

CH2MHILL® ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

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Publisher's Note

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Greetings All,

I'm pleased to say it's been another good 6 months for our growing CH2M HILL Alumni Association (CHAA), thanks to Don Marske's talents and dedication. Please be sure to read his encouraging update. Planning is well underway for our 2020 ReUnion in Atlanta thanks to Bob Chapman and his stellar team leading the charge. You'll be impressed when you read his update too.

As mentioned in January's newsletter, I've been blessed (and lucky) over the past 10 years finding interesting and memorable articles for the newsletter. I'm delighted to report that many "new" folks have been kind enough to share their stories and suggest other leads for me to follow up.

We also have started a CHAA membership outreach effort to contact our CH2M offices to identify alumni who are now working for Jacobs. We would like to inform them of CHAA and to keep in touch with anyone's location changes and retirement news. They are welcome to join any time, of course. Please let us know about anyone you know who has left Jacobs, so we can contact them for an update and acknowledge their retirement or move.

One other important note to see in our CHAA News section: with our updated CHAA website coming in the fall, we will be initiating a "Members Only" section to encourage more membership growth, more perks and participation. The Alumni History section will always be open to all alumni as well as communications with the CHAA at www.CH2M HILLalumni.org.

No story is too big or small for our newsletter (that's why we have the "Tidbit" Section). Again, special thanks for those of you who again let us know of the loss of many dear friends, colleagues and spouses. We have no other means of obtaining that information, so thank you and please continue with your help!

Please keep me and Don in mind and send a quick note about your news, leads for other stories, comments, suggestions, kudos and concerns (if any). We always appreciate all your input!

My special thanks to our extraordinary newsletter production duo: Angie and Sarah; Don: our CHAA and mailing list guru; and Dan: our webmaster extraordinaire!

Best wishes to all our readers for a happy and healthful summer/fall!

Cheers!

Gordon

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Retirees/Alumni News

STAYING CONNECTED

By June Ann Hassebroek
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Lyle Hassebroek in his CH2M days.

Lyle and I are happy to be members of the CHAA. While we were not able to attend the last ReUnion in Denver, we certainly want to stay connected. It's great that more alumni are signing up. It will be nice to see the roster in the next newsletter. Losing Sid was very sad...especially since we were not able to attend the Celebration of Life service.

Art Storbo recently came to see us and brought pictures and lots of memories to share. Don Russell often comes to see us and brings the fantastic pictures he takes from trips to exotic destinations...and locally as well. Mike Anglea and his daughter have also stopped by for a visit.

It means a lot to stay connected. Chuck Torkko has also written us a couple long letters bringing us up to date. Fortunately, the road in our area is great for Mike Doleac to ride his motor cycle on, so he shows up without warning to share news. Hiran de Mel calls us quite regularly from Singapore and shares "working for Jacobs" thoughts, and we see Suresh de Mel almost every year when they come to U.S.

Recently Lyle got out the lovely binder we were given when he retired. It has really made for some great memories and warm spots in our heart rereading the farewell wishes.

We were especially pleased when Lyle was recently informed that he is being honored by his U. of Wisconsin Triangle Fraternity to be inducted into the Triangle Wall of Fame this summer.

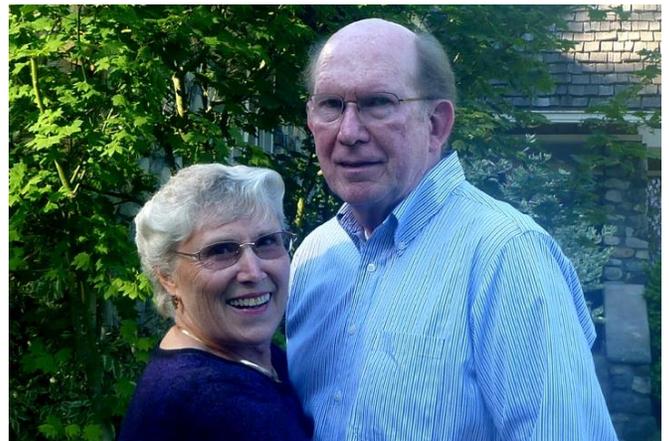
Since we are not able to attend the banquet, Scott Bova, Foundation President, is coming out here to Washington to present Lyle with the Award. The announcement is shown below and website is [here](#).

Triangle Wall of Fame

In a career spanning over 30 years, Lyle G. Hassebroek has been instrumental in developing newer and better systems for wastewater treatment and hazardous waste disposal.

In recognition of his many accomplishments, Lyle was recently inducted into the Triangle Wall of Fame. Triangle is the only men's STEM fraternity experience, open to engineers, architects and scientists. Triangle Fraternity was organized at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in the fall of 1906 and was incorporated by the state of Illinois in 1907.

A 1963 graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison in civil engineering, Lyle joined CH2M in Corvallis, Oregon, the same year. Lyle joined CH2M's Seattle office in 1965, and moved into positions of increasing responsibility, becoming regional manager in 1978.



Lyle and June Ann celebrating their 50th anniversary in 2011.

While in Seattle, Lyle organized CH2M's first environmental sciences work, including its first water quality laboratory. He also helped develop improved waste treatment systems for several Washington cities and developed water quality studies for area watersheds.

In the mid-1970s, Lyle returned temporarily to his home state of Wisconsin to direct a wastewater treatment and sludge utilization program for the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District. This program, which uses sludge as fertilizer for local farmers, has served as a model for cities and utilities across the nation.

He was promoted to CH2M's Northwest District manager in 1980 and Eastern District manager in 1983, the latter appointment taking him to Atlanta, Georgia, where he was responsible for company operations in 22 states. He became active in CH2M's hazardous waste services, which have included projects involving the EPA Superfund Program and the Department of Energy Environmental Restoration Program.

In 1990, after 27 years with the company, Lyle became president of CH2M, responsible for the overall operations of more than 4,000 staff at the time.

Before and after retirement, Lyle welcomed continued connection to the University of Wisconsin and was honored for his work on "Institute for Environmental Studies-Board of Visitors 1995-2000." The College of Engineering also presented an award to him as a member of the VISION 2000 Committee.

In 1996 Lyle retired from CH2M. The scrapbook created by coworkers emphasized his mentoring, giving encouragement and guidance with genuine interest in each individual. One of the firm leaders said, "a person can learn skills for being a top notch engineer but leadership must be learned as well as earned and implemented with the heart." This was Lyle's strength.

AN ENR NEWSMAKER

By John Aho

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John Aho, now retired, and former vice president and project manager for CH2M, was named one of the top 25 newsmakers for 2018 by Engineering News-Record. John and the other newsmakers were featured in the magazine's January 7, 2014 edition.

John spent much of his career working toward earthquake preparedness. He helped found a key seismic safety commission in the state, and serves on the City of Anchorage's geotechnical advisory group. The fruits of his labor were clearly demonstrated on the morning of November 30, when the magnitudes 7.0 and 5.7 earthquakes that struck the city caused limited structural damage, partly due to stringent building requirements.

John also played a vital role in securing funding for Anchorage's dense network of strong-motion seismometers, most of them installed by 2002. He worked with building owners to allow the sensors' installation and helped raise additional private money to fund the 50-sensor network. The instruments recorded massive amounts of data during the November 30 quake, and officials are working to present this data at a technical conference this year.

John also served as an instructor for earthquake mitigation and post-earthquake safety evaluation, training many of the experts who investigated damage from the recent temblor. He still serves on Anchorage's Geotechnical Advisory Commission, which helps write local amendments to strengthen the International Building Code.

Says John, "Awards were given in NYC on March 22 at a \$350 a plate luncheon and followed up by a \$790 a plate dinner attended by 700 people. Thank goodness I didn't have to pay. It was quite exciting since I hadn't spent any time in NYC since graduate school in Cornell."

Click [here](#) to read the full article. Congratulations John!

FROM OFFICE MANAGEMENT TO RETIREMENT

By Sally Ruggles

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In June 1968, I began work as a bookkeeper for H. Zinder & Associates in Seattle. Soon after, CH2M purchased Zinder and Jim Poirot asked me to come to CH2M's office to supervise some of the office staff. At that time, CH2M had 5 offices and 350 employees. From 1968 to 1975, I worked in the Seattle office in several positions.

In 1975, I was asked to go to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to help open a new office (along with Mike Anglea) and hire and train a receptionist, word processor and bookkeeper. Up to that time, the firm had always hired a local person and trained them on the job without prior knowledge of the firm. In July 1976 I was again asked to help another office in San Francisco. What was originally a 6-month tour turned into a permanent position as office administrator and bookkeeper. With the help of Phil Hall I was voted in as a key employee in 1978. At that time, I and another employee from Corvallis were the fourth and fifth women to become key employees.

Later I became the regional administrative manager in San Francisco and helped with three office moves during my term there, watching the office grow from 40 people to over 200 employees.

In 1993 I was asked to transfer to the Redding office as their regional administrative manager was taking a medical leave. I finally retired in Redding in March 2000 after over 33 years of service with CH2M, and moved to White Salmon, Washington, to be near my family. I have since become a partner in a wholesale jewelry business and I also worked part/time in a gift shop at a historical hotel in Hood River, Oregon.



Sally with her car, Honey, a 1938 Plymouth Business Coupe, and a "street rod" with a new engine, power steering and brakes, new interior, and bucket seats. She got an award for Honey at the Western Antique Aeroplane and Automobile Museum Traffic Jam; Honey won Viewers Choice Award.

BLESSINGS IN WORK AND IN TRAVEL

By Jerry Anderson

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After getting my degree from the University of Illinois, I began my career with CH2M in August 1977. The normal high temperature in Corvallis during August is 86 degrees. The first day we arrived the mercury was close to 100 degrees. Being new to Oregon, I wondered why so many houses in Corvallis did not have air conditioning. That night I got my answer when the temperature fell to the sixties.

My first resident inspection job was construction of a pre-engineered water treatment plant for the Town of Drain, Oregon, having a population of 1,169. Let me just say that evenings were a little bit slow. Shortly after that, my first water master plan was for the Eugene Water & Electric Board. I recall that the planning year for that project was 2020 (we are almost there!). I hope I am not held accountable for how accurate the water usage forecasted in the plan might be.

Shortly after retiring in 2014 I took on a part-time job with an engineering forensics firm, which means that I waited until the age of 64 before I started climbing onto high roofs to inspect storm damage and inside crawl spaces looking for causes of subfloor damage. Actually, this was a pretty interesting job, which included, for example, an analysis of tobacco barns damaged by tornadic winds; investigating causes of localized flooding, collapsed ceilings, and cracked walls; and determining repairability of cars crashing through masonry building walls.

I retired for good last year. Subsequent to my early retirement my wife and I have had the opportunity to travel to some really cool spots. In 2015 we spent a week in Ireland, then a second week in England, driving through the countryside and staying at bed and breakfast homes. Unfortunately, our first day on Ireland's narrow, narrow country roads caused me to drift onto the left shoulder (except there is no shoulder on their roads, just berms) and instantly get two blowouts. Not only were the tires totally destroyed, but I managed to bend the rims of both left wheels. After that, I managed to stay on the road and this vacation was a really fun time.



