

FACERS News



SPRING EDITION

2015

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Amy Blaida	

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RS&H



President's Message



FACERS President 2014/2015
Judy Grim, Road & Bridge Director,
Volusia County

Hello fellow FACERS members! What a great time to be in Florida. The weather is awesome and we have a couple of great conferences coming up very soon! In addition to our **regular conference in June**, we have the joint **NACE/FACERS and APWA-Florida Conference in Daytona Beach in April**. This show is going to be special with **NACE/FACERS joining with the Florida Chapter of The American Public Works Association** for the first time. The location can't be beat, right on the World's Most Famous Beach. NACE and APWA have put together some great technical sessions and some great social events. The highlight will be **Barefoot on the Beach** with local food and beverages, a band in the historic bandshell and bonfires on the beach. A big thank you to Todd **Buckles** for organizing this event!

It has already been a busy year, with preparation of information and monitoring of legislative bills that can have serious effect on our members. Thanks to **John Goodknight** for sending out requests for comments on proposed legislation and coordinating the responses to **Eric Poole, Assistant Legislative Director with FAC**, for us. Thanks also to **Scott Shalley and his staff** for making our first year with FAC staff handling our administrative duties a very smooth transition. Looking forward to our members being able to pay their dues by credit card this coming year.

Hard to believe how fast this year has flown by. It seems just months ago my presidency began and now it is fast coming to a close. As I reflect on the year, I want to thank a couple of people who are always willing to go above and beyond for this organization, **Amy Blaida** and **John Goodknight**. While there are many who are dedicated to FACERS, Amy and John are the go to people who make this organization run so smoothly. I am honored to be a part of this great group and appreciate the opportunity to serve you as President this year. I am looking forward to being Past President. That is always the best office to hold.

Make plans to attend the **Joint 2015 NACE/FACERS and APWA-Florida conference April 19th – 23rd at the Ocean Center in Daytona Beach**. The **2015 FACERS Summer Conference** will be **June 17th – 19th at the Sawgrass Marriott in St. Johns County**. Hope to see you all at both of these events!



FACERS MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Robert "Bob" Gordon

Public Works Director, City of Temple Terrace

FACERS Municipal Member Director

Bob Gordon is the Public Works Director for the City of Temple Terrace and is responsible for managing a department of over 65 employees serving an area of 7 square miles and a population of 26,786. Bob has served as President (2005-2006), Vice President (2004-2005) and Treasurer (2003-2004) of the Florida Association of County Engineers and Road Superintendents (FACERS), and served on the local National Association of County Engineers (NACE) 2004 Host Committee as the Treasurer. He currently serves as the first ever Municipal Member Director for FACERS, representing the municipalities on the FACERS Board.



NACE 2004

Born a hundred years too late to be a cowboy during their golden years, Bob Gordon chose the next best thing and began his career in Public Works as a surveyor in 1976. In 1980, Bob received a Bachelor of Science in Engineering with honors at the University of South Florida; a university he chose because their mascot is a bull (is there a better reason?) and because his wife stubbornly refused his pleas to join him on the Great Plains where she could chew buffalo hides and sew them together into clothing. He was inducted in the National Engineering Honor Society, Tau Beta Phi, and in the National Academic Honor Society, Phi Kappa Phi. In 1985, Bob Gordon received his Professional Engineer license, and has since been a member in good standing of the Florida Board of Professional Engineers though he laments the fact that he never achieved his goal of becoming a professional bull rider. (However, that didn't stop him from making a fool of himself on the mechanical bull across the street from



Bob and his beautiful wife Judy

the Iron Horse Saloon during Daytona Bike Week after a couple of mugs of cheap beer.)

