

# ACE RESOURCES

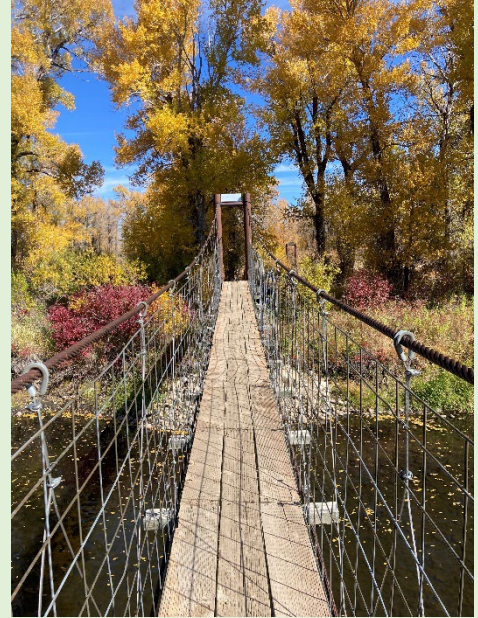
A newsletter for the Association  
Of Conservation Engineers

March 2023

Enhancing our Natural Resources

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## ACE President's Message:

Let me begin by stating that it is an honor to be chosen as the 2022-2023 ACE President. I realize that there was no "survivor" type of competition, no essay requirement and thank God, no swimsuit competition which propelled me to the office of President. Nevertheless, I sincerely appreciate and am grateful that many of my peers thought that I could handle the job. I will do my best to serve with both distinction and honor.

Before I forget, I want to personally thank Loren Woodin for his excellent leadership as ACE President last year. Loren had the difficult and unavoidable task of serving as both ACE President and host of the 2022 annual conference. This was a huge task, and he did it with class and professionalism. Thank you, Loren, for a job well done!

Over the past few months, I have been diving deep into the history of our organization and have been asking myself why our founding members put forth the time and effort to organize a professional society of men and women focused solely on Conservation Engineering practices. They didn't organize ACE to rack up their annual Continuing Education Credits or to eat regional delicacies and consume tasty beverages with old friends. Although I am sure that comradery was an important benefit of ACE back in the early 1960's, just as it is today. Some members may have joined ACE in those early days to encourage and drive conservation ideas and ideals to both the public and our policy makers to preserve our natural resources and enhance the natural beauty of the land around us. Preserving our natural resources through sound engineering practices will ultimately make our world a better place to live. My guess is that the primary reason our founding members created the Association of Conservation Engineers was to share ideas and to learn from each other, and to take those ideas back to our home state and incorporate the ideas learned from the ACE conference into our own statewide design standards.

Recently, I came across a set of ACE Design Standards in a storage room at work, which included unique design standards for things like stop log structures and hydraulic fish loaders. The engineering drawings originated from 12 different states and are dated from 1959 through 1978, so the document is likely 40-45 years old. These are all hand-drawn drawings, way before we had CAD or computers to generate design plans for us. Scans of these historical designs can be found on our ACE website under About/History.

In today's world, sharing information across the world can be done from your cell phone. Anyone can go to YouTube and find out how to do anything you might need. The internet has millions of websites which contain information, including design plans and detailed specifications, on how to build just about anything.

Does all this technology and information at our fingertips make ACE obsolete? I don't think so! The knowledge we gain from in-person conferences and technical sessions is immeasurable. One of the most profound and informational presentations at an ACE conference that I will always remember was how NOT to build a waterfowl levee by a distinguished engineer from Missouri. With his deadpan delivery style and the painstaking rash of bad luck, we all learned with a great sense of humor how some construction projects don't always turn out the way you planned! You just can't learn things like this from YouTube.

Just this past fall in Wyoming, I greatly enjoyed the discussions on wind turbines and solar panels, as well as the water conservation measures within the upper reaches of the Colorado River basin. The information I learned from our Wyoming conference has convinced me to incorporate wind turbines, solar panels, and geothermal HVAC systems at three new Visitor's Centers being developed in central and northern Illinois.

In summary, ACE has become very important to me professionally as I make engineering decisions on a wide variety of construction projects within Illinois. I see both the potential benefits and risks associated with projects completed in other states by my peers. These ideas give me both energy and hope that we can continue to make advancements in Conservation Engineering, no matter what obstacles we face.

