

CONSTRUCTION VIEWS

Education | Recognition | Networking

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MCA's Annual Awards of Excellence Gala celebrates outstanding construction projects and the teams that make it all happen. With an anticipated crowd of more than 100 construction professionals, it is a networking and celebratory event you don't want to miss.

Seating is limited and reservations are required if you plan to attend the Gala on Wednesday, January 28, 2015 from 6:00-9:00 PM at the Minneapolis Golf Club. You may reserve a table for 8 persons for \$640 or a half-table for 4 persons for \$320 (members or non-members). Individual reservations are \$80 for MCA members or \$90 for non-members. **Registration deadline is January 14, 2015.** All attendees must register in advance; onsite registration will not be available for this event.

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Mission: The Minnesota Construction Association fosters education, recognition and networking for all industry professionals who collaborate, plan, create and sustain best construction practices.

Vision: The Collaborative place for the building industry

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Wednesday,
January 28, 2015**
Awards of Excellence
Dinner & Gala

**Tuesday,
March 17, 2015**
Inspec's 9th Annual
Half-Day Seminar: Best
Practices for Maintaining
Your Building Exteriors

**Wednesday,
June 3, 2015**
MCA Annual Scholarship
Golf Tournament

Visit www.mnconstruction.org
for more information and to
register today!



PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

CHAD RETTKE

I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year, and thank everyone for giving me the chance to serve as your MCA president for 2015. This is a position that I do not take lightly and with my more than 20 years in the

construction industry, the past 13 years at Kraus Anderson Construction Company, I plan to continue and grow the MCA organization.

I have been active and served in the MCA organization for over five years, and have come to love the **Vision** (The Collaborative place for the building industry), and the **Mission** (The MCA fosters education, recognition, and networking for all industry professionals who collaborate, plan, create, and sustain best construction practices). This “togetherness” of all people involved in the construction industry is something that continues to draw me and many others to this organization. Learning comes in many forms and from many different people. With all this knowledge, everyone is able grow personally, and continue to grow their companies.

As we enter 2015, the stresses of the past lack of work are turning into the stresses of planning to do more work with limited staff. This involves making sure that you and your employees get involved in something to further their education and networking. MCA is a great place to do that. I would encourage you to get involved. Each person will only get out of any organization what they put into it, and collectively we will all benefit from your involvement.

I would also like to thank our 2014 MCA past president, Gregg Johnson. Over the past year, Gregg has shown great leadership and has certainly helped steer the direction of our organization. I would also like to thank the 2014 MCA board, Committee chairs and members, and our Executive Director for their efforts to grow our organization.

I look forward to guiding the MCA over the upcoming year, and I am asking for your help to continue the Vision and Mission of the MCA.



Education. Recognition. Networking.

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MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Member Highlights is a feature of the Construction Views newsletter profiling two members of MCA that are selected by the Membership Committee.

KERMIT E. DUNCAN, AIA, CSI, CCCA

(Kermit Duncan Architect, PA)



Tell the MCA about your family:

Ten years ago when I married my wife, Tessie, I inherited two step-sons, Sean (teenager) and Christopher (married adult). We now have two grandchildren that are closer to being teenagers than toddlers. Our dog Denver, a young adult labradoodle, is still pursuing his career in play with an emphasis on chew-toy destruction.

What lead you to your current career?

One of the last courses that I took in the late 70's pursuing a degree in architecture was a course on construction management. After becoming a licensed architect, I had an opportunity to work with the construction management team on two Minneapolis Convention Center projects. Kermit Duncan Architect, P.A. (KDA) was originally incorporated in 1996, but I have worked for other companies as an architectural inspector and construction project manager until 2012. That is when I decided to start work as KDA pursuing Construction Management and Architectural Inspection projects.

What are your hobbies and interests?

The top of my list of interests include traveling, fishing and hunting. Working around the country on projects gave me an opportunity to spend a couple of years in Colorado Springs, San Antonio and Tucson and were all great experiences for both me and my family. The annual houseboat fishing trip is now in its 32nd year which grew from our original group of 5 to over 30 guys.