In 1986, Bob was hired in Hillsborough County as Drainage Engineer. He quickly advanced through the ranks due to his technical expertise and diligence as a Professional Engineer, his ethical dedication to public service, and the fact that he never actually challenged an irate citizen to an old-fashioned duel at sundown even though he was repeatedly tempted. In September 2003, Bob was selected as Director of the Public Works Department. At the time, the Department had over 650 executive, professional, and trades employees. Under his leadership, the Hillsborough County Public Works Department became the first county in the State of Florida to achieve APWA Accredited Agency status in May 2006. In January 2011, Bob was hired by the City of Temple Terrace where he currently serves as the Public Works Director and plans his next hunting trips.



Bob and his Harley

Bob was selected in 2012 as a Top Ten Public Works Leader of the Year for the American Public Works Association (including US and Canada)!!! The Top Ten Public Works Leaders of the Year program seeks to inspire excellence and dedication in public service by recognizing the outstanding career service achievements of individual public works professionals and officials. He loves dressing up like a cowboy (yeah, I know...weird), falling asleep in deer stands, thinking he is invisible to game while wearing camouflage, fancying himself to be a much better shot than he really is, riding motorcycles, and being startled from a nap by a screaming squirrel while dozing off in bear country during a moose hunt (pretty specific isn't it? Had to discard those undergarments).



Bob in Alaska



Pig hunt in Labelle

2014/2015 FACERS Officers and Board of Directors

President Judy Grim Volusia County	Vice President James K. Harriott, Jr. Alachua County	Treasurer Doug Gable Polk County	Secretary Faith Alkhatib Flagler County
Past President Ryan Douglass Regional Utilities of Wal- ton County	Active Member Director Jonathan Page Nassau County	Active Member Director Mounir Bouyounes Marion County	Active Member Director Scott Herring Nassau County
Active Member Director George Webb Palm Beach County	Active Member Director Fred Schneider Lake County	Sustaining Member Director Amy Blaida RS&H	Executive Liaison John Goodknight Goodknight Consulting
NACE State Director Todd Buckles Volusia County	NACE Officer (President) Ramon Gavarrete Highlands County	Municipal Member Director Bob Gordon City of Temple Terrace	

Pictured on right: **FACERS 2014/15 Officers** from L to R: Faith Alkhatib, Judy Grim and Doug Gable (missing: Jim Harriott).



Pictured above: **FACERS 2014/15 Board of Directors** from L to R: Ryan Douglass, George Webb, Mounir Bouyounes, Amy Blaida, Fred Schneider, Jonathan Page, Todd Buckles and Scott Herring (missing: Ramon Gavarrete and Bob Gordon).



FACERS CEU Update

As always, CEUs are offered at no charge to all who attend FACERS Annual Meeting (June) and Legislative Meeting (Nov). To clarify how Florida is handling the reporting of CEUs, pursuant to the recent rule change to 61G15-22.008, Record Keeping, Florida Administrative Code, FACERS is not required to report CEUs to the Florida Board of Professional Engineers (FBPE); and the FBPE will do random audits after renewal and that is when they will ask for certificates. These audits occur once every two years. So please hold on to your CEU certificates that are emailed to you following each meeting. If you desire, you can provide your certificates to Nancy Wilkins (NWilkins@fbpe.org) with FBPE and she will log your CEUs for you (but please note that this is NOT required). If you have lost any of your certificates, or have any additional questions or concerns, please contact the CEU Chair Amy Blaida at 813-468-4576 or amy.blaida@rsandh.com.

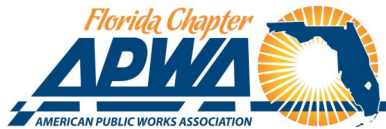
SAVE THE DATE

FACERS ANNUAL MEETING

June 17-19, 2015

Sawgrass Marriott—St. Johns County

You will need to register for the FACERS Meeting in order to reserve a hotel room. Please note that there is no FEE to attend FACERS Meetings. Agenda will be released at a later date.