Sincerely,

Dale W. Brockamp, PE – Illinois  
2022-2023 ACE President

# 2022-2023 ACE Board of Directors And Committee Assignments



## Board of Directors

President: Dale Brockamp – IL  
President Elect: Catalina Weaver – FL  
Secretary: Sarah Lau – ID  
Treasurer: Matt Prenger – MO  
Past-President: Loren Woodin – WY  
Past-President: Bill Scheperle – MO  
At-Large Member: Mark Urbanovsky - TX  
At-Large Member: Nara Sin – AZ

## Communications Committee:

Loren Woodin – WY, Chair  
Dale Brockamp - IL  
Niki Lambrou - TX

## Program Committee:

Mark Urbanovsky – TX, Chair  
Niki Lambrou – TX,  
Catalina Weaver, FL

## Scholarship Committee:

Matt Prenger – MO, Chair  
Kirk Keller – AR  
Sarah Lau – ID

## Past Presidents Committee:

Howard Thomas – MO, Chair  
Terry Boyd – AL  
Bob Roads – IL

## Time and Place Committee:

Mark Urbanovsky – TX, Chair  
Taylor Kroll – FL  
Nara Sin – AZ

## Membership Committee:

Terry Boyd – AL, Chair  
Howard Thomas – MO  
Nara Sin – AZ  
Jason Kruse – IA  
Dan McGillivray – WY  
Hans Nielsen - CO

## Nominating Committee:

Bill Scheperle – MO, Chair  
Gary Wilken – IL  
Loren Woodin – WY

## History Committee:

Todd Mize – AL, Chair  
Neal Ramer - AR  
Mandi Aldrich-Peters – IA

## Awards Committee:

Sarah Lau – ID, Chair  
Dale Parsons – MO  
Emmanuel Sang – IA

## By-Laws Committee:

Gary Wilken – IL, Chair  
James Rogers – AR  
Matt Prenger – MO

## Operations Manual Committee:

Dale Brockamp – IL, Chair  
Catalina Weaver – FL  
Bill Scheperle – MO

# 61<sup>st</sup> Annual ACE Conference Wrap-up

## Little America Hotel & Resort, Cheyenne, Wyoming

### October 9 – 13, 2022

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The 2022 annual ACE Conference was hosted this year by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department who did a great job planning all the events including the conference sessions, field trips and banquet. The venue was centrally located on the edge of Cheyenne, the Capital and largest city within Wyoming. The Little America Hotel and Resort is one of those iconic hotels in Wyoming with a long history of serving guests with mountain west elegance. During the planning stages of the conference, our 2021-22 President, Loren Woodin, was concerned about potential winter weather. Fortunately, the harsh winter weather stayed away, and we were about to enjoy beautiful fall mountain weather.

During the week, field trips were taken to Laramie, WY where we visited the WG&F Regional Office and Wildlife Forensics and Fish Health Lab. We also visited the University of Wyoming and toured several facilities including the High Bay research facility within the University's Engineering Department, and a hands-on Makerspace research lab which is open to the public. This STEM lab brought out the child within all of us as we took turns creating and exploring with science. We also visited UW's Oil Drill Rig Simulator lab which included simulator experiences for some ACE members in both land-based oil rigs and off-shore oil rigs. Finally, that evening, we had a delicious dinner at the Altitude Chop House and Brewery in downtown Laramie.



2022 ACE Conference Attendees



Makerspace Lab  
University of Wyoming

Dan McGillivray trying out  
His skills with the oil drilling  
Simulator.



Off-shore Drilling Rig  
Simulator

On Wednesday afternoon, ACE members were shuttled to the local community college where we listened to a fascinating presentation and demonstration on Renewable Energy Programs within Wyoming. On Thursday, about 15 members and guests drove into the beautiful mountains of southern Wyoming. Stops including the Snowy Range, Treasure Island Boat Access Area, and the Grand Encampment Museum in Encampment, Wyoming. The weather and scenery were spectacular as shown in the photographs below.