What do you find as a rewarding challenge about your current job?

In my current work, there are always new problems to resolve. Even when you have planned for the unexpected, the unexpected comes in a way that sometimes exceeds the plan. The rewarding feeling comes when I can find a solution that minimizes the impact on the parties concerned and can get all working together on the solution.

What is the benefit of MCA to you and your company?

Membership in MCA has provided me with a host of new contacts for construction and related services, opportunity to access building tours and learn of the successes and problems solved, and great social interaction with people having a variety of expertise in all fields of construction. MCA gives me an opportunity to promote my business with potential clients.

What is an interesting thing most people don't know about you that you are willing to share?

While deep sea fishing off the west coast of the Big Island in Hawaii, I landed a 7 foot long, 300 pound marlin after a 45 minute fight with the help of the boat Captain's maneuvering. Not big by marlin standards, but stands out in photos with northern pike.

HEATHER GRAZZINI-SIMS

(Carciofini Company)



Tell the MCA about your family:

I have been married for two years; my husband (Patrick) has a son and daughter. Together we have two energetic dogs that we enjoy hunting and running with. Patrick is also in the construction industry; he is one of my customers. I can honestly say I am married to my job.

What lead you to your current career?

I have worked in our family business for ten years. Prior to joining Carciofini I was in the culinary arts industry working in various regions of the United States. After moving back to MN I began working for our family business part time before finally leaving the restaurant world. I am glad I took the opportunity to work in other industries and for other people before coming to work for our family business.

What are your hobbies and interests?

I am a part time Marathon Coach for the Williston Fitness Center in Minnetonka. I coach three days a week and run on my own a lot too. In my free time outside of my part time job I enjoy cooking, a good DIY project, and fishing or hunting with my husband.

What do you find as a rewarding challenge about your current job?

Developing lasting friendships rather than just a working relationship with customers is very rewarding.

What is the benefit of MCA to you and your company?

We have been a member of the MCA for two years. Because we are very active in the MCA, the organization has been a resource to my company for knowledge, experience, and publicity.

When you were in kindergarten, what did you say you wanted to be when you grew up?

I wanted a career as a professional horse trainer and competitor, then my dad and mom started making me chip in on the expenses for my horse. By the time I was a freshman in high school I decided I wanted a different kind of career.



Ask

MS. AWARDS

If you have a question for Ms. Awards, please email it to Alana Sunness Griffith, Awards Chair, c/o Corinna Hastings at info@mnconstruction.org.

Dear Ms. Awards,

I've heard about the MCA Awards of Excellence Gala from friends and through different emails/newsletters, but have never attended. Is it worth going?

Thanks,

Mr. Undecided

Dear Mr. Undecided,

If you pay attention to the attendee list from year to year, I would say it's worth going. Most people that attend the Awards of Excellence Gala keep coming back for more. It's a great time to celebrate what the construction industry has accomplished over the past year and more. The Gala is one of the premiere networking events in MCA with over a hundred other professionals in the industry enjoying great conversations, awards, food and cocktails. Another proof that it's a successful and entertaining event is the great attendance to the annual, post-dinner celebration in the Minneapolis Golf Club's bar following the presentation. We hope to see you there. Don't forget to register by January 14th! Check out the MCA website at www.mnconstruction.org/events/awards for registration information.

Sincerely,

Ms. Awards

Member to Member

STAHL CONSTRUCTION will preserve the legacy of St. Paul's architecture by restoring historic company signs that distinguish the Lowertown neighborhood, thanks to a new \$45,000 grant from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. Stahl Construction was one of 42 winners, and the only for-profit company, in the Knight Arts Challenge, a community-wide contest to engage and enrich the community through the arts.

Approximately two dozen signs were painted on the brick walls of commercial buildings in Lowertown by professionals commonly called "wall dogs" from the 19th to mid-20th centuries. These signs advertised a wide range of services and products from a cigar factory to carriages and stocks. Stahl Construction will select a number of these historic signs for restoration and conservation.

