

# Retiree/Alumni eNewsletter

July 2008

## Some Editorial Notes

*BY GORDON KOBLITZ*

Hard to believe it's been six months since the last Newsletter – certainly been many exciting things happening though! First, check out the Jim Howland Birthday Celebration article. It was great fun tying it in with the debut of the Alumni History web site <http://www.alumni.ch2m.com/history/default.html> which Jim helped with over the past many months. Not too late to send Jim your belated B-day greetings or just best wishes either!

We're continuing to receive more requests for the eNewsletter, which helps us on several fronts: saves postage, time and production costs. We continue to have more material than we can send in the 10-page hard-copy (limited by postage costs) thanks to folks submitting updates and articles on CH2M HILL activities and new projects of interest. The eNewsletter advantages include color photos, additional content and we'll continue to send email updates every month or two with selected articles of interest about CH2M HILL business wins, staffing and employee activities pulled from the Virtual Office. Drop me or Vicki Starr a note to switch over: [gkoblitz@ch2m.com](mailto:gkoblitz@ch2m.com); [vstarr@ch2m.com](mailto:vstarr@ch2m.com). For those of you who don't have access to email, we'll be happy to send a hard-copy of the additional material upon request. Just let Vicki Starr/CVO know by calling 541/760-8494.

The 2009 Retiree/Alumni Retreat planning is going well. Check out the latest news and get the dates on your calendar. I'll also make a plug for Gene Suhr, our Supreme Editor-in-Chief, for the Alumni History web site. He and the team have done a superb job of updating the information and adding much more (Dave Evans is leading the charge on the 2000 decade and Don Marske is taking the lead on getting many more biographies included); however, they could use help filling in the blanks and gathering more photos. Please check out their work and contact them if you can help (and we know you can!). Here's their email addresses: [gsuhr@comcast.net](mailto:gsuhr@comcast.net); [c.a.evans@att.net](mailto:c.a.evans@att.net); [dmarske@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dmarske@sbcglobal.net).

*Special thanks again go to Suellen Ehrmann/SAN, Vicki Starr/CVO for editing and production, along with the CVO repro and mailroom staff. Please keep those updates and email address changeovers coming! Best regards!!*

# Sun Valley Lodge is Location of 2009 Retirees Retreat

BY MIKE ANGLEA AND DAVID BENNION

We are excited to announce it is time to start planning your trip to the 2009 Retirees Retreat in beautiful Sun Valley, Idaho. The Sun

Valley Lodge, will be the location of our September 14 - 17, 2009 Retreat. The 2009 Retreat is a perfect opportunity to reunite and catch up with old friends and enjoy the numerous activities being planned.

Sun Valley provides an exciting opportunity for participants to expand their trip. The area has excellent access to the Rocky Mountain Region and will provide a great opportunity for individuals living across the country extend their tour to points of interest. An early Fall tour of Yellowstone and/or Glacier National Parks can be spectacular and connects conveniently with Sun Valley through scenic mountain drives. For history buffs, backtracking the Lewis and Clark Trail experience up the Columbia to the Clearwater River, the Lolo Pass to Missoula and the Lemhi Pass back into Idaho's Lemhi and Salmon Rivers, and on to Sun Valley would be a great trip, particularly for the folks in the Northwest. Similarly, the folks in the Southwest could incorporate a neat National Parks Tour through Grand Canyon in Arizona and Zion, Bryce Canyon and Arches National Parks in Utah. With early planning, individuals or groups could have a great experience traveling to the 2009 Retreat.

Cari Strouse and Megan Snider from the CH2M HILL Meetings & Events department are working with us to evaluate facilities and transportation options. If you have any suggestions or ideas for the 2009 Retreat please contact Mike at [dunedoo@bendbroadband.com](mailto:dunedoo@bendbroadband.com) or Dave at [dkbennion@hotmail.com](mailto:dkbennion@hotmail.com).

Please look for more detailed information on the 2009 Retreat after the first of the year.

## Jim Howland's Birthday Celebration

Jim Howland, one of our founding fathers, celebrated his 92nd birthday on June 2nd!

For those of you who missed it, here's the web site article celebrating Jim's birthday. The greetings that were posted on the blog will be presented in a book format for Jim to enjoy too. Also included is Jim's recent response from the CVO Monday Memo. It's not too late for you to share your best wishes for Jim too!

If you would like to send a greeting, you can still post a card to: Jim Howland, c/o Elizabeth French, CH2M HILL, 2300 N.W. Walnut Blvd., Corvallis, OR 97330. You may also email your greetings to Jim at: [jhowland@proaxis.com](mailto:jhowland@proaxis.com).



*Sun Valley Lodge*



*Golf course at Sun Valley*



Take a moment to thank this special gentleman for what he means to all of us at CH2M HILL.

Our gift to Jim and you is the new **Alumni History of CH2M HILL** (after all, there'd be no history for any of us if it weren't for Jim and his partners), and we encourage you to send Jim birthday greetings and notes of appreciation at <http://www.alumni.ch2m.com/History/default.html>.

### **WHY WE LOVE JIM**

*EXCERPTED FROM CVO MONDAY MEMO JULY 7, 2008*

For many of us retirees and Alumni, Jim is our hero and mentor. He set the standard for one-on-one relationships in offices operating like a family. He favored an open-door policy and talking to each other as equals. He is a man brimming with optimism whose upbeat attitude is contagious. He values humor, being careful not to get too serious. He pushed integrity in all the firm's dealings.

Jim's **Little Yellow Book**, a recitation of the firm's ethical guideposts, is standard issue to all new and old employees. (Imagine how many individuals his words have touched!) We know many of you have copies signed by Jim during one of his many visits to offices across the firm.

### **HISTORY WEBSITE PERSISTS THANKS TO DEDICATED GROUP**

Jim and Bob Pailthorp envisioned the historical record that was the foundation for this work, a laborious project that took months of research, writing, editing and rewriting for Jim, Bob and many other folks who helped. We are also indebted to Gus Pantazi who worked tirelessly to create and maintain a website that formed the basis for this edition of our Alumni History.

As Gus's version grew, it became too great a task for this dedicated CH2M alum. Recently a group picked up Gus's work, updating the web-based version of the firm's history. This group consisted of Gordon Koblitz, Steve Aasheim, Dave Evans, Don Marske, Jim Howland and Gus Pantazi (didn't we say Jim and Gus were dedicated?) and, thankfully Gene Suhr (our Supreme Editor-in-Chief), along with Lee Overcamp and Steve Kavalec providing corporate support, and Suellen Ehrmann, who did a final read-through/edit.

### **SHARE YOUR MEMORIES WITH JIM AND OTHER ALUMNI**

When you read this record and the written exchange of thoughts between the founding partners and many of the individuals who participated in the early years of the CH2M HILL phenomenon, you will experience some of the pride and personal satisfaction that still dwells in the hearts and minds of those of us who shared a portion of our lives with the organization they helped create.

As with most histories, this is a work in progress. As others make history, we hope to add their deeds. To this end, we solicit your input and comments and will endeavor to add to this history as

appropriate. So please send your stories, pictures, and interesting facts to [genesuhr@comcast.net](mailto:genesuhr@comcast.net) and consider yourself thanked in advance.

And help us honor wonderful Jim by sharing your good cheer, congratulations, and affection.

## **Howland Birthday Thank You**

*FROM JIM HOWLAND - EMPLOYEE NUMBER 003*

Overwhelmed with your birthday messages. WOW! Your many signatures, clever card designs, generous messages, phone calls, and e-mails from all over the world were more than this 92-year-old could ever imagine coming his way for a birthday.

