to avoid that pesky renewal each year.

Financially, the Association remains in good shape. Yearend income was \$13,900 against expenses of \$8,200, leaving a net balance of \$5,700. Thanks to dumb luck, that is virtually identical to our 2020 performance. 😊

Our refreshed CHAA website <https://ch2mhillalumni.org/> continues to get rave reviews. If you have not jumped on yet, and I say this again, we think you will agree it is one-of-a-kind in our industry. In the coming months we expect to add several new features. We encourage you to browse now and then as we strive to keep it fresh.

If you have any questions about the Alumni Association membership, renewals, or its programs, please feel free to contact me at [ch2mhillaa@gmail.com](mailto:ch2mhillaa@gmail.com).

Again, thank you to all who have joined, renewed, and donated in 2021.

Don Marske  
CHAA Director, Treasurer



## CHAA 2022 Reunion



Third try is a charm?! With “safety first” as a primary consideration, our long-planned CH2M HILL Alumni Association Reunion in Atlanta has been rescheduled to Oct 27 – 29, 2022. These dates were selected by the Reunion Committee in coordination with Embassy Suites management, who agreed to wave cancellation penalties and minimize cost increases for meeting rooms and meals.

Embassy Suites has canceled existing guest room reservations for the 2021 Reunion and new reservations at the same special rates can now be made by using this Embassy Suites CH2M HILL Alumni Reunion portal:

<https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/ch2mhillalumniassn2022/>.

If you have any difficulties using this link, please call our Embassy Suites Reservations Manager, Roberta Espree, at her direct phone 678-686-0759, and she will help you. You can also reserve rooms with their 1-800-EMBASSY number but be sure to use our special event code CH2.

Registered Reunion attendees again have the option of receiving a full refund of registration fees, or hopefully to stay invested in the re-scheduled Reunion, as most did last year. If, as the saying goes that “anticipation is half the fun” of an event, we sure have been having fun!

[\*\*\[Click here to return to “Breaking News!”\]\*\*](#)

## Special Announcements

### A SHOUT OUT TO ALL CH2M ALUMNI: AN IMPORTANT REQUEST FOR LOCAL GROUPS!

By Ted Downen ([ted.downen@gmail.com](mailto:ted.downen@gmail.com))

In the July 2021 CHAA Newsletter, the CHAA Board of Directors announced a Local Groups Initiative to reach out to the small gatherings of CH2M alumni who meet to continue longstanding friendships. The goal is to include a listing of these groups within the CHAA website so that alumni who are not aware of such groups could participate.

These local groups renew and maintain friendships, and reflect on old stories and past achievements. The members share information about hobbies, travel adventures, and so much more. It's a great opportunity to rekindle CH2M family ties and gain wonderful insight in so many ways.

We would love to hear from you and learn about your local group. A roster is being developed for the CHAA website and information for your local group can be included. The Board will be happy to send you a template for easy submittal of information.

To request a template, just email the CHAA organization at [ch2mhillaa@gmail.com](mailto:ch2mhillaa@gmail.com) or contact our Local Group Task Force coordinator, Ted Downen at [ted.downen@gmail.com](mailto:ted.downen@gmail.com). Thanks for the input we've received so far (yeah!). We're now aware of four groups that meet: the Corvallis Monthly Breakfast Group, the Southern California Office Geezers, a group in Redding, and the Portland IDC Tuesday Morning Breakfast Group.

The IDC/CH2M Portland, Oregon Area Tuesday Morning Breakfast Group, which restarted as of July 20, 2021 meets at McKenzie Pub, 16450 SW Langer Drive, Sherwood, OR 97140. Time: 10:00 am (changed: previously met at 8:00 am). Frequency: Weekly. Contacts: Paul Fujimoto at [p.fujimoto@frontier.com](mailto:p.fujimoto@frontier.com), or Ted Downen at [ted.downen@gmail.com](mailto:ted.downen@gmail.com).

Important note: We understand that your group may not currently be meeting in person due to the COVID pandemic. But go ahead and let us know that your local group exists so it can be included in the roster. Information about virtual or in-person meetings can be added as they occur. Thank you all!

[\[Click here to return to "Breaking News!"\]](#)

### REFRESHED CHAA WEBSITE

Our new CHAA webpage is live! In the spirit of keeping it fresh, and with thanks to Dan Lagomarsino, our webmaster, we hope you will enjoy our new CHAA Homepage. Several new features have been added, including a search engine, that we hope it will make it easier for you to explore this most extraordinary website. Check it out:

<https://ch2mhillalumni.org/>



[\[Click here to return to "Breaking News!"\]](#)

## The Families of the CHAA Family

By Mike Morrison ([valuemike@aol.com](mailto:valuemike@aol.com))

Last July we introduced this idea with bios of our son, Jeff and me. We really hit the jackpot with this second edition: the M. K. Stuart family shown here.

According to notes from the family, Ken was the first to “invade” the firm. Ken attended Oregon State University and went directly to CH2M, serving on the survey crew until 1954. Over the years, Ken progressed to project management, primarily for projects such as the Cottonwood Dam, Salmon Harbor Marina, Port of Coos Bay, and the Embarcadero Marina at Newport, Oregon. In 1971, Ken was elected as key employee and stockholder. He was promoted to department manager of the Civil/Transportation Department in 1980. And, in 1988, he was asked to serve as the division manager of the civil engineering discipline at Corvallis. Ken retired in 1993 and filled his days with fishing, golfing, hunting, traveling, and watercolor painting. We recently posted his outstanding watercolors on the CHAA website [here](#).

Charlie was the second Stuart to be employed at CH2M. Brother Ken was responsible. He was headed to Milton Freewater to survey and needed someone to help him. Charlie was the chosen one. After the survey he was elected to the position of “office boy.” During his 1951 summer break from Corvallis High School (CHS), his responsibilities included “Go-pher”, mow the lawn, and keeping the water sprinkler system on the roof running to help cool the drafting room. He left the firm in the fall to enter his senior year at CHS. From there to Oregon State University to get his general science background. He was accepted to University of Oregon Health Science Center where he received his Doctorate in Dental Medicine. I never knew Charlie as a CHer, but he was our family dentist for several years when we moved to Corvallis.

Mac Junior joined the ranks of CH2M in 1952 as a draftsman as Employee No. 19. Throughout the 1950s, Mac was mentored by Fred Merryfield and Wayne Phillips in engineering principles. During the 1960s, Mac designed heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems for architectural clients. In 1969, he was assigned to interface with architectural clients in Oregon, Washington, and California to provide design of mechanical and HVAC systems for commercial, institutional, and industrial facilities. In 1971, he was elected key employee and stockholder. Mac left the firm in late 1972 after 20 years of service to become a partner in a mechanical construction company in Salem, Oregon (1972-1988).

Those of us who are old time Corvallis alums will remember Jan when she joined the firm in early 1969 with her last name being Hardenberger. It was not until 1971 that she became a Stuart when she married Mac, making her the fifth Stuart in the family to work at the firm. Jan was hired by Della Hickey to work in the secretarial department. Because she also had experience operating a switchboard, she was one of several secretaries there to relieve Donna Bates as receptionist during her breaks and vacations. Other than receptionist/ switchboard operation, and assisting Burke Hayes with marketing research, her primary position was as a secretary. She continued with the firm until 1972.