"We at Stahl are honored to receive this grant and could not be more energized to help rehabilitate and conserve a portion of St. Paul's historical legacy," said Thomas Surprenant, Stahl Construction's General Counsel. "At Stahl we've always felt that the buildings we construct are our legacy, but the Knight Foundation grant gives us a new and exciting way to contribute to the community."

"Vibrant cities find ways to preserve their history and tell their own stories," said Dennis Scholl, vice president of arts for Knight Foundation. "We're excited that Stahl Construction will be contributing to the community in this way."

Over the next three years, Knight Foundation will dedicate \$4.5 million to grant recipients of the Knight Arts Challenge in St. Paul. St. Paul is the fourth city to launch the Knight Arts Challenge, following Miami, Detroit and Philadelphia. ♦

STAHL CONSTRUCTION recently completed construction of a new state-of-the-art emergency communications facility for Hennepin County. The 59,000-square-foot building will handle emergency calls, radio dispatch, and technical services for 37 communities, 23 law enforcement agencies and 21 fire departments in the region.

Located on Shenandoah Lane in Plymouth, Minnesota, this new building will replace the outdated and smaller emergency communications facility in Golden Valley. The facility features 21 dispatch consoles, a 7,000-square-foot data center, and a 9,500-square-foot garage for servicing communications equipment in emergency vehicles.

"This was an exciting and rewarding project for Stahl Construction due to the important role the facility will play in public safety for the surrounding communities," said Jessie Houlihan Bingen, Stahl Construction's President. "This project is a success due in large part to the coordination and teamwork that took place with project stakeholders including the Hennepin County emergency service department leaders and City of Plymouth officials."

The building incorporates sustainable Buildings, Benchmarks & Beyond (B3) Guideline elements. 76% of the construction waste generated during the 430 days of construction was diverted for reuse or recycling.

Stahl Construction worked alongside Wold Architects and Engineers (St. Paul) to complete this project. A ceremonial ribbon cutting and grand opening ceremony took place October 3rd at the facility. ♦

Ebenezer Tower Apartments, located at 2523 Portland Ave. S. in Minneapolis, is about to begin a major renovation of the 40-year-old building.



KRAUS-ANDERSON will be the general contractor of the extensive \$10.2 million project, which will maintain the integrity of the original design, while addressing needed upgrades to the 23-story senior high-rise.

Designed by Blumentals/Architecture Inc., major improvements to the 192-unit building will include new handicapped apartments, installing energy-efficient windows, remodeling the common areas, modernizing elevators, installing a fire protection sprinkler system and adding air conditioning in all apartments.

The exterior of the building will feature a new weather barrier finish. Other improvements will include new carpeting, cabinets and upgraded finishes.

"Affordable housing options for older adults continue to pose a challenge in the Twin Cities and throughout the country," said Jon Lundberg, Ebenezer's vice president of operations. "Maintaining quality housing options for those with low incomes is an integral part of our work and a cornerstone of the Minneapolis campus. The improvements to this 40-year-old building will greatly enhance the lives of our residents."

Located in historic Midtown Minneapolis, Ebenezer Tower Apartments offers seniors independent living in a residential neighborhood with exceptional views of downtown.

With homes for adults 62 and older, Ebenezer Tower has 101 market rate apartments and 91 apartments available as Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Section 8 residences. Ebenezer Tower Apartments are affordable for residents who meet low, very low or extremely low income requirements as set by HUD. Under the Section 8 Rental Assistance Program, residents pay 30 percent of their adjusted income for rent.

The project will receive financing from the City of Minneapolis and through state and county sources, including Home Funds through Minnesota Housing Finance Agency.

A ceremony to mark the beginning of construction will take place at 2:00 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 30 at Ebenezer Tower Apartments. Construction is expected to be completed Dec. 2015. ♦

STAHL CONSTRUCTION recently completed construction of a new 40,000-square-foot accredited Roman Catholic elementary school in Maple Grove, Minnesota for Ave Maria Academy. The new school features 14 classrooms for pre-K through eighth grade, music choir room, dining hall, gymnasium, two-story open commons area with library and media center, and chapel with sloped auditorium seating.