Guess the sun now never sets on CH2M HILL activities. Just amazing. THANK YOU all very, very much - so wonderful.

We have counted over 3,900 signatures on 80 posters or cards, and they continue to arrive. Have identified messages from 55 offices or operating groups. Would like to thank directly every person involved, but that is not possible, so please consider you have a personal "thank you" through reading this.

All sorts of things happened on my birthday (June 2). CVO Office Manager Elizabeth French and Facilities Operations Assistant Linda Risen brought over a dozen or more poster-sized special displays, plus a large box of more normal-sized greetings covered with signatures. They all are mighty clever with yellow book sketches, early pictures of the partners, current pictures of offices, staff and dramatic projects, and cartoons. There is even one with a picture of Jim and nice text in a padded frame from Sri Lanka. From the Honolulu office came an envelope full of Hawaiian picture postcards, each one from a different person with a hand-written message.

We will not throw any of these greetings, large, small, or normal size, out for quite awhile, so when any of you get to Corvallis and have an interest, the greetings will be available for you to come by our house and peruse. Best to call first.

## **Alumni Updates**

### **WHERE ARE THEY NOW AND WHAT ARE THEY UP TO?**

#### **Reminiscence of Great Project Earns Unexpected Appreciation**

*FROM RICK FORNELLI, P.E., V.P./HONOLULU PROGRAM OFFICE*

At a recent meeting with the City and County of Honolulu (CCH) Dept. of Transportation and Streets (DTS), we were presenting our planned sewer tunnel concept to DTW Deputy Director Richard Torres. This was a very important meeting, since there are some CCH skeptics about our plan and how it might impact a planned light rail project. Two Dept. of Environment (ENV) staff (our client) were in the meeting, and they have been a little skeptical of our plan.

At the end of the meeting, Richard Torres asked if John Filbert and I knew Don Marske. Of course we said yes. Richard then proceeded to tell us (with the ENV staff present) what a great job Don had done for him 20+ years ago. Richard explained that he had an “impossible job” to complete, and Corps (COE) and Army staff didn’t believe it could be done. But Don and the Portland staff completed the job ahead of schedule and with excellent quality. Richard remembered visiting Portland to find the design staff doing two 9-hour shifts per day to meet the schedule, and that CH2M HILL saved the City huge amounts in fines by completing the work within 90 days, when most thought it would take 6 to 9 months.

Richard talked for at least 5 minutes on how great CH2M HILL is as a design firm, and what a great manager and friend Don is. Also, if CH2M HILL was planning the sewer collection tunnels, he was positive that there would not be a conflict with the light rail project. It could not have been better for our client to hear if we had planned it.

Good work and great staff (Don) have a way of returning to help later CH2M HILLers.

## **Response and Recollection**

*FROM DON MARSKE*

So cool... that was the air stripping tower we did for the COE (Schofield Barracks) back in '85-'86). He was a great client to work with. He had very high expectations but was willing to work as a partner.

The project needed to remove TCE from a drinking-water well serving Schofield Barracks. When the contamination was found, I remember a front-page photo of a nursing Army wife wondering whether her milk was contaminated. A politically charged photo as you might expect. I think we got the call about a half hour later. I also remember the first meeting with the base command staff and how the commander started setting aside all of the normal procurement rules so we could get this “g-d project!” completed.

I think this was one of the first design-construct projects we did - if not D-C it was certainly fast-track. We had a super team. Tom MacBriar/SEA was the design manager, Bob Schilling/SEA the mechanical, and Bill Byers/CVO was the process design engineer. Geez - we were all kids back then. EE Black was the contractor. Tom and the team completed the design in 60 days and the entire project was up and running in less than 16 months from detection of the TCE. As Richard said, the COE really appreciated that.

It's those kind of projects that I miss in retirement.

## **STILL WORKING IN SEMI-RETIREMENT:**

**From Larry Henderson/Senior Electrical Engineer/CVO:**

[larrykhenderson@aol.com](mailto:larrykhenderson@aol.com)

I retired in April of 2006 after 30 years at CH2M HILL. I stayed retired for a whole week before I responded to a request to return to work in New Orleans on the firm's Katrina relief efforts. I remained in New Orleans for several months until I suffered a stroke in September of 2006. That put a real dent in my plans for activity during retirement.

The best news is that the stroke was caused by a burst blood vessel in my brain, and that was caused by a birth defect (could have happened at any time during my life). That means that although recovery is slow, it is unlikely that I will have another stroke. The brain must re-assign all those functions for the area that was flooded by blood when the vessel burst.

Anyway, since I cannot be as active as I had intended during my retirement, I find that I have time and desire to work from home. I have been doing just that most of last year. I finished four projects in N.J. for the MKE office in January and some consulting for the New Orleans office in late 2007. I am set up to do electrical design and Q/C with full Internet and CH2M HILL network connections, printing, scanning, fax, and teleconferencing capability, all from my home. I can do everything except travel to project sites... maybe later for that.

I want to remind those who may need some electrical or I&C help with projects to keep me in mind. I still have all my PE registrations and liability insurance in force. I encourage anyone to communicate with me either by phone or e-mail for social or business purposes. I can be reached at 69616 Buckhorn Rd., Redmond, OR 97756 • 541/923-6900 • 541/231-5352 [cell]

## **ON THE SUBJECT OF STEADY GLEN SILBERNAGEL RETIRING**

*By PAUL BERG AND JIM McWADE*

*EXCERPTED FROM CVO MONDAY MEMO FEBRUARY 4, 2008*

**Steady Glen.** That's how many of us think of him. His strong work ethic, integrity, intelligence, and easy-going personality contributed to Glen being one of CH2M HILL's steady employees and a reason for our company's success. Glen retired in February after 38 years as a design technician in the CVO Water Business Group.

One of our favorite stories about Glen's career is the time many years ago when he was inspecting the outlet pipe from one of McMinnville's dams. Glen and another employee crawled up inside the 36-inch pipeline to check its condition. Because there was some accumulated sediment on the bottom of the pipe that interfered with the inspection, they had a third employee 'crack' the drain valve to run a small flow of water through the pipe. Unfortunately the valve stuck, and when it finally broke free it

opened a little too much, sending a wall of water through the pipe. The employee quickly shut the valve, but Glen, still inside of the pipe, didn't know that. Instead, what he knew was that there was a wall of water coming at him. He never crawled so fast in his life.

Glen was involved in a variety of water projects for many Oregon clients. Whether surveying in the cold Pacific Ocean surf or hanging from a cable in a deep sewer manhole, Glen always had a sense of humor. No task was too difficult for him to take on and complete in a professional manner. The experience that Glen brought to his work will be difficult to replace. He always said there are many places that he wants explore with his wife and five sons after he retires. We wish Glen well in his new adventures around the Northwest.

### **BEING REMEMBERED IS SATISFYING:**

**From Orv Rasmussen: [Orvrasmussen@aol.com](mailto:Orvrasmussen@aol.com)**

I worked for Wayne Phillips in the Architectural Engineering Department in Corvallis. The water and wastewater boys kept borrowing me to do process and site lighting design for their projects because they needed all the help they could get.