# 61<sup>st</sup> Annual ACE Conference

## THANK YOU to our SPONSORS!

### Cheyenne, Wyoming

**EXHIBITORS:**

WWC ENGINEERING

GEOSTABILIZATION INTERNATIONAL

WHEELER



**SPONSORS:**

Bronze Level :

Garver



Contributor Level:

Moffat & Nichol

Ladd Environmental Consultants, Inc.

J&W Marine Enterprises

M&N of Alabama

HDR, Inc.



## 2022 Carl V. Anderson Award

The Carl Anderson Conservation Engineering Project Awards competition is to give recognition to those members, consultants and/or their departments whose work, as judged by their peers and associates, best exhibit the goals and objectives of ACE.

The Award of Excellence for 2022 was won by the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commissioner.

Project Name : Bank Stabilization at Blue Spring State Park

Submitted by: Taylor Kroll, PE

Location: Blue Spring State Park, Orange City, Florida

Consultant: Wood Environment and Infrastructure Solutions.



Congratulations Taylor!

## Headspring Construction





## James (Jim) and Evelyn Schalk Memorial Association of Conservation Engineers Scholarship

1. The purpose of this program is to promote the Association of Conservation Engineers (ACE) and the continued study and learning required for the conservation of our natural and renewable resources in the areas of preservation and recreation. The Association of Conservation Engineers (ACE) is an international organization of engineers and allied personnel employed by conservation and natural resource agencies and consultants with specialized interests in fish, wildlife, parks, forestry and related conservation or recreational fields. Additional information about ACE can be found on our web site at [www.conservationengineers.org](http://www.conservationengineers.org).
2. The selection of scholarship nominees shall be according to the following eligibility guidelines:
  - a. The selection shall be restricted to junior and senior students of the undergraduate study program and students of the graduate study program, enrolled in an accredited course of college, directed toward a BS or MS degree in engineering, any of the natural sciences, ecology, or agriculture.
  - b. Students shall carry a full program and be enrolled as a full-time student.
  - c. The student shall submit a technical paper of 1250 words maximum, but not less than 750 words written in essay form. The paper's topic shall relate to the conservation and/or preservation of natural, cultural, or renewable resources.
  - d. A recommendation letter, on university letterhead, from one of the student's instructors shall accompany the submitted technical paper stating the student's qualifications for this scholarship.
3. The monetary value of this scholarship shall be \$1,500.00 (one thousand five hundred dollars) paid directly to the recipient. Presentation of the award shall be mailed to the recipient after the ACE annual conference. It is the discretion of the recipient on how the award shall be used.

Be on the lookout for an e-mail within the next few weeks on how to distribute and promote the ACE Scholarship Program within your own state.

In 2022, a check for \$1,500 for the Jim & Evelyn Schalk Memorial Scholarship was presented to Mr. Reid Sutton. Mr. Sutton is in the Masters of Natural Resources program at the University of Idaho, Moscow, ID. He is studying the hydrological effects of roads on small-forested catchments. Congratulations Reid!!

Join us for the ....  
**62<sup>nd</sup> Annual ACE  
 Conference**  
**October 8-12, 2023**



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- Live Country Music
- Authentic German Cuisine
- Nearby Historic Attractions

# 62<sup>nd</sup> ACE Conference – October 8-12, 2023

## Group Activity Ideas for Fredericksburg, TX

### Group Tours:

- **Wine Tour:** 2-3 wineries might include lunch and/or behind scene tour
- **Distillery Tour:** Garrison Brothers Distillery, The Elk Store Winery & Distillery and Dietz Distillery
- **Brewery Tour:** Altstadt Brewery, Ogle Brewery and the Oldest Brew pub in Texas, Fredericksburg Brewery
- **Pick and Cook Tour:** Pick seasonal fruit at a local farm and use the produce at the cooking school for your meal
- **History Tour:** LBJ Ranch, Luckenbach Texas and/or National Museum of Pacific War
- **Fruit & Flower Tour:** Pick Seasonal Fruit at a local farm and Wildseed Farm or visit Windmill Meadow Farms
- **Ghost Tour:** A guided walking ghost hunt in around historic Main Street
- **Bicycle Tour:** Rent a bicycle for a pedal powered tour of historic downtown Fredericksburg
- **Chocolate & Artisan Tour:** A palette tour of local chocolatiers and Texan artisans.