Mac Senior was the fourth Stuart to be hired by CH2M. He moved his family from Chicago to Medford Oregon in 1949 and then to Corvallis later in that year. He was an electrician by trade and he and two of his associate electricians established Trico Electric in Corvallis in about 1954. He retired from Trico in the mid-1960s. He was hired by Dick Nichols to be part of the electrical department where he designed systems for commercial and industrial buildings.



*Left to right: Mary Beth, Charlie, Mac Senior, Ken, Peg, Mac Junior.*



*Circa 1970.*



For complete bios of the Stuart family, go to the [CHAA website](#) and scroll down to the Stuarts.

We would love to share more CHAA families with you in future editions. If you would like to share your family, please send your information to me, Mike Morrison at [valuemike@aol.com](mailto:valuemike@aol.com). Thank you.

## New CH2M Alumni Center Kiosk

By Bob Chapman ([bobchap43@gmail.com](mailto:bobchap43@gmail.com))

After several years of discussions, we are delighted to have reached an agreement to create a CH2M HILL Alumni Association digital kiosk in the CH2M HILL Alumni Center at Oregon State University! This kiosk is envisioned as a terrific way to gain external exposure for our organization, and further nurture our synergistic relationship with Oregon State University dating back in the 1940s.



“CH2M HILL Alumni Center” is prominently displayed on the face of this 45,000 sq. ft. activity center in the heart of the OSU campus. However, few people recognize our quirky name, nor have any idea of our contributions in creating this center. Nor do many people appreciate the immense role that OSU played in fostering the creation of our firm and educating and professionally nurturing many individuals who were at the heart of the early, formative years of our growth.

The kiosk will consist of a pedestal-mounted, touch-screen computer providing direct and simple access to our CHAA web site, coupled to a larger, wall-mounted flat panel monitor. The kiosk will be strategically located at one of the main entrances to the Center. It will foremost provide the opportunity for people to explore the extraordinary content of our web site. The kiosk will also include flexibility to continuously display fixed or rotating images on the large monitor. These images could include portraits of iconic individuals (Founding Fathers and beyond) who were both OSU grads and CH2M HILL employees, and pictures of benchmark projects which we delivered far beyond our origins.

The original plan was to broadly solicit donations from CHAA membership to provide funding for this kiosk. Fortuitously, a few of our alumni involved in the creation or endorsement of this endeavor have already collectively donated over \$5,000, which is ample to cover the costs. The generosity of the following alumni is gratefully acknowledged: Bob Chapman, Gordon Koblitz, Mike Schweizer, Don Marske, Mark Lasswell, Anne Kernkamp, Terry Sheldon, Rick Luebbers, Mark Alpert, Dick Crim, Jory Abrams, and Terry Sheldon.

This kiosk also builds on other notable endeavors with Oregon State University that collectively serve to sustain our legacy:

- In early 2021, commitments were secured whereby Oregon State University Libraries will archive our website in perpetuity when and if our alumni association can no longer do so.
- In 2009, reconstruction was completed of the building, which is the home for OSU’s civil and construction engineering program (Apperson Hall, now Kearney Hall). The ground floor features a 200-seat lecture hall, the CH2M HILL Auditorium. More recently, iconic CH2M HILL plexiglass logos were rescued from our closing SCO office, and now are beautifully displayed as wall art in this auditorium.

[\[Click here to return to “Breaking News!”\]](#)

There are two OSU Beavers who have been tremendously supportive of our interactive endeavors over many years. We gratefully acknowledge their efforts and friendship:



**Marnie Noble**  
**Senior Director of Development, Leadership Gifts**

In her student years, Marnie worked one summer in the catalogue library of our old office on Western Avenue. Her dad was an early client as Director of Public Works for the City of Corvallis.

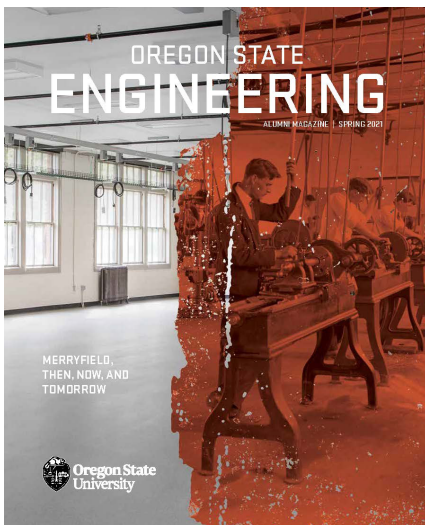
**Scott Ashford**  
**Dean of the OSU College of Engineering**

Scott is a member of our Alumni Association. His earlier life included working for CH2M HILL in our Emeryville California office as a Geotech engineer.



## CHAA History Corner

### TAKE A WALK THROUGH HISTORY



*Editor's Note: With permission, the following article was extracted from the Spring 2021 edition of the Oregon State University Alumni Magazine.*

A recent article, "Take A Walk Through History" published in Oregon State University's College of Engineering Alumni magazine, shared some interesting insights and facts about OSU's "Engineering Triangle." The article shares interesting stories about activities, staff, and buildings. The story also has a video about the renovation of the historic Merryfield Hall (named for one of CH2M's founders Fred Merryfield). The renovation was completed last summer and the cover of the magazine shows the new expansive and versatile "innovation spaces" for student projects on the left and the same historical open-air center practical, action-oriented activities, like metal and wood shops and automotive labs on the right.

The online version of the article can be found [here](#), provided courtesy of Oregon State University, College of Engineering.

### **MERRYFIELD: MODEST BUILDING, HUGE LEGACY**

Merryfield Hall, the first campus building designed by Bennes, went up in 1909. It, too, has lived several lives: as the Mechanical Arts Building, the Industrial Arts Building, and the Product ion Technology Building. A major renovation was completed in 2020, and Merryfield will now be used for offices for faculty and graduate student from the School of Nuclear Science and Engineering, a general-purpose classroom, office space for the college, and large "innovation spaces" for students to work collaboratively.

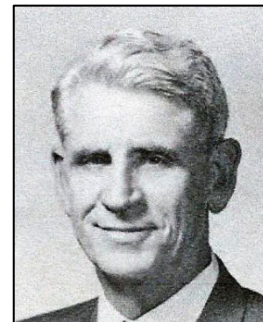


*Circa World War 1.*

But the most memorable thing about the modest, low-slung structure is its namesake, Fred Merryfield, one of Oregon State’s most celebrated alumni and faculty. Born in England in 1900, Merryfield talked his way into the Royal Flying Corps at age 17 and flew fighters during World War I. He was shot down over enemy territory and severely injured, but he made it back to England.

After the war, he struck out for the U.S. with plans to work his way across the country and sail for Australia. He made it as far as Corvallis and Oregon Agricultural College, where he earned a civil engineering degree in 1923, followed by a Master’s Degree in sanitation engineering on the East Coast. In 1927, he returned to Corvallis and joined the engineering faculty, serving until his retirement in 1966.

During World War II, Merryfield volunteered as a civilian and laid out the sanitation system at Camp Adair, north of Corvallis. It housed approximately 40,000 people – enough to have constituted the second largest city in Oregon. After the fall of Singapore, he enlisted in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and served in New Guinea.



*Circa 1962.*



*Circa 2007.*

Merryfield, a favorite among students, was a practicing environmentalist long before most people had ever heard the word. In the 1950s, he played a pivotal role in cleaning up the heavily polluted Willamette River. His most enduring legacy is CH2M, the environmental engineering firm that he founded with three former students in 1946 and which grew into a global powerhouse in its field, ultimately to be acquired in 2017 by Jacobs Engineering Group.