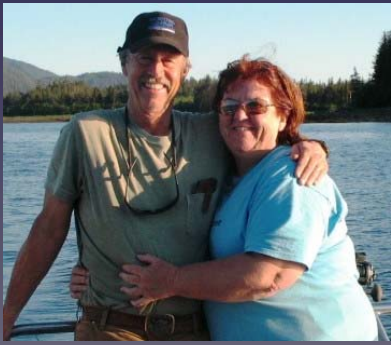
I left CH2M in 1976 to design and build a passive solar home in the hills south of Salem. My wife Linda, also a CH2M employee, helped with the construction and we moved in and occupied our new home within nine months time. I never made it back to work at CH2M.

We tired of country living on two acres of view property and moved to Fremont, California in 1986. While in California I worked as a salesman for several lighting companies. I am still working part-time for a lighting plastics supplier.

Since being semi-retired I started a new career of writing. I am currently working on two different manuscripts, one of which should be published in June or July of 2008. It is a short story (fiction) about a small town in distress and its miraculous recovery. The Mayor of the town is Will Dolittle and he is surrounded by a group of nit-wit cronies that fumble, stumble and bumble their way through life. Since I am a "hack" artist I have also drawn about 30 illustrations (cartoons) to make the story interesting.

The second book is about my childhood growing up in Carlton, Oregon. It covers my life from kindergarten through high school. I have drawn over 115 illustrations for this story. Everyone should write something sometime. You have not lived until you find yourself at your computer at 1:00 a.m. laughing or crying tears as you realize you are eight years old and the most unbelievable transformation is taking place.

I hope to sell the novel to anyone who has the courage to read silly stuff and give the childhood book to trapped relatives.



*Al & Diane enjoyed 2007 summer trip to Alaska*



*The Amoths have 25% sweat-equity interest in this Alaskan cabin*



*Don and Joan visited Imperial Palace Gardens in Tokyo*



*Joan at the entrance to her grandfather's (Nagamatsu) neighborhood in Chikugo City, Fukuoka. The black characters she is pointing to say Nagamatsu. Pretty exciting stuff. The sign also says something akin to keep out.*

## **LATEST AMOTH HAPPENINGS:**

From Al Amoth: [amothfam@proaxis.com](mailto:amothfam@proaxis.com)

Diane and I have adopted Alaska as our second home and have made numerous trips to the "last frontier" over the past 10 to 15 years. In addition to the standard tourist activities around Anchorage and the Kenai areas and visits to relatives in Kodiak, we have a one-quarter interest in a sweat-equity cabin that we finished about 5 years ago. It is located at an old mining settlement 25 water miles out of Valdez. We spend much of July and early August at the cabin and I also make a spring trip for cabin work, hunting and some fishing. This spring, we made a foolish decision to buy a boat so that we would have greater mobility and not be dependent upon others for transportation. If any CH2Mers are in the Valdez area this summer, let us know and we may be able to acquaint you with a fish or two.

Another outlet that we use to escape from the hectic-paced life in Corvallis (I expect no empathy from the southern California crowd) is to spend time in the eastern Oregon desert not too far from the Idaho border. We make around three trips to this area every year. I think it helps us to "connect" with the pioneers that migrated to Oregon in the mid-1800s since little has changed over the past century and a half. To offset all of this time spent communing with nature, Diane enjoys international travel, playing bridge and teaching part time. I prefer to exercise my body and mind and ponder what my next project might be.

Fortunately, our three children live nearby and we spend many great family moments with these wonderful "kids" and our nine grandkids. Our philosophy is to stay as active as possible and keep on the move.

## **SEARCHING FOR ANCESTORS WITH JOAN IN JAPAN:**

From Don Marske: [dmarske@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dmarske@sbcglobal.net)

In November 2007, Joan and I took a 17-day tour of Japan, our first big retirement trip.

Our goal for the trip was to see and experience the people and country of Japan and to set our feet on the soil of Joan's paternal and maternal ancestors.

Mission accomplished. We toured Tokyo, Kyoto, Yamaguchi, and Fukuoka witnessing amazing scenery and many cultural features and activities. The highlights of the trip were visiting the neighborhood of Joan's paternal grandfather, and visiting the Iwakuni, Yamaguchi city hall where we were able to pick up her maternal grandfather's family registry, which allowed us to add two full generations to the family tree. We are indebted to Yuki Marsh/PDX/IDC for her assistance in identifying what we needed to do, and then translating the documents we were able to pick up. It was an awesome trip and we are looking forward to returning – right after we make a trip to Germany. ☺





*Gary and Linda Harmon*



*House built by Gary*

## **LIFE HAS BEEN FULL**

From Gary Harmon: [gary.harmon@l-3com.com](mailto:gary.harmon@l-3com.com)

Linda and I enjoy reading the Retiree/Alumni News in keeping up with our retired associates of our CH2M HILL history. We remember many wonderful friends and work associates. We have not attempted to attend any of the retreats as Linda has been sick for many years. We travel by RV back and forth to Houston, Texas to MD Anderson Cancer Clinic every month from Freeport, Florida for her cancer treatments, but hope by 2010 that we will be able to travel more for recreation and pleasure and to attend a future retirees retreat.

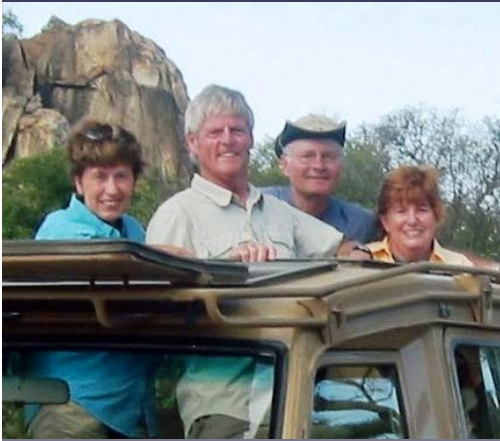
I worked in and from the Gainesville office all of my 13 years. I started as a Department Manager for mechanical engineering and finished as a Division Manager and District Discipline Director (Eastern District) for mechanical, electrical, and instrumentation and control. Just as I left there was a shift to a team leader concept so the manager roles went away. Since retiring from CH2M HILL 13 years ago, I have worked full-time and now at the age of 70 still have a continuing career as a mechanical engineer for L-3 Communications. I am currently training two mechanical engineers as my replacement for that day when I might hang up my shingle, but right now I don't see that as any time soon as I really enjoy my work with projects around the world for primarily US military bases.

We are planning to relocate in the next 3 years to the North Carolina Mountains where we own property. I feel that I have one more house to build before I can't swing a hammer anymore - my hobby is home construction and I am currently finishing one in this area and designing one for North Carolina. Life has been full, although rocky at times, but we know that the Lord has a purpose for each of us and we intend to fulfill that purpose however He sees fit.

## **BUDDIES WHO MET AT HOWLAND-SPONSORED PICNIC TRAVEL FAR AND WIDE:**

From Mike Mynhier: [mmynhier@ch2m.com](mailto:mmynhier@ch2m.com) and  
Dave Ellison: [dave\\_ellison@synergyconnects.com](mailto:dave_ellison@synergyconnects.com)

2008 will mark the 33rd friendship anniversary between the Mynhiers (Mike and Marge) and the Ellisons (Dave and Ruth) which began in 1975 at a Jim Howland-sponsored company picnic near Reston, Virginia. Gosh, how time and experiences have gone by since then. The Mynhiers and Ellisons "honeymooned" their beginning relationship at the Outer Banks of North Carolina. This spot became an annual vacation place for over a dozen years. In more modern times (like recently), the Mynhiers and Ellisons hiked to the bottom of the Grand Canyon AND back out together. They later joined each other for the adventure of rafting and camping on the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon - and again made it out successfully. An Alaskan trip put them in touch with Kodiak bears and their salmon



*Left to right: Ruth Ellison, Dave Ellison, Mike Mynhier, and Marge Mynhier enjoyed hair-raising adventures and camaraderie during their 2007 Serengeti Safari*

eating habits up close and in the wild. And then there was the Albuquerque Hot Air Balloon Festival which raised the travel visions to a new height.