With an estimated current enrollment of 215 students, the school was designed and built for future expansion. A projected second phase addition will create space for up to 500 students in total.

Completed during an 11-month construction schedule, Stahl Construction partnered with the project committee and subcontractors to make sure the project progressed and was completed on time despite the unexpected early autumn freeze and harsh winter conditions.

“We are pleased to have been a part of this exciting project,” said John

Petersen, Stahl Construction’s Project Manager. “After renting space for the past 17-years, it was rewarding to present the students, staff and faculty of Ave Maria Academy with a wonderful new space of their own where the student body can learn and grow for many years to come.”

Stahl Construction worked alongside Wold Architects and Engineers (St. Paul) in a design-build delivery method. ♦

COLIN MACKIN, Plymouth, MN, was recently hired as an accountant by **BLANSKI PETER KRONLAGE & ZOCH, P.A. (BPKZ)**.

Colin was an intern with the firm from January through April of this year. He graduated in December from the University of Minnesota-Duluth with a Bachelor of Accounting and a Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance. Colin also completed his CPA exam prior to starting full-time with BPKZ. ♦

BRENT R. BUCHMAN, CPA, Farmington, MN, was recently hired as a Senior Tax Accountant by **BLANSKI PETER KRONLAGE & ZOCH, P.A. (BPKZ)**.

Brent has over 6 years of accounting, tax return preparation and tax research working with a variety of industries including construction, manufacturing, real estate and nonprofit organizations. He is a graduate of Minnesota State University, Mankato. ♦

KRAUS-ANDERSON has completed construction on Engel Haus, a new two-story, 63-unit senior housing community in Albertville, Minn. Ribbon Cutting ceremonies will take place at 1:00 p.m. on Wed., October 29 at 5101 Kassel Ave. NE., Albertville.

Guardian Angels is a comprehensive senior care organization serving seniors in the northwestern corner of the Twin Cities that serves more than 2,500 senior Minnesotans each year. Engel



Haus is the first continuum care senior housing community in Albertville.

Owned by Guardian Angels Senior Services of Elk River, Minn., Engel Haus will provide catered living services in apartment homes, assisted living and memory care, housed in a Bavarian-themed community that complements the region’s history and culture. Up to 65 new employees will be hired at Engel Haus when it is fully opened and occupied. The site accommodates a later phase that could approximately double the square footage of the 15-acre campus.

KA has worked on multiple projects for Guardian Angels, including Angel Ridge, a 53-unit HUD building (1993); Guardian Angels Care Center, 42-bed addition (2007); Guardian Angels By the Lake, assisted living and two memory care suites (2011); Guardian Angels’ corporate office remodel (2012).

Designed by Pope Architects, Engel Haus was developed by Kraus-Anderson Realty, which coordinated the development process with the City of Albertville. Engel Haus is the fourth senior housing project development in as many years for Kraus-Anderson Realty, which leases and manages more than four million square feet of commercial property, including office, industrial and retail shopping centers.

In the past five years, Kraus-Anderson Construction Company has constructed 20 senior housing projects and more than 1,300 units of senior housing, including independent and assisted living communities, skilled nursing and acute care, memory care, nursing homes and senior apartments. ♦

The Rochester office of **KRAUS-ANDERSON CONSTRUCTION COMPANY (KA)** has hired **JOHN PRISTASH** as project manager and **DAN STENZEL** as assistant project manager.



Prior to joining KA, Pristash worked for Knutson Construction in Rochester, most recently serving as a senior project manager. Some

of the notable projects he managed include Richard O. Jacobson Building; The Place (Boys & Girls / Head Start); Trinity Presbyterian Church; Treasure Island Hotel expansion; Mayo Clinic Health System, Austin Minn.; Rochester Fire Station #2; and Mower County Justice Center. He earned his B.S. in Construction Management from the University of Wisconsin, Stout. He also received his LEED Green Associate designation from the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) and ASHE Healthcare Construction Certificate.