## Meet Your CH2M HILL Alumni Association Members!

Meet Your CH2M HILL Alumni Association Members!

We are especially pleased to introduce our continuing and new members of the CHAA as of January 3, 2022! We also like to include all the spouses of our deceased alumni who, by the way, receive their complimentary membership free of charge. If you know others who qualify, please let us know. We hope you all will look over the list: nearly 400 now!

It’s obviously longer than the previous lists, so we attached it as a [PDF](#) to save a couple pages of the newsletter. Open and enjoy checking the list of your friends and colleagues. If you DON’T see some of your good friends or colleagues, reach out to them and encourage them to join. If any of our readers haven’t yet joined (or need to renew) and would like to support our CHAA family goals and activities, please contact Don Marske at [CH2MHILLaa@gmail.com](mailto:CH2MHILLaa@gmail.com) or go to our CHAA website: <https://CH2MHILLalumni.org/> and click on **MEMBERSHIP**.

## Hats Off to Our CHAA Donors!

In our January issue we offer our special thanks to our new 2021 members and current members who kindly went above and beyond their annual membership fee by contributing an extra amount to help us with our mission into the coming year! We wish to acknowledge our donors, and we appreciate every gift given.

Listed below are our 2021 donors to date through January 3, 2022, at the different levels we established. This is voluntary, of course, and can be done anonymously, if desired. Please note that all members who have donated at the “Booster” Level and above are acknowledged annually in the January newsletter. Donations will be accrued and donors will be acknowledged in **bold type and asterisk** when a new level is attained at the Booster level and above. They will also receive an asterisk designation when making additional donations in the current year. Members who attain the “Sustainers” level and above will receive a lifetime membership and recognition in every issue as a small token of our appreciation.

A major portion of the donations are used to continue upgrading our CHAA website (accessibility, content, security and enjoyment) and maintenance, our continuing outreach efforts for legacy colleagues, and help to promote local member groups across the country. Updates regarding these efforts will be included each newsletter. Again, thank you all for your generosity!!

### 2021 CHAA Supporters: \$1–\$99

Jerry Anderson	Susie Gaare	Mary Reid	Gina Wammock
David Atkinson	Ed Lance	John Sams	Mike Warren
Bill Byers	Willie Paiz	Ron Staehlin	
Robert Forbes	Larry Pinson	LeRoy Taylor	

### CHAA Boosters \$100+

<b>Jory Abrams*</b>	Michael Doleac	<b>Pat Klampe*</b>	Eddilio Santarosa
<b>Mark Alpert*</b>	Steve Ebe	John Lee	Nancy Schultz
Mike Anglea	<b>Jerry Eggeston*</b>	Don Marske	Mike Schweizer
<b>Sheldon Barker*</b>	Dave Ellison	Jay McRae	Terry Sheldon
<b>Julie Bielman*</b>	<b>Dona Eskelin*</b>	<b>Gordon Nicholson*</b>	Sondra Smith
Brian Brownsell	Mike Fisher	Asbjorn Nysaether	Frank Thompson
<b>Dale Cannon*</b>	John Gaston	David Odom*	<b>Bud VanDerAa*</b>
Dick Corrigan	<b>June Ann Hassebroek*</b>	Jim Parrish	Dan Walters
Terry Crockford	Richard Horning	<b>Sally Peek*</b>	Peter Wiedemann
<b>Starr Dehn*</b>	Thomas Klin	<b>Sally Ruggles*</b>	

### CHAA Sustainers (Lifetime Members) \$500+

Anonymous	<b>Randy Denton*</b>	Greg McIntyre	<b>Jane Walter*</b>
Bob Card	<b>Tom Higgins*</b>	Jimmy Otta*	
Bob Chapman*	<b>Jeff Mather*</b>	Jim Schwing*	

### CHAA Patrons (Lifetime Members/Recognition) \$1,000+

<b>Gordon Koblitz*</b>	Rick Luebbers
Judy Lasswell	Bob Pailthorp

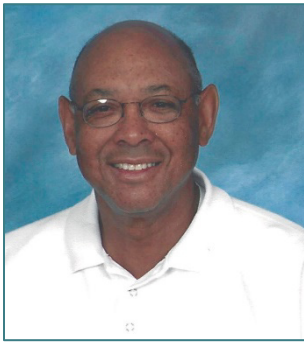
### CHAA Benefactors (Lifetime Members/Recognition) – \$5,000+

Jacque Hinman

### CHAA Champions (Lifetime Membership/Recognition) – \$10,000+

Well, we need to be optimistic and aim high for the long haul! 😊

## Goodbye, Old Friends



### WILLIE LOUD

Willie T. Loud, 78, passed away peacefully at home on December 2, 2021. He was born to L.T. and Bertha Loud on June 26, 1943, in Castor, Louisiana. The family moved to his childhood home of Winfield, Kansas, when he was young.

Willie attended the University of Washington and received a bachelor's degree in urban and regional planning. He completed 2 years of master's courses in public administration and urban planning as well. Willie joined CH2M in 1972, in Seattle, Washington. In 1976, he transferred to the Corvallis office and then again in 1981 to the Denver office. His initial assignments were on projects involving planning and community outreach, with an emphasis on business diversity plan development. Over time he found a home as an executive in human resources and government affairs. In all, Willie's career with CH2M spanned more than 30 years of increasingly responsible roles. He dedicated his efforts to make a positive difference both in the employee-owned firm that he gave so much, and in the world. He retired in 2004.

Willie held many positions and interests with various professional and civic organizations, including American Water Works Association, Water Environment Federation, National Forum for Black Public Administrators, National Association of Minority Engineering Program Administration, Bethany College, and the Rocky Mountain Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Willie loved golf, traveling, and spending time with family. Willie's longevity and success in his career may be what some will remember. His family and friends knew him as a person of great character and integrity; and a loving husband, father and "papa".

Willie was preceded in death by his parents, L.T and Bertha Loud; and sister, Eloise Jones. He is survived by his beloved wife, Ann; daughters, Tracey and Julie; granddaughter, Kayla; sister, Marian Smith; 22 nieces and nephews, and several grand nieces and nephews.



### SCOTT GIBBS

Scott Gibbs was born in Spokane, Washington, on February 8, 1947. He died at home on September 7, 2021, at the age of 74. He was an Eagle Scout and a graduate of Mead High School (1965) and University of Washington, BSME (1969). He spent his working life as a mechanical engineer for several Seattle area consulting engineering firms, including CH2M, engaged in the design of municipal water supply and waste water projects.

Scott joined CH2M in the early 1980s when the Seattle office was located in Bellevue in an area fondly known as "Camp Swampy." He was lead mechanical engineer on numerous wastewater projects including Tri-City, OR; West Point in Seattle, WA; Columbia Blvd in Portland, OR; Rock Creek in Hillsboro, OR; Brightwater for King County, WA; and a number of other non-wastewater projects including a school in Pelican, a remote village in southeast Alaska. Scott was a joy to work with; he was knowledgeable, productive, and always had a story, and an opinion. Scott's pleasures included fixing up old, antique, cars, shooting skeet with his buddies at the gun range, fishing, and travel with his wife Vickie. Rumor has it that Scott once rebuilt a 1939 Studebaker in his living room; he tried to wash the greasy parts in the dishwasher. Vickie had to buy a new dishwasher.