Cliffs of Moher on the West Coast of Ireland.



Western Wailing Wall along the temple mount in Jerusalem.

In 2016 we joined a group of friends and toured Israel and Jordan. Highlights of the trip were seeing the historical and biblical sites in Jerusalem and throughout Israel, the Jordan River, the Sea of Galilee (Tiberias), and Petra in Jordan (think Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade). Last year, again with a group, we toured Greece, which included several Greek islands, and a stop at Ephesus in Turkey. If you think about it, Greece has been very influential to Americans in literature, art, music, religion, science, medicine, and philosophy, to name a few examples.

Some of our major stops were the Parthenon in Athens, the Olympic Stadium used for the first modern Olympics in 1896, ruins of Corinth, several outdoor theaters, Olympia, and Delphi. After the land tour a small cruise ship took us to several islands (Greece owns over 2,000 islands) including Crete, Santorini (created by an ancient volcano with a water-filled caldera), and Patmos, where the Apostle John was exiled later in his life and the site where he wrote Revelation, the last book of the Bible.

In my 37 years at CH2M, I can truly say that I was blessed and privileged to have met and worked alongside many other CH2M'ers at so many locations. I look forward to reading about what other retirees are doing these days in future newsletters.



The Roman Library of Celsus in the ruins of Ephesus, Turkey, was built around 114 AD.

BUSIER THAN EVER

By Howard Saxion

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Hello CH2M alumni:

It is hard to believe that almost 5 years have passed by since I accepted the voluntary retirement program offer in September 2014, retiring at the end of October 2014 after 24 years with the company.

When I met people who had retired before me, they almost always remarked how busy they were. I found it hard to believe but now that I am retired, I find it to be true. It seems I stay as busy as I want.

I started with CH2M in the Salt Lake City office in 1990, transferred to San Antonio, and then to Oklahoma City. When I retired, I was managing environmental compliance and air quality work for the US Air Force Materiel Command, Air Force Center for Engineering and the Environment, and Tinker Air Force Base in Oklahoma City. In December 1997, we were selected for a 5-year, \$50 million environmental consulting services task order contract at Tinker. In early 1998, I moved from San Antonio to Oklahoma City to open our program office to manage our new Tinker contract. We did great work for the client and won another three follow-on 5-year contracts.

In 2012, my partner for 30 years, Darcy, and I started to think about retirement and where we wanted to live. After much research and travel, we decided on and moved to Eugene, Oregon, in early 2013. I was assigned to Portland and teleworked from home until I retired. Darcy retired as a radar software engineer for the National Weather Service's Radar Operations Center when we moved to Eugene. Her work resulted in significant upgrades to the national fleet of weather radar systems.

Shortly after moving to Eugene, I saw an announcement that the City of Eugene was looking for people to serve on boards and commissions. I have always been involved in the communities where I have lived so I applied for an at-large position on the city's Sustainability Commission. To my surprise, after being a resident of the city for 4 months, I was selected by the Council to serve on the Commission for 4 years. I was reappointed for another 4-year term in 2017. I served as chair of the Commission for 2 years.

The Commission is advisory to the mayor, city council, and city manager. It has focused on the city's Climate Recovery Ordinance and Climate Action Plan, whose primary goals are for city operations to be carbon neutral by 2020 and reduce community-wide greenhouse gas emissions by 50 percent by the year 2030. Other Commission activities have included updating the 20-year transportation system plan, expansion of the City's urban growth boundary in conformance with Oregon's strict land use laws, and sustainable economic development. As a Commissioner, I have learned much about Eugene, the challenges of developing and implementing significant public policies, and the robust civic engagement that Eugene is known for.



Howard, Darcy, and Bodhi.

As a result of my work on the Commission, I was appointed in 2018 by the city manager to serve on a technical advisory committee that is looking at if and where Eugene will expand its urban growth boundary after the year 2030. I serve as co-chair of this committee.

If the city activities were not enough to keep me busy, our neighbor who is the budget director for the University of Oregon got us involved in officiating track and field events. Starting in 2016, Darcy and I have been part of the volunteer team responsible for electronic recording of scores for field events, including vertical and horizontal jumps and throws (shot put, discuss, hammer, and javelin). We have worked the PAC-12 championships, the NCAA Division I championship, and the 2016 US Olympic track and field trials. Next year, the NCAA championship and 2020 US Olympic track and field trials will return to Eugene to a new \$200-million track and field stadium under construction on the University of Oregon campus. We look forward to volunteering in this new venue.

We find time to explore Oregon and enjoy day hiking along the nearby coast and Cascade Mountains with our 8-year old golden retriever Bodhi. Since 2001, I have been licensed for amateur radio. If you are a “ham,” my call sign is WX7HS. Maybe I will “see” you on the air while doing a Summit on the Air (SETA) activation.

If you are in Eugene, give me a shout (howardsaxion@mac.com).



Howard and Bodhi enjoying a hike.

ELK HUNTING AND WATCHING

By David Bennion

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Last fall I spent 8 days in the Idaho wilderness with my elk hunting buddies, where we had a great time. We have become the Elk Watching and Wood Cutting Boys; not long ago we were known as the Pinchot Butte Elk Gang, which started with our first elk hunting trip in 1975. There were four of us who went Elk hunting on the first trip, and there are eight of us now. Besides myself, there are two others with CH2M: Dave Meyers, and Bill Johnson. The rest are long-time, wonderful business friends from over the years.

In addition to our annual elk hunt we do a lot of other stuff, like two or three ATV rides a year; we even did a 7-day float trip on the Salmon River in 2017. It has been a great run and the group has some unbelievably good stories and memories. We had to give up hauling the big camp with tents, cooking, shower and community eating tents into a remote North Idaho hunting camp; now we have graduated to spending a less strenuous week at my mountain home in Stanley, Idaho (in other words, we got too old to haul in and put up our old camp)! There are a couple of really good things that have come with this change: there are hot showers every night and elk in the meadow in front of my place every night that we often see during the season. Don't worry, the elk are plenty safe and well protected by a bunch of harmless old geezers! (We're still waiting for your photo, David! 😊)

SHARING A SPECIAL

CH2M MEMORY

By Skip Martin (dqskip@icloud.com)

We are packing out of Bend this week and moving back to Corvallis, where we started in 1977 with CH2M. We are going home. After a full career, Debbie says it is our last move. I think she is right.

One memory with my time at CH2M stands out:

I could see Allen Davis through the tall window beside his office door. His back to the door, I looked over his shoulder, and saw green backlit text move against the black computer screen as his fingers pressed letters on the out-of-sight keyboard. His door was closed, so I knocked. Allen kept typing. A few seconds later, he turned his head, and spoke. "Yeah, come in."

I opened the door. "Hey, do you have a minute?" His mind focused on the Fortran coding for SURGE slowed his response. He stopped, then tilted his head forward and held it for a moment as a loud "Yes".

He turned his chair away from the computer screen. He sat quiet and calm, reserved. Never bubbly, Allen was my boss. "We can do it now, come on in," he repeated. I closed the door and then sat down across his desk, and announced, "I'm having trouble with Philip."

Up to that point, I had worked with Allen for 5 years. He was the computer-aided engineering director and I was his department manager, circa 1983, when the Corvallis CAE group, led by Allen, had grown from two (Allen and me) to about 10 staff. Allen, as both the director and the "hands-on" super-programmer, told me, "I am a poor manager, so I expect you will do better at it. I will need your help with day-to-day operations and keeping our group happy." So, as we added staff to write more engineering software, he let me manage the group.

I continued, "OK, so I have talked to him some. He seems careful enough, but he is slow to get things done. I am not sure he going to make it. We set targets, but we keep missing them."

"Hmmm, how long has it been?"

"What? You mean how long has he worked with us?"

Silent, he nodded. Time lapsed. Volumes of silence rattled in my brain; Allen tended to dole out lots of silence to my queries.

"Say..." I said, "Say about 2 years, this June."

"You've had lots of training, yeah?"

Silent, now I nodded. So, what's to be done? Maybe let it ride, give Phillip some more time?

"OK, let me think about this." Now Allen was talking. He was telling me a story. "Let's see, maybe 3 years ago, I went to Ken (Allen's boss) and I told him a similar story that you just told me. Only it was you I was talking about."

My face must have said something like, "Uh oh..." Unease crept in. Allen smiled broadly.

"Yeah, Ken," I told him, "I don't think Skip is going to make it." OK, that hurt some. This is first I had heard of it.

But that wasn't the point, so Allen continued his story. "Then Ken said to me, 'OK Allen, I get it. But, for now I don't agree. Do you know why? Because after the first of couple of years, I was worried about you. So worried in fact that I went to Sid (Ken's boss) and told him that I was sorry, but I didn't think you were going to make it.'"



Isaac and I with his two kids, Ruby and Saul, Bend, Oregon, winter, 2016.



Paddle boarding at Crescent Lake, summer 2018.



With the Airstream on a windsurfing trip in southern Oregon, 2018.

“True story, Skip. So let’s give him time. Encourage him. Care about him and he will learn to care about schedule, and more,” said Allen.

Now there was a direct answer to my question. I remember, because he usually just nodded, and told me to let him know when I figured it out. I opened his door to leave.

“Hey, one more thing. Be clear, and know I appreciate you coming in. You are doing a great job for us,” he said.

Five years became ten years, and I continued working with Allen, and the CAE group in Corvallis grew. During that time, we landed a couple more super programmers. I wasn’t one them, but I helped to keep them and the rest of us happy. Allen set the tone and direction and we were glad to be there.

In 1988, my family and I went to Amman, Jordan on CH2M business, and stayed a year, and then we came back to Corvallis in 1989. Still working with Allen, he assigned one of those super programmers to work with me, and we developed the LYNX software. Four years later, my family and I went to Cairo, Egypt, again on CH2M business, and we stayed for 5 years, then went on to Puerto Rico, Atlanta, and finally back to Corvallis after being gone for 9 years.

During that time, Allen contracted Parkinson’s so it slowed him down some. During my CH2M travels, which later took me to Alexandria, Egypt; Baghdad, Iraq, Kandahar, Afghanistan; Anchorage, Alaska; Prudhoe Bay, Alaska; I worked with several absolutely great project managers and technical leaders. I mention Allen because he was by far and away the most influential.

One day Allen told me that I got my chance with CH2M back in 1977 because of the recommendation of his college roommate; they were both working on the doctorates. That roommate, Professor Mike at Chico State, handed me a note one day in class. My wife and I had our first child, Isaac, born in Paradise, California, a few months before. I was junior at Chico State. On the note Professor Mike had written: “The best thing you can do for your children is to love their mother.” So, I did that, and God helped us.

Full circle, June 2019, my wife Debbie and I moved back to Corvallis, where we have had house for about 30 years. There will be no more CH2M business to take us away.

Debbie reviewed this note and adds a comment: “Be sure to tell them that we truly appreciated the repeated opportunities to do new projects and to travel the world. You were never ‘pigeon-holed’ and we are thankful for these grand adventures.” We have grandkids in Bend, and also in Corvallis, so we will be in a good location.

