

ACE RESOURCES

*A Newsletter for the Association
of Conservation Engineers*

JULY 2008

*Enhancing Our
Natural Resources*



**We are excited
about hosting ACE's
Annual Conference
this October in
Springfield, Missouri.
We've tried to plan a
good mix of serious
business and serious fun.**

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Take a moment to send in news for your projects, activities, etc.

This has been an interesting issue to pull together. It all began with my first attempt to utilize email to send the Call for Information to members. In my first attempt to do a “mass” email, I hit send before having anything in the email. That at least proved that many of you do read your emails as I received several puzzled responses!

I got it right on the second try. The result, though, has been disappointing. As you see with the pages of this newsletter, I received very little information for publication. The information I did receive is excellent. I hope you all enjoy reading about the efforts to preserve facilities built in the

Editor's Note

1930s by the Civilian Conservation Corps in South Carolina. In Alabama, while work is nearing completion on a new pier, Terry Boyd is still offering a membership challenge.

And now about membership. It's time to check on the status of your dues and if you're not current, contact Deb

Ohlinger, ACE Treasurer.

I hope you have been busy making plans to attend the conference this fall in Springfield, MO. It sounds like it will be a conference not to be missed.

One last thing, please take a moment to mark your calendar to send in an article for the next newsletter. The next issue will be published following the conference but don't wait 'til then—send me the news from your area anytime!

Have a great summer!

Lynda Cliburn
Editor

Association of Conservation Engineers

2007 - 2008

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With the help of Friends



Situated in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains in northwest South Carolina, Paris Mountain State Park has a rich history as one of the early Civilian Conservation Corps project. A renovated historic bathhouse serves as the new hub of activities at popular Paris Mountain State Park. Many of the recent renovations and improvements are due to the activities of the very active “Friends of Paris Mountain” which serves as a funnel for fundraising, community support, and promotion. This can be a real positive in this era of tight budgets.

Once a rural retreat, the 1540 acre mountainside park now is a treasured green space in the fast-growing Greenville area. Bicyclists, hikers, picnickers and groups using Camp Buckhorn keep the park busy year-round. Summer is peak time for fishing, and swimming, in the park lakes.

Paris Mountain State Park was originally built by the Civilian Conservation Corps during the Great Depression in the 1930s. The renovated bathhouse preserves that heritage in stone and timber on the outside and on the inside adds a 3-D map of the park, historical exhibits and a classroom for sessions on the diverse natural offerings of the leafy site.

A number of buildings built by the CCC in the 1930s that are still in use at the park along with the lakes and dams built by the Paris Mountain water company in the late 19th century make

this park a historic district on the National Register.

Recently, the Friends produced a video record of interviews with individuals who were part of the Civilian Conservation Corp team that converted Paris Mountain reservoir to the Park. Soon, the video will be available as a DVD from the video production company, American Historic Media.

The Graham Foundation of Greenville has established a \$100,000 challenge grant for the renovation of the historic lodge at Camp Buckhorn in Paris Mountain State Park. The S.C. State Park Service has until December to gain commitments for the other \$200,000 needed to refurbish the lodge, which has served as a lakeside meeting and dining facility at the park since it was built by the Civilian Conservation Corps during the Great Depression.

“The Graham Foundation is pleased to support efforts to renovate Camp Buckhorn in Paris Mountain State Park, which we view as a vital part of what makes Greenville a special place to live,” said Bill Bridges, the foundation’s managing trustee.

“Our chairman has fond childhood memories of attending community events at Camp Buckhorn. All of our trustees believe Camp Buckhorn offers an unparalleled opportunity for gatherings or events that can be pleasure, business, or both, in a beautiful, idyllic setting just minutes from Greenville’s downtown area and suburbs,” Bridges said.

