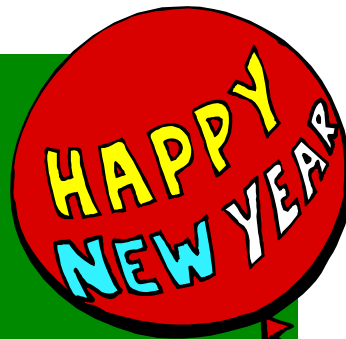


FACERS News



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FACERS News

Editor and Chief—
Carolyn Steves



Next Edition
March 2010

Submission Deadline for
the next Issue is 2/15/10

VOLUME 2 EDITION 3

JANUARY 2010



A Message from the President

Wow, how fast the year goes by. I hope all of you are ready for the holidays. Bob Gordon is the most honored recipient of the FACERS Christmas Prize (see details later). He will undoubtedly have the loveliest decorations in his neighborhood. I can't begin to tell you how proud he was to receive this great honor. I believe tears were even shed.

We had a great legislative meeting at the St. Petersburg Hilton. Chris Evers with EJ Breneman led the charge with a presentation on Green Technologies and Highway Partnerships. Did you know you could get LEED certified for highway projects? The discussion was enlightening and many of us were surprised that the road management techniques we've been using for years qualify for green house gas credits. Please make sure you work with your solid waste and recycling folks so that the recycling of asphalt and concrete products is being counted in the

numbers they report to the state for recycling percentages.

Joe Santos with the FDOT Safety Office did a great job discussing Statewide Crash Data and Analysis Tools for Local and State Roadways. He also handed out the 2008 Annual Report for the Highway Safety Improvement Program. Please make sure you get a copy and see how your county fared.

We then proceeded to visit the Pinellas County Public Works Emergency Response Facility. All I can say is WOW what a great facility it is going to be once it is completed. The facility is dedicated to emergency response by ESF 3 personnel. The county has had the foresight to equip their public works professionals with the necessary facilities to perform their duties in a safe and efficient environment. Kudos to them.

John Newton with Hillsborough County very graciously shared his departments in-house training for their public works staff. They have a tremendous program that covers a wide range of subjects from general safety to operations of heavy equipment. It is evident that they have put a great deal of thought and effort into their program. John has offered to share their experience, so give him a call.

Charlie Geer with Kimley Horn & Associates as well as the Florida Engineering Society visited with us and discussed issues with the CCNA (Consultant Competitive Negotiation Act) and informed us of the issues connected with the Whit vs. LeGorce case. The engineers in the room left with a great deal to think about, especially as it relates to personal liability.

I want to thank Carolyn and Bill Steves with RS&H and Chris Evers with EJ Breneman for sponsoring the hors d'oeuvres at our social event Wednesday night. A great time was had by all.

Don't forget to check out the FACERS website, <http://www.facers.org/> and while you are there nominate someone for the annual FACERS awards. The deadline is in April and that will be here before you know it. There are many deserving individuals that would appreciate being recognized for their efforts.

Best Wishes for the Happiest, Healthiest and most Prosperous of New Years,

Danielle

LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE RECAP



WOW! Hector Bertran kept up the tradition of raising the bar at each conference. FACERS met in St. Petersburg December 2nd and 3rd in conjunction with the Florida Association of Counties Legislative Conference.

Wednesday morning started out with Chris Evers, EJ Breneman telling us about the new federal policies to encourage recycling. Chris gave us all the facts and figures about how much we can save in dollars, efforts, trucking on our existing roadway network and air quality for each mile of existing roadway we reclaim. Danielle Slaterpryce pointed out any recycling of roadway materials or concrete should be reported to your Solid Waste Department so they can use it toward the state mandated recycling goals for each County.

Joe Santos, of the FDOT Safety Office presented the FDOT's Crash Data and Analysis Tools for Local and State Roads. Joe showed us the statewide data he has compiled and how each of the counties can use this information to help us identify high accident locations. With this information and our individual county data we can then approach our FDOT District Safety Officer for possible help in funding needed improvements. He also informed us the FDOT has purchased a statewide license for the NavAtlas 10.2 software which makes it available to each County at no charge.