For the last 5-6 years, except 2020, Scott would go to Sitka for 4 days of fishing with a couple of his West Point buddies. Scott would come with a 50+ pound travel case filled with wet weather gear, including waders, warm clothes, and of course a small bottle of brown liquid to help him sleep at night. He would complain dearly when we would anchor in 350 feet of water, miles offshore, in the often rough and windy ocean, to fish for halibut. Complain as he did, he said he had to do it because Vickie enjoyed eating halibut more than salmon, and he had his orders. Each year, we'd review the same old work stories, the projects, and clients we enjoyed, and a few less so. We also learned of Scott's latest travels and his latest antique car quests.

In his later years when it was getting hard to work on cars, Scott sold the ones he had restored and purchased a couple of already refurbished ones. One in particular, was an old, completely redone, Studebaker that he would bring to our occasional West Point lunches, provided it wasn't raining in Seattle. The windshield wipers and brakes didn't work all that well.

He is survived by his wife Vickie.





### AL FARBER

Alfred (Al) Farber was a long time employee of the Redding office and passed away on August 8, 2021. Al was as senior technical writer and proposal manager at CH2M from 1996 through 2014.

His 34 years of professional experience included serving as archaeologist and historian, environmental scientist, environmental planner, and science/engineering technical writer and editor. He directed hundreds of archaeological investigations, authored technical reports for each, and published findings in peer-reviewed journals.”

As a technical writer and editor for CH2M, Al helped prepare and/or edit thousands of documents in multiple engineering and science disciplines. In retirement he was able to write for pleasure about his passion: the history of ancient people.

Susan Bunnell from the Redding office, writes, “Al was a talented technical writer and proposal manager. In many ways he seemed to ‘run the show,’ not just in his formal role, but also for helping out whenever/wherever needed. He knew most everyone in the office and I’m pretty sure everyone in the office knew him...you just couldn’t help it. He had an uncanny way of knowing what you needed even before you did... and always being able to find that one proposal that had the perfect information that you needed to use as a template. Al always made it a point to reach out and connect with everyone. He loved to talk, had a million stories, and was a character...to put it lightly.”

Many in the Redding office have special memories of him. According to John Schoonover, Al apparently took great pride in being the first one in the office every morning to get the coffee started for everyone. For Raheel Hussain, it was going to dinner with Al and purposefully talking aloud about political/social/religious issues that most people would avoid, to see if they would get kicked out. Susan further adds, “Al was a great guy with a big heart and a passion/talent for writing, archaeology, history, connecting with people, and helping out.”

Anne Kernkamp writes, “Al had a long and happy marriage to his wife, Carol. A couple years after she passed away after a long battle with ovarian cancer, Al again found love with his partner, Betsy, who was with him to the end, providing compassionate care with her beautiful music. We should all be so lucky.”

Al is survived by his immediate family, Betsy, son Ben and daughter Sarah, along with Ben’s wife Jennifer and their son Isaac, and members of his extended family. Al was a veteran of the Vietnam War, having served in the US Navy.



### JOLEE A. GARDNER

JoLee Ann Gardner, 68, died October 8, 2021. She was her husband’s greatest love, soul mate and best friend. She was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota, the eldest child of Robert and Evelyn Pearson. When she was 12 years old, her family moved to Pinellas Park, Florida. She graduated from Largo High School, then earned an Associate of Arts degree in music from St. Petersburg Junior College while also working full-time. JoLee then attended the University of South Florida archaeological field school and continued work there as a student field lab assistant, receiving her Bachelor of Arts degree in anthropology. In the late 1970s and early 1980s, she served as laboratory director and associate curator at the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology (Columbia). She worked on archaeological projects in South and North Carolina before entering the graduate program in anthropology at the University of Tennessee.

JoLee was supervising a UT field crew in Middle Tennessee during the summer of 1984 when she met Jeff Gardner. They were married in 1986; in late 1987, JoLee and Jeff were hired as professional archaeologists by a small cultural resources consulting company in Atlanta. Soon after their move to Georgia, JoLee accepted the position of associate archaeologist with Georgia Power Company. In 1989, she was named staff archaeologist and was later promoted to land resources supervisor. She also attended Mercer University (Atlanta), graduating with a master’s degree in business administration in 1994. She was also a proud 1996 Olympics (Atlanta) volunteer, serving as a driver/personal assistant to the president of the International Equestrian Federation, Her Royal Highness, Pilar de Borbon (sister of the King of Spain).

After ten years with Georgia Power, JoLee opened a startup company, LAMOSA, selling premium quality gourmet tea and accessories. She later returned to project and program management with CH2M. She and Jeff transferred with their businesses to Jacksonville, Florida in 2006 and lived in the historic Springfield neighborhood. Following 17 years of managing environmental compliance, project delivery, and business development projects for CH2M, JoLee retired in 2017. Soon thereafter, she and Jeff relocated to Ohio and settled in Worthington.

There was never a time when JoLee was not in motion, always moving forward. She drove her beloved 1966 MG Midget through the Great Smoky Mountains. She walked around her neighborhoods, and through Europe, North and South America, Japan, New Zealand, and Antarctica during many wonderful travels with Jeff. She hiked the Inca Trail in Peru with her niece, Rachel. She race-walked the 100km Dodentocht across Belgium, with her friends, Cathie and Andy. She biked for fun and in competitions. And JoLee walked, and race-walked, and ran dozens of marathons and numerous shorter races.

JoLee enjoyed travel, gardening, learning new things, and volunteering. But one of JoLee's great passions was wine. She loved journeying to wine-producing areas, learning about the grapes and wine making and, of course, drinking really great wine with family and friends.



### JAMES JODIE

After a brave 16-month battle with pancreatic cancer, James (Jim) Jodie passed away on September 1, 2021, at the age of 80, in Elm Grove, Wisconsin. He was born and raised in Wisconsin on the Jodie farm, and attended the University of Wisconsin-Madison, earning a civil engineering degree. He and his wife Angelina were married in 1965.

During his career, he worked for the City of Milwaukee, State of Wisconsin, Jack E Leisch & Associates, and CH2M. In his retirement, Jim enjoyed volunteering in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) in the School District of Waukesha and with the Elm Grove Plan Commission. His favorite hobbies were going to the symphony and plays with his wife, spending time with his children, grandchildren, friends, and relatives, and taking walks with his buddies. He spent numerous hours photo-journaling which his family will continue to treasure.

He loved to travel around the world with his wife, including Puerto Vallarta, the British Virgin Islands, Sicily, and Europe. Jim also volunteered tirelessly with Angie at Catholic Marriage Preparation classes, with the Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf, and as Assessors at Alverno College.

Says Max Schmiede, "When I transferred from Anchorage to Milwaukee in August 1990 Jim was here. He had been with Jack E Leisch & Associates (JEL), headquartered in Chicago when CH2M bought them out and integrated them into our Chicago and Milwaukee operations. One of the projects he worked on in the early 1990s was as PM on the Wisconsin DOT Hwy 35/64 project in the northwest corner of the state. I know that he worked on other WisDOT projects, and multiple projects for Iowa DOT. He retired around 2010."