2015 JOINT EXPO AND ANNUAL CONFERENCE DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA

APRIL 19-23


[About](#)
[Program](#)
[Exhibitors/Sponsors](#)
[Equipment Rodeo](#)
[Hotel Reservation](#)
[Networking Events](#)
[Daytona Beach](#)
[Register Now](#)

Now DOUBLE the Infrastructure Professionals



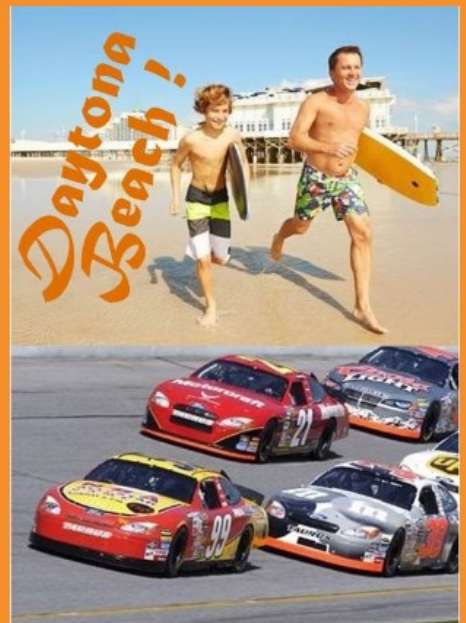
700+ County & City
road officials & public
works directors

150+ Exhibits

75+ Presentations

25+ Networking
opportunities

Infinite FUN!



Check back for more information.



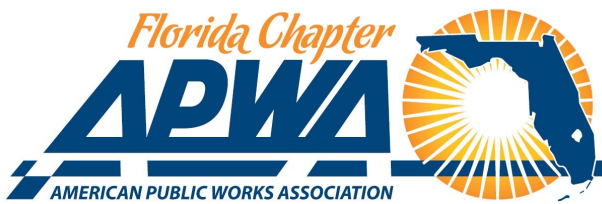
Daytona Beach
Things To Do
Restaurants



Exhibitor &
Sponsor
registration open
soon.

Delegates can
register in the fall.

Special thanks to our hosts!
Florida Association of County Engineers and Road Superintendents
Central Florida Branch of APWA



2015 Joint NACE / APWA Florida Chapter Expo & Conference

Conference: April 19 – 23 ▪ Expo : April 20 – 21

Ocean Center / Hilton Daytona Beach Resort

Daytona Beach

Just the Facts

The joint expo is a great venue for you to reach the decision makers for your products or services. We're anticipating around 700 county and city engineers, public works directors, road superintendents, and highway commissioners, among other professionals from around the U.S. As you may know, nationwide these officials manage our public utilities, over 75% of our highways and roads, and nearly 50% of our mass transit systems. Counties manage about 1.74 million miles of these roads; while cities and townships, about 1.19 million miles. They also own or operate over 50% of our bridges.

Sponsor & Exhibit Opportunities

We're pleased to offer you exhibit and sponsor opportunities. [The linked brochure](#) outlines how your company can maximize your visibility to our attendees. Plus by participating, your employees will gain a better understanding of doing business with county and city governments.

In an uncertain business climate, NACE and APWA Florida Chapter remain solid, trusted industry sources. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Rebecca Page with NACE at 202-393-5041 or rpage@naco.org.

P² PAVEMENT PRESERVATION NIGHT 2015

MONDAY APRIL 20TH
7:30 PM - 11 PM

@ TOP OF DAYTONA BEACH HILTON
PARKING GARAGE

P² SPONSOR LEVELS

- \$1,000 – THIS WILL GET YOU AND YOUR PRODUCTS IN ON THE P2 NIGHT WITH A PRODUCT TABLE
- \$2,500 – WANT TO INCREASE YOUR FOOTPRINT? THIS WILL GET YOU IN AND GET YOU A LARGER SPACE, A PRODUCT TABLE, AND SEATING FOR 10
- \$5,000 – WAIT, YOU HAVE SMALL EQUIPMENT YOU WANT TO SHOW OFF? THIS ALSO INCLUDES SEATING FOR 20, A SCREEN FOR PROJECTING (WEATHER PERMITTING), AND FOOD STATIONED IN YOUR AREA
- \$10,000 – BRING YOUR EQUIPMENT; YOU WILL BE ADVERTISED THROUGHOUT THE CONFERENCE; AND PRIME TIME SPACE AT THE EVENT! INCLUDES A FULL PARKING SPOT FOR YOUR EQUIPMENT, A SCREEN FOR PROJECTING (WEATHER PERMITTING), SEATING AND BOTH A BAR AND FOOD STATION IN YOUR AREA

LIVE MUSIC BY



WHY PARTICIPATE?