John Newton arranged for us to tour the new Pinellas County Public Works Emergency Responder facility. This building will provide 80,000 s.f. of office and storage for their daily use in a self-contained building that is designed to withstand 190 mph winds. Pinellas County looked around after the hurricanes of 2004 and determined they needed to provide a facility to house their equipment and personnel during the storm so they will be ready to respond as soon as the storm passes. Their current facility consists of several metal buildings that have been repurposed into office spaces but have no real wind rating. The back-up power and water gives the facility the ability to be self sufficient for 5 days in the event of a natural disaster. They are also in the process of constructing a hardened building to store their first response vehicles and equipment so it will be available after the storm to start clearing roads.

John Newton along with David Braxton, General Manager Transportation Maintenance Division, and Steve Kynerd, Senior Supervisor West Service Unit Transportation Maintenance Division, with Hillsborough County Public Works staff made a presentation on the Hillsborough County In-House Heavy Equipment Training Program. They told us how they provide an opportunity to broaden the skills of the existing workforce to improve the career path for each employee as well as to develop a well trained work force that can accomplish the necessary work assignments in the current restricted budget conditions. Hillsborough County has developed a program that includes multi-day classroom, hands-on equipment, and on-the-job training for each employee. This program is creating a well cross-trained work force in Hillsborough County allowing them to actually "do more with less". John Newton has offered to work with other Counties to help them develop a similar program to meet their individual needs. A very good discussion was held on how this program could be expanded throughout the State of Florida. During the discussions, it was discovered that several Counties have pieces of a comprehensive training program in place in their County. A commitment was made to try to bring all the various County pieces together to make the best training system in the country! John Newton has an article later in this newsletter asking for interest and help in developing this concept.

Charlie Geer, Kimley Horn & Associates and a member of the Florida Board of Professional Engineers, gave an update on the state of the professional laws in the State of Florida. Charlie talked about the Florida CCNA (Consultant's Competitive Negotiation Act) and the PE Board's position on several issues. A discussion was held on the various ways the Counties handle the selection process. Charlie discussed the details of Witt and Associates vs. LeGorce Country Club, concerning the personal liability of an individual professional engineer. This case through the trial found the engineering firm was liable for \$4,000,000 but the firm had a \$1,000,000 limitation. The Courts then found the engineer who signed the plans would be liable for the \$3,000,000 remainder of the court awarded damages. When the engineer appealed the decision, the appellate court found it would be against the public interest to limit the liability of an individual professional engineer. The Board of Professional Engineers is working on changes to the State law that will limit the individual engineer's personal ability liability. The implications extend to Counties in-house design, an engineer's participation on a county's development review process, and county's engineer managing a county construction contract, etc. Even though this case has not run its full course, all professional engineers in the State of Florida should keep a very close eye on both the case and the proposed legislation in 2010.

Social Night

FACERS held a "Social Night" to foster improved personal relationships for the members. Once again a great time was had by all (although some were had by the good time)!!!

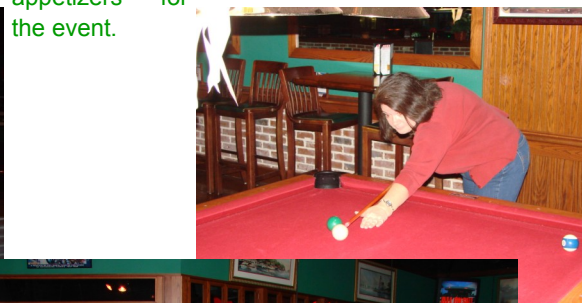
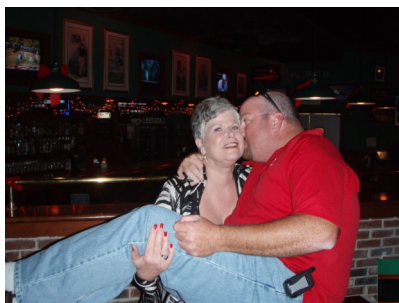
Carolyn
"Social

use for

Steves, RS&H found a great location just a block from the conference hotel. The Night" was held at Midtown Sundries, a neighborhood sports bar and restaurant. Midtown Sundries set us up in a separate room and provided us a pool table for our the night.