Adds Pat Klampe, "The family obituary does a great job of painting the picture of Jim as a well-rounded, family loving, and giving person who, by the way was also a solid and well-rounded engineer with great people skills and always a positive attitude. To expand briefly on his career at CH2M: Jim was hired away from WisDOT in the mid-1980s by JEL in Chicago. In 1989 CH2M acquired JEL, including their Milwaukee area office. Jim had developed a small staff of transportation designers and construction inspectors. After the acquisition, I worked with Jim to transition all of the staff into our transportation group in Milwaukee. From the very beginning Jim was gracious, helpful, and greatly interested in how his staff would be treated in the new company. He was very helpful in building our relationships with WisDOT.

"Jim went on to work 20 years for CH2M on major highway projects in Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa, and Idaho. Among several others, he managed the Verona Bypass near Madison, and community bypasses in Iowa and rural northern Illinois. He also went west and assisted in the early stages of the \$1-billion Idaho Transportation Department's GARVEE Program that was delivered by a joint venture of CH2M and the Washington Group. He was totally dedicated to our firm, a great asset, and a great guy!"



### ELAINE JOYCE JONES

Elaine Joyce Jones of Austin, Texas, died December 14, 2021. She was born on October 9, 1950 in Yakima, Washington, to Harold H. Jones, and Joyce L. Jones. As a Latin American Studies major she spent 6 months in Chiapas, Mexico, and 9 months in Columbia honing Spanish language skills and paddling 500 miles through Columbia to the sea.

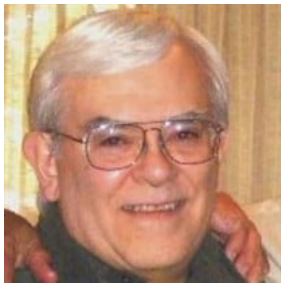
After graduation she lived in Mexico City and worked as a language tutor and translator. She met Jaime Gomez there and they married later at Seattle. Elaine continued for 20 years to make at least annual trips to Mexico City to work on a translation team for the presidency of Mexico at Los Pinos.

Elaine came to Austin and the University of Texas for an MBA and earned an MS degree in technology commercialization. She used her skills to advise and execute strategic communications for business and government clients who benefited from her grasp of practical tools for defining problems and communicating clearly to the target audience. She loved helping engineers and other technically minded people express their ideas.

Says John McLeod, “Elaine was so helpful when we setup the Texas operation so many years ago. Prior to that she had also worked with Diane Creel in CH2M marketing, and in the Washington, DC office. She moved to Austin to work on her first MBA at UT and did some part-time work for Bill Eckenberg. This is how I met her. Her connections to CH2M are deep - she grew up with Bob and Tom Card in Washington. She also did a number of marketing surveys for Kent Robinson to help decide where best to locate offices. She was remarkable person and a dynamo of creative energy.”

After retirement from business consulting Elaine spent more time with her many friends and extended family, but made time to volunteer in the CASA program advocating for dependent children. This led to a year as a social worker with the State of Texas Child Protective Services. Elaine is survived by two brothers, and was preceded in death by her parents.

A 22-minute video from Elaine’s memorial is now available on YouTube [here](#).



### ROBERT HICKEY

Robert V. Hickey, 78, of Eugene passed away October 13, 2021, at his care facility.

Bob was born in Ontario, Oregon, on December 12, 1942. He was the youngest son of Buel and Lucille Hickey. His family moved to Corvallis when he was young. He graduated from Corvallis High School and was married to Consuelo Donez.

Bob was employed by CH2M; he worked with his brother, Duane, on the development of the CH2M RollVac machine, which was patented in 1987. Bob and Duane founded Taco Toro in Corvallis, where he earned the name “Taco Bob.” Later, he worked as General Manager of H&R Block and worked as an accountant for several years.



### DAVID JENKINS

Professor Emeritus David Jenkins passed away on March 6, 2021 at the age of 85. Dr. Jenkins was a Professor Emeritus of Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE) at UC Berkeley from 1966 to 1999, a member of their Academy of Distinguished Alumni, a sought after wastewater treatment expert, and a long-standing member and volunteer for California Water Environmental Association (CWEA) and the Water Environment Federation (WEF).

Dr. Jenkins received his PhD in Public Health from King’s College University (Durham) in 1960. He joined UC Berkeley in 1964 as an Assistant Professor, rising through the ranks to full professorship in 1975. He retired in 1999, and remained deeply committed to the campus and the department throughout his career.

Dr. Jenkins’ research focused on the chemistry and microbiology of wastewater, including contributions to wastewater treatment science and technology that brought him worldwide recognition. He spoke frequently at CWEA and WEF conferences and was willing to lend a helping hand to students, fellow CWEA members, or assist an agency with their treatment plant challenges. He always answered the call for help from wastewater operators and we are forever grateful for his kind and generous contributions to our profession.

He was also affectionately known as the “FlocDoc” because of his expertise in researching and analyzing the activated sludge process, the most common and efficient method for wastewater treatment used around the world. It was a nickname Dr. Jenkins embraced, using the email handle “flocdoc” when he set-up his consulting practice. Floc is short for flocculation. Dr. Jenkins research included looking at the mass of microorganisms in wastewater treatment, and the absorbed organic and inorganic materials that clump together during the activated sludge process.

Dr. Jenkins’ achievements were also widely recognized beyond UC Berkeley. He was elected to the National Academy of Engineering in 2001, won the 1995 Gordon Maskew Fair Medal for outstanding contributions to environmental engineering education, and received the 1995 Water Pollution Control Federation’s Outstanding Publication Award for an archival journal publication that has stood the test of time.

Writes Ray Yep, “I consider him one of the giants in wastewater engineering on the West Coast, along with Perry McCarthy at Stanford and George Tchobanoglous at UC Davis. I don’t think that he was ever employed by CH2M, but many CH2M teams used his services as a consultant. Glen Daigger knew him very well.”

**IMPORTANT NOTE: Our only resource regarding the passing of any retiree, alumni colleagues or their spouses comes from our members or newsletter readers.** Please forward their name, obituary or the family’s contact information to [CH2MHILLaa@gmail.com](mailto:CH2MHILLaa@gmail.com) or [gkoblitz1@outlook.com](mailto:gkoblitz1@outlook.com) so we may respond or contact them. Thank you!! Thanks to the many of you who shared information regarding the loss of our current cherished alumni shown above.

## Travelogues

We've heard from many folks about their travels in the past, and thought we'd add this section to make it easy for you to highlight your special trips and photos. Of course, the COVID-19 pandemic again changed most everyone's international travel for 2021. Many folks we heard from have postponed their trips into 2022 and beyond. Please keep this spot in mind and send your future highlights to Angie Kruse ([scarlet.study415@gmail.com](mailto:scarlet.study415@gmail.com)) or to Gordon ([gkoblitz1@outlook.com](mailto:gkoblitz1@outlook.com)).

### ROAD TRIP TO VISIT CH2M FRIENDS

By Ray Yep ([rayyep1@gmail.com](mailto:rayyep1@gmail.com))

My wife Nancy and I took a road trip in October to Oregon and Washington. We stopped in Medford and had dinner with Paul Pouliot and his wife Kimberly. I had not seen Paul in a long time and it was great catching up. He lives on a couple of acres in Merlin, which is about 30 miles north of Medford. He keeps busy working on 15 cars and other activities.