- THIS WILL BE AN EDUCATIONAL AND FUN EVENING FOCUSED SOLELY ON PAVEMENT PRESERVATION.
- THIS IS YOUR ONLY CHANCE TO DEMO YOUR PROCESSES AND EQUIPMENT.
- DECISION-MAKERS WILL ATTEND AS ONLY FULLY REGISTERED ATTENDEES ARE PRIVY TO THIS EVENT.
- YOU GET TO COME UP WITH QUESTIONS RELATING TO YOUR PROCESSES/PRODUCTS THAT ATTENDEES MUST ANSWER IN ORDER TO WIN THE ULTIMATE PRIZE.
- HOURLY PRIZES GIVEN AWAY TO ENTICE ATTENDEES.
- THIS WILL BE THE LARGEST PAVEMENT PRESERVATION EVENT OF ITS KIND IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA IN 2015!



Project Spotlight

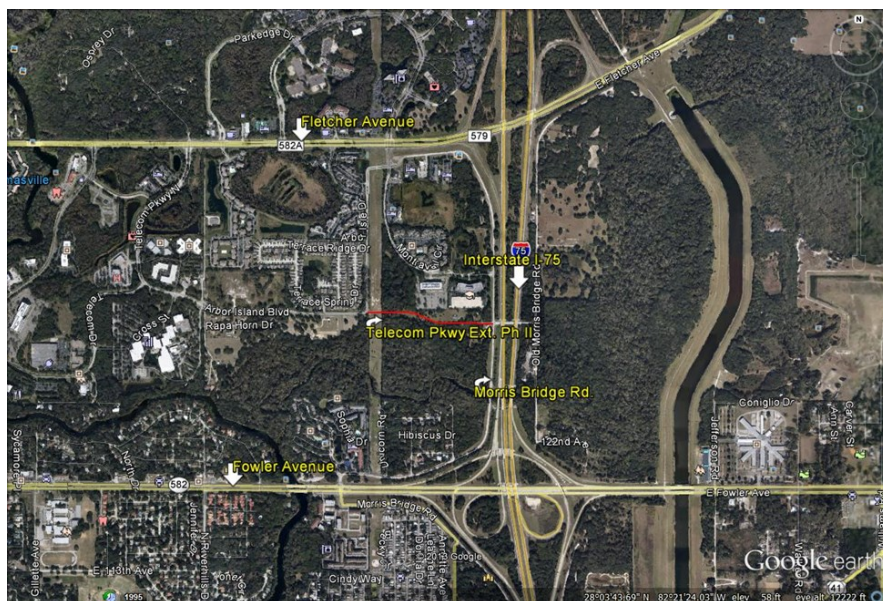


Telecom Parkway Extension, phase II (final) to Morris Bridge Road

In May of 2008, the City of Temple Terrace entered into an Interlocal agreement with Hillsborough County to fund and construct transportation projects as part of Hillsborough County's Transportation Task Force initiative. Two transportation projects were included in this agreement; the Arbor Island Boulevard extension and the Telecom Parkway Extension. The Arbor Island Boulevard Extension and the first phase of the Telecom Parkway Extension have since been completed. The first phase of this project included 3,635 center-line feet of roadway.