So, what’s our next venture? Put those grandkids on some stand-up paddle boards, and to set up a 40-year-old Airstream trailer at our favorite wind surfing location in southern Oregon and then I will perfect my gybe.

VOLUNTEERING WITH WATER FOR PEOPLE IN UGANDA

By Doug Griffes

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CH2M has had a close relationship with Water for People since the very beginning back in 1991 through association with folks like Ken Miller and the many leaders and board members who followed. We've participated in lots of fundraising events, impact tours, and occasional volunteering activities. With that exposure and my background in international development, I had always figured that I would start seriously volunteering once I transitioned into retirement; that started happening several years ago.

Meanwhile, Water For People has evolved over the years with a real emphasis on sustainability (Everyone Forever) and with a bigger presence in water and sanitation in just nine countries. There is now a greater need for technology and real project management; stuff that we know how to do.

Water For People has been in Uganda for many years, with a traditional focus on water and sanitation needs in rural areas. As its presence grew, though, it started to support sanitation activities in urban areas, including Kampala, building pit toilets and promoting small businesses to empty the pits. The obvious challenges were then figuring what to do with the sludge, and how to make this operation sustainable. Chief Executive Officer Eleanor Allen (CH2M alumna) traveled to Uganda for a week in 2017 with a very entrepreneurial donor and came back to Denver with an out-of-the-box proposition: to establish a profit-making enterprise to carbonize the sludge and then produce and market briquettes to be used in cooking stoves. Much of East Africa has suffered from deforestation and consequently, the prices of wood and wood charcoal have been going steadily upwards. The business climate seemed right.

Doing something like this at scale in a city like Kampala was going to be a real project, so I was asked to manage it and bring in a few new management processes and tools into the organization. Water For People distinguishes itself by focusing on local staffs, with outside support, but no expatriate labor in-country. Since coming on board, I have been working together with an incredible team in Kampala along with several Water For People global staff in Denver and the UK. I have spent some time on the ground in Kampala and meet with the team once a week on Skype. The team is now able to produce up to 1 ton/week of finished briquettes that we market in the form of honeycombs and sticks to be used in different types of cook stoves. Market demand has been great, but we still have long way to go and a few production challenges to solve before this will become a truly profitable enterprise.

There have been a number of small-scale operations with similar concepts in other parts of Africa, but nothing of this scale doing what we are trying to do. So, we are plowing new ground and figuring out the technical challenges as go along. We've had some incredible help from some other CH2M alumni, including Tim Shea (biosolids technology guru from Washington, DC) and Miaomiao Zhang (wastewater technologist from Seattle), who are helping us to access manufacturers and carbonization technology from China.



New carbonizer and briquette production facility under construction in Kampala.



Locally fabricated extruders are used for production of stick and honeycomb briquettes.



Last stage of the process – drying of finished briquettes prior to marketing.

Eleanor and I will be heading back over to Kampala in July where we will be working with the local team to prepare for the launch of our next phase to expand the operation from 1 to 10 tons/week over the next year.

Water For People is continuing to expand the range of technical expertise that can be applied to achieve its vision of providing access to reliable and safe water and sanitation services. One major new initiative that may be of interest to many of us is a new consulting organization known as “Strategic Advisory Services (SAS).” Water For People intends to access its internal and external knowledge base through this organization, proposing on projects and providing services to governments, international non-government organizations, institutional funders and impact investors. Anyone wanting to find out more about SAS is welcome to write me a note.

WATER STRATEGY AND SONG

By Gina Wammock

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*Onstage with Delta Moon, 2004
(photo: Vincent Tseng).*

When I was a kid in Swainsboro, Georgia, imagining how I'd spend my life, I thought: musician, dancer, comedian. What never came up: working at a global consulting firm that solved some of the world's toughest challenges. That's where I landed in 1990, and I spent an amazing 25 years at CH2M.

So many people gave me opportunities I never dreamed of, and they trusted me to deliver. I started as an editor in Publications, then became one of the first Water Business Group global sales managers, then led water strategy, then was corporate marketing director. I had another job, too: from 2000 to 2005, I toured in the US, Canada, and England with my blues and roots band, Delta Moon, balancing water business sales with gigs, songwriting, and recording.

Since leaving CH2M in 2015, I've been consulting in the water sector. On one multi-year project, I'm working with the US Water Alliance to build more equity into the ways that cities manage water resources and infrastructure. It's not easy, but it's good work and I'm learning a ton about changing hearts and minds, structures and cultures.

Former colleagues will be surprised to hear what's next: I've started a 2-year program to get certified as a mindfulness meditation teacher by the Awareness Training Institute and the Greater Good Science Center at the University of California, Berkeley. I just finished my first 8-day silent retreat as part of this work. Yes, it was hard to shut up for that long—and I loved it.

Since 2006, I've been living in Chicago with my partner, former CH2Mer Eric Rothstein, who's still working hard in water utility finance and affordability. Our family and friends, Cubs baseball, and travel are big priorities. We went to Israel in June and are planning a month in India later this year, buying carbon offsets for our travels through Carbonfund.org. We're grateful for life-long friends, and life-long learning, from our time at CH2M.



Gina and Eric at home in Chicago.

Pre-Retiree/Alumni News

CH2M CONNECTIONS

By Dan Wetstein

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I've been with CH2M since late 2004, when I joined the firm from MWH Global. I was a MWH employee for over 26 years; I started in the MWH Boise office and ended up, of course, competing with CH2M on virtually a daily basis on projects all over the Northwest. I had actually interviewed with CH2M when I was finishing up my master's degree, but there were no openings at the time. I've always had connections, though, with CH2M personnel going back to Gordon Nicholson (he finished up grad school a few months ahead of me) and Bob Morrison (Bob and I grew up together in Helena, and roomed and schooled together at Montana St.). I also worked a number of joint projects with CH2M teams over the years and was an inaugural member of the MW-Hill joint venture in Las Vegas (Dave Evans was a co-program manager for that team). So, my connections with CH2M have extended for years before I actually joined the firm.

I joined CH2M in Denver, but did little work on the Front Range, spending most of my time on planes to somewhere else. Bob and I teamed up very early on for the Twin Oaks Valley Water Treatment Plant project in northern San Diego County. I took over as project director after the first year of that job. I've since been overseas a few times for CH2M, including a stint on the Thames Tideway program. I spent two years in New Orleans as the program manager for the Hurricane Katrina reconstruction of the New Orleans Sewerage and Water Board power and water supply systems. I then took over as the program manager for the Chicago Department of Water Management Program in late 2012.

Now, my wife and I live in Bozeman. We'd always kept an anchor in Montana over the years of our work travels and assignments (Boise, Bangkok, Sacramento, Sydney, Buenos Aires, Las Vegas, Littleton (Denver), London, Bogota, New Orleans, Chicago.), but managed to come back a little over a year ago. My wife, Kathleen, is from Boise and that's where we met. To borrow a tag line for Montana, our "Last Best Place" is located not too far from where the Morrisons have settled in Bozeman. We still have some organizing and touches to do to put the final vision together, but it's a beautiful place and we're really enjoying being back in Montana on a full-time basis.



Family photo: from left to right: J. Paul (middle son), Dan's wife Kathleen, Mark (youngest son), Bill (oldest son), and Dan.



Dan skiing with his granddaughter, Rowan.

We've been married 35 years and have three sons, two of whom are married and the third of whom is engaged. All the boys and their families are in the intermountain west.

Work-wise, I'm helping with a variety of program efforts right now, while we decide on which to land. I'd hoped that we'd be doing the design for the Portland Water Bureau's new Bull Run WTP, but we weren't selected for the role. As it is, I provide some support to the transition from the Chicago Department of Water Management program while the new program gets fully integrated; I'm working with Martin Nicholson on the Fargo - Moorhead Diversion Program as that ramps back up again; helping with positioning on some work in Southern California; and look to be going to Manila in August for a couple of months as program initiation lead for a major airport program that is about to start up. So, I don't look to be too bored for the time being!

CH2M HILL Legacy Lives On

By Ted Downen

ted.downen@gmail.com



Dr. Dan Cox, CH2M HILL Professor in Civil Engineering at Oregon State University, shares his important and timely research on community resilience to coastal hazards.

On May 14, 2019, the CH2M HILL Alumni Association and the OSU Foundation held “The CH2M HILL Legacy Lives On” mix-n-mingle event at the Durant Vineyards & Oregon Olive Mill, in Dayton, Oregon. It was a relaxed afternoon at Ken and Penny Durant’s Red Ridge Farms where Dr. Dan Cox, CH2M professor in civil engineering at Oregon State University, shared his important and timely research. It was a wonderful afternoon for the CH2M retirees and alumni (IDC, OMI, and CH2M) and their families.

The event started at 12:30 pm with check-in and mingle in Durant’s Oregon Olive Mill Upstairs Conference Room where complimentary coffee, tea, wine and light snacks were provided courtesy of the OSU Foundation and Red Ridge Farms. From 1 to 2 pm, Dan Cox gave his presentation, followed by a Q&A session. Then, there was additional time to mingle, sip, and chat with Dan, plus partake in a most informative tour of the Olive Mill by Durant Vineyards event staff member Meg Jacobson. This was followed by wandering through the nursery, gift shop, and the wine tasting room.

Professor Dan Cox is the first to hold this endowed professorship, established in 2017 with a \$1-million gift from the CH2M HILL Foundation. His research focuses on community resilience to coastal hazards, including tsunami and hurricane surge and waves inundation in the built and natural environments. His studies include tsunami and wave impacts on near-coast structures, tsunami evacuation and life safety, sediment transport and erosion, and nature-based solutions for coastal hazards mitigation. Dan is “honored and deeply grateful to serve as the inaugural CH2M HILL Professor at OSU.”



Bob Chapman, the 2020 Reunion Chair for the CH2M HILL Alumni Association, addresses the attendees

Many thanks to Ken and Penny Durant for providing the venue and wine at Durant Vineyards & Oregon Olive Mill (<http://redridgefarms.com>). There were about 30 attendees, including special guests Scott Ashford, OSU Dean of Engineering, and his wife Meleah, both past employees of CH2M.



Ken Durant, who graciously offered his Olive Mill Press Conference Room as the venue for the event, provides additional comments regarding olive oil processing.

The OSU Foundation collaborators on the event included Kim Kono, Director of Development, College of Engineering, and colleagues Marnie Noble and Aaron Kerosky. The CH2M HILL Alumni Association Board of Directors was represented by Bob Chapman and Jory Abrams. Bob provided an update of the Association's activities. As event organizer of the 2020 CH2M HILL Alumni Reunion, he said that it will be held in Atlanta, Georgia.

It was a very successful event due to the efforts of many individuals. A big thank you to all! Photos are by Ted Downen, Bob Chapman, and Marnie Noble. You can click here to see more photos on Ted's SmugMug gallery site: <https://tadpole1.smugmug.com/Events/OSU-CH2M-HILL-Legacy-Event-14-May-2019>.