We then stopped in Corvallis to visit with John and Genny Filbert. We had dinner at one of the best restaurants in Corvallis.. delicious! While at John's house, we Facetimed with Tom and Sherry Cutting. Both John and Tom are in good spirits and we talked a lot about the good old days at CH2M. I have been salmon fishing with John and Tom for the past 15 years or so to keep in touch. We didn't fish this year, but in the past we typically fished in the fall on the Alsea or Yaquina rivers, launching from John's home in Waldport. After John sold his boat, we fished with Dave Grigsby, who is a professional guide and works in the Jacobs Corvallis office.

We then went on to visit with Sally Ruggles at her home in White Salmon, Washington, and then drove to Olympia to visit a friend who used to live in the Bay Area. Overall, a very good trip!



*John and Genny Filbert and Nancy and Ray Yep.*



*Sally Ruggles at her birthday celebration earlier this year.*

## TED'S TALES AND TRAVELS: ECUADOR AND GALAPAGOS ISLANDS - AN EXCURSION TO REMEMBER! – SEGMENT #2 TEASER – THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS

By Ted Downen (ted.downen@gmail.com)

OOPS – I'm feeling a bit like the "hard shell" friend I met on the Galapagos Islands (see photo).

You may recall, that in the July 2021 CHAA Newsletter article about our trip in May of last year to Ecuador and the Galapagos, I shared our experiences on the mainland that I referred to as "Segment #1". At the end of the article, I indicated that I would submit "Segment #2", for publication in the January 2022 issue. That follow-up segment is intended to present what we experienced on the islands.

Well, time has passed and the Segment has not been composed. Consequently, I'm feeling a bit disappointed, like my tortoise friend. But, stay tuned. We will "prevail". In the meantime, here are couple more photos of what we saw on those amazing islands.



## MISSING IN ACTION

This is the LAST big push for CHAA to seek your help in connecting with some folks without current email addresses or contact information. Many times it just may be a change in their email address. We've been successful with our last few MIA searches and found several folks each time who are now reconnected with us again. Thank you to the folks who helped us find them!!

We hope this (large) round will do the same with the legacy employees who have retired, Rather than keep recycling the same list, we'll give it a chance to snag a number of "hits" and put the remaining on hold for follow-up by other means. For this January issue, they are:

Joseph Aguirre	Brian Gackstatter	Ned Johnson	Jeff Pearson
Ephieum Allen	Jerry Galvin	Betsey Jorgensen	Elaine Praegitzer
Katherine Althen	Guinevere Gardener	Joseph Kavanagh	Robert Reid
Grisselly Anania	Ron Gates	Keith Keller	Jamie Robinson
Luis Aragon	Waymon Gay	Peter Kwiatkowski	Vin Rubino
Jerry Aycock	Jean Gibbs	Trung Lam	Walt Schwartz
Larry Belken	Robert Golding	Jong Wook Lee	Mary Shoenberger
Gary Bowels	Pouya Golshan	Aaron Leritz	Tricia Shular
Rebecca Carovillano	Ruben Gonzalez	Carol Littge	Scott Sutton
Billy Chapstick	Kevin Grant	Bryan Marlowe	Lila Tahti
Erin Coates	Patti Hanseder	Felipe Martinez	Jeffery Thornton
Steve Cook	Hames Hayden	Rick Miller	Evelyn Tran
Carole Crowe	Curtis Home	Susan Moline	Russell Tripp
Wei Ding	Gretchen Honan	Jess Nessler	Angle Valiente
Gerald Elliott	Dave House	Miguel Palavicinni	Jonathan Weier
Wayne Elmquist	Leslie Howell	Dilp Patel	Xia Zhu
Lyle Ettestad	Greg JohnBaptiste	Ellen Paterson	

An added thought: If you have a LinkedIn account, perhaps you could help us find some of our missing colleagues you know of by reaching out via LinkedIn and obtain their email address so we can follow-up. Any assistance would be greatly appreciated! Please respond to [donmarske@gmail.com](mailto:donmarske@gmail.com) if you have any information. Thank you!!

## Tidbits

Don Marske writes:

Thanks to Susie Gaare, the SCO (Southern California) Geezers gathered at Seasons 52 on August 23, 2021, to resume their quarterly get together after an 18 ½-month COVID hiatus. Missing from the photo are Bob Vilker who had to leave lunch early, and Mary Boyle, the photographer. It was nice catching up with each other. We had a few new faces and, of course, several returning old timers. I couldn't make it but was glad to see the new faces and will be recruiting them to join the Association. All are looking forward to holiday season get together.



*Standing left to right: Andy Vollmar, Jerry Boyle, Dave Mark, Susie Gaare, Denise Davison, Mike Tovar, Tom Bissonette, Fred Soroushian, and Randy Denton. Kneeling: Carmen Quan, Adam Hutchinson, and Jeff Davison.*

**Bob Chapman writes:**

Here are some photos I took while in the Oregon State University Foundation skybox watching the Stanford game.



*Marnie Noble and Dean Scott Ashford.*



*Gary Nuss and Robert Birtini, head of the Civil and Construction Engineering School at OSU.*



*Mike and Sue Fisher.*



**Susie Gaare writes:**

Jon and I bought a used electric car, a 2015 Smart Car, in late June; we love it. Jon drives it most of the time. Believe it or not, he has more leg room and head room in this car than our Kia sedan!! Jon says that he is 6 feet 5 inches (so his driver's license says). We spend about \$3.75 per week charging this car.



**Gordon Koblitz writes:**

After busy summers for everyone, we finally set a date to meet at our favorite dining spot, Open Door. We had our own setting for the evening and thoroughly enjoyed our shared good news and adventures.



*Sisters, Oregon, September 30, 2021, gathering. From left to right: Pat and Pam Klampe, Gordon and Mary Koblitz, Kirsten and father Mike Anglea.*



**Al Aikens writes:**

The pandemic has lessened and I was able to go on another photo adventure to Yellowstone and Grand Tetons National Parks. This will be the first of several photos from that trip. Not only was there plenty of landscape there were oodles of wildlife, a photography subject that I am not particularly practiced in. We saw bighorn sheep, elk, bison, pronghorn, black bear, and moose between the two parks, all firsts for me. This set of photos of bighorn sheep turned out pretty good. Click [here](#) to see some photos. An additional slide show of the Grand Canyon of Yellowstone National Park is found [here](#). Enjoy!

**Ted Downen writes:**

Here's a photo, taken July 20, 2021, of the first meeting of the IDC/CH2M Portland Oregon Tuesday Morning Breakfast Group since the COVID-19 Shutdown. Starting with Ken Durant in the front and going clockwise; Ken Lundgren, Ed Varanizan, Steve Cook, Randy Smith, Vern Jackson, Wayne Hansen, Sue King, Paul Turner, Yuki Marsh. Not pictured are Ted Downen, Paul Fujimoto, and so many others. Looking forward to when the group is able to fully engage.



**Gordon Koblitz writes:**

Member success! One of the goals of the CH2M Alumni Association is to connect members, colleagues, and former co-workers. We recently had some success in this area when Mark Hoff wrote in to the CHAA asking for help in finding his old college roommate, David Lane, and knew that he had worked for CH2M. Mark wanted to inform him about their 50th college reunion (Rose-Hulman, class of 1971). Fortunately, David is a member of CHAA and we were able to forward his information to Mark!

