



News from the Florida Association of County Engineers & Road Superintendents

## FACERS Membership Renewal

### It's time to renew your FACERS membership!

FACERS contributes to the development and revision of statewide standard specifications and guideline documents; provides a forum for the exchange of ideas, technical information and best practices; and engages in related local, state and national legislation to ensure every community of the best possible engineering, transportation and public works available.

**County/Municipal Members Fee:** \$130

**Sustaining Member (Private/State/Etc.):** \$180

For current members, renewal has never been easier, simply click [HERE](#) and renew your dues for 2018.

#### FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF ENGINEERS & ROAD SUPERINTENDENTS

### 2018 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

FACERS contributes to the development and revision of statewide standard specifications and guideline documents; provides a forum for the exchange of ideas, technical information and best practices; and engages in related local, state and national legislation to ensure every community of the best possible engineering, transportation and public works available.

#### EXCLUSIVE MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- Networking:** FACERS hosts two face-to-face multi-day events each year attended by over 50 people. FACERS members can communicate with each other electronically throughout the year whenever needed.
- Professional Development:** During the Annual and Fall Meetings, FACERS provides its members with the opportunity to earn over 20 hours of certified professional development.
- Advocacy:** Through membership in FACERS, your county has a voice in Tallahassee and Washington, DC. Advocating for State and Federal funding is an integral part of the FACERS organization.
- Newsletter:** Members receive a quarterly publication recapping FACERS meetings and articles detailing various projects and best practices throughout the state.

#### JOIN TODAY

##### County / Municipal Members - \$130.00

Those persons in public works positions who are regularly employed on a full time basis by any one of Florida's counties or cities (e.g. county engineers, public works directors, county road superintendents). \*Membership dues for new county and municipal members are waived for the first year.

##### Sustaining Members - \$180.00

Persons who are not employed by a county or city and are interested in the affairs of FACERS as approved by the Board of Directors (e.g. consultants, state employees).

To pay by credit card, click [here](#). Once you have logged in with your user name (email address) and password you will be redirected to the FACERS Annual Dues page. If you would prefer to pay via check, please complete the 2017 Membership Invoice and enclose with your check. Please also take a moment to check your "profile information" and make any changes, if needed.

**PAYMENT DUE: MARCH 31, 2018**

#### 2018 YEAR AHEAD



MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT  
KAYE GRANDSTAFF AT [KGRANDSTAFF@FL-COUNTIES.COM](mailto:kgrandstaff@fl-counties.com) OR  
(850) 922-4300



## RENEW BY SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 2018

## 2018 Annual Meeting Orange County

The 2018 FACERS Annual Meeting registration has recently opened! The meeting will be held in conjunction with the 2018 Florida Association of Counties Annual Conference. To register, [click here](#).

**June 26-29, 2018**  
**Hyatt Regency Orlando**  
**Orange County**

Registration Fees:  
FACERS Members - \$100  
Non-Member - \$175

# Annual Meeting Sponsors

## Interested in Sponsoring?

There are plenty of opportunities to sponsor at the FACERS Annual Meeting!

### **GOLD SPONSORSHIP - \$1,000**

- Coffee Service

OR one (1) of the following:

- Wednesday Break - Exclusive
- Thursday Break - Exclusive
- Exclusive Signage
- Logo on all meeting signage & verbal recognition during meeting and social
- Opportunity to address the meeting attendees at the social
- Company logo in meeting recap and 3rd Quarter FACERS Connect Newsletter

### **SILVER SPONSORSHIP - \$500**

- Sponsor of Event or Social
- Logo on signage at Social
- Logo on all meeting signage & verbal recognition during meeting and social
- Opportunity to address meeting attendees at social
- Company logo in meeting recap and 3rd Quarter FACER Connect Newsletter

### **BRONZE SPONSORSHIP - \$250**

- Sponsor of the Social
- Logo on Social signage
- Opportunity to address meeting attendees at the Social
- Company logo in meeting recap and 3rd Quarter FACERS Connect Newsletter

[Click here to purchase sponsorship.](#)

Contact [Latoya Washington](#) at (850) 922-4300 if you have any questions about sponsorship!

## President's Message

Dear Colleagues,

I hope and trust you all had a wonderful holiday and a Happy New Year. Now that the holiday season is behind us, we are going to kick things into high gear for 2018. I have high hopes and expectations that 2018 will be a year to see continued success and accomplish more goals than before. I know all of us here at FACERS are ready to give it our all and really raise the bar.