Dr. Scott Ashford, Oregon State University Dean of Engineering, provides additional insight regarding the OSU and CH2M HILL connection, and thanks the CH2M HILL Foundation and attendees for the financial contribution that endowed Dan's chair.



Dr. Scott Ashford and his wife Meleah listen to the event host, Meg Jacobson, as she explains the olive harvesting and olive oil production process.



At the end of the event, this group photo captured most of the remaining attendees. Standing L-R: John Hayes, Kathryn Hayes, Maleah Ashford, Kim Kono (Director of Development, College of Engineering, OSU Foundation), Rong He, Dr. Scott Ashford, Ken Durant, Greg Hall, Diana Fujimoto, Paul Fujimoto, Rob Edgerton, Jay Mackie, Xian Hu (Meg Jacobson partially hidden), Rich Frankenfield, Dr. Dan Cox, John Filbert, and Ted Downen. Seated, Wayne Hansen and Janet Hansen. Not pictured: Penny Durant, DaLynn Downen, Bob Chapman, Meredith Chapman, Bob Pailthorp, Ken Lundgren, Jory Abrams, Gerry Abrams, Greg Young, Victoria Martin, Marnie Noble and, Aaron Kerosky (OSU Foundation), Ted Johnson, Janene Edgerton, Ken Self, and Richard Luebbers.

CH2M HILL Alumni Association News

By Don Marske
(donmarske@gmail.com)



In the January Newsletter, we reported a paid membership of 261 alumni. We are happy to report you have helped us make amazing progress. In April we emailed an invitation to our roster to renew their 2018 membership, and for those who hadn't joined in 2018, to join us in 2019. As a result of that mailing, **we have added 99 new members bringing total membership to 360 alumni!** 😊

We also learned that we still have 109 2018 members that have not yet renewed. We will be sending out a reminder later in August, but if this has tickled your memory, you can either go to the [Join the Alumni Association](#) button on the website at www.CH2M HILLalumni.org and renew via PayPal; or, send a \$20 check to the CH2M HILL Alumni Association, c/o Don Marske, 19 Ninos, Irvine CA 92620.

We also continue to be challenged reaching our alumni who do not open our emails. There are many reasons for this, but the bottom line is that we need your help. **If you have heard of any news of a fellow alum or of a new retiree, PLEASE drop us a line at CH2M HILLaa@gmail.com.** You can also invite them to join the Association by going to the website at www.CH2M HILLalumni.org and clicking on the [Join the Alumni Association](#) button in the upper righthand corner of the Home Page.

As mentioned in our April membership announcement, we have decided to provide the current newsletter, an alumni roster, regional gatherings information, and special announcements as a "Members Only" perk. The "Members Only" features will come to members as a separate mailing with the newsletter link. We will provide more details and benefits in the upcoming months, and plan for this "Members Only" perk to be implemented with the January 2020 newsletter. We want to reward our CHAA members for their much-needed financial support, dedication, and desire to maintain the history, traditions, values and legacy of CH2M. Recent membership perks included our ability to help connect quite a number of alumni who have lost touch with each other, helping a number of alumni who saw their medical plans terminated, and helping 50+ others when their Medicare premiums jumped because of their company stock sale, saving them thousands of dollars.

For those who choose not to join the CHAA, the Alumni History (AH) web page will always remain open to all CH2M HILL alumni, ReUnion information will be posted, and our CHAA email connection, CH2M HILLaa@gmail.com, will always be available to all. Current news and the posting of the two latest newsletters will be delayed before posting on AH. All Alumni will always be welcomed at any time for membership!

Earlier this year the CHAA sent an e-mail alert to all our alumni regarding only those who redeemed any CH2M stock as a result of the Jacobs sale. This small group likely had a one-time bump in taxable income that resulted in a major increase to their Medicare Part B premium and Part D prescription drug coverage. Since then, we have heard from many (more than 50) alumni who have successfully filed and received their refund. For those who have had problems, it seems to be related to a grumpy agent at the particular SSA office.

Terry Sheldon brought the issue to us in the beginning and has been helpful in getting important information (including the right contact at Jacobs) to those who are seeking to apply to the SSA. A copy of the original announcement is available by request to CHAA: CH2M HILLaa@gmail.com.

The Board of Directors had their second quarterly meeting on April 15 and were pleased to welcome Anne Kernkamp, Nancy Schultz, and Terry Sheldon, who were unanimously elected as the newest members to the Board! The Board is now at its full capacity of 13.

If you have any questions about the Alumni Association membership, or its programs, please feel free to contact Don at CH2M HILLaa@gmail.com.

Again, thank you to all who have joined and donated to the Association in 2019 so far!!

SPECIAL CHAA MEMBERSHIP OUTREACH ANNOUNCEMENT

We're happy to inform you of our critical effort regarding the CHAA Membership Outreach. As part of our recent CHAA Board of Directors meeting, a subcommittee for Membership Outreach was formed with Gordon chairing and Directors Anne Kernkamp (SWR), Jory Abrams (PNW), Terry Sheldon (SER), and Nancy Schultz (NER). They will coordinate office contacts in their particular region and will work with selected individuals who previously worked in those offices or are currently employed there to obtain as many alumni names and contact information as possible.

This is a huge and important effort to contact our alumni across the country and beyond who are still working or retired before we lose track of them. Unfortunately, Jacobs can no longer provide support for us. This effort will hopefully be joined by many of our members willing to share their personal contact list and/or help with personal calls or emails to their friends and colleagues. Our intent is to reach out to every new alumni contact possible over the coming months to inform them of the CHAA mission and solicit their support and offer them the opportunity to join now or later, as they desire.

We're happy to say that many members have already been extremely helpful reaching out to others, a few at a time and more. Some are taking it even further like Steve Gelman, who recently shared his alumni contact list with Don Marske. We were all excited when Don just reported that 58 new alumni contacts were added to our master mailing list!

So, please let Don know via CH2M HILLaa@gmail.com or me at gkoblitz1@outlook.com if you can help with furnishing your alumni contacts. Thanks in advance for your critical help with our outreach program!

P.S.: If you want to know who our members are now, please refer to the CHAA new 99 members list in the next article and the January 2019 issue for the 261 members who joined in 2018. Every January issue will include all the members to date.

Meet Your New CH2M HILL Alumni Association Members

We are especially pleased to introduce and welcome our 99 new members of the CHAA as of July 20! We also like to include a list of all the spouses of our deceased alumni who, by the way, receive their complementary membership free of charge. If you know others who qualify, please let us know.

We hope you all will look over the list, and if you DON'T see some of your good friends or colleagues, reach out to them and encourage them to join. You can find the 2018 list of our 261 members in the January Newsletter, pages 16-17. A complete list of our members will be included in every January issue. We will continue to welcome new CHAA members in each newsletter.

Our New CHAA Members:

Tonya Amidon	Michael Gibb	Skip Martin	John Sewell
Lisa Bailey	Tom Gibbs	Craig Massie	N C Sharma
Sheldon Barker	Gary Gray	Jim McKibben	Glen Silbernagel
Randall Beavers	Barry Hall	Karen Mikowski	Udai Singh
James Black	Greg Hall	Yehuda Morag	James Smith
Mark Boedigheimer	Neil Handyside	George Morgan	Philip Smith
Patricia Bourdage	Ann Hargett	Michael Mynhier	Randy Smith
John Caldwell	Lyle Hassebroek	Mary Neuman	Stan Smith
Kevin Clancy	Brad Heimlich	Vickie Nissen Stringfield	Cheng Soong
Ken Clegg	Rick Hirsekorn	Asbjorn Nysaether	Dan Sterley
Virginia Connor	James Howey	Jimmy Otta	Gregory Tate
George Crawford	Judith Ibarra-Bianchetta	John Parr	Cynthia Teel
David Crosby	Ken Iceman	Frank Pita	Frank Thompson
Mike Culpepper	William Ingles	Harry Reeder	Doyle Tinkey
Floyd Damron	William Irving	Steven Reynolds	Sue Townsen
Rusty Diamond	David Kasper	Elizabeth Richards	Peggy VanHemert
Michael Doleac	Nofal Kasrawi	Glenn Richter	Bobby Vilker
Linda Ellison	Mike Kennedy	Robert Ristine	Gerald Vogt
Lyle Ettestad	Thomas Klin	John Roderick	Andy Vollmar
Ben Fergus	William Kreutzberger	Eddilio Santarosa	Gina Wammock
Robert Forbes	Judy Lasswell	Robert Schmidt	Daniel Wetstein
Russ Freier	Patrick Lefebvre	Margret Schultz	Ken Williams
Lori Galloway	Jan Loring	Nancy Schultz	Linda Wright
Eric Garner	Thomas MacBriar	Mike Schweizer	Ray Yep
Steve Gelman	Kim Martin	Donald Seward	

CHAA Spouses/Widows/Widowers:

Patsy Benson	Sue Krumsick	Raeda Poirot	Shirley Ward
Julie Bielman	Judy Lasswell	Mary Reid	Laurie Weigum
Carol Bissell	Whitney Lindquist	Gayle F. Schilling	Shelby Weimer
Amanda Carr	Sally Madden	Margie Sexsmith	Kathy Wilson
Sheila Coon	Jessie McClelland	Sue Silkworth	Marlene Wollmann
Dona Eskelin	Betty Miller	Sondra Smith	Jean Worth
Jean Gibbs	Carol Moyer	Diane Sterling	Beverly Zeien
Melanie Harris	Adele Neukomm	Babs Suhr	
Shirlene Humphrey	Valerie Nichols	Velma Taylor	
Apple Jacobs	Betty D. Peterson	Hope Thayer	

If any of our readers haven't yet joined and would like to support our goals and activities, please contact Don Marske at CH2M_HILLaa@gmail.com or go to our CHAA website: http://CH2M_HILLalumni.org and click on the *Join the Alumni Association* button in the upper right corner.

HATS OFF TO OUR CHAA DONORS!

Very special thanks to our new 2019 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 second year! We wish to acknowledge all our donors, and we appreciate every gift given. Listed below are all our new donors through July 20, 2019, at the different levels we established. This is voluntary, of course, and can be done anonymously, if desired.

New donors are acknowledged in each newsletter and all donors acknowledged annually in the January issue. Donations will be accrued and donors will be acknowledged in **bold type** when a new level is attained and an asterisk * **at the Sustainer level and above**. Members who attain the “Sustainers” level and above will receive a lifetime membership and recognition as a small token of our appreciation.

A major portion of the 2019 donations are being used to significantly upgrade our Association website (accessibility, content, security and enjoyment), member outreach program, and help to promote local member groups. Updates regarding these efforts will be included each newsletter. Again, thank you all for your generosity!!