It was discovered there are few "real" pool sharks in our group. We also confirmed we also have mostly "pool minnows" in the group. The Lake County and Volusia County sharks had easy "pickins" with the rest of us minnows. However, the minnows were smart enough to keep our money in our pockets!

FACERS would like to thank RS&H and EJ Breneman, who generously provided the appetizers for the event.



MEMBERSHIP CORNER

1 Year New Membership

FREE

FACERS

Invite a new Member to join FACERS

County ~ Municipal ~ Consultant

Good for the 2009 - 2010 Membership Year

At the Legislative Conference it was decided to offer a Free, yes I said **FREE**, membership to any new member for the 2009-2010 membership year. This includes all classes of membership, Active (County Public Works / Engineering), Municipal (City Public Works/ Engineering), & Sustaining (Consultant, University, State & Everyone else)

Since the Holiday Season is over and we are all getting back to the normal routine of “*Doing More with Less*”, I’ll bet some of you are having that feeling that something may have slipped in the past 2 months since you received your renewal notice. Maybe, just maybe, that feeling is you forgot to send in your membership for 2010. So, why not do it now and get rid of that nagging feeling? Besides this will get you off John Newton’s “***send a reminder to renew your membership list***”.

While you are in the mood to renew, use the above coupon (and the application form on the next page) to invite a new member to join FACERS.



F.A.C.E.R.S.

The Florida Association of County Engineers and Road Superintendents

Membership Application 2010

Name

Title

Address

STREET ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP CODE

Telephone

AREA CODE

PHONE NUMBER

Fax

AREA CODE

FAX NUMBER

E-Mail @

Membership Type (Check One) Please provide your county, city, or company as indicated.

☐ Active Member FACERS (\$60.00)

County
Public Works Employee

☐ Active Member FACERS and NACE (\$170.00)
NACE membership is optional, not required to be a member of FACERS

Your County

☐ Municipal Member FACERS (\$50.00)

City
Public Works Employee

Your City

Other County Employee,
Vendor, Consultant,
University Staff, etc.

☐ Sustaining Membership FACERS (\$60.00)

Your Company

Please mail this form with your check
(made payable to FACERS) to:

Fred Schneider, P.E.
FACERS Treasurer
Lake County Public Works
437 Ardice Avenue
Eustis, Florida 32726

Total Amount Enclosed \$

A NEW WAY TO ASK THE MEMBERSHIP

One of the great benefits of FACERS membership is the ability to query the membership for advice, experiences, or solution to your particular problem(s). The missing link in this process is letting everyone know what you have found. To close this missing link, the following procedure was approved at the General Membership Meeting on December 3rd:

- **Submit the query to FACERS via Brian Barnes (brian.barnes@charlottefl.com). Brian will format the question, and submit it to the general membership via e-mail. The format of the e-mail will be from Brian to the person submitting the question. The total membership will be blind copied on the e-mail.**
- **Anyone wishing to respond to the query can respond to the member who asked the question.**

(The rest of the membership will not have received all the responses.)

That is where the closure of the missing link comes in.

- **The person asking the question will compile all the responses for their use.**

That member asking the question will then be obligated to write a short article for the next newsletter (it only has to be a paragraph or two).

- **The requesting member must write an article for the next newsletter. The article should explain what were the circumstances that caused the query to be addressed to the membership, summarize the number of members responding and the responses that were received. That member should also include the conclusions drawn from the query.**

This way all members can better understand why you needed the information and can also benefit from your research when they need the same information without sending the same question out to the membership several times. This will also eliminate all of the members receiving each individual response to the query.

In this way all the members benefit from information exchange without compiling all the responses for each query.

Keep those questions coming and we will publish your report in the bi-monthly FACERS News!