In 2007, the friends traveled to Tanzania and engaged in a Serengeti safari which included even more animal experiences, especially with the visit of a pride of lions around their canvas tents during the early morning hours. All we had for protection was a thin wall of canvas, a whistle, a six-inch machete, and prayers. The prayers worked! The rest of the stuff was of little value. The 2008 travel plan includes a visit to Egypt and a cruise on the Nile River.

**Note from Dave:** I joined the company 1975 in Reston as an industrial/environmental engineer. At that time, there were only seven employees in Reston but we were well supported with frequent visits from Jim Howland, Holy Cornell, and Harlan Moyer. While in Reston, I was privileged to assist with the procurement of the Superfund projects from EPA. As the Southeast grew with the addition of BC&E, I transferred to Atlanta in 1984 and enjoyed the rapid growth of the hazardous waste market. In 1993, I moved to Denver to assist with the company's Total Quality Management which led to reengineering to a global enterprise under Ralph Peterson. During this reengineering, we established the Project Delivery System and the 4-P process for acquiring and delivering work, which the company still follows today. I took early retirement from the company in 2003 to follow my passion of helping people manage projects and large programs. I'm hardly retired, this is a full-time adventure!

Mike ratcheted down this year from three years of half-time work to Flex status to provide time for his many personal pursuits and projects.

### **THE NORTHWEST CALLED TO THE SMITHS OF SAC: From Stan Smith: [ssmithnw@comcast.net](mailto:ssmithnw@comcast.net)**

I retired from SAC in February 2000, and the next day Pat and I moved to Bend, Oregon. I continued to serve as the CSM for the Tahoe-Truckee Sanitation Agency through 2006 while the RDD and CVO offices completed the plant expansion design and construction. In 2004, I began working for the City of Bend's Engineering Division as a temporary employee, averaging 2 to 3 days a week, assisting in project management and developing processes for managing and implementing projects. It was a great position that lasted nearly 3 years.

Bend was a great place to live with hunting, fishing, golf and snow skiing. I also got ambitious and began running and mountain biking. I ran a few 5k and 10k races and one half marathon with our son Daryl, who is a tri-athlete.

Although Bend was great, in 2007 we moved to Bellingham, Washington to be near our son Daryl, his wife and our grandson. (Our daughter Suzi is an architect in San Francisco). Bellingham is



*Stan and Pat Smith and Sandy and Bob Morrison visited the Pioneer Museum in Pemberton, B.C.*

also a great small city (about 80,000 people). There is also a lot to do here, including golf, snow skiing on Mt. Baker, and visiting the San Juan Islands and places in nearby British Columbia. Bob and Sandy Morrison Sr. (retired from RDD) recently visited and we spent time in Victoria and Whistler. It looks like we will be here a long time.

### **KIND OF SEMI-RETIRED:**

**From Ron Sandbank: [rsandbank@yahoo.com](mailto:rsandbank@yahoo.com)**

I am kind of semi-retired. Basically I don't go out looking for work but if one of my regular clients would call I would go back to work. There hasn't been a call like that in quite awhile because they have either hired permanent staff or are on a down-slide along with the housing demand. You know how that goes, housing goes down so municipalities downsize requirements or don't orchestrate new projects.

I have been considering getting back to running for about a year or so. I miss it. My sons have both run in the Bay to Breakers a couple years ago and threaten to do it again. I wouldn't mind doing that with them. It was a lot of fun. I never did get around to my goal of a full marathon. I doubt I have it in me to do one at this stage of the game but I wouldn't mind another half-marathon.

### **DOBSON LEGACY ENDURES IN SACRAMENTO:**

**From Gary Dobson: [gdobson@theskybeam.com](mailto:gdobson@theskybeam.com)**

Earlier this year we flew to Orlando, Florida, with our daughter, Jennifer (Barr/SAC), her husband and two boys. We had a great time at Disney World with the kids. After a week in Orlando, Jen and her family flew home and Diana and I took a train trip. We went to Washington, DC for three days, to Niagara Falls for four days then back home. It was a long trip on a train.

When Jennifer went to work for CH, she was in the HR group. She is now the Talent Recruitment Center Manager | Federal and CEPC for the entire U.S. She is really doing well and we are so proud of her. Diana is doing fine. She's a quilter. We go up to McCloud every year and camp for a month. It's right at the south base of Mt. Shasta. We stay in a small RV park called Friday's Retreat, it's 3 miles from McCloud Reservoir. I fish all day and she quilts all day. There are 10 couples that meet there for that month, some stay a week, some 2 weeks and a few of us for the month. It beat's pulling that 5th wheel around the country at \$0.35/mi. Last year Bob & Sue Kelley came down from Vancouver, Washington. It was sure nice spending time with them.

I retired from SAC in 1999 (although I started in Redding in 1973) after 26 years surveying for site civil and water projects. During that time I was chief surveyor for projects such as state prisons in Wasco, Soledad, R.J. Donovan, Avenal, and Corcoran.



*Diana and Gary Dobson took daughter Jennifer and husband Troy Barr and grandsons Andrew (5) & Nicholas (4) to Disney World this past January*



*At annual SAC reunion at Salt Point, Gary and future CHers enjoy the pleasures of eating watermelon*



*Hans and Adele Neukomm*



*Scenes from Switzerland*

## **SWITZERLAND OUR WAY:**

From Hans Neukomm: [ahneukomm@comcast.net](mailto:ahneukomm@comcast.net)

In 2005, Brad Teel asked me to guide and host a spring and fall tour to my homeland. Several CH2Mers have joined us during the last couple of years: Dick Nichols, Arleta Burton, Hal and Sue Mozer, Bill and Carolyn Irving, Gail and John Kruger. The tour is headquartered in Meiringen, a charming town at the foot of the Bernese Alps where we unpack once and take leisurely day trips by train, bus and even ships to places such as the panoramic Interlaken, the medieval Thun, the majestic Schilthorn, Bern's fabled arcades, the idyllic Murten, the historic city and castle of Burgdorf, legendary Luzern and its Mount Pilatus, and so much more.

We limit the tour to 20 participants so that we can pay personal attention to each and all. Ever since we started these tours, those who came with us said that the experience was among the best they ever had. They frequently stated that the flexibility and ability to accommodate individual interests and the attention to details made it so. Naturally we are pleased to hear these comments and strive to continue this reputation and tradition.

The 2008 Fall Tour in October is filled; however the 2009 Spring Tour, which leaves May 11 and returns May 22 still has openings. Adele and myself would consider it an honor and privilege if you could join us. For more information, please email me at above address, or call me at 541/745-5483.

## **Record-Setting Contract at Hanford**

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced on June 19 that CH2M HILL has been selected to lead the \$4.5-billion Plateau Remediation Contract at the Hanford reservation in south-central Washington. As prime contractor, this is the largest contract in the firm's history. "CH2M HILL has a long history at the site, and I'm thrilled we have the opportunity to take on this new area of responsibility," said Mark Spears, Nuclear Business Group president.