### Group Activities:

- **Photo Scavenger Hunt on Main Street:** A app is used to administer
- **Main Street Poker:** Teams collect playing cards from shops/art galleries/tasting rooms/museums to make the best poker hands. Clues will be provided
- **USO or South Pacific style dance** at the Pacific Showroom
- **Golf tournament** or golf/dinner event with putting, driving contests
- **Hike, rock climb or yoga** at Enchanted Rock State Natural Area with a picnic
- **First Friday Art walk:** Stroll local art galleries
- **Escape Room:** Hill Country Escape will get your team working together in a fun environment
- **Horseback trail riding:** There are so many ways to get our and explore the beauty of the Hill Country. Enjoy one or all these activities!
- **Star Gazing Event:** with a professional Astronomer/Geologist
- **Cooking School:** Join a chef in preparing a meal or charcuterie board
- **Felt Hat Bar:** Design and create your own piece of FBG with a custom hat with your group
- **Painting Class:** Painting with the professionals can be transported to wherever you desire. Whether it is venue or a hotel, they are ready and equipped to transport your dreams on to any paintable surface.
- **Hike thru the Vineyards:** Join winery professionals as they guide through vineyards with viticulture education and spectacular views.

**Look On-line for Conference Registration and Lodging Information within the next few weeks.**

## Call For Papers

The 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference of the Association of Conservation Engineers (ACE) will be held in Fredericksburg, Texas between Sunday October 8<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, October 12<sup>th</sup> 2023. Both lodging and the conference will be held at the Fredericksburg Inn and Suites.

We invite you to consider being a presenter at this year's conference. We are looking for 30–45-minute presentations on interesting or exciting projects you have worked on. Engineers, architects, designers, technicians, consultants, industry representatives and others in the field of conservation engineering are encouraged to prepare and present your projects and inform, and in some cases, entertain your peers from across the United States. Learning how capital construction projects are completed in other states is a significant part of our professional organization. Within the next few weeks, the program committee will be emailing abstract applications for presentations and information regarding related deadlines.

The sooner we know the presenters, the sooner we can set the agenda. Setting the agenda early is critical for attendees to obtain State Agency permission to attend the conference. We should have the hotel reservation link for the conference shared on our website in the next few weeks. If you have any questions, feel free to contact anyone on the Program Committee: Mark Urbanovsky, Niki Lambrou, or Catalina Weaver.





## CALL FOR AWARDS AND HONOR RECOGNITION:

Carl V. Anderson Conservation Project Engineering Awards. Established in honor of Carl V. Anderson who championed the need for recognizing superior projects within the field of Conservation Engineering. These awards are given annually as recognition to those members and/or their departments whose work, as judged by their peers and associates, best exhibit the goals and objectives of the Association of Conservation Engineers. Three award levels are made annually: The Award of Excellence, the Award of Merit, and the Award of Honor. At the annual conference, the award-winning projects are displayed, and the recipients provide a brief verbal synopsis to the membership.

### **Project Category A - STUDIES / RESEARCH PROGRAMS:**

Non-design services including, but not limited to: Pilot/experimental projects; bioengineering; electrical heating; new products and materials; basic research on new technology; fuels and water; properties and uses of fuels; research in natural resources; hazardous waste studies; resource recovery; environmental impact studies; soils and other subsurface geotechnical investigation and evaluation; damage correction; computer services; technical papers. All entries in Category A are involved with non-construction document design services.

### **Project Category B - CONSERVATION / ENVIRONMENTAL:**

Dams (water supply, irrigation, flood control, recreational) Fisheries management, Parks and Wildlife facilities, Energy generation, transmission, distribution, conversion, conservation and storage-mitigation, Drainage systems, Incineration, Mine Reclamation, Resource recovery, Waste treatment facilities, Water resources and supply, Wetlands treatment.

### **Project Category C - SPECIAL PROJECTS:**

Any project that does not fit into other categories including, but not limited to: Erosion protection and control Recreational theme parks, zoos, marinas, aquariums, Site development, Structure of buildings, Historical restoration, and Construction projects resulting from unique studies or research of the type in Category A.

### **Award Eligibility:**

Any governmental agency or department, or its selected consultant, engaged in the fields of recreation, wildlife preservation, tourism and/or conservation of the natural environment that is a member of or has made application for membership in the ACE is eligible for participation in this awards program.