Stenzel previously served as a project manager, estimator and sales rep with Wells Concrete in Wells, Minn., where he worked on projects for United South Central Public Schools, Wells; Richfield Bloomington Honda, Richfield; YMCA, Northfield; Gavilon Fertilizer, Shakopee; and Preferred Powder Coating, Elk River. He graduated from Minnesota State University, Mankato with a B.S. in Construction Management and also received his LEED Green Associate designation. ♦

The law firm of DeWitt Ross & Stevens S.C., and its Minneapolis affiliate **DEWITT MACKALL CROUNSE & MOORE S.C.**, announced **PAUL S. ALMEN** joined the firm as an attorney in its Minneapolis office.

Almen will be a member of the firm's Litigation, Construction and Real Estate law groups. "We are excited to welcome Paul to our team and are confident his

experience in construction, real estate and litigation will further enhance the services we offer to our clients," said Bradley C. Fulton, President & Managing Partner.

Almen has represented sureties, owners, associations, contractors, and subcontractors in multiple aspects of the construction process. He has successfully settled numerous cases through mediation, district court and arbitration. Almen has been involved in multiple phases of litigation, arbitration, and mediation proceedings, including discovery, pretrial motions, evidentiary hearings, and appellate proceedings.

He earned his J.D. from William Mitchell College of Law in St. Paul, MN and his B.S. from Gustavus Adolphus College. Following law school, Almen clerked in the Minnesota Court of Appeals. He is a member of the Minnesota Bar Association, American Bar Association, Hennepin County Bar Association. He was named a 2014 Rising Star by Super Lawyers Magazine and serves on the Board of Directors for the Minnesota Construction Association. ♦

CityPlace continues its momentum by adding complementary uses to the existing Class A office building, advancing the implementation of a mixed-use corporate experience. Last month, the partnership of Florida-based Elion Partners and Minnesota's **KRAUS-ANDERSON** announced Whole Foods Market as an anchor tenant. Woodbury's CityPlace has now signed new leases with Verizon Wireless, new-to-market Café Zupas and Wedding Day Diamonds. Senior Vice President Chris Simmons of Welsh Colliers International represented the owner in the transactions.

"We are excited about the momentum building at CityPlace," said Juan DeAngulo, managing principal with Elion Partners. "In addition to welcoming three more retailers, Elion Partners and Kraus-Anderson recently finalized the disposition of

the land for the 116-room Residence Inn by Marriott. The hotel component is another fundamental complement to the existing office building and key amenity behind the project's work-play concept."

According to DeAngulo, the overall activity is a true testament to the desirability of this location. "We are confident our future tenants, both office and retail alike, recognize the built-in customer-base and first-class amenities CityPlace has to offer." DeAngulo also noted that the joint venture recently launched a new marketing campaign to reposition and tenant the existing 400,000-square foot office building as it continues to revitalize the 100-acre parcel.

With Whole Foods Market as an anchor, CityPlace is seeing increasing interest from strong national and regional brands that aim to leverage the grocer's drawing power, and capitalize on the sites prominent location in the vibrant Woodbury trade area. "CityPlace offers merchants and restaurateurs a unique opportunity to easily capture a demographically robust core customer profile, which is the foundation for generating repeat business and driving sales," said Simmons.

Located at the northeast corner of Radio Drive and Hudson Road, the master-planned development carefully weaves a mix of uses with pedestrian-friendly streetscapes. With Class A office space, shopping, restaurants and a hotel, CityPlace offers a unique mixed-use campus that caters to employers who value easy accessibility, walkability and a balance of work-life integration.

Redevelopment of the 100-acre project is well underway with anticipated construction delivery of the first phase of retail set for the summer of 2015. ♦

KRAUS-ANDERSON CONSTRUCTION COMPANY (KA) has added new project management staff. **STEVEN MCKENDRY** has been