Along with improving the meeting and dining facilities, the project will expand the lodge’s use to include educational activities and serving as a base for nature hikes around Lake

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2008 Conference

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If you can leave home a little early, you are welcome to join us for the morning of Sunday, October 5th for some trout fishing at Bennett Spring State Park. We will leave the Holiday Inn Hotel in Springfield around 7 a.m. and have you back in plenty of time to get ready for the Welcome Reception that evening. A daily fishing permit and trout tag can be purchased at the park for only \$10. You can bring your own equipment or you can use ours, we have both fly and bait fishing tackle available. If you would like to join us, let me know by September 15.

We have quite a variety of technical papers that will be presented at the conference covering such diverse topics as trail construction, green buildings, and stream restoration. We will also have a guided tour of our recently constructed brown trout hatchery in Branson, just 30 miles south of Springfield. Monday evening we will visit one of our shooting ranges in the Springfield area for a tour, food, and some shooting.

Your spouse or guest can register for a host of activities to keep them occupied during the conference. Everyone is invited to the field trip on Thursday which features a tour of the Independent Stave Company which makes 90 percent of all the wine and bourbon barrels used in the world.

Complete conference information and registration forms can be found on our Web site:

<http://www.2008aceconference.org/>

We look forward to seeing you in Missouri this fall.

Greg Mihalevich, P.E.

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Fishing at Bennett Spring State Park is one of the many Conference activities.

Friends

(Continued from page 3)

Buckhorn and into the surrounding mountainside forest.

The \$300,000 project also will maintain the building's integrity in line with its listing on the National Register of Historic Places. It's projected to be complete by the end of 2009. The lodge will be closed during renovations but all current reservations will be honored.

Building on the community and corporate support that led to the successful recent renovation of the

park's bathhouse into the new Park Center, the drive to match the Graham Foundation grant for Camp Buckhorn has gotten off to a promising start. The Hollingsworth Funds already has committed \$20,000 and the architectural firm of Pazdan-Smith Group has agreed to provide its services pro bono, as it did for the Park Center project. The Park Service's parent agency, the S.C. Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism, also will commit funding to the project.

Joe Barron
South Carolina

*If you haven't paid your 2008 dues
and you did not attend the 2007 Annual Conference—please do so!*

Dues are a low price of **\$25**

Forwarded payment to ACE treasurer Deb Ohlinger, P.E. | Olsson Associates
143 Union Boulevard, Suite 700 | Lakewood, CO 80228

Alabama nearing completion of Gulf's longest pier

Greetings from Alabama!

We have finished demolishing the Gulf State Park Lodge that many of you saw on our field trip during the 1999 ACE Conference. We used most of the concrete to make inshore fishing reef and crushed the remainder to make aggregate to be used in the parking lot of our new pier. We started our new pier in December and are about 70% complete. The pier will be the longest on the Gulf of Mexico (1,512 feet). I will try to present a paper on it at the 2009 conference; we should be completed with the pier by first quarter of 2009.

I am bringing a first time attendee this year and he will present a paper on an ISTECA project at Cathedral Caverns State Park. The 2008 conference is only 4 months away so hopefully you have started planning for this event. Greg and the guys will need all of our help to make it a success. And yes, I am still doing FEMA paper work, it will never end.

I have not had any takers this year for my membership challenge. I have \$200 left in my membership challenge fund, so please get someone to join! I would rather pay for 8 new members than spend it on shells or bait or even gas for my car!

I would again encourage every ACE member to submit at least one paragraph to the newsletter letting everyone know what is going in your state or at your facilities. Please send a brief description and pictures of your projects. We can all learn from others successes and failures.

I am co-chair on a SOBA committee that is going to produce a DVD on boat ramp, docks and marina construction, if any of you have any video footage or pictures of this type construction, please send to me.

Look forward to seeing you in Springfield this October.

Terry N. Boyd, PE, PLS
Chief of Engineering Section
ADCNR
SOBA Past-President

PS: Went fishing on Friday, June 13—nobody from ACE was able to come. Les Haun was coming, but had to cancel. I will try again next summer. If you are interested, please call me at 334.799.9149 cell or 334.242.3836 office.



47th Annual Conference

October 5-9

2008

SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI

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ACE RESOURCES

inside...

The longest pier on the Gulf is nearing
completion
A State Park gets a little help from its
friends

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