Dec 09 General Meeting Minutes

FACERS Board Meeting FAC Legislative Conference St. Petersburg, Florida December 3, 2009

Board Members Present

Danielle Slaterpryce – President *
Hector Bertran – Vice President *
Fred Schneider – Treasurer *
John Newton – Secretary *
John Goodknight – Director *
Todd Buckles – Director *
Brian Barnes – Past President

Also Present

Scott Herring, Nassau County
Janet Degner, T2 Center
Jim Stivender, Lake County
Bob Gordon, Hillsborough County
Scott Evers, EJB
Bob Siffert – FHP
George Webb – State NACE Director

Not Present

Gene Calvert – Director *
Carolyn Steves – RS&H Sustaining Member*
Ramon Gavarrete, Director
Alan Holbach – Director *

* Current Board Members

With a quorum present, Danielle Slaterpryce called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and proceeded to present the FACERS Past President Award to Brian Barnes. Everyone cheered.

Secretary's Report:

Minutes from the FACERS Board meeting held on October 9, 2009 in Orange County Public Works Department were discussed and approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Fred Schneider reported FACERS had an overall account balance as of 11/30/09 totaling \$27,164.10. The Treasurer's report was provided to all present. Discussion centered around what to do with the funds and ideas ranged from providing additional scholarships, funding members to attend FACERS conferences, and funding new memberships. Danielle asked all present to go back and come up with ideas to spend our funds. More to follow on this subject at the March 2010 Board meeting

Continued on Page 8

Dec 09 General Meeting Minutes

Page 2 of 3

Committee Reports:

Membership: Fred Schneider

7 out of 17 sustaining members have renewed membership

Looking at membership options

Target counties and develop priority list of counties we want to discuss membership or paying for them to be members. Danielle wants to send letters following the March 2010 Board meeting

Fred provides new and renewed membership certificates signed by the FACERS President

Scholarships: Bob Gordon

Bob reported two scholarships were awarded to USF students

Bob expressed concerns on how communication to committee reps (George, Ramon, Danielle, Bob) is handled by their respective Universities

It was agreed to use the FACERS website and that the overall point of contact (POC) is the chair of the committee

Bob would contact each University and let them know who the POC for their University is and how to contact them

By Laws: Brian Barnes

No report – however, Fred recommended that Article X, titled “Purposes of the Association” be switched with Article II.

Board approved this recommendation.

NACE: George Webb

NACE had agreed to support ARTBA's gas tax increase lobbying position and to be on the lookout for the membership survey that will be forthcoming to all NACE members.

Legislative Conference: Hector Bertran

Hector solicited for ideas and topics for the next annual meeting

to be held in Tampa during the June 2010 time frame.

T-Square: Janet Degner

Janet shared the latest copy of T-Square and emphasized articles:

Page 22, “Too Busy to Think”

Page 24, “Team Projects”

Page 25, “Building the better Mouse Trap”

She also emphasized making award nominations for the FACERS Awards Program.

Green Book: Fred Schneider

No report

Continued on Page 9

Dec 09 General Meeting Minutes

Page 3 of 3

Newsletter: Carolyn Steves/Brian Barnes

Plan is publish a newsletter every other month.

Legislative Issues: Ramon Gavarrete - Not present.

Legislature to discuss gas taxes versus user fees was mentioned.

FACERS/FES: Danielle Slaterpryce

Add APWA

FES coming later

Old Business:

Increasing membership

New Business:

Certificate for membership was implemented and Bob Gordon received the Christmas "booby" prize, a blow up penguin and snowman, which must be placed in his front yard for the entire Christmas season.

JOB OPENINGS

Another way FACERS is working to provide services to its members is our new Job Openings Section. Each Newsletter will include any job openings a member County or City would like to advertise. Just e-mail the information to Carolyn Steves Carolyn.steves@rsandh.com or Brian Barnes brian.barnes@charlottefl.com and we will get it in the next newsletter.

Our first listing is from Scott Herring in Nassau County:

Nassau County - Engineering Services Engineer II

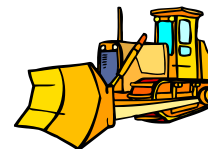
Salary: \$48,893.75 - \$58,119.30 Annually

Job Description: Under occasional supervision, provides complex professional work ensuring proper application of civil engineering principles and techniques, for division of the Engineering Services Department. Reports to the Engineering Services Director and/or his designee.