With a five-year base period and an optional five-year extension, the ten-year project focuses on the safe environmental cleanup of the Central Plateau site. CH2M HILL will serve as a prime contractor and is supported by several key subcontractors, including Fluor and AREVA.

Hanford is part of the DOE's nuclear complex, is the site where the world's first isotope-production nuclear reactor was built, and was integral to the nation's nuclear defense program. The scope of work includes treatment and disposal of radioactive waste streams, groundwater, management of spent nuclear fuel, disposal or disposition of nuclear material, demolition of reactor and nonreactor facilities, and environmental remediation activities funded through DOE's Office of Environmental Management.

CH2M HILL has deep roots in the local community. During the past several years, the firm donated \$2 million to Washington State University Tri-City, and employees have an impressive history of community relations.



In April, Jim Hawkey told 400 attendees about challenges facing engineers

## Jim Hawkey/GNV a Dickens of a Speaker

On February 19, Jim Hawkey, Senior Program Manager, Southeast Water Design gave the State of the Engineers address at the annual meeting of the East Tennessee Society of Professional Engineers (ETSPE), held in Knoxville. In his talk, "It is the Best of Times and the Worst of Times for Professional Engineers," Jim discussed challenges facing engineering firms as their seasoned engineers retire, and the shortage of qualified engineers to replace them. He also talked about opportunities offered to qualified engineers ready to step into those positions, including higher salaries and greater promotion potential. Tennessee Volunteer Basketball Coach Bruce Pearl followed Jim, calling him "a tough act to follow."

## Milwaukee Water Pollution Abatement Program Wins Award

BY JIM SMITH/CVO

EXCERPTED FROM MARCH 3, 2008 CVO MONDAY MEMO

The Milwaukee Water Pollution Abatement Program was selected as the winner of the Special Projects category at a Wonders of Wisconsin Engineering awards competition highlighting the 50th anniversary of ACEC Wisconsin. This hallmark project established CH2M HILL's credibility in the program management arena and launched the firm toward other major programs.

In addition to Tom Gibbs, who was the Program Manager, I recall that Jim Howland, Holly Cornell, Gene Suhr, Sid Lasswell, Kim Erickson, John Filbert, Harlan Moyer and Ralph Peterson all greatly contributed to the overall program. Back in the 1980s, just about the entire CVO office contributed to the design of the Jones Island plant improvements, one of the major components of the program. The following lists some key CVO (and NWR) people who greatly contributed to the success of this program (although I'm sure I've inadvertently left out a bunch of other deserving folks).

Kim Erickson – Jones Island Project Manager ■ David Gee ■ Tim Bauer ■ Mike Guthrie ■ Brian DeGlanville ■ Randy Naef ■ Steve Payne ■ Dana Rippon ■ John Cave ■ Roger Lindquist ■ George Dotson ■ Jerry Tracy ■ Steve Lee ■ Rick Riker ■ Sue Frey ■ Peter Harr ■ Dick Horning ■ Mike Bracken ■ Bud Reger ■ Ken Clegg ■ Jim McWade ■ Marv Murray ■ Bill Shrader ■ Rich Frankenfield ■ Jerry Hildenbrand ■ Charlie Shotts ■ Rod Berklund ■ Dave Brunkow ■ Bill Wagner ■ Jim Griffiths ■ Gene Swanson

### Wonders of Wisconsin Engineering Awards Milwaukee Water Pollution Abatement Program

#### The Challenge

The Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District treats sewage from a 400-square-mile area, serving more than 1 million people. In 1977, the District launched the Water Pollution Abatement Program to reduce the frequency of discharges of untreated sewage into Lake Michigan following heavy storms. The \$2.3-billion program is the largest public-works project in Wisconsin history.

Milwaukee's deep tunnel is three miles long and up to 20 feet underground. The tunnel, along with the mechanical collection system, enables the District to operate the tunnel, locate Milwaukee a national leader in the collection and treatment of stormwater and sewer overflow.



The Jones Island and Wastewater Treatment Plant, listed on the National Register of Historic Landmarks, was one of the first plants to use the activated sludge process. Excess sludge is heat dried and processed into Milgard™, an organic fertilizer product sold and distributed around the world since 1923.

The South Shore wastewater treatment plant received funding, and completed sanitary and stormwater flow treatment and disinfection before discharging to Lake Michigan. The plant treats average dry weather flow of 10 million gallons per day and has been instrumental in improving water quality for recreation and the environment.

#### The Solution

The District's wastewater collection and intercept system conveys both sanitary sewage, and combined sanitary and stormwater flows, to the Jones Island and South Shore Wastewater Treatment Plants for treatment and disinfection before discharge to Lake Michigan. Capacity was increased by upgrading the two plants, improving and replacing sewer lines, constructing several deep tunnels to store peak-period sewage flows, and constructing a Milgardite™ (fertilizer) production plant.

The result of the Program was improved water quality for area residents and the environment, through significant reduction of untreated discharges into the lake. The Program demonstrated success in many areas:

- Vortex deep-tunnel conveyer intercept flows to the tunnels.
  - Real-time collection system control optimizes the conveyance and storage system.
  - A custom management information system tracks and controls maintenance work.
- During the life of the program, which ended in 1996, no permit violations occurred. The Program was completed 1 year ahead of schedule, within 8 percent of the original budget. Few public-works programs of this magnitude can equal this accomplishment.

Turning polluted areas near the community assets on the visible and result of the Milwaukee Water Pollution Abatement Program. The deep tunnel system, along with expanded and replaced sanitary intercept at Jones Island and South Shore plants, significantly reduced the frequency of untreated overflows into area waters and Lake Michigan.



Client/Owner: Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District  
Category: Special Projects

ACEC  
American Council of Engineering and Computing

CH2MHILL

## New Retirees/Alumni

Philip Cross

David Crown

Gerald Foess

Lynn Foster

Tom Haislip

Jim Jodie

Glen Silbernagel

Art Storbo

Ted Way

*Note: If an employee has "retired" but not started their pension, we may not know about them. The employees listed above all retired under the pension plan.*

## Deceased Retirees

Vince Protheroe 1/08

Glen Brown 2/08

Bob Braithwaite 3/08

Glenn Dukes 6/08

Bruce Ricks 1/08

Richard Morgan 3/08

Marvin Stock 6/08

Memorials can be sent to the ALS Association, Jim "Catfish" Hunter Chapter  
120 Penmarc Dr. Suite 101, Raleigh, NC 27603

## Projects

### State Leaders Drop in to Tour Cedar Water Treatment Facility



*The tour group included state representatives; state environmental, agricultural and natural resources employees; and folks from the neighboring Cedar Water and Sewer District*

State officials recently stopped by the Cedar Water Treatment Facility in Washington to learn more about how the plant treats water for the Seattle metropolitan area...The group was very impressed with the operations and asked if they could bring others for a future visit.

The tour included stops at the UV light building, the ozone facility, the operations control building and the water intake structure on Lake Youngs.

The Cedar Water Treatment Facility is currently the largest water plant in the world using UV light to disinfect potable water for drinking. The facility provides 70 percent of all drinking water used by Seattle residents and can treat up to 180 million gallons of water per day.

Seattle Public Utilities retained CH2M HILL to design, build and operate the facility. CH2M HILL's design was based on "least impact" to the pristine environment at the Lake Young Reservation. Impacts to wetlands were avoided by using a dispersed site layout, minimizing building footprints, reusing existing infrastructure, and upgrading wetland habitat through native plantings. The administrative building has earned LEED certification from the U.S. Green Building Council.