On Friday, March 13, 2015, a ribbon-cutting was held for the second and final phase of the last half mile of the Telecom Parkway Extension which connected the eastern terminus of Telecom Parkway at Arbor Island Blvd. to Morris Bridge Road, a County collector road. This final connection of Telecom Parkway to Morris Bridge Road

provides greater transportation access to Telecom Park, a premier business park and key economic activity center in this part of the County with capacity to expand. Furthermore, this roadway will improve overall traffic circulation, alleviate traffic on Fletcher Avenue, augment the City's multi-modal transportation concurrency efforts, and shave nearly 2 minutes off Fire Station #2's emergency response time in the northeast sector of the City. In concert with the City's designation as a multi-modal jurisdiction, this

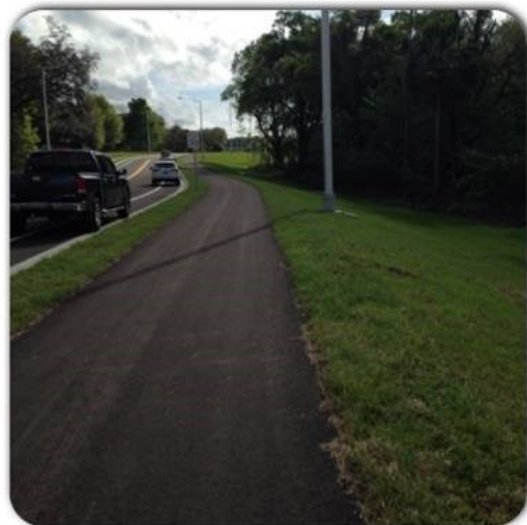


Project Spotlight

phase of the project also includes on-street bike lanes, a sidewalk, and a multi-use trail.

This \$1.5 million construction project was completed three months ahead of schedule and \$80,000 under budget. Funding for the project came from a \$900,000 Hillsborough County Community Investment Tax grant and a \$600,000 Economic

Development Transportation grant from the state. The City extends its thanks to Attorney General Pam Bondi, state Sen. Tom Lee, state Rep. Dan Raulerson, Hillsborough County Commissioner Al Higginbotham, and everyone in the Hillsborough County Legislative Delegation who helped secure funding for this important project.





Upcoming Workshops April '15 - June '15

Advanced Maintenance of Traffic

April 28 – 30	Tallahassee
May 5 – 7	Gainesville
May 12 – 14	Milton
May 13 – 15	DeLand
May 20 – 22	Tampa
May 26 – 28	Jacksonville
June 3 – 5	Orlando
June 9 – 11	Tallahassee

Advanced Maintenance of Traffic - Refresher

May 1	Tallahassee
May 4	Gainesville
May 11	Milton
May 12	DeLand
May 19	Tampa
May 29	Jacksonville

Asphalt Mix Design

May 12 – 15	Gainesville
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Asphalt Paving Level 1

May 5	Gainesville
June 2	Temple Terrace

Asphalt Paving Level 2

May 6 – 8	Gainesville
June 3 – 5	Temple Terrace

Asphalt Plant Level 1

April 8 – 10	Gainesville
June 30 – July 2	Gainesville

Asphalt Plant Level 2

April 15 – 17	Gainesville
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Backhoe Safety - Hands-on

May 27 – 28	Arcadia
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Basic Maintenance of Traffic - Flagging

April 23	Cape Coral
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Chainsaw Safety

April 8	DeLand
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Earthwork Construction Inspection Level 1

April 21 – 22	Orlando
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Earthwork Construction Inspection Level 2

April 23 – 24	Orlando
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FDOT Concrete Field Inspector Specification

April 27 – 29	Pompano Beach
June 15 – 17	Gainesville

Final Estimates Level 1

April 1	Gainesville
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Final Estimates Level 2

April 2 – 3	Gainesville
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Front-end Loader Safety/Hands-on

May 12 – 13	Arcadia
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Gradall Hands-On

June 3 – 4	Gainesville
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Intermediate Maintenance of Traffic

April 8 – 9	Gainesville
April 8 – 9	Tallahassee
April 8 – 9	Tampa
April 15 – 16	Pompano Beach
April 22 – 23	Lake City
May 6 – 7	Fort Myers
May 6 – 7	Panama City
May 12 – 13	Jacksonville