Requirements: Requires a Bachelor's degree in civil engineering and a State of Florida Certificate as an Engineer In Training. Must possess a valid state driver's license.

How to apply: Applications will be accepted until filled. Application and job description can be obtained from the Human Resources Department located at 96161 Nassau Place, Yulee, FL 32097. Telephone 904.491.7332 or Fax 904.321.5926.

Hillsborough County's In-House Training



The Hillsborough County Public Works Department's Transportation Maintenance Division (TMD) would like to express its sincere thanks to FACERS for the opportunity to present its unique, internal employee training program at the Fall conference in St. Petersburg. The presenters, John Newton, David Braxton and Steve Kynerd, were pleased with the high level of interest of the attendees and in turn received valuable insight from the very knowledgeable audience.

TMD's training program is unique in that each training subject is customized to meet specific needs of road and stormwater maintenance operations and couples limited classroom instruction with actual 'hands-on' exercises and practices. Most importantly, this 3-4 day session is followed by a mandated 40 hours of on-the-job training at the employees respective work unit. Only after a demonstration of proficiency is the training considered successful and complete.

This presentation provided a broad overview of TMD's program while touching upon specific components of the program and the challenges and benefits realized thus far. The following are the program highlights:

- ✦ Training Subjects: heavy equipment, maintenance activity, supervision
- ✦ Methodology: Classroom, "hands-on" exercises and demonstration of proficiency
- ✦ Center of Excellence: Plans and lay-out of the dedicated training grounds
- ✦ Standardized Training Plan and Lesson Format: Examples provided upon request

Individualized Training Plans for each job classification personalized for each employee

TMD is excited about its training program and the initial success the Division has experienced. TMD is pleased to collaborate and share its program with interested Counties. For further information, please contact David Braxton. His contact information is below:

David Braxton, General Manager
Hillsborough County Public Works Department
PO Box 1110-22nd floor
Tampa, Florida 33601-1110
Ph: (813) 307-1769
Fax: (813) 272-7059
E-mail: braxtond@hillsboroughcounty.org

Member Spotlight

George T. Webb



George T. Webb has served Palm Beach County in West Palm Beach, Florida since 1981, starting as the Assistant Director of the Traffic Division and holding various other top management positions before assuming the current position as County Engineer in 1991. George is a graduate of the University of Florida with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering and a Master of Science in Engineering (1976). He is a licensed professional engineer in the State of Florida.

As County Engineer of Palm Beach County, one of George's major responsibilities involves administering the County's current five year road program. During his tenure as County Engineer the County has spent more than \$1 billion dollars on its thoroughfare system. More detailed areas of responsibility include roadway design and property acquisition, construction coordination, surveying, engineering services and contracting, and road and bridge maintenance and construction. He also chairs the interagency Geographic Information System Policy Advisory Committee which has members from the Sheriff's Office, Property Appraisers Office and various County departments .

George has been a member of National Association of County Engineers (NACE) since 1992 and served as its President in 2007. He is also a member and Past President of the Florida Association of County Engineers and Road Superintendents (FACERS). He belongs to several professional associations including the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE), the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE), the Florida Engineering Society (FES) and the American Road and Transportation Builders Association (ARTBA).

In September, 2007, George testified as the President of NACE before the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on structurally deficient bridges and the national highway system bridge reconstruction initiative in Washington, DC.

George and his wife June have a son Jordan, 20.



FACERS in the “KNIGHT” Stars



Danielle Slaterpryce, FACERS President and Robin Knight, Director of Development, University of Central Florida

The University of Central Florida presented an award to FACERS President Danielle Slaterpryce for funding the FACERS / HDR Endowed Scholarship. UCF also honored FACERS by naming a star “FACERS Scholarship”. So the next time you are out at night looking up at the Pegasus Constellation, think of FACERS and HDR’s commitment to continuing the future of our profession.