An upcoming event that I would like to bring attention to and remind everyone about is the 2018 FACERS Annual Meeting, which is June 26-29 at the Hyatt Regency Orlando. I hope to see you all there!

Once again, I am excited and look forward to see what is in store for the FACERS organization this upcoming year!

Thank you,

Faith Alkhatib, President

# Member Spotlight

## Brian Singleton, P.E.

### Professional Bio

As a child I was fascinated with building things with Legos, erector sets and Lincoln Logs and I loved construction equipment; I would tell my parents I wanted to be a construction worker. As I aged into my teens and developed an interest in computer games, I was drawn to Roller Coaster Tycoon and Sim City in which you would develop, build and run theme parks and towns/cities. After spending a summer on my grandfather's farm, raising cows, throwing watermelons, pulling peanuts and shelling peas, I quickly realized manual labor was not in my deck of cards. Since moving people through the theme parks and moving traffic around town were my favorite parts of the games I played, during my junior year of high school I decided I wanted to be a Civil Engineer.



I joined Alachua County Public Works 12 years ago at the conclusion of my freshman year in college as a student engineering intern and worked part-time through the remainder of my college years primarily conducting traffic studies and investigating citizen traffic concerns. Upon graduating Cum Laude from the University of Florida with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering with the Fall 2009 class, I accepted a full time job with Alachua County as a Project Engineer. In this role I managed & designed transportation related projects such as sidewalks, resurfacing and intersection jobs. In 2013 I was promoted to Transportation Engineering Manager in which I was responsible for all transportation functions of the County including traffic ops, new development, capacity projects and pavement management. In 2016 I was promoted to my current position as the Contracts and Design Manager in which I lead the Transportation and Stormwater sections and am responsible for the ensuring all contracts are in place for all functions of the Engineering & Operations Division. In addition to my engineering duties, this January I received an interim assignment as the Assistant Director for Critical Facilities in which I'm responsible for maintenance of the Fire Chief and Sheriff's facilities, including the County Jail, E911 Call Center, Emergency Operations Center, Sheriff's Headquarters and 13 Fire Stations.

Alachua County is 969 square miles, has a permanent population of approximately 260,000 and is home to the University of Florida, Santa Fe College and 9 incorporated municipalities including the City of Gainesville which is the county seat. Alachua County maintains approximately 600 centerline miles of paved roadways and approximately 300 miles of unpaved roadways.

### Personal Info

**What's playing on your iPod?** Everything. Country, rap, rock, indie, folk, pop and songs in languages I don't understand; I like it all.

**What's the last book you read?** I don't do much reading other than the Greenbook and the MUTCD; last book from cover to cover is Gump & Company which is the sequel to Forrest Gump.

**What's your favorite thing to do on the weekends?** Anything out in the sun or hanging anywhere with music playing.

**What's your favorite part of FACERS?** Networking; it's nice to be able to discuss how other entities are handling issues that we all face.

# Sharpes Ferry Bridge

While travelling through east Marion County on CR 314, you will cross the Ocklawaha River via the Sharpes Ferry Bridge. At first glance, the bridge may seem ordinary if not nondescript. But on a beautiful day, when you're obeying the speed limit, you may notice that there are two very different bridges crossing the river side-by-side. The bridges at Sharpes Ferry are quite unique in their design, construction and history.



The newest bridge was completed in 2012 for \$8.15M, funded by the Florida Department of Transportation, in collaboration with Marion County and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Greenway and Trails. The project was fast tracked as a design build contract, awarded to Misener Marine Construction, Inc. of Tampa. A new pre-stressed concrete I-beam structure 52 feet wide and 325 feet long was constructed. The poor soil conditions along the riverbank led the design-build team to select a light-weight fill option to reduce the weight of the embankment.



Geo-foam blocks were selected, and 13,000 cubic yards were trucked to the site from Miami in 41" x 49" x 194" sections. Designed to have a low density of 1.5 lbs/CF, these blocks strengthen the foundation of the bridge approach and reduce long-term settlement potential. The geo-foam block construction also limited the area of disturbance and therefore the environmental impacts. This was all done within a limited 100 day road closure.