2019 CHAA Supporters: \$1–\$99

Lisa Bailey	Gary Gray	David Schertler
C. Barker	George Gunn	Mike Schweizer
Sheldon Barker	Tom Haislip	James Smith
James Black	Patrick Lefebvre	Randy Smith
Maria Bornheimer	Kurt Leininger	LeRoy Taylor
Jane Bower	Gordon Nicholson	Gerald Vogt
Mike Bracken	Brian O’Halloran	Andy Vollmar
Virginia Connor	Ron Ott	Debbie Whaley
George Crawford	Larry Pinson	
Stu Davis	Harry Reeder	

CHAA Boosters \$100+

Jory Abrams	Pat Klampe	Jimmy Otta
Dick Corrigan	Gordon Koblitz	Eddilio Santarosa
Randy Denton	Thomas Klin	Nancy Schultz
Mike Fisher	Don Marske	Jim Schwing
Lyle Hassebroek	Asbjorn Nysaether	Frank Thompson

CHAA Sustainers (Lifetime Members) \$500+

Bob Card

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

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! 😊

Update from Don Marske: the CH2M HILL Alumni Association is now a federally approved 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization under tax ID (EIN) 82-5325424. We are also a recognized non-profit in California. We believe all other states recognize the federal approval as well. Believe it or not, you may now deduct up to 50 percent of your adjusted gross income to the Association. 😊 That would be dreaming, but seriously, we just wanted to let you know there is a benefit for some if you were inclined to donate. We understand the tax laws have changed and your donations may not reach the new standard deduction threshold, but they still may for some.

The IRS requires that you keep records as evidence of your contributions. You do not have to submit these records with your tax return; however, they will be useful in case of an audit. Don will send a receipt of all donations of \$250 or more. If anyone wants a receipt for less than \$250, you can request one with an email to CH2M HILLaa@gmail.com.

HELLO, RECENT RETIREES/ALUMNI

As you can see, we need help in finding out our alumni who retired or are planning to retire soon. The following alumni retired or left Jacobs in the last 6 months. Fortunately, we received information from several of our members for these three long-term folks:

- Bob Forbes – update coming in January
- Randy Hoffman – update coming in January
- Skip Martin

IMPORTANT NOTE: Jacobs no longer provides an internal link to the CH2M HILL Alumni Association (CHAA) for previous CH2M staff who retire or leave the firm voluntarily. **Therefore, we need everyone's help more than ever to let us know of individuals who left Jacobs, voluntarily or involuntarily, and might wish to join the CHAA network.** Your help is critical! The good news is that our new Membership Outreach Program should be very helpful. Please contact: CH2M HILLaa@gmail.com or gkoblitz1@outlook.com so we may respond or contact them. Thank you!!!

Goodbye, Old Friends

SID LASSWELL



On March 22, Don Marske and Gordon Koblitz were honored to co-MC Sid Lasswell's Celebration of Life event at the OSU CH2M HILL Alumni Center. It was indeed a celebration of Sid's life with more than 200 attendees from around the country. The crowd first gathered in the lobby and around the beautiful welcoming table and memorable displays well before the program started.

The program included readings of Sid's obituary, a eulogy, an excellent vocalist singing several of Sid's favorite songs, followed by several family sharing special memories. The mic was then open for friends and colleagues of many years who shared their heartfelt and funny memories.

Sid and Judy spent several months every year on Maui in their favorite condo and made many close Maui friends. Judy planned an informal Maui Celebration of Life along with her sons, David and Steve, attending. The celebration is taking place the last full week in July. It will be especially moving with their Maui friends and family again sharing joy, laughter and sweet memories of a truly unique man.

The celebration concluded with a touching Military Honor Guard ceremony and the flag presentation to Judy Lasswell. Following the closing remarks of Mark Lasswell, the crowd mingled with the family and other guests to share with more of their memories of a truly great man and CH2M HILL icon. Click [here](#) for a link to Sid's full obituary.

Mark Lasswell found this special "Reflections" attachment from years past, which was previously shared with all our CH2M alumni. We think you'll (again) find it enjoyable, memorable, and insightful. View Sid's Special Reflection [here](#).



JERRY GEIST



Jerry Douglas Geist, 84, of Albuquerque, passed away March 18, 2019, surrounded in love by close family and friends.

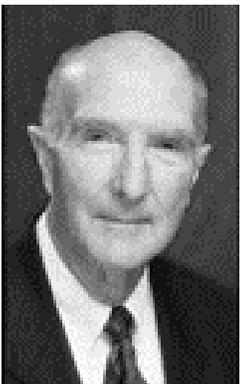
Jerry was born in Raton, New Mexico, to Jacob and Jessie Geist. He attended college on a Navy ROTC scholarship at the University of Missouri (Columbia) and the University of Colorado (CU Boulder), graduating from CU with a degree in electrical engineering. Jerry met his wife-to-be, Sharon Kaemper, in Las Vegas, New Mexico, in 1948, when Jerry was a young teen. They became junior high school sweethearts, voted “cutest couple” of their high school class, and eventually married after finishing college. Jerry served in the U.S. Navy for 4 years, and was assigned to the destroyer the *Douglas H. Fox*, beginning his tour of duty as the second youngest officer aboard ship. Before leaving the Navy, Jerry supervised more than 100 sailors as the Damage Control Officer, an experience he often cited as providing valuable leadership training that he would later use as a long-time member of the board of directors for CH2M.

Jerry served as CEO of Public Service Company of New Mexico (PNM), until 1990, and then established an energy consulting business and served on numerous boards and committees, including CH2M. He started as a Board director with CH2M in 1989, served as Board lead director from 2004 to 2011, and became a Board Director Emeritus in June 2015.

Notably, Jerry also served on a diverse set of New Mexico boards and committees supporting organizations such as the New Mexico United Way, the University of New Mexico, and the Taos Art Museum at Fehin House in Taos. Throughout his lifetime, he sought out opportunities to serve his community, as exemplified by his leadership in the Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce, planning the Albuquerque Tricentennial, and serving on New Mexico’s committee for the National Holocaust Museum. Jerry was a beloved father and grandfather and is survived by his wife Sharon, two sons, and three grandchildren.

Friends and family remember Jerry as a high energy, humorous, charismatic man who easily engaged and endeared himself to all those he met. He loved people, and he loved life.

CHARLES V. “TOM” GIBBS



Charles V. “Tom” Gibbs, a longtime resident of the Bellevue and Seattle area, passed away after a brief battle with cancer on June 19, 2019. Tom was born in Gresham, Oregon to Laurel and Margaret Gibbs of Winlock, Washington. He attended the University of Washington and graduated Cum Laude with a BS in civil engineering in 1954 and an MS in civil engineering in 1966.

Tom achieved far reaching impacts from his successful civil engineering career and made many contributions to the community where he lived. His work for a sustainable environment nationally and in two major cities was of historic importance to the clean water movement. His commitment to public transportation, healthy forests, the building of communities and his love of baseball have left valuable and durable benefits for the residents of the Seattle and Milwaukee metropolitan areas.

In 2005 Tom and his wife, Jean, endowed the “Charles V. ‘Tom’ and Jean C. Gibbs Presidential Fellowship in Environmental Engineering” at the University of Washington. The fellowship supports graduate-level studies for engineers from developing countries who will return home to help develop clean water and functioning sanitation systems for rural populations in those countries.

Tom is survived by his wife Jean, daughter Claudia Post, son Todd and his wife Karen, and his sister Janet Adams.

Says John Lee, “I was a division manager under Tom in Seattle. He was a wonderful individual to work for, great listener, excellent mentor, and granted a lot of ‘forgiveness’ after the fact for questionable decisions and perhaps less than appropriate behavior characteristic of the 30’s discipline!

“Outside of CH2M, Tom was a major force in Seattle and King County from his days as head of Metro, building the new Mariners Stadium, involvement with the University of Washington engineering/program management and philanthropic activities, including United Way. He leaves a legacy of having made a positive difference and better world on his departure.”

Click [here](#) for an article about Tom that recently appeared in the *Seattle Times*.

CHARLES EVERETT TORKKO



Charles “Chuck” Torkko, the first-born son of Rev. Evert E. and Tyyne Torkko, passed away in Aurora, Colorado, from metastatic esophageal cancer in June. He was 84 years old.

Born in Astoria, Oregon, Chuck spent most of his childhood in Duluth, Minnesota, where he graduated from Duluth Central High School in 1952. His proudest accomplishments were playing short-stop on his high school baseball team and playing trombone in the band. He was also extremely proud of his Finnish heritage.

The Torkko family moved to Los Angeles in 1952 where Chuck met his future wife Carolyn at the Rev. Torkko’s Finnish Lutheran Church. They married in 1953 and had two children: David and Kathleen. Their marriage lasted over 60 years until Carolyn’s passing in 2013.

Chuck completed his education in civil engineering, starting first at USC and then Los Angeles State College. He moved his family to Seattle in 1963. He worked on the design of the new I-5 Freeway south of Seattle and worked on the design and construction of the last 747 assembly building for Boeing. He was responsible for all civil engineering projects for the new Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington. During his time in Seattle, Chuck became an avid hiker and climber. He successfully climbed Mt. Rainier and all other major mountains in the Cascade Mountains of Washington State. He has first ascent routes in the records books and was a member of the Washington Alpine Club and Mountain Rescue.

In 1972, Chuck and his family moved to Anchorage, Alaska, where he started his own engineering firm, Torkko-Korman Engineers; later he was hired by CH2M where he eventually became a vice president. He stayed with the company until his retirement in 1999. He was instrumental in forming the Alaska Council of Engineering Companies and served as its first president.

In 1983, Chuck and Carolyn moved to Skippack, Pennsylvania, where he worked in the CH2M office in Philadelphia. They later moved to New Jersey to open an office there. In 1986, CH2M moved Chuck to Denver, Colorado, where he stayed the rest of his life; one of his projects was the design of a runway at the new Denver International Airport.

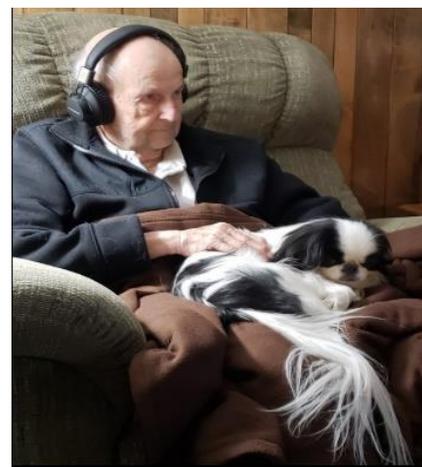
Chuck felt one of his greatest accomplishments was tracing his family tree of Finnish and American relatives. He followed the descendants of his grandfather and his grandfather’s many siblings. He created a chart that included about 1,000 people. In July 2001, he traveled to Finland to present his results to a gathering of 144 relatives.

One constant in his life was his love of dogs which his family shared. Chuck’s favorite breed was the Japanese Chin. Chuck lost his beloved Chin, Pepper, just 2 weeks before Chuck was diagnosed with esophageal cancer in May 2018. When his PET scan was clear of cancer 3 months after completing cancer treatment, Kathleen found him a Japanese Chin, Maiko, to celebrate. Chuck and Maiko became fast friends and her love helped him through the difficult health challenges he continued to face. The photo attached with this obituary is of Chuck with his beloved Maiko on his lap.