**WHAT
WERE
THEY
THINKING ?**

In this issue of the newsletter we start a new feature. We will include a picture of a sign that seems to have missed the target.

Keep an eye out and send us a picture of a sign you feel just did not quite hit the nail on the head.

Send your sign pictures to: carolyn.steves@rsandh.com or brian.barnes@charlottefl.com



By the ad beside the doorway, I guess they do allow Jack Daniels, which may be the reason for the other prohibitions!

FACERS Board Meeting Orange County, Public Works October 9, 2009

Board Members Present

Danielle Slaterpryce – President *

Hector Bertran – Vice President*

Fred Schneider – Treasurer *

John Newton – Secretary *

Gene Calvert – Director *

Carolyn Steves – RS&H Sustaining Member *

Todd Buckles –Director*

Brian Barnes – Past President *

Not Present

Ramon Gavarrete, Director*

Alan Holbach – Director *

John Goodknight, Director*

George Webb -- State NACE Director

Also Present

Amy Bent, RS&H

Scott Herring, Nassau County

Rob Suess, Hillsborough County

* Current Board Members

With a quorum present, Danielle Slaterpryce called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

Secretary's Report:

Minutes from the June General Membership were discussed and will be approved at the Fall Legislative Conference in December. Minutes were not available for approval due to technical and mental difficulties.

Treasurer's Report:

Outgoing Treasurer, Hector Bertran, discussed the current status of the treasury. Funds available are \$24,852.40 in the checking account and \$3,429.36 in the investment account. Total funds available are \$28,281.76. Hector mentioned that moving the investment account into an E-trade account was not feasible and it was agreed to drop the idea for the time being. Hector also reported that there was a discrepancy in the invoice FAC submitted from the conference held at Marco Island. Hector is working to rectify and has not been able to get FAC to respond. It appears FACERS is being overcharged approximately \$300.00. Our new Treasurer, Fred Schneider, questioned FACERS' record keeping wanting to ensure how long we need to hang on to items. It was concluded to follow the By Laws except for Membership and Minutes where it was agreed to keep those records intact. Fred is in the process of purging the files. Hector provided a membership update and we welcomed Scott Herring back to FACERS. Scott is the County Engineer for Nassau County. Fred stated he would like to give all members a certificate and the Board approved this item. Lastly, Discretionary Spending was discussed and it was agreed to continue to follow the By Laws.

Continued on Page 14

FACERS Board Meeting

(Continued)

Page 2 of 2

Committee Reports:

Scholarships: Bob Gordon - No update at this time.

By Laws: Brian Barnes - No update at this time.

NACE: George Webb - No update at this time.

Legislative Conference: Hector Bertran - Fall Legislative Conference will be held December 2 – 4, 2009 in St. Petersburg, Florida. Hector is coordinating the following agenda and as soon as it is finalized it will be mailed to all members:

Wed. Dec. 2: Two morning sessions followed by a third in the afternoon. FACERS social will conclude the day's activities.

Thurs. Dec. 3: Two morning sessions. Roundtable and General Meeting for the afternoon.

Fri. Dec 4: No activities

T-Square: Janet Degner - Unfortunately Janet was absent; however, our President, Danielle Slaterpryce reported on the Traffic Management Symposium.

Green Book: Fred Schneider - Fred wants to update the Green Book in regards to Traffic Calming, mainly criteria for speed tables. He requests input from FACER members.

Newsletter: Carolyn Steves - Newsletter is in the works – will be emailed as soon as possible.

Legislative Issues: Ramon Gavarrete - No update at this time.

Old Business:

Brian Barnes shared Danielle's Swearing In as President via laptop, as they were on an exchange trip to China during the Annual Meeting.

New Business:

Danielle mentioned the Integrated Waste Management Conference in Fort Walton Beach, December 9 – 10, 2009. A motion to have the conference serve as a venue for Continuing Education was made by Gene Calvert, seconded by Brian Barnes, and voted Yes, unanimously by the Board.

Having no other business; meeting was adjourned at 12:02 p.m.

Look for the
next FACERS
News in March
2010

Submission
Deadline Feb 15