Relocated 15 feet north of the new bridge is what remains of the previous bridge, refurbished as a fishing platform and pedestrian walkway. Designed by the Austin Brothers Bridge Company, the span was originally built in 1926 at the CR 316 river crossing 12 miles north of the current location. In 1969 the CR 316 crossing was reconstructed as a 65-foot-tall steel and concrete structure to support the traffic of the Cross Florida Barge Canal. Two years later, the truss bridge was reportedly floated upstream to Sharpes Ferry. There, it replaced a wooden, single lane structure that had suffered repeatedly from fires, floods and disrepair. The truss bridge was engineered to accommodate boat traffic by pivoting horizontally to open and close on a central screw. It was only 18 feet wide and motorists were cautioned to travel over it at 15 mph. It was not uncommon to see drivers waiting on one side of the bridge to allow only a single car to cross. As the last working bridge in Florida to use the now-historic swing pony truss design, preserving the old bridge was important.

The two bridges are now integral components of Marion County's ever-expanding transportation network. The new bridge allows a structurally sound alternative to the SR 40 evacuation route from Florida's east coast and the repurposed truss bridge will connect to a future phase of the Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway Trail system. The Sharpes Ferry Bridges are a showcase to innovation and progress, while preserving great engineering works and history.



# 2017 Award Spotlight

## Bee Ridge Road Improvements



The Bee Ridge Road Improvements project beautifully reconstructed the roadway west of Bent Tree Boulevard to Mauna Loa Boulevard, a distance of 1.68 miles, to a four-lane divided urban roadway with a landscaped median, 10-foot sidewalk on the south side, bicycle lanes, three roundabouts, native landscaping, LED street lighting, LID stormwater systems and a signalized intersection at Mauna Loa Boulevard. East of Bent Tree Boulevard to Iona Road, a distance of 0.93 miles, was milled and resurfaced with the functional addition of bike lanes, a 10-foot sidewalk on the south side, LED street lighting and reconstruction of the Iona Road/Bee Ridge Extension intersection as a one lane roundabout. Utility improvements consisted of new construction of public water mains, sewer force mains, a lift station, and relocation of all private utilities.



Bee Ridge Road, from Mauna Loa Boulevard to Iona Road, is a major County arterial that prior to 2014 was a two lane, uncurbed, open drainage public roadway with multiple offset un-signalized intersections, bordered by major neighborhood developments, individual duplexes and single-family homes, businesses, places of worship, healthcare facilities and County Fire Station 8.

The cornerstone of this successful project was the positive relationship between the agency and the public. The project was immediately within and served as the primary access for multiple major neighborhood developments, businesses, places of worship, healthcare facilities and County Fire Station 8. Stakeholders were engaged in the decision-making process. Inconvenience and public construction fatigue was inevitable over a two plus year construction duration. However, the strength of our relationship with the public ensured quick resolution of issues, patience and understanding of the eventual positive outcome for the community.

## Sponsor Spotlight DRMP, Inc.



### Enhancing Communities for Nearly 40 Years

Headquartered in Orlando since 1977, DRMP, Inc. is a privately-held, employee-owned, multi-discipline civil engineering and surveying firm that develops innovative design solutions for infrastructure development in the public, private and industrial sectors.

With offices throughout the Southeastern United States, DRMP specializes in civil engineering, surveying and mapping, ecological services and construction engineering inspection, transportation engineering and water resources/stormwater engineering. **DRMP has the experience and expertise to assist with completion and documentation for all phases of Local Agency Program (LAP) projects.**



The firm's philosophy for project success is not solely based on its capabilities to design, survey, inspect or study but to **incorporate sustainability** into its projects and **enhance the quality of life** in the **communities** it serves. The results of DRMP's project delivery are seen every day. It can be seen as commuters travel on the Florida's Turnpike or the US 17-92 at SR 436 Flyover Bridge; as residents are reassured their neighborhoods and local roads can manage heavy rainfalls; by clients expecting to receive an accurate survey for the foundation of every project and a thorough inspection to achieve quality construction.

DRMP also holds a high commitment to enhancing the quality of life through community service. Their program, **DRMP Cares**, is designed to provide resources to support community involvement initiatives that generates positive lasting changes for STEM education, health and children. The firm's dedication to this program extends beyond their corporate giving as DRMP empowers its employees to fuel their own enthusiasm for community-minded projects. As a citizen of the places that we live and work, we believe it is our social responsibility to make an impact that leaves the community better than we found it.

It is the combination of all these elements, commitment to our clients, staff and our community, that truly differentiates DRMP from our competitors. Today, our firm remains focused on the same core values we were **founded upon - expertise, quality, leadership, trust and respect.**

It is his commitment that has led to long-lasting client relationships and being ranked in *Engineering News Record's* "Southeast Top Design Firms" list and "Top 500 Design Firms" list.



**Have a nomination for a Member or Project Spotlight?**

Please submit nominations on [Wufoo](#).

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