Intermediate Maintenance of Traffic - Refresher

April 6	Gainesville
April 7	Tampa
April 10	Tallahassee
April 14	Pompano Beach
May 5	Fort Myers
May 5	Panama City
May 12	Orlando
May 14	Jacksonville

Intersection Safety

May 5	Chipley
May 6	Tallahassee
May 7	Lake City
May 19	Fort Myers
May 20	Sebring
May 21	DeLand

Motor Grader Operator Safety/Hands-on

May 5 – 7	Abbeville
May 18 – 20	Gainesville

OSHA Competent Person

April 1	Archer
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Quality Control Manager

April 30 – May 1	Pompano Beach
June 18 – 19	Gainesville

Road Safety Assessments for Community Traffic

Safety Teams (CTSTs)	
April 8	Ponce de Leon
April 9	Midway

Skid Steer Hands-On

June 8 – 9	Arcadia
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For information about these, or any other Workshops,
 please contact us at 352.273.1670 or visit our website at
www.t2ctt.ce.ufl.edu.

CURRENT JOB OPENINGS



Civil Engineer III (Project Manager)

County of Volusia will soon be advertising for a Civil Engineer III (Project Manager) position pertaining to planning and design of roads, bridges, sidewalks and multi-use trails. Salary range will be \$58,329—\$95,084 annually. When posted the position will be listed on www.volusia.org



Traffic Engineer

The vacancy is for the 'Traffic Engineer' position at Marion County; it was posted 03/11/15.

This is an advanced professional engineering and administrative position directing the activities of the Traffic Operations Section.

This position reports to the Deputy County Engineer within the Office of the County Engineer.

Below is a link to the County's Website for the open positions:

<https://bcc.marioncountyfl.org/jobapp/frmOpenPositions.aspx>



UF University of Florida Transportation Institute

Florida Transportation Technology Transfer (T2) Center

UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

2015 FACERS AWARD NOMINATIONS

Every year the Florida Association of County Engineers and Road Superintendents (FACERS) honors a Public Works Employee, Small Agency or Rural* Engineer, Large Agency or Urban** Engineer, Team, and State/Local Collaboration for **projects completed in the previous year (2014)**. Awards are open to all individuals in public works, transportation, and engineering in Florida's counties and cities.

There is no requirement to be a FACERS member. Nominees receive a congratulatory letter. Winners receive statewide recognition at the annual FACERS conference in June and are featured in the [Florida Technology Transfer Quarterly Newsletter](#).

*Small Agency/Rural is defined as having a population less than 100,000.

**Large Agency/Urban is defined as having a population of 100,000 or more.

To submit a nomination, please visit www.facers.org/awards to complete the online submission form. If you have any questions, please email questions@facers.org.

Please email any photos of the project that you wish to include to webmaster@facers.org. Please be sure to reference the name of the Project and/or Nominee with your email submission.

www.t2ctt.ce.ufl.edu

2100 NE Waldo Road, Suite 106

352.392.2371

**Please submit your award submissions
no later than Friday, May 15, 2015.**

**As always, awards will be given at
FACERS Annual Meeting, June 17-19 at
the Sawgrass Marriott in
St. Johns County.**

My View of Engineers

By Jennifer Willis, Public Works Coordinator

I have worked for my County for thirteen (13) years and in that time I have had the unique opportunity to work for three (3) different Professional Engineers. I have omitted the actual names in order to protect the “innocent.” In this article, I will refer to them as Tom, John, and Ramon.

Tom was the County’s Solid Waste Director in 2002 when I came to work for the County. Tom was a Professional Engineer with extensive experience within the Solid Waste Industry. He helped design and manage landfills in the United States, as well as overseas. I must say that Tom was a smart man and understood the intricacies of a landfill and the biodegradation that needs to take place in order to recoup air space, thus prolonging the life of a landfill.