**Bob Chapman shares this note from Marnie Noble, Senior Director of Development, Leadership Giving, Oregon State University Foundation:**

I have a personal fondness for CH2M and celebrate its origin in Corvallis and connection to OSU. I'm thrilled that we have been able to document the company's history and legacy in many ways. Most gratifying is the support OSU has received from many on this email. Your generosity enables OSU to continue to produce outstanding graduates, develop solutions to important problems, and offer fertile ground for the founding of future companies like CH2M. It has been an honor and privilege to work with you on behalf of the College of Engineering. Fortunately I am staying at OSUF, moving to a role where I will serve the university in a broader capacity. I welcome the opportunity to see any of you at future OSU events. Please consider this a standing invitation to come to campus!

**Gordon Koblitz writes:**

The Big 80! I knew it was coming, so best to plan for it since I'm not one for surprise parties 😊. We spend summers/falls in Oregon to avoid the Texas heat, so we issued an open "y'all come" invite for our family, relatives, and dear friends over a 3-week period late July to mid-August. We hoped it allowed folks to conveniently adapt their busy schedules to join us.

Following a family wedding in Portland, the first (and largest) group rolled into Sisters. Our daughters and nephews prepared an assortment of family photos of both our childhoods to present times and air played on our TV screen. The grandkids loved seeing the "olden-days" and offered up questions and lots of laughs.

The other groups (shown in the additional photos) enjoyed the same slideshow, and everyone who stayed enjoyed side trips to Bend, area lakes and rivers, walks in the forest, biking, hiking, dining in and out, deer and bird watching, a little pickleball and the hot tub, of course. It was one of the best family celebrations we've had and a chance to reflect on our moves from Corvallis to Portland to Dallas. Lots of ups and a few downs over the years, but we are in gratitude for our family, CH2M friends (50+ years) and other wonderful friends along the way. Now we get to be thinking about planning Mary's surprise 80th in a couple years.



*Gordon and Mary on the sofa (under the Happy Birthday wall hanging), with Gordon's brother Craig (who also celebrated his 85<sup>th</sup> birthday), and son David.*



*Dog versus deer!*



**Don Marske writes:**

We just received 30 copies of Jim's *Little Yellow Book*, thanks to Phil Blonn, who was recently cleaning out his desk on his last day. Phil is/was a 20-year veteran of the St. Louis office. He shares a "pour one for the founders" photo of the day Jacobs took over. 😊

## Feedback/Kudos

We love hearing from you! Thanks to all who have sent in their comments. If you have comments, ideas, suggestions, please send them to [gkoblitz1@outlook.com](mailto:gkoblitz1@outlook.com). Here are a few recent comments:

**David Odom writes:**

Don, the work that you and Gordon do for the Association makes my modest gift insignificant but I do appreciate your comments. The presentation that you gave many years ago on project management was just short of career changing for me. Here it is 40+ years later and I still remember it. Take care and be safe.

**Martin McCarthy writes:**

Don, thanks for the reminder. I am delighted to renew. CH2M HILL was a great firm that contributed a great deal to Ireland - especially the IDC division and its work for INTEL. Would love to make it back to the USA soon to see Mike Kennedy, Greg Young and others. Best Regards, Martin.

**Scott Trusler writes:**

Thank you Don for all you do for the Association!!  
Best wishes. Cheers, Scott

**Art Storbo writes:**

I'm so glad you and Gordon are doing this – few (none?) other organizations ever do anything significant to keep their retirees together as a “family”. That was part of being CH2M. I find Lowell Observatory has the same mindset, with the slogan “You’re are not an employee of Lowell Observatory, you are Lowell Observatory”.

**Vern Nelson writes:**

My pleasure to renew, Don. Lots of great memories of super people doing great things and having fun doing it!  
Best regards.

**Jim Hawkey writes:**

Don, thank you for all you do for those of us who are CH2M HILL alumni. Great memories come back to me every time I read an article in the newsletter or am contacted by a dear CH2M friend.

**June Ann Hassebroek writes:**

Don, sending a check for membership plus donation to the cause. I had hoped to attend a gathering, but travel is still too difficult for me to imagine going alone. Thankful to hear from past CH2M friends which is special. Thanks for all your team’s accomplishments.

## Jacobs Pension Service Center News

Jacobs’ Consolidated Pension Plan Service Center number (by Willis Towers Watson) is 888-482-6632 or [www.eepoint.com/jacobs](http://www.eepoint.com/jacobs) for assistance.

For any other inquiries, please contact Jacobs HR and Global People services at the following e-mail: [JACOBSHRUS.CAN@jacobs.com](mailto:JACOBSHRUS.CAN@jacobs.com).

## Jacobs News

Some of the following selected stories tie in connections from work with previous CH2M HILL clients. We encourage our readers to check the Jacobs company website for the latest project wins and related news and stock news:

<https://www.jacobs.com> for general information

<https://www.jacobs.com/about/annual-report/2020> for the 2020 Annual Report

<https://www.jacobs.com/newsroom/news/jacobs-ranked-1-enrs-top-500-design-firms-list-fourth-consecutive-year-0> to see the #1 ENR Top 500 Design Firms

### JACOBS RANKED AS TOP GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTING FIRM

Jacobs has been ranked as the top global environmental consulting firm and No. 2 overall in *Engineering News-Record's* annual survey of the Top 200 Environmental Firms. The company reported \$4.6 billion in environmental consulting engineering revenue for 2020, encompassing the categories of clean energy, air quality, environmental management, water supply and treatment, environmental science, wastewater treatment, hazardous waste and nuclear waste.

Jacobs' environmental consulting standing is complemented by its global environmental design work, where the company is ranked No. 1 in hazardous waste, chemical and soil remediation, nuclear waste, sewer and waste, wastewater treatment plants, sanitary and storm sewers, clean air compliance and site assessment and compliance; No. 2 in water treatment and desalination plants, and water transmission lines and aqueducts; and No. 3 in water supply, as recorded in *Engineering News-Record's* annual survey of the Top 500 Design Firms released earlier this year.

"As one of the world's largest Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) solutions providers, Jacobs is proud of our standing in the industry," said Jacobs President and COO Bob Pragada. "ESG is at the heart of our company strategy and we are laser focused on partnering with our public and private sector clients and stakeholders to co-create solutions for a more connected, sustainable world."

Jacobs Global Environmental Market Director and Senior Vice President, Strategy & Solutions, People & Places Solutions Jan Walstrom added, "Achieving the Top Global Environmental Consulting Firm ranking is a testament to our more than 17,000 environmental professionals, putting Jacobs at the forefront of enabling the world's citizens and our life-sustaining planet to survive, adapt and thrive."

### NASA NAMES JACOBS LARGE BUSINESS PRIME CONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR

Jacobs was selected as NASA's Agency-Level 2020 Small Business Industry Award (SBIA) Large Business Prime Contractor of the Year for NASA Kennedy Space Center (KSC). The Agency-Level award follows Jacobs' FY-20 Center-Level SBIA Large Business Prime Contractor of the Year Award at two NASA Centers: Langley Research Center (LaRC) and Kennedy Space Center (KSC).

"Jacobs' relationship with NASA goes back 60-plus years, and we truly value our longstanding collaboration to help to solve the most complex and hazardous challenges of space exploration," said Jacobs Critical Mission Solutions Executive Vice President and President Dawne Hickton. "As NASA's largest service provider, we are committed to providing integrated solutions in support of the agency's mission and the nation's space program."