1. The project entered must be the completed work of the governmental agency or department making the submission.
2. Up to two project entries may be submitted by each participant.
3. The project must have been completed within the 24 months preceding its submittal.
4. The project must have written permission from the owner for entry into the competition and future publication

## Eugene Baker Award:

The Eugene Baker Award, established in honor of Eugene Baker, founder of the Association, may be awarded annually to one individual who has made a significant and outstanding contribution in the field of conservation engineering. The recipient need not be an engineer or member of the Association but must be unmistakably identified with conservation engineering and in keeping with the Association objectives.

Active member recipients of the Eugene Baker Award shall become Life Members. Non-member recipients of the Eugene Baker Award shall become Honorary Members. Each award recipient shall receive an appropriately inscribed plaque or token as prescribed by the Board of Directors.

**All active members are encouraged to consider nominations for both the Carl V. Anderson Awards and the Eugene Baker Award. Nomination forms will be distributed within the next few weeks via e-mail and will be available from the ACE Website.**



## Call for Sponsors & Exhibitors:

In the continuing effort to bring together the knowledge and experience of those who have a community of specialized interests in the areas of fish, wildlife, parks, and related conservation and recreation fields, companies and agencies are invited to display information regarding their services and/or products at the 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual ACE Conference in Fredericksburg, Texas.

The ACE Board of Directors asks all members to consider asking their valued consultants, contractors, and equipment suppliers to consider becoming an ACE sponsor or exhibitor. The exposure to Fish, Wildlife and Conservation Agencies from multiple states can be extremely valuable. Sponsors may also become ACE members and are encouraged to make presentations which demonstrate past work and accomplishments within the field of Conservation Engineering.

Specific sponsorship and exhibitor levels will be identified and promoted by the Program Committee within the new few weeks via e-mail and on the ACE website.

*The Association of Conservation Engineers (ACE) works with the natural environment to promote the application of sound engineering practices in the field of natural resource protection and recreation development.*

## ACE MEMBERSHIP

The Association of Conservation Engineers (ACE) works with the natural environment to promote the application of sound engineering practices in the field of natural resource protection and recreation development. The Association shall be organized as a non-profit corporation (Missouri) and shall operate under the requirements of Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code as amended.

An application for membership may be obtained on-line at the Association's Website. There are multiple types of membership:

- a. Active Member - An Active Member shall have the right to participate in all activities of the Association, including the rights to vote, hold office and serve on committees. Active members shall be those persons who are, or have been, engaged in projects which are of benefit to natural or cultural resources, or which improve outdoor recreation opportunities. Among these are projects which benefit fish, wildlife, forests and wetlands, either directly or by improving the overall condition of the environment. Active member's involvement with these projects shall be directly related to engineering planning, design, construction and development.
- b. Associate Member - An Associate Member shall have the right to participate in all activities of the Association except the right to vote and hold office. Eligibility shall be limited to those persons who believe in the objectives of the Association but are otherwise ineligible to become an Active Member.
- c. Life Member - A life member shall have the same rights as an Active Member. Any Active Member who has retired from regular employment due to age or health and has been a member in good standing for not less than fifteen years, or who has received the Eugene Baker Award, shall be eligible. The Board of Directors shall grant Life Membership upon receipt of proof of qualification.
- d. Honorary Member - An Honorary Member shall have the same rights as an Associate Member. The Association, by unanimous action by the Board of Directors, may elect as an Honorary Member a person who has rendered distinguished service in the field represented by the Association.
- e. Student Member - A person enrolled as a full-time student at an accredited college or university in a program leading to a degree in engineering or engineering technology. Persons enrolled in programs leading to other degrees may also be eligible if documentation is provided that they intend to work in the field of Conservation Engineering. Student members shall have the right to participate in all activities of the Association except the right to vote and hold office.

**NOTE:** Registration for the Annual Conference includes your Annual Membership Dues!

## ACE Objectives

1. To encourage and broaden the educational, social and economic interest of engineering practices.
2. To promote the recognition of the importance of sound engineering practices in fish, wildlife and recreational development.
3. To enable each member to utilize the experiences of other members.
4. To generally take all such proper action that may be necessary to further the cause of fish, wildlife and recreational developments.