## Prestigious Fellows Appointment for Howard Saxion



*Howard Saxion*

Howard Saxion, PhD, an 18-year employee, was recently honored with an appointment to the Academy of Fellows of the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) at a ceremony on May 20, held during the SAME Joint Engineer Training Conference in Minneapolis.

Membership in the SAME Academy of Fellows is extended to SAME members that have "rendered dedicated and outstanding service to The Society and to military engineering." The SAME reviewing committee evaluates all Academy nominees and refers qualified nominees to the SAME Board of Directors for approval.

Howard said of his appointment, "I'm extremely humbled and appreciative of this honor. The Fellowship is recognition by my SAME peers and the professional community in which I work."

Howard is a principal project manager with the Environmental Services Business Group (ESBG). He has provided environmental consulting and program and project management services for the U.S. Air Force at numerous locations, including Tinker Air Force Base (AFB), Hill AFB, the former Kelly AFB, and for the Air Force Material Command Headquarters. He also serves as the ESBG staffing manager for Southeast Region. Howard is certified as a Qualified Environmental Professional by the Institute of Professional Environmental Practice.

In her nomination endorsement letter, Cathy Scheirman, Chief of Environmental Management at Tinker AFB, commended Howard as providing exemplary work and being technically proficient and passionate about improving air quality. She added, "He ensures that his company provides quality work and is outstanding in the area of customer service."

Howard has been an active member of SAME since 1991. He served as VP of the Oklahoma City Post in 2000, and President in 2001. He was also the recipient of two SAME Regional Vice President's Medals for his service to SAME.

## Congratulations Allen Davis - CVO's Newest Technology Fellow!

*INFORMATION FOR THIS ARTICLE WAS PROVIDED BY BROCK McEWEN, CH2M HILL WATER BUSINESS GROUP TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR*

The Corvallis office celebrated Allen Davis with cake and conversation on May 1 for his elevation to Technology Fellow. A Fellow is the last step of the Technology Career Development Framework at CH2M HILL.

Allen has been the firmwide primary hydraulic consultant and support specialist for the entirety of his 36-year career with CH2M HILL. As such, he has worked on nearly all our major water projects and virtually all the vexing hydraulic problems CH2M HILL



*Bill Byers, CVO's other Technology Fellow (for Process Engineering) talked shop with Allen Davis*

has encountered worldwide since 1972. Allen has been the mastermind behind most of the hydraulic tools that have placed CH2M HILL in a leadership position in our industry. These include:

- **NETWK** (used throughout our industry for 20+ years, now replaced by EPANET)
- **SURGE** (still the most complete transient package we have been able to identify after 33 years)
- **HYDRO** (used for hydraulic design of virtually every treatment plant done by CH2M HILL since 1974)
- **SAM** (distributed to many of our clients and used for about 15 years as the firm's primary wastewater collection system model — EPA'S SWMM was also used)
- **CAM** (a vital tool used as the basis for control system design on the Milwaukee Deep Tunnel System)
- **LYNX** (provided a competitive advantage for water distribution and wastewater collection system modeling during the 1980s)
- **HYDCAL** ( hydraulics calculation toolkit)
- **CURVFT** (simple-to-use curve fitting tool)

His reputation, both external and internal to CH2M HILL, is evidenced by the following awards, including the prestigious ASCE Hydraulic Structures Medal to be presented this month:

*2008 Recipient, Hydraulic Structures Medal* — This ASCE award is one of the two most prestigious world-wide awards in Hydraulics. The list of past winners is impressive. The award will be made at the ASCE EWRI Congress in Honolulu on May 14, 2008.

*2007 Recipient, Technology Lifetime Achievement Award (TLAA)* — This was one of the first-ever such awards granted by CH2M HILL. Ample testimonials regarding his contributions were expressed at the award presentation event by several of the firm's leaders and past leaders (Bill Bellamy, Kevin Nielsen, Gary Moss, John Filbert, Bob Chapman, and Sid Lasswell).

*2003 Recipient, Humanitarian Award, MWH Soft Conference* — "In recognition of your service to the betterment of the engineering community."

*2002 Recipient, Best Presentation, MWH Soft Conference* — A panel of judges selected his presentation for this honor at the 2-day conference.

## CH2M HILL Co-endows University of Florida student Engineers Without Borders Program

On April 11, CH2M HILL representatives gave a check to the UF College of Engineering (COE) to co-endow the UF student Engineers Without Borders (EWB) program. EWB is one of the firm's key community partners programs. Bud Ahearn/DEN, Mickey Garcia/SCO, and Kellie Scopel/DET joined GNV employees Bill





*CH2M HILL's UF contingent included (l-r) Ginger Moore/GNV, Mickey Garcia/SCO, Bill McElroy/GNV, Bud Ahearn/DEN, Mike Witwer/GNV, and Kellie Scopel/DET*



*Dean Pramod Khargonekar gave Bud the esteemed Gator Trophy, presented to all lecture series speakers*



*This aerial view of Unalaska shows the airport and runway in the middle of the island*

McElroy, Mike Witwer, Amy Goodden, and Ginger Moore for the award presentation. Bud also presented *Building an Engineers' Leadership Culture*, as part of the COE Dean's Lecture Series, followed by lunch with about 100 students who attended the lecture.

Before going to UF, Bud stopped by the GNV office for a meet-and-greet in the breakroom. GNV employees joined Bud, Mickey, and Kellie for a bagel while Bud told employees about the CH2M HILL Foundation and the Human Capital Initiatives.

Bud has been with the firm for 14 years and is currently a Senior V.P. for CH2M HILL, Chairman of the CH2M HILL Foundation, and in charge of Human Capital Initiatives where he has firmwide responsibility for talent management and leadership development programs. He previously served as Vice Chairman of the company Board of Directors. Mickey is our corporate college relations manager, and Kellie serves as the college recruiting liaison for UF and other selected target universities within the Southeast. Amy is our UF Ambassador, and Mike will be our UF EWB Student program coordinator. Ginger continues to provide human-resource related services for the GNV office.

GNV Area Manager Bill McElroy arranged the events with the UF COE. Bill said of the day, "This endowment action represents a significant step in implementing our strategic plan with UF. Our commitment to the student EWB, and having Bud as part of the Dean's Lecture Series, were huge 'branding' and relationship development activities that improve our potential for student recruiting and forging strategic business initiatives with UF. It was a great day for the GNV office and the firm."

## **Unalaska Airport: Setting of the "Deadliest Catch" No Match for CH2M HILL Aviation Team**

Formed millions of years ago by a chain of volcanoes, the Aleutian Islands stretch from the southwest Alaskan mainland for more than 1,100 miles into the Pacific Ocean. Unalaska and Amaknak are islands located about 800 miles southwest of Anchorage, near the middle of the chain that is known as the Ring of Fire.

Unalaska isn't a place you just stumble upon. The flight from Anchorage to the Unalaska Airport takes a little more than 3 hours by turboprop—if it isn't cancelled due to weather. A ferry trip from Kodiak takes about a week—and only runs once a month in the summertime. And you can't drive there.

Like the timeless rhythms of the tides, during the numerous fishing seasons throughout the year, thousands of workers arrive in Unalaska to work on the fishing boats and leave a few weeks later when the season is finished.

Launching from Dutch Harbor—home base for Discovery Channel's "Deadliest Catch" program—the boats ply the frigid



*The existing airfield spans a shelf of land adjacent to the volcanic Mount Ballyhoo, with both ends of the runway terminating at the ocean edge*

## **A Cultural Treasure**

For 8,000 years, the Aleutian people have called this island, and the entire chain, home. Their long-term presence has created an immense archeological richness.