Jacobs was nominated for its most recent award by NASA KSC, where the company serves as the prime contractor for NASA's Exploration Ground Systems program, responsible for the development and operations of flight vehicle components. The KSC nomination acknowledged Jacobs for its ground and flight application software team efforts in support of the Artemis program and critical missions to resupply the International Space Station, as well as overall service to the Test and Operations Support Contract.

NASA's goal of traversing space resonates strongly with Jacobs' workforce. As part of NASA's team at nine different facilities across the country (Wallops, Goddard, Langley, Kennedy, Marshall, Johnson, White Sands, Ames and Glenn), Jacobs is a provider and integrator of full lifecycle aerospace capability. This includes design and construction; base, mission and launch operations; sustaining capital maintenance; and secure and intelligent asset management, development, modification, and testing processes for fixed assets supporting national government, military, defense and NASA, as well as commercial space companies.

## JACOBS AWARDED CONTRACT EXTENSION TO SUPPORT UK'S NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS



*Photo courtesy of EDF Energy.*

Jacobs was awarded an extension to its Project Management Resources (PMR) contract with EDF Nuclear Generation, operator of the UK's nuclear power plants. The Jacobs team will continue to support the stations, which account for about 17% of the country's electricity output.

This involves supporting the seven advanced gas-cooled reactor stations, including the transition from generation to defueling, and the long-term operation program for the Sizewell B pressurized water reactor. EDF estimates the April 2022 – March 2024 extension at more than \$44 million (£32.5 million).

Now in its seventh year, the PMR contract supports work for more than 150 project management specialists. Jacobs is now recruiting for locations across the U.K. and welcomes those with diverse, non-nuclear experience.

“The agreement to extend was made ten months in advance, reflecting EDF's confidence in Jacobs and our record of successful delivery,” said Jacobs Energy, Security and Technology Senior Vice President Karen Wiemelt. “We will assist EDF to maximize generation from these vital national assets for the remainder of their operating lives and to transition smoothly toward defueling and decommissioning.”

## JACOBS MACE SUPPORTS THE EXPO 2020 DUBAI OPENING

The Jacobs Mace joint venture (JV) celebrates Expo 2020 Dubai as visitors discover 192 country pavilions and a host of signature thematic pavilions, thrilling entertainment and state-of-the-art innovative technologies.

As the Official program delivery management provider for Expo 2020 Dubai, the Jacobs Mace JV worked alongside the Expo team in managing the overall program delivery and master plan of the infrastructure and public realm spaces for the event through to the site's transition to a people-centric smart city, District 2020. The JV assisted Expo in managing more than 40 individual projects that run 24/7, including design management, urban planning, procurement services, construction/project management and logistics, across the three Thematic Districts, public realm and the Al Wasl Plaza centerpiece.

“We've helped drive the transformation of the site into a lasting urban legacy, that unites the world to innovate and create meaningful impact for future generations,” said Jacobs Vice President Amer Battikhi. “The Jacobs Mace JV worked alongside Expo all the way, from our work managing the master plan and delivering the arrivals plazas and public realm spaces to our monitoring role in the construction of the thematic pavilions. We worked with Expo to make sure the experience truly inspires visitors and helps them understand their role in creating a more connected, sustainable world.”

The Thematic Pavilions, Sustainability (Terra), Mobility (Alif) and Opportunity (Mission Impossible), are designed to inspire meaningful action from people to tackle some of the world's most critical challenges and embrace emerging opportunities posed by climate change, innovation and technology.



*Expo 2020 Dubai Opening Ceremony.*

Jacobs Mace's program of work helped to transform the desert into a destination capable of hosting 300,000 visitors a day, creating an inspiring and entertaining Expo experience. Bringing consulting and program management expertise, Jacobs Mace collaborated with all project partners to transform the Expo site, leaving a memorable and sustainable legacy for Dubai and the United Arab Emirates.

Expo 2020 Dubai Chief Development & Delivery Officer Ahmed Al Khatib said: "Our partnership with Jacobs Mace played a vital role in delivering not only a venue for the first World Expo in the Middle East, Africa and South Asia (MEASA) region, but a sustainable and human-centric city of the future. Exemplifying our theme, 'Connecting Minds, Creating the Future', building a development of this scale to a demanding schedule required collaboration, knowledge-sharing, innovation and continuous improvement to working practices. Our partners were crucial in helping us to successfully deliver the project in time for Expo 2020's opening."

Mace CEO for Consultancy Jason Millett added: "Playing a key role in the delivery of Expo 2020 Dubai's site, the entire infrastructure and public realm has been a once in a lifetime opportunity. Driven by a vision to change the world with radical innovations, ideas and solutions, Expo 2020 Dubai will bring the people together during a time when we need it the most. Jacobs Mace is delighted to have been part of turning the vision into reality, bringing our project management expertise, delivery focus, and innovative management solutions to manage the delivery of this outstanding show since 2014."

### JACOBS WINS TWO CZECH REPUBLIC NUCLEAR CONTRACTS

Jacobs has won two new contracts to support the Czech nuclear sector with radioactive waste management services.

National utility ČEZ has selected Jacobs' SIAL® geopolymer encapsulation technology to safely solidify 250 metric tons of low and intermediate-level radioactive sludge at the Dukovany Nuclear Power Plant. Jacobs will treat the sludge, currently held in storage tanks at the plant, and encapsulate it in 200-liter drums ready for transport to long-term storage. The work, carried out at a specially assembled on-site unit, is expected to take five years.

On another front, SÚRAO, the Czech Republic's Radioactive Waste Repository Authority, has appointed Jacobs to a safety assessment and technical advice framework for its planned deep geological repository. Last December, the Czech government approved a shortlist of four potential locations for the repository together with a schedule calling for the site to be selected by 2030 and operational by 2065. This contract complements Jacobs' work supporting radioactive waste repositories in the UK, Finland, Sweden and Belgium.

"Our previous experience was key to winning these two contracts, which strengthen our position in important radioactive waste management programs in the Czech Republic," said Jacobs Energy, Security and Technology Senior Vice President Karen Wiemelt. "These contracts not only support the Czech government's vision for the future of the country, but also help create a more sustainable and safer world."

### JACOBS AWARDED PROJECT MANAGEMENT CONTRACT WITH JOHNS HOPKINS MEDICINE

Jacobs was selected by Johns Hopkins Medicine to provide project management services for the redevelopment of laboratory space on its medical campus in Baltimore, Maryland.

Plans are to renovate Johns Hopkins Hospital's existing Children's Medical and Surgical Center (CMSC) and construct a new 12-story North Tower addition. The CMSC Building, originally built as the home for Johns Hopkins Children's Center, a 200-bed hospital, has been used for research labs and offices since 2012. The new project will provide innovative spaces for wet and computational laboratories, as well as collaborative spaces for investigators, clinicians and students.

"Jacobs values the opportunity to contribute to the advancement of research for Johns Hopkins Medicine and continue our relationship with one of the premier medical institutions in the world," said Jacobs EVP and President of People & Places Solutions Patrick Hill. "We are committed to supporting the organization's mission of improving the health of the community and the world through setting the standard of excellence in medical education, research and clinical care."

The contract includes project management services for 531,609 square feet of renovations and additions for the CMSC North Tower project, as well as replacement of the existing façade, construction of research laboratories, and a new entrance to Johns Hopkins Hospital from Monument Street.

Construction is estimated to be completed in the summer of 2026.