

CH2M HILL Ohio Reunion

By Steve Wanders (stevewanders8@gmail.com)



The idea of getting back together began this past summer, initially as a small group of guys playing golf. Then it grew to a larger golf outing, and a social gathering of many former colleagues from the Dayton, Cincinnati, and Columbus offices. Eventually we generated a list of names and contact info for 45 folks to whom we reached out.

On September 30, the Ohio reunion began with a fun morning of golf with three foursomes (12 golfers) at the Golf Club at Yankee Trace in Centerville (part of the greater Dayton metropolitan area). We played a friendly “scramble” where all players had a chance to participate in the team score. While we attempted to make up the pairings as evenly as possible, the group of Shawn Thompson, Rob Frank, Rob Hook, and Taj Bakare dominated the field with an impressive 10-under par! We could not have asked for better weather or a more fun bunch of guys!

Later that afternoon, we gathered at Chappys Social House in Centerville for a light buffet, a few beverages, and lots of laughs. Of the 45 CH2Mers, 23 were able to join us. Along with 12 guests, we had a group of 35 people who appeared to have a great time getting caught up with stories of family, careers, and life in general.

For those who were not able to join us, the fun we had was captured in the photographs taken by our supremely talented friend and colleague, Ned Pennock. For a complete set of photos from the reunion, please see Ned’s website at www.nedpennockphotography.com. On his homepage, click “EVENTS” on the menu bar to get to the Recent Events tab with the photo gallery CH2M-DAY.

The firm first began work for the City of Dayton in the 1950s when Black, Crow & Eidsness (BC&E) began assisting the Department of Water with the development and management of its Miami River and Mad River Well Fields, and its raw water treatment facilities. In 1985, responsibility for the Dayton area projects was transferred from the Gainesville, FL region to the Great Lakes Office region (Milwaukee). That year, a small project office was established in Dayton to support the construction of the Miami Water Treatment Plant Expansion Project.

Over the following years, CH2M HILL continued to grow throughout the Ohio region with work ranging from environmental, water and sewer, transportation including airport, roadways and bridges and OMI work. What began as a very small office, has now grown today to a total staff count of about 500 in Ohio (Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati), including 115 legacy CH2M staff. *[NOTE: The complete history of the Ohio region can be found on the CHAA website under Alumni History/Expansions, Ohio Region.]*