Chuck is survived by his son David, daughter Kathleen, brother Edgar, and many other relatives and friends and on-line political buddies. Chief among his friends is John Aho from Anchorage, Alaska, a co-worker and friend of 50 years.

MIKE HARRIS

Mike passed away on November 16, 2018. His wife Melanie shared it was quick and unexpected and just short of their 45th anniversary. Mike was highly thought of and respected by all as he worked his way from Corvallis to Milwaukee and Texas and finally Georgia. To honor Mike’s 35+ years with the firm, the Association is working with Melanie and his colleagues and friends to prepare a biography that will be posted on the Alumni Association website.



IMPORTANT NOTE: We no longer receive information from CH2M/Jacobs for deceased colleagues. **Therefore, it is now even more critical to hear from you about the death of any retiree or alumni colleagues or their spouses.**

Please forward their name, obituary or the family’s contact information to CH2M HILLaa@gmail.com or 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.

Special Announcements

2020 ReUNION UPDATE

Next CHAA ReUnion: Atlanta, September 17–19, 2020

By Bob Chapman (bobchap43@gmail.com)

The 2020 CHAA ReUnion Planning Committee has made great strides towards creating our next alumni reunion! The dates are set, September 17 to 19, 2020, with options to come early and stay late.

The ReUnion will be in the heart of Atlanta, Georgia; the venue will be the Atlanta Embassy Suites Centennial Park, selected in part based on proximity to many exciting features, and on very favorable feedback on a similar venue for the 2018 ReUnion in Denver. A contract has been signed with Embassy Suites with favorable group rates. Visit this [link](#) to learn more about the hotel and its surroundings.

A detailed program has been drafted which encompasses early arrival activities on September 16, through an optional post-ReUnion excursion. The program and venue accommodate opportunities to socialize with old friends. This being our first major East Coast ReUnion, the keynote presentations during the Thursday night banquet will focus on the history of CH2M HILL's migration from West to East, and particularly development of the Southeast region, with local Atlanta Jacobs employees invited to join us.

Two optional excursions are tentatively included in the planning to date, and several additional Saturday afternoon post-ReUnion excursions are being explored:

- A walking excursion to the nearby [Georgia Aquarium](#), including a preview presentation by aquarium staff to all reunion attendees, and special 'Behind the Scenes' guided tours.
- A visit to the [Atlanta History Center](#), including the Historical Cyclorama exhibit depicting the Battle of Atlanta, coupled with a prior related presentation featuring a local historian.

In addition, a wide range of "things to do and places to go" are being identified for independent individual or small group exploration during/before/after the reunion, such as:

- [Mercedes Benz Stadium](#)
- [College Football Hall of Fame](#)
- [World of Coca Cola](#)
- [CNN Center](#)
- [Gwinnett County Environmental and Heritage Center](#)
- [Martin Luther King Jr. National Historical Site](#)
- [Civil Rights Museum](#)
- [Margaret Mitchell House](#)
- [Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum](#)
- [Chattahoochee Nature Center](#)
- [Center for Puppetry Arts](#)
- [Fernbank Natural History Museum](#)
- [Stone Mountain Park](#)

Responses to the "Save-the-Date" Greenvelope communication issued initially in May have been very encouraging. Estimates of probable attendance exceed early planning numbers.

So, what is next? Most important, look for an invitation via Greenvelope in late September, early October, which will provide the opportunity to sign up for our next ReUnion, and start making your hotel reservations! Meanwhile, the ReUnion Planning Committee will continue to develop and refine the reunion program, and firm up associated estimated costs and fees. As they do so, the committee eagerly encourages questions and comments from potential attendees on how to make this event truly enjoyable and memorable. Contact Bob Chapman, bobchap43@gmail.com, who is chairing the committee, or any of the committee members, Mike Mynhier, Dennis Sandretto, Terry Sheldon, Jim Schwing, Cliff Thompson, Blake Jeffcoat, and Rick Hirsekorn.

Missing in Action

The CHAA again seeks your help in connecting with some folks without current email addresses. We were successful with our last MIA search and found several folks who are now reconnected with us again. Thank you to the folks who helped us find them!!

The list below is still longer than we like. Again, with the Jacobs transition, it's even more critical to help us find any CH2M folks you know who leave Jacobs without being added to the alumni mailing list. Our current Alumni Outreach program will help too, but it's always going to be a work in progress

Please respond to donmarske@gmail.com if you have any information. We've added their state or city, if we have it, to see if that helps. Thank you!!

- Kerry Adkins, CO
- John Anderson, OR
- Yulyan Arias, FL
- Jeff Baker, Anchorage, AK
- Patricia Bourdage
- Georgeanne Castor, OR
- Brett Cowgill, Portland, OR
- Rob Dibble, Albany, OR
- Rich Frankenfield, Corvallis, OR
- William Franklin, Meridian, ID
- Tami Hanlin, GA
- Steve Hope, MA
- Meg Ibison, Highlands Ranch, CO
- Susan James, Tigard, OR
- Stuart Jeffcoat
- Sue Krumsick, Boise, ID
- Bernie Miller, Tillamook, OR
- Salam Mohammed
- Kimberly Neal, Portland, OR
- Bob Parent, CA
- Michael Phillips, CA
- Kathleen Reyes, Santa Ana, CA
- Michael Stansbury, Blaine, WA
- David Towell, Los Angeles, CA
- Job Warner, CO
- Nancy Winslow, OR

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. Please send your highlights to Angie Kruse (scarlet.study415@gmail.com) or Gordon (gkoblitz1@outlook.com).

AFRICA ADVENTURE

By Jerry and Mary Boyle (jerry.mary.boyle@me.com)

On May 14, we flew to Cape Town, South Africa, and for the first three nights, stayed at the stunning Lanzerac Hotel and Spa on the outskirts of Cape Town. Lanzerac dates from the 1600s and is a working vineyard. During our time there we visited and toured a number of the wineries in the area. We then flew with a group of 17 other adventurers to Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe and had a two-night stay at the Matetsi River Lodge, nestled along the Zambezi River. Game drives and a trip to Victoria Falls got us off to a great start. The remainder of our Africa trip was spent in nearby Botswana, where we stayed in some deluxe camps: the Belmond Savute Elephant Lodge where elephants enjoyed the huge waterhole just in front of our tent-cabin; and Xaranna Okavango Delta Camp, where the highlight was a 30-minute helicopter flight over the Okavango Delta, first for both of us! The helicopter had both side doors off so we experienced the wind and views up-close and personal, including hippos cooling in the Delta waters, and lots of elephants. Spectacular!

Our final camp was the beautiful Sandibe Okavango Safari Lodge, where free-roaming elephants thought our plunge pool was a water bowl! There were no worries walking around camps in the daytime, but at night or early morning, we always had to have a camp security ranger escort us. And safari trips are not for the faint-hearted – we were up at 5:30 am every day and out on the first game drive by 6:30. We were usually back in camp by 11 am and had lunch and rest time until 3:30 when we went out on the evening game drive that ended after dark. Every drive was an adventure, following game tracks and discovering magnificent animals and birds.

This was a fantastic trip filled with countless memories; many more photos are posted on our SmugMug gallery site here: <https://www.smugmug.com/gallery/n-SQLstp>



Mary and Jerry enjoying an exciting helicopter ride!



Elephant crossing.

Jerry writes: "Here is a picture I just finished for Don Russell (former CH2M, see following article for more) who just returned from a photographic expedition to India to take pictures of tigers in the wild. This is one is done from one of his shots. This was one of my most interesting and challenging projects to date, but I think it came out pretty good!"



© Jerry Boyle 2019, from image by Don Russell

TIGERS IN INDIA

By Don Russell (russelldr@comcast.net)

I traveled to central India last month to photograph the wild Royal Bengal Tigers. The trip was very successful. I was able to get decent photos of six and did get glimpses of another six. They were located in Bandhavgarh National Park, about 400 miles southeast of New Delhi. I stayed in a very nice lodge in the park and spent 4 days in a four-wheel drive open vehicle on the roads in the park looking for the tigers.

It was a fantastic trip but it did have its challenges. The total travel time from our doorstep in Poulsbo to the lodge was 36 hours, including an 8 hour lay-over. At the lodge we got up at 3:45 am and returned around 6 pm, ate dinner and went to bed around 9 pm, repeating this sequence for the 4 days. It did feel good not to have to do it again the fifth day!

In addition, the roads were very rough and dusty. It was so dusty that 50 percent of the time we wore bandanas over our mouths and noses to keep the dust out. This was accompanied by temperatures ranging from 105° to 110°F. In retrospect, I do feel like I paid my dues for the exceptional opportunity to photograph the gorgeous Royal Bengal Tigers. My best photos of the tigers can be viewed by clicking on the link [here](#); I recommend viewing on a moderately large monitor to fully appreciate their beauty!



Royal Bengal Tiger female.



Sun hat, dust mask, long-sleeved shirt, long pants for a day in Bandhavgarh National Park.

TRAVELS IN CHINA

By Dave Ellison (dave_ellison@synergyconnects.com)

2019 marks the 44th anniversary of the friendship between the Mynhiers (Mike and Marge) and the Ellisons (Dave and Ruth). It began in 1975 at a Jim Howland-sponsored company picnic near Reston, Virginia. At the picnic we enjoyed each other's company and a few weeks later, on the spur of the moment invitation by the Ellisons, our growing families shared a long weekend in a very small and crowded cottage at Nag's Head, North Carolina.

Then, over the next four decades we have had many wonderful and memorable adventures together – rafting through and hiking in the Grand Canyon, game drives and tenting in the Serengeti, exploring the Great Pyramids, discovering polar bears on arctic ice floes, spotting wolves in the winter wonderland of Yellowstone, sailing the Geek Isles on the historic seajammer, the Sea Cloud, to name a few. We are indeed thankful for all the shared blessings of many family events and experiences we have enjoyed since CH2M brought our families together.

Some high points of our 2018 trip to China together included exploring the Great Wall just north of Beijing on a “low tourist” day with plenty of room to stroll. This happened just before our massive rickshaw group pile-up traveling the narrow lanes of hutong neighborhoods... no rickshaw brakes and fortunately no injuries. Also, we were astounded by the 8,000 terracotta warriors in the necropolis at Xi'an, enjoyed sailing through the beauty of the Three Rivers Gorge, and the impressive architecture and colorfully lit night skyline of modern Shanghai.

We especially enjoyed visiting Lhasa Tibet nestled in the Himalayan mountains (12,000 feet in elevation). The Potala Palace, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, was an imposing 13-story structure and the former home to the Dalai Lama since the 7th century. We did make it to the top of the palace (600 steps), for us very mature people... quite a stretch!

In Lhasa we were able to witness young Buddhist monks during one of their renowned, outdoor, debates, which they consider a learning process as they refine an understanding of Buddhist philosophy.

Our next adventure is planned for August – South Africa including Botswana, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.



The Ellisons and Mynhiers on one of their many trips together. Left to right: Dave, Marge, Ruth, and Mike.



Mike and Dave at the Great Wall.



Marge and Ruth at the Great Wall.



Buddhist monks enjoying one of their outdoor debates.