In fact, during initial work on a bridge project near the airport, the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities discovered one of the most significant archeological sites ever found. A mile from the airport, they found stone dwellings. What made the discovery even more exciting was that the inhabitants had created a piping network that provided central heating for the Aleutians living in such a harsh environment.

Today's descendants of the Aleutians—the Qawalangin Tribe—own the majority of land on the island through their Ounalashka Corporation. The tribe wants economic development while protecting its cultural identity and the value of its resources.

The tribe's status as a sovereign nation requires the project to incorporate intergovernmental coordination and formal discussions between U.S. government and Qawalangin Tribe officials.

waters of the Bering Sea and return to North America's busiest commercial fishing harbor with their catch.

It's this continual population influx that has set the stage for our work at the Unalaska Airport (known as DUT since it's adjacent to Dutch Harbor).

Tom Klin, project manager of the Unalaska Airport master plan and environmental impact statement, also leads the firm's Aviation environmental practice. He shares his thoughts on this truly one-of-a-kind project.

"Bringing in so many people in such tight timeframes would be a challenge in any airport," said Klin, "but at DUT you're also dealing with a runway only 4,000 feet long." Until 3 years ago, it was the shortest commercial runway in North America that accommodated regularly scheduled Alaska Airlines 737 passenger jet service. That service has since been discontinued.

"It made for some scary arrivals and departures, and if weather conditions weren't absolutely perfect, Alaska Airlines would cancel the flight," said Klin.

About 3 years ago, Peninsula Air took over passenger operations to DUT. Now it operates a 30-seat Saab 340B turboprop, which completes about 95% of scheduled flights. However, at only 30 passengers per flight, it takes a lot of flights to bring in 3,000 seasonal workers in tight time frames.

## **ENTER CH2M HILL**

To help solve these challenges, the Federal Aviation Administration awarded the Transportation Business Group the contract for Unalaska Airport improvements.

"Safety is the primary driver of any airport," said Klin, "so enhancing the safety, reliability, and capability of the Unalaska Airport are the three goals we have."

Our primary tasks and challenges include:

- **Lengthening the runway.** Larger aircraft will require a longer runway. Since the new runway will extend into the ocean, it will be built so that it doesn't get washed out by the regular, big ocean storms that occur in the Bering Sea.
- **Replace and relocate terminal.** Because the longer runway will take more space, we'll relocate and double the size of the terminal, which currently has a ticket counter, restrooms, drinking fountain, and a smoky Thai restaurant—but no Starbucks®.
- **Environmental complications.** During World War II, Unalaska was used as a major U.S. Navy installation to launch Asian-bound ships and protect the west flank of the contiguous United States. Six months after bombing Pearl Harbor, the Japanese bombed Unalaska in June 1942. To minimize explosions resulting from the bombings, the Navy opened the taps on all the fuel

supplies—resulting in tremendous soil and groundwater contamination in the vicinity of the airport.

- **Geological challenges.** The volcanic origin of the island means that construction materials are hard to find. Volcanic soil is like pumice, and when it's compacted to build a runway or a road, for example, it liquefies. The project team has found granite sources elsewhere on the island and testing has confirmed it to be acceptable construction material.

"We have about 4 or 5 more months of planning work to finish and by late this year we'll start the environmental approvals process, which will take about 3 years to complete," said Klin. "Ideally, we want to cut the ribbon on new construction by 2016."

Added Klin, "It's one of the most exciting projects I've ever worked on. It's the challenge of a lifetime."

## Youthful Talent and Growth Potential Highlighted during Krakow Open House

On May 15, the new Krakow office hosted an open house for elected officials, clients, and potential clients to showcase

CH2M HILL's youthful talent and project successes. Local dignitaries in attendance included the US Consul General, Executive Director of the American Chamber of Commerce in Poland, the Consul for political and economic affairs, and executives from the municipal authority. CH2M HILL Chairman and CEO Ralph Peterson and Poland Country Manager Ruben Robles gave introductory remarks to the guests.



*Ralph Peterson joins Poland and Theater Management Team members for dinner*

While CH2M HILL has been operating in Poland for the past 15 years, the office recently relocated to a larger and more central office in the Galeria Kazimierz along the Vistula River. This move will allow CH2M HILL to accommodate the growth of 50-75 new employees by the end of 2008.

Earlier that week, the office was in the internal spotlight as host of the European Theater Management meeting. Searle and Robles also hosted a Town Hall meeting for more than 100 employees. According to Robles the focus of both meetings was on the young talent of the office and increasing opportunities for the Polish team to support all 10 business groups now working in Europe.



*European Management Team relax after tour of Krakow's famous Vistula River*

In addition to the multiple projects being executed for the Enterprise Management Solution Business Group, Krakow is home to CH2M HILL's newest global resource center. The Krakow GRC is providing R&D construction management support in the United

Kingdom, working on electronic and advanced technology projects in Glasgow, and supporting general manufacturing projects in Moscow. Other projects being performed by the Krakow GRC include completion of conceptual design for a new P&G dry laundry facility in the Ukraine, design for a purified water system for P&G in Poland, conceptual design for Schott Glass in Russia and the John Deere manufacturing plant in Russia.

## CH2M HILL Sponsors Gala Groundbreaking Event for Arizona Audubon Headquarters

In Phoenix, Arizona, CH2M HILL completed an award-winning design of the \$100M Rio Salado Habitat Restoration Project, which rehabilitated a river bed dump site into a five-mile corridor of lush, flourishing natural habitat. The project is nearing the completion of construction and already two-hundred and twenty-five different bird species have been identified within the habitat. The habitat helps connect the families, schools, and communities of South Phoenix with high-quality nature education.

The Arizona Audubon Society was so impressed with the results at Rio Salado that they decided it was the ideal place to locate their new statewide headquarters of operations nestled in the banks of the Rio Salado Habitat Restoration. Throughout the project CH2M HILL has been developing a strong relationship with the Audubon Society, and has committed to be a financial donor toward the construction of the new operations center. The Audubon Society requested that CH2M HILL partner with them to host a highly visible groundbreaking event for the new center, which included many of the state's top dignitaries. The groundbreaking ceremony for the *Nina Mason Pulliam Rio Salado Audubon Center* drew 200 people, including Arizona Governor Janet Napolitano, Congressman Ed Pastor, City of Phoenix

Mayor Phil Gordon, Phoenix Councilman Michael Johnson, and Les Corey, National Vice President of the Audubon Society. This project highlights CH2M HILL dedication to connecting people with nature using environmental science to improve the environment and world.

"This historical ground-breaking event is another building block in our commitment to the City of Phoenix, and to the Phoenix valley area to build a cleaner, more sustainable environment for their communities," said Tom McLean, CH2M HILL's Phoenix Area Manager.

