

August 2020 | Issue 3



ACEC

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
of North Carolina

The latest news & upcoming events for
engineering excellence in
North Carolina

Upcoming Events:

August:

RESCHEDULED -

ACEC/NC Legislative
Golf Tournament... [read
more](#)

September:

9.7.2020 - Office closed
for Labor Day

9.21.2020 - ACEC/NC
Legislative Golf

Tournament... [read more](#)
9.25.2020 - Deadline for
Engineering Excellence
Awards... [learn more](#)

CANCELLED - ECNC
Education & Advocacy
Fundraising Event...
[learn more](#)

October:

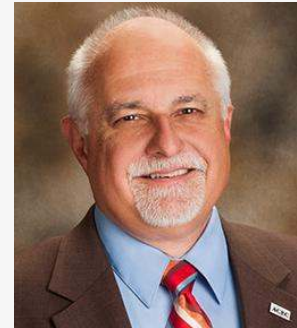
10.8.2020 - Legislative
Committee Meeting...
[read more](#)

10.21-22.2020 - ACEC/NC
NCDOT Joint
Transportation
Conference... [read more](#)

Important note for upcoming events:

Over that past few
months, the ACEC/NC
staff has been hard at

A message from Executive Director James Smith



Dear ACEC/NC Member,

Our daily lives continue to change due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and ACEC/NC leadership continues to evaluate programming and how to better deliver while following all social distancing guidelines issued from the state in the Phase 2 extension. Through these challenges, we are finding new and creative ways to engage with our member firms. ACEC/NC has proven to be resilient in previous trying times and will continue to do so through the COVID-19 pandemic. We are working to ensure that all events and programs will happen, either through social distancing or virtually... [read more here.](#)



MEET THE BOARD: ACEC/NC State PAC

We're excited to have six distinguished individuals serving on the ACEC/NC State PAC Board of Trustees during 2020-2021. Board of Trustees members include: Brock Storrusten, Chair, Patrick Waterman, Vice Chair, Steve Thomas Treasurer, Josh Dalton, Assistant Treasurer, Liz Phipps, Secretary, and Jim Smith, Ex-Officio.

To learn more about what the board does, [click here.](#)

ACEC/NC Young Professionals of

work identifying new and creative ways to provide virtual meetings and events for our members while in-person gathering limits exist. We look forward to sharing these ideas with you over the coming weeks. And, as soon as the governing authorities deem it is safe to do so, we very much look forward to reconnecting in-person.

We're advocating for the N.C. engineering industry!

To see the most recent legislative updates that could impact you and your firm [click here.](#)

Follow us on social media for the latest information!



the Year

We are thrilled to announce that Jon Ford, PE of Vaughn & Melton Consulting Engineers, Inc. and Will Larsen, PE of The Wooten Company are the recipients of the 2020 Young Professional of the Year Award.

Jon Ford, PE - Vaughn & Melton Consulting Engineers, Inc.

Ford joined Vaughn & Melton in 2018 as a Hydraulics Design Engineer and has since been named Lead Hydraulics Engineer and Charlotte Office Manager. Through this role, Ford supports a variety of engineering projects across North Carolina and has been involved in both project management and design on a multitude of unique projects.



Will Larsen, PE - The Wooten Company

Larsen joined The Wooten Company in 2009 as a student intern and has since transitioned into the role of Project Engineer. Larsen's training included obtaining a Bachelor of Science and Master of Civil Engineering from NC State University and graduated from the ACEC/NC Future Leaders Program in 2019.



To learn more about Ford and Larsen, [click here.](#)



The Economic Recovery from COVID will be Measured in Years, not Months

The COVID-19 pandemic has plunged the United States into a steep and dramatic recession, ending the longest economic expansion on record. Although the economy began to regain traction in May, a resurgence of COVID-19 infections in late June and July across most of the country has put a recovery in doubt. To determine what's ahead for the U.S. economy and the private sector A/E/C markets, the ACEC Research Institute brought together four experts on July 16 for the "Funding in the New Normal" roundtable... [click here to read more.](#)

Projects honored in 2020

NCDOT Mobi Awards

The NCDOT Mobi Awards, which started last year, honor transportation projects that improve the economy and enhance the quality of life in North Carolina communities. Projects had to combine the use of at least two transportation modes such as aviation, bicycle, pedestrian, ferry, public transportation, rail and roadway. More than 60 projects competed in this year's NCDOT Mobi Awards... [read more here.](#)



Featured Member Spotlight: WK Dickson & Co., Inc.

In 1929 WK Dickson & Co., Inc. was founded and has since grown to have 11 offices across four states with more than 175 employees. The multi-disciplined consulting firm specializes in community infrastructure solutions including airport planning and design, environmental and

water resources engineering, land planning and development, and energy services. WK Dickson has received dozens of engineering and design awards over the last several decades, including the Grand Conceptor from ACEC/NC in 2020. Additionally, WK Dickson has been awarded a "Best Firm To Work For" award from Zweig for six straight years as well as a two-time award winner in Client Service from PSMJ. When the leadership team was asked what made the firm successful over the last 90+ years, they believe it's the people, saying: "We have a very select hiring process and strive to find people who match our culture and are looking for a long and successful career, and not just a job. If you add everyone up, our average tenure at WK Dickson is 12 years. There aren't many firms that can say that. In addition, our success has been tied to our workplace diversity."

To learn more about WK Dickson, [click here.](#)

ACEC/NC & Member News



Charlotte, North Carolina-based Sugar Creek WWTP wanted to expand to increase capacity. Due to unanticipated groundwater issues, tank slabs for the clarifiers were floating. We stabilized the clarifiers by installing rock anchors for both 300-foot-wide-by-40 foot-deep tanks. Learn more about our structural support expertise here: <https://lnkd.in/dBRcKn3>



As COVID-19 budget cuts loom, there is now a need to do more with less. MBP's Todd Creekmore provides five low cost/no cost ideas to consider in order to save much needed facility operations dollars. <https://bit.ly/2ERZdiF>

From Three Oaks Engineering: Congrats to James Mason on receiving his Professional Wetland Scientist certification! Three Oaks' team of wetland scientists are available to assist with your delineation and permitting needs across North Carolina and South Carolina.



[Click here to read more ACEC/NC & member news!](#)



The engineering industry in North Carolina has experienced significant impacts during the COVID-19 pandemic.

[Click here](#) to view our state resource page that includes the most recent information and updates.

[Click here](#) to view the National resource page that includes the most recent information and updates.



Each year the American Council of Engineering Companies conducts its Engineering Excellence Awards competition at the state and national levels. These awards are considered the "Academy Awards of the Engineering Industry." In North Carolina, we hold our competition in the fall in preparation for the national awards in early 2021. This year ACEC/NC has chosen to hold the Engineering Excellence Awards Gala on November 12. To upload an entry or learn more, [click here](#).



RESCHEDULED: ACEC/NC Legislative Golf Tournament

Due to the ongoing effects of COVID-19 and for the safety of our participants, the golf tournament has been rescheduled from August 31 to **September 21**. This event will be a great opportunity to build your relationship with a client or a colleague or to reward your staff for a job well done. To learn more, [click here](#).

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ACEC/NC's mission is to promote the business interests of engineering companies by providing legislative advocacy and business services.