WORK AND LEISURE IN EGYPT

By Kurt Leininger (van.daviss@earthlink.net)

After enjoying Ted Downen's (Ted's Tales & Travels) article in the January issue, I thought I'd share a bit of my experience in Egypt, including the friends made and good times, albeit it was sometimes challenging.

I arrived in Alexandria in late October 1986, a couple days after the World Series when the Mets beat the Red Sox (remember the Buckner guy who miffed a ball on first base and allowed the Mets to win?). I was working a few days in Seattle and flew to Alexandria from there. That Thanksgiving break I toured Upper Egypt with a fellow employee who was in Alexandria for only a month or so (I wish I could remember his name).

My other trips in Egypt were to Cairo, and to El Alamein in Libya, both on a tour bus with other Alexandria families. I used all of my other holidays and vacation time to travel to Europe, including Athens and Santorini, Genoa and Florence, England and Scotland, and Switzerland and Germany (twice). My Christmas-New Year's week was with a former Army friend who remained with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and was stationed in Nuremberg with his family.

I flew home from Alexandria in early October 1987, after the client (Alexandria General Organization for Sewage Disposal, as I recall) decided they should have mechanical sludge dewatering, instead of the open sludge drying beds that I and another team member had been designing. After a week off with my brother in Durham, North Carolina (during the Oct 1987 market crash), I worked for several weeks each in Atlanta, Dallas, and eventually got to my home in Corvallis February 1988, when I took a 6-month leave of absence (after feeling like a nomad).

I met my wife at a conference on Staten Island in August 1988, and we've lived in Malvern, Pennsylvania, since moving here in Thanksgiving 1990. I was glad to have worked briefly on a joint venture with JMM in Pasadena, and for Don Marske in downtown Los Angeles, for my last CH2M project assignments. During my 28 years in southeastern Pennsylvania, I've worked for four different consulting engineering firms, the most recent for 17 years (1 year shy of my 18 years with CH2M). I worked part-time after my 95+ year-old parents both moved to elder care in 2011, and I fully retired February 2, 2018.



The oldest anaerobic digester in Cairo.



Alexandria Lighthouse Museum.



Kurt and Isabel, enjoying their Rhine cruise (Amsterdam to Basel), in May. This was their second cruise with Viking.

Jacobs Pension Service Center News

In January 2020, pension recipients will receive two 1099R tax reporting forms:

- Wells Fargo for January/February 2019
- Bank of America (BoA) for March through December 2019

Contact BoA Benefit Payment Services at 800-449-5000 for changes to your contact information, benefit payment details or tax forms.

Contact Jacobs "EmployeeConnect" at 877-586-4411 and select Option 1. (Note: this number may be phased out in time, but worth trying, as needed. Please let CHAA know if/when it does. Thanks.)

CH2M History Book Update

Jacobs was very kind to furnish copies of the updated CH2M history book "Building a Better World," the story of CH2M from its humble beginnings in 1946 to the Jacobs acquisition, to all who registered for the CH2M HILL Alumni Reunion held in Denver last September. Everyone was very appreciative and loved the updated and colorful edition. Recently we heard from Sandra Nagel in Denver, and Jacobs again kindly furnished the remaining 100 copies to CHAA for their use and future disposition. Discussions are now in process for how best to use the remaining copies. We appreciated hearing from Sandra and receiving the last of Jacobs' book donation.

Tidbits

This section is for folks who just want to send a photo and a few words and don't really want to write an article, as such. It's a fun, easy way to keep in touch. We'd love to see more submitted!

Dana Rippon writes of his visitors:

They are wild, but you couldn't tell when they're on our deck. They come and go as they please. However, they generally show up for breakfast and hang around for a late afternoon snack before retiring at dark to wherever they sleep. An endless source of amusement!



Mike Sailor writes:

Attached is a recent photo of four retired CH2M employees getting ready to play duplicate bridge at the Corvallis Bridge Club in Corvallis, Oregon. Clockwise the players are Peter Harr, Mike Sailor, Carol Harms, and Eileen Boal. Peter and Mike are paired today for this session of 28 hands. There were 15 tables this day so 60 players present. Three to four hands are played at a table and then the hands are passed intact to the next table. The pairs also move to another table at the same time. Each pair's playing results are collected, a final session score calculated, and the relative standings of each pair reported at the end of the session. Peter and Mike started playing "party" bridge about 6 years ago just for fun and to keep their brains challenged. This quickly led to them becoming addicted to the more serious duplicate bridge about 5 years ago. They frequently play together and also pair with other club members like Carol and Eileen for variety. At the Corvallis Bridge Club there are opportunities to play up to 8 times per week! Some sessions are limited to beginners only while others involve players of greater experience and abilities. There also have classes for beginners and more experienced players several times per week. The game tactics and bidding schemes can become quite sophisticated and complex in the desire to perform better than your opponents.



Gordon Koblitz writes:

Mary and I enjoyed a Poland (Krakow and Warsaw) extension of a Viking Elbe River cruise in May. Imagine my surprise when riding our Krakow tour bus (iPhone camera ready for action) and this sight popped into view! I believe this is the building that housed our CH2M European design center...now with its "new" Jacobs sign. It would have been interesting to stop by later, but our schedule was packed with other sights. As a side note, the visit to Poland was excellent, and we'd highly recommend it. And if any of you have visited the CH2M Krakow office and can verify the building, please let me know!



Paul Thornhill writes:

Photos from last night. The skunk was a surprise! Now that we don't have dogs, Mother Nature is reasserting herself. Not only have we found nightly visits from skunks, foxes, and raccoons, we have now found a rock squirrel (rare, black ground squirrel), feral cat(s), possums, armadillos and "normal squirrels." Our favorite is we realized we actually have created a "raptor feeding station." About once every 3 days or so, one of three kinds of hawks we have identified swoop down and pluck a dove or other bird from their unsuspecting perch on our bird feeders. Twice the hawks have eaten their catch right in front of us. Makes you pay attention to "top of the food chain"!



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 GKOBELITZ1@OUTLOOK.COM. Here are a few recent comments:

Glen Elias:

I saw the newsletter and it brought back so many good memories and I saw so many great people I work with.

Bob Chapman:

Gordon, I just finished reading your latest newsletter. Superb! Thank you once again.

Yehuda Morag:

Thank you and Gordon for all what you guys doing for the CH Alumni Association.

Kurt Van Daviss:

Gordon and Don, great job as usual, and that alone is worth the annual dues so I went ahead and renewed!

Kevin Clancy:

Terrific January newsletter!! Loved reading it. Just signed up for the Alumni Association; thanks for the reminder.

Doyle Tinkey:

What a great newsletter. I look forward to joining in future activities.

David Gray:

Loved reading the newsletter. Will join the alumni association.

Jerry Anderson:

Greetings Gordon. I have very much enjoyed the newsletters. Thanks for all you do in delivering it to all of us.

David Bennion:

Thank you for your special efforts on behalf of all of us retired CH2M'ers. You, Don Marske and the volunteer committee have done so much to remind us all of the Great Times and Work Culture we shared in our CH2M HILL experiences. I am committed to getting you an old picture of the hunting camp and a new picture of the leisurely Old Geezer Group!

Hal Mozer:

Hey, Don, thanks for the good work of keeping the Alumni Association going. This 91 year old isn't able to contribute much but support, but I admire the work of those who are doing the work. BTW, in the way of an update, in mid-December 2018 my wife, Sue, and I moved from our home of 53 years in Bellevue to a retirement community, Horizon House, in Seattle. It takes a while to learn to enjoy a hugely downsized life, but we are beginning to like it!

Don Russell:

The newsletter was excellent! Easy to read and very interesting. Loved the photos of the "old guys." We all look the same, in a good way. Keep up the good work with the alumni association. Here are two photos of the moon I took. The first is the full eclipse of the moon January 20; the second I call "Moon Lions," which was taken on my Tanzanian Safari in 2016.



Jacobs News

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

JACOBS RANKED NO. 1 ON *ENGINEERING NEWS-RECORD'S* TOP 500 DESIGN FIRMS LIST

Jacobs has been ranked No. 1 for the second consecutive year on *Engineering News-Record's* (ENR)'s 2019 Top 500 Design Firms list. Widely considered the industry benchmark, the annual list ranks both publicly and privately held U.S. companies, based on revenue for design-specific services performed in the previous year.

"The number-one recognition on ENR's Top 500 Design Firms list speaks to Jacobs' leadership addressing unprecedented, disruptive shifts involving digitization, urbanization, the environment and climate change," said Jacobs Chair and CEO Steve Demetriou. "These are tremendous growth engines for Jacobs because we bring innovative solutions that advance progress on these issues and create a more connected and sustainable world."

The recognition also reflects firm's innovative leadership delivering technology-enabled, sustainable solutions to solve the world's most critical challenges. By combining diverse talents with deep client-application experience and digital intelligence, Jacobs analyzes complex problems from multiple perspectives to deliver more complete, higher value solutions for clients and communities around the world.

JACOBS RANKED NO. 1 ON *FORTUNE'S* 2019 WORLD'S MOST ADMIRABLE COMPANIES LIST

Jacobs has been ranked No. 1 on *Fortune* magazine's 2019 World's Most Admired Companies list in the engineering and construction category. The annual survey, conducted by *Fortune* and Korn Ferry, is given to top executives, directors, and financial analysts for identifying companies with the strongest reputations within and across industries. Jacobs previously ranked No. 5 among companies in the engineering and construction industry in 2018.

"The *Fortune* number-one ranking is a tremendous tribute to our employees – recognizing their leadership and focus in driving excellence in every aspect of our business – while challenging the status quo and delivering critical solutions for complex problems around the world," said Jacobs Chair and CEO Steve Demetriou.

Fortune's World's Most Admired Companies list is the definitive report card on corporate reputation. To compile the rankings, corporate reputation and performance are measured against nine key attributes: innovation, people management, use of corporate assets, social responsibility, quality of management, financial soundness, long-term investment, quality of products and services and global competitiveness. Jacobs secured the No. 1 ranking through its collective performance in each key attribute of reputation within the industry.

Fortune collaborates with partner Korn Ferry on this corporate reputation survey, which evaluates approximately 1,500 companies, including the 1,000 largest U.S. companies ranked by revenue and non- U.S. companies in the Fortune Global 500® database with revenues of \$10 billion or more. Korn Ferry surveys 680 companies from 30 countries to select the 15 largest for each international industry and the 10 largest for each U.S. industry.

The complete list of 2019 World's Most Admired Companies, including the method on the rankings, can be found in *Fortune* magazine and [online](#).

JACOBS TO DELIVER CONSTRUCTION PHASE SERVICES FOR WATERCARE'S CENTRAL INTERCEPTOR PROJECT

Jacobs has secured a variation with Watercare, New Zealand's largest water and wastewater utility, for the continuation of professional services during the construction phase of the Central Interceptor (CI) wastewater tunnel project in Auckland, New Zealand. The project will be the largest ever wastewater project undertaken in New Zealand.

Jacobs has served as the professional engineering advisor for the CI project since 2014, delivering detailed design services. Jacobs' role has been extended to include construction management and design support services for the construction phase of the CI project, expected to begin in mid-2019 and continue through 2025.

"The appointment builds on our 20-year working relationship with Watercare," said Jacobs Buildings, Infrastructure and Advanced Facilities COO and President Bob Pragada. "Our appointment is testament to the way our team has worked with Watercare and our subconsultant partners to deliver value during previous stages, and our ability to assemble a global team with extensive experience in the construction of deep tunnel water conveyance systems."

Designed to collect and convey sewage and combined sewage overflows, the CI tunnel will run approximately eight miles (13 kilometers) from Western Springs to the Mangere Wastewater Treatment Plant and is the largest ever wastewater project undertaken in New Zealand. The new tunnel is expected to reduce the volume of wet-weather overflows by 80 percent, contributing to the overall health improvement of Auckland city's waterways and receiving environment.

"The Central Interceptor is the largest capital project Watercare have ever undertaken," said Watercare Executive Program Director Shayne Cunis. "Jacobs' ability to mobilize a talented global team to Auckland and apply lessons learned from similar projects undertaken in London, Singapore and the United Arab Emirates, was critical to our continuation with them for the next stage of the project."

JACOBS AWARDED FEMA DISASTER RESPONSE AND RECOVERY CONTRACT

Jacobs, the managing partner for CCPRS – a joint-venture between CH2M (now Jacobs) and CDM Smith – was awarded a Public Assistance Technical Assistance Contract IV (PA TAC IV) for continued support of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) mission.

Through the PA Program, FEMA provides supplemental federal disaster grant assistance for debris removal, emergency protective measures and the repair, replacement and restoration of disaster-damaged, publicly owned facilities and the facilities of certain private nonprofit organizations. The program also encourages protection of damaged facilities from future events by providing assistance for hazard mitigation measures during the recovery process.

"Our highest priority under PA TAC IV is to serve FEMA, the disaster recovery community and our small business partners," said Jacobs Global Environmental Solutions Senior Vice President and General Manager Jan Walstrom. "We will support the post-disaster response and recovery mission with a highly experienced team and a strong track record of successfully delivering projects with FEMA."

The indefinite delivery/indefinite quantity (IDIQ) contract, which has an estimated ceiling value of \$610 million, encompasses professional services for engineering, architecture, cost estimating, accounting, commercial property insurance, project management, construction management and inspection. With a one-year base contract period and up to four individual option years, the work includes supporting disaster operations in FEMA Region II: New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands; Region VII: Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska; Region IX: Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Pacific Islands; and Region X: Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington.

JACOBS NAMED ENGINEERING DESIGN MANAGER FOR CALIFORNIA WATERFIX PROGRAM

Note: Thanks to Dave Evans for contacting Ron Ott regarding some history of this project, and thank you, Ron for your comment – "I worked at CALFED Bay Delta Authority, 1994 to 2007, as a consultant with CH2M. I served as the deputy director for science for the program. It took 25 member agencies to come up with the concept that's now going into design. It is a massive program."

Jacobs has been selected by the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority (DCA) for engineering design management (EDM) services related to the California WaterFix program. Estimated at \$17 billion in 2017, WaterFix is California's largest water conveyance project, designed to bolster the reliability of the state's water supplies, while protecting and enhancing the San Francisco Bay-Delta estuary, a vital environmental asset.

The California WaterFix program, slated to begin in early 2019, will upgrade outdated and unreliable water infrastructure that is more than 50 years old and dependent on levees that put clean water supply at risk from earthquakes and sea-level rise.

"WaterFix is one of the highest profile infrastructure projects in the nation, essential to secure clean water supplies for 27 million people, area businesses and three million acres of agricultural land," said Jacobs COO and President of Buildings, Infrastructure and Advanced Facilities Bob Pragada. "Building on our long-term relationship with California water agencies, DCA will tap into our extensive water infrastructure and engineering design experience to begin modernization of California's water delivery system."

Jacobs' initial \$93-million contract with DCA will support the preliminary and final engineering design phase of the 15-year program. Major infrastructure components include three water diversion intakes with state-of-the-art fish screens, two large tunnels, two large pumping stations, and miles of new roads and utility relocations.

Following more than a decade of studies, WaterFix emerged as the most effective solution to address California’s water shortages while also improving environmental conditions in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta – such as reducing the harmful impacts of the existing infrastructure diversions near endangered fish habitats and reinstating more natural river flows.

WaterFix also stands to generate nearly 122,000 jobs for the region and offer greater water security, enhanced disaster preparedness and climate change resilience for millions of California residents, businesses and agriculture that obtain their water from the Delta.

JACOBS SUPPORTS THE UK ENVIRONMENT AGENCY’S NATIONAL CAPITAL PROGRAM

Jacobs has been appointed to provide professional services (Lot 1) of the UK Environment Agency’s new Collaborative Delivery Framework (CDF) in two of the six regional delivery hubs across England, both the North West and the Thames and Anglian regions of England, which will drive a program of capital investment and improvement work for flood defense assets.

The Environment Agency is investing \$3.3 billion (£2.6 billion) in flood and coastal erosion risk management projects, beginning in 2015 through 2021, helping to protect 300,000 homes. The new CDF is part of the Agency’s Next Generation Supplier Arrangements (NGSA) to improve efficiency and effectiveness in the delivery of capital projects through greater collaboration with delivery partners. The new way of working will modernize program, asset and incident management to achieve improvements in sustainability, value for money and outcomes delivered.

“As the environment faces some of the toughest challenges of our time, we have an opportunity to build on our 25-year partnership with the Environment Agency and play a role in helping to protect communities for the future,” said Jacobs Buildings and Infrastructure Europe Senior Vice President and General Manager Donald Morrison. “The new integrated delivery teams provide the opportunity for even greater collaboration with the Agency and other suppliers, enabling better ways to support the Agency’s objectives to improve efficiency across a wide range of resiliency and environmental outcomes.”

“This ambitious new framework will help us to continue to deliver our £2.6 billion flood and coastal defense program in a way which ensures that sustainability, efficiency and value for money remain at the very heart of the work we do to protect people, homes and the environment,” said Executive Director of Operations at the Environment Agency, Toby Willison.

Jacobs is working alongside the Environment Agency, Lot 2 delivery partners and wider community stakeholders as part of an integrated, collaborative team to deliver a program of projects to create better places for people and wildlife and support sustainable development. Under the CDF, Jacobs will provide professional services to help tackle flood risk management, water resources, habitat creation, fisheries improvement, coastal resilience and navigation schemes. The team will look to deliver more resilient and sustainable solutions, achieving efficiencies through region-wide management of flood protection, water resource and navigation assets. Jacobs will also work as strategic supply chain partner to Arup in two further hubs in the North East and Midlands regions.

This award extends Jacobs’ long relationship with the Environment Agency, supporting previous frameworks since the agency’s creation in 1995. Working as delivery partner with the Environment Agency and Balfour Beatty, Jacobs is also supporting the multi-award-winning Thames Estuary Asset Management 2100 program overseeing the refurbishment, maintenance and upgrade of more than 4,000 flood defense assets along the tidal River Thames, including the iconic Thames Barrier.

JACOBS, KING COUNTY WASTEWATER TREATMENT DIVISION RECOGNIZED FOR BENEFICIAL GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Note: Thanks to Patrick Burke, who writes, “Legacy CH2M partnered with Miller Hull Architects, Berger Partnership (landscape architects) and HDR to deliver the Georgetown project. The project was staffed with a Seattle-based team, many of whom grew their careers under the tutelage of alums Dave Evans, Jim Goetz, Rick Smith, and John Spencer on the Brightwater project. Tina Hastings now serves as project manager, taking over from Pat Burke when the project proceeded into construction. Other legacy CH2M staff include Shinji Goto (design manager); Kristina Kapoi (deputy PM); Bryan Youker (liquids process and hydraulics); Byrl Thompson (site/civil); Steve Bakken (instrumentation and controls); Don Wagner (electrical); Karen Dawson and Carolyn Kossik (geo-environmental engineering); Melissa Wu (facilities plan); Miaomiao Zhang (liquids process); and Raymond Chung and Jesse Williams (stormwater management).”

Jacobs and King County Wastewater Treatment Division received the Envision Platinum designation for the new \$250-million Georgetown Wet Weather Treatment Station (WWTS), underscoring its positive social, economic, and environmental benefits for the community. The Jacobs-led consultant team worked alongside King County to develop a sustainable and resilient treatment station with conveyance and outfall structure to treat combined sewer overflows prior to discharge into the Lower Duwamish Waterway – keeping an estimated 95 percent of untreated overflows from entering local waterways.

Awarded by the Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure (ISI), Georgetown WWTS is the first Platinum-awarded Envision project in Washington state. The ISI Envision rating system examines the impact of sustainable infrastructure holistically across five categories: quality of life, leadership, resource allocation, natural world and climate and resilience.

“The Georgetown Wet Weather Treatment Station integrates technical innovation and sustainable solutions, serving as a community asset,” said Jacobs COO and President of Buildings, Infrastructure and Advanced Facilities Bob Pragada. “We developed this project – in close collaboration with King County and the local community – with sustainability as a central theme, showcasing the county’s commitment to protecting the environment and proactivity ahead of unpredictable storm and wet weather instances impacted by sea level rise and climate variability over the next several decades.”

While siting and planning the project, the Jacobs team used 3D models and a Virtual Reality (VR) environment to optimize layouts for function and space planning, ensuring the design approach would integrate naturally within the industrial neighborhood, while still reflecting the local history and culture. The facility itself provides community benefits, such as educational opportunities, meeting and training rooms; and supports the economy with jobs through a local hire requirement. The team optimized the Georgetown WWTS layout by integrating several facilities and providing multi-purpose function wherever possible.

The Georgetown WWTS project will reduce contamination and improve aquatic habitat and overall water quality of the Duwamish River. When complete in 2022, the station will process up to 70 million gallons of combined stormwater runoff and wastewater per day, water that would otherwise have discharged directly into the river without treatment during storm events. The project will control two existing combined sewer overflows into the Lower Duwamish River.

JACOBS RECOGNIZED WITH 11 BUSINESS ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE INNOVATIONS

Jacobs has been recognized by *Environmental Business International* (EBI) with 11 business achievement awards for leadership and outstanding performance in its environmental and climate change work in 2018. The annual awards are administered by *Environmental Business Journal* (EBJ) and *Climate Change Business Journal* (CCBJ), two leading sources of business intelligence in the environmental industry. “Demand for smart, sustainable solutions to address complex environmental challenges continues to grow globally,” said Jacobs Global Environmental Solutions Senior Vice President and General Manager Jan Walstrom. “These awards stand as a testament to our employees and clients who advance innovative technologies and sustainable approaches to improve the spaces we inhabit and transform communities for the better.”

In conferring the awards, EBJ and CCBJ recognized the company for its leadership in technology, environmental restoration and remediation, climate change adaptation and resilience and social contribution.

Full descriptions of the award-winning projects are located here for [EBJ](#) and here for [CCBJ](#).