While Tom could be serious there were things that he would do that were funny such as when he would concentrate really hard, he would rock back and forth on his feet and blow his breath in an out through his teeth. He would write out on paper any letter, memo, graph, map, etc. and give it to me to type up and/or recreate in the computer. There were maps for the leased land at the landfill that I had to color in with highlighters by hand to give out to people. Tom was forever forgetting things,

such as his phone, his glasses, his keys etc. and I would have to question him as he was leaving the office to make sure that he had all of the items he needed.

John became the County’s Solid Waste Director in 2005. He came to the County with experience as a Road Engineer. John worked as a Professional Engineer in New York, as well as another County in Florida, before coming to my County as the Solid Waste Director. During John’s tenure with the County he was instrumental in getting the approval and grants needed to build the only County owned Asphalt Plant in the state of Florida. Since the County does have its own Asphalt Plant, asphalt to pave roads within the County is readily available.

John had a lighter side to him. While we were there to work, we had fun joking and laughing with each other while we were working.

Ramon is currently the County Engineer in my County. Ramon took over as Director of the Solid Waste Department, including the Recy-



(Continued on page 15)



(Continued from page 14)

cling Center, in 2010 after John's departure. Ramon has been an Engineer over twenty five (25) years and came to the County after working for California Department of Transportation (CALTRANS) and Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). He has extensive knowledge of road design as well as structural engineering. In his nineteen (19) years with the County, Ramon has been successful in applying for and obtaining road grants from FDOT for roads in the County. Ramon takes the word Professional in Professional Engineer seriously. He constantly strives to do the best job possible at all times and expects the very same out of his employees.

Ramon has a fun side also. He loves jokes and he loves to laugh. Recently, Ramon turned fifty (50) and the staff threw a birthday party for him. We decorated his office in everything that we could find to say 50. We made sure that he had a walker, denture cream, reading glasses, a blinking hat and funny glasses that were in the shape of a 5 and a 0 for his birthday celebration. Ramon loves to move stuff around in your office especially if you are OCD about where things have to sit on your desk.

When I reflect on the three Professional Engineers that I have worked for over the

last thirteen (13) years, one thing I have learned from all three is that while there are different kinds of Engineers they all have strived in their own way to do the best job they possibly can for the taxpayers of Highlands County and while doing so have fun along the way.

Finally, let me add that arguing with an engineer is a lot like wrestling in the mud with a pig. After a few hours, you realize that he likes it.

FACERS MISSION

The Florida Association of County Engineers and Road Superintendents (FACERS) is entrusted by professional obligation to monitor and offer opinions on related local, state and national legislation affecting transportation and public works; to contribute to the development or revision of statewide standard specifications and guideline documents; and to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas, technical information and best practices to assure every community of the best possible engineering available.



FACERS Membership

FACERS accepts membership applications for the following categories: Active, Municipal and Sustaining. You can join FACERS at this link : [FACERS Membership](#). As a member of FACERS, you will receive regular communications via email, the Quarterly FACERS Newsletter, and you will have the ability to attend the FACERS Annual Meeting and FACERS Annual Legislative Meeting (including the FACERS Social Nights) at NO COST.

Member Type Descriptions:

Government employees receive 1st year of membership for FREE!!

Active - County Engineers, Public Works Directors, County Road Superintendents, etc., who are regularly employed on a full time basis by any one of the Counties of the State of Florida.

Municipal - City Engineers, City Public Works Directors, City Road Superintendents, etc., who are regularly employed on a full time basis by any one of the Cities of the State of Florida.

Sustaining - All other persons who are interested in the affairs of FACERS.

***Select your Fee Type (All FACERS Members can also sign up for an additional fee to be a member of NACE):**

Explanation of fees

- ◇ **FACERS (public agency employees/Active & Municipal Members) - \$75**
- ◇ **FACERS (non public agency employees/Sustaining Members) - \$125**
- ◇ **NACE (National Association of County Engineers) - \$150**

After your registration is complete, please send your check to:

Make checks payable to "FACERS"

**FACERS
c/o Florida Association of Counties
100 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301**