## Department of Defense recognizes CH2M HILL with Awards in Colorado and Idaho

The Colorado and Idaho committees for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve recently recognized CH2M HILL's support of employees who serve in the U.S. armed forces. This support includes both benefits and financial assistance provided to employees who are deployed, as well as other less tangible



*The new Audubon Society headquarters will be nestled on the banks of the Rio Salado in Phoenix.*



*From right, City of Phoenix Mayor Phil Gordon, U.S. Congressman Ed Pastor, Maricopa County Supervisor Mary Rose Wilcox and City of Phoenix Council Member Michael Johnson join community members at the Nina Mason Pulliam Rio Salado Audubon Center groundbreaking ceremony in April. Arizona Governor Janet Napolitano also attended the event*



*Boise area manager Mark Bowen (second from left) accepts an Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) award from Colonel Kurt Smith, a CH2M HILL Boise Construction Management Services Group Leader, and ESGR representative Clare Gaylord. Also attending was Brigadier General Alan Gayhart (left), Deputy Commanding General of the Idaho Army National Guard*



*CH2M HILL's Scott Newman (right) in Habbaniya, Iraq*

benefits such as providing an accommodating and encouraging work environment.

"I received superb support from CH2M HILL at the deckplate, corporate, and senior levels," said CH2M HILL's Scott Newman. "Not only did I receive many 'goody' packages from friends and co-workers, I received personal letters of support from Ralph Peterson – only to find out later that he had been struck with cancer. To have him thinking of me in a time of personal crisis meant a lot and says a lot about what kind of person he is."

Captain Newman is the Regimental Commander of the Third Naval Construction Regiment located in Atlanta, Georgia. The regiment, deployed to Camp Fallujah, Iraq, from September 2006 through March 2007, provided command and control to an engineer force of 1,600 men and women and led general engineering and construction support for the Marine Expeditionary Force across the Al Anbar province.

Captain Newman works with the Government Facilities & Infrastructure Business Group as Program Manager in the Atlanta office.

The Boise Construction Management Services group has two members serving in the U.S. Army Reserve: Col. Kurt Smith and Lt. Col. Greg Baisch. Colonel Smith serves as Chief of Training for the 9th U.S. Army Reserve Command in Fort Shafter, Hawaii. He recently returned from a U.S. Army Pacific bilateral United Nations command post exercise with the Indonesian Army in Jakarta, Indonesia, where he was the exercise director in charge of 170 soldiers of the U.S. and Indonesian armies.

"I know of no other company that would allow me the flexibility to participate, maintain senior level responsibilities, and travel internationally in the Army Reserve," said Smith. "The ability to leverage technology and our global professional workforce while I am on Reserve duty allows that flexibility."

Colonel Baisch serves as Civil Works Project Officer for the Seattle District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He recently returned from a national level hurricane and terrorism response exercise in Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

## **Industrial Systems Business Group Leads Collaborative Effort to Secure \$500-Million Joint Venture Contract for Fort Hills Energy L.P.**

Through a joint venture (JV) partnership, Industrial Systems Business Group recently signed two contracts with Fort Hills Energy L.P. (FHLEP) of Alberta, Canada, to provide engineering, procurement, and construction services for infrastructure utilities work on the Fort Hills Oil Sands project.

CH2M HILL will serve as the managing partner of this \$500 million JV with Lockerbie & Hole, a mechanical construction firm headquartered in Edmonton, Canada. The work will be conducted at two project sites—the Fort Hills Mine and a south Upgrader site. The new contracts are a continuation of our front-end engineering design, early site work at the Fort Hills Mine, and preliminary detail design activities, started in April 2007. The early site work included tree clearing and construction of a road to the north site's water intake structure.

Heavy oil extraction and mining will take place at the north site at Fort Hills Mine. After extraction, the oil will be piped to the south Upgrader, then processed and upgraded to synthetic crude oil. In addition to infrastructure utilities, the JV team is providing an oily water treatment and reuse system on the Upgrader site.

Steve Gelman, Industrial Systems Business Group President, said, "The strong collaborative efforts between Industrial Client Group, Energy and Chemicals, and the Water Business Group along with the contribution from our Buenos Aires (BA) industrial design center, helped secure these contracts."

Project Director, Joseph Danko added, "The culture of CH2M HILL enables us to bring people from throughout the company and focus them on PCOSI's business goals. This is the primary reason we were selected and the primary reason we are able to deliver this challenging project."

Petro-Canada Oil Sands Inc. (PCOSI), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Petro-Canada, is the contract operator of the proposed Fort Hills Oil Sands Project, which is owned by FHELP. Petro-Canada, UTS Energy Corporation and Teck Cominco are the limited partners of FHELP. The Fort Hills Mine is located 90 km north of Fort McMurray, Alberta, and the Upgrader site is located approximately 45 km northeast of Edmonton, Alberta.

In total, 10 major contractors are working on the \$14 billion oil sands project. When completed, the site's oil output is estimated at 140,000 barrels per day.

## Quinby Featured at Panama Seminar; Shares News of Unearthing Century-Old Relics

In late May, the American Association of Port Authorities held their annual Harbors, Navigation and Environment Seminar in Panama City, Panama, and CH2M HILL's Will Quinby spoke at the event.

Quinby, the program management advisor for dredging and excavation for the Panama Canal Expansion Program, was joined by CH2M HILL Jim Hunter, Los Angeles area office manager.

Several Panama Canal Authority officials presented at the event, including Ing. Alberto Aleman Zubieta, CEO and administrator of the Panama Canal Authority, and Ing. Ilya Marotta, division manager of resources and program controls for the expansion



*At the Panama Canal project, shipwrecks and even debris from locomotives and rails used nearly a century ago during the original construction have been unearthed*

program. Quinby spoke on "Challenges of the Expansion Program Dredging Plan." He indicated that:

- all port dredging programs have unique aspects, but few involve excavating and dredging over 7 kilometers (4.35 miles) through a series of hills to create a new channel.
- few involve dredging through the Continental Divide.
- and, while dredging up pieces of shipwrecks is fairly common, it is rare that dredging brings up pieces of locomotives and rails buried by slides during the original canal construction 1904-1914.

CH2M HILL is the program manager for the \$5.25 billion, 7 year Canal Expansion, headed by Jhan Schmitz, leading to a third set of locks and deepened and widened channels to accommodate post-Panamax shipping. The new locks are scheduled to open in August 2014, the centennial of the Panama Canal.

## Nice Win in Salem

*BY CRAIG MASSIE: EXCERPTED FROM CVO MONDAY MEMO MAY 5, 2008*

We were recently awarded the contract with Slayden Construction for Testing, Start-up, and Commissioning (TSC) Construction Manager of headworks and primary treatment improvements at the Willow Lake Water Pollution Control Facility in Salem, Oregon. This is one of the largest and most complex design and construction projects that has occurred at the Willow Lake plant. TSC of the project is similarly complex, and is complicated further by the very nature of the improvements: influent pumping, headworks, and primary treatment are not side stream processes that can be easily tested and started up in parallel with ongoing plant operations.

The CH2M HILL team of Kelley Tyler [TSC construction manager (CM)], John Simonds [lead instrumentation and controls (I&C) engineer], and Morgan MacRostie (electrical and I&C engineer) will coordinate and oversee this complex process. In addition to the equipment, unit process, and overall TSC coordination and oversight responsibilities, Kelley will also schedule and oversee the delivery of equipment vendor operations and maintenance (O&M) manuals, and associated onsite training. Also, CH2M HILL will be responsible for seeing that the control system software is reviewed to confirm its function relative to the design prior to the commencement of TSC activities.

According to Client Service Manager Craig Massie, "This is one where relationship and depth made all the difference. We were not low bidder, nor did we necessarily have the best proposal (how could we in the 3 days we had to put it together?)."

Congratulations to the team, which included Carol Harms, Lyn Larson, Vicki Starr, Gene Bonham and Craig Koehler in the Copy Center, and proposal authors Kelley Tyler, John Simonds, and Kandi Maestri for some fast footwork putting the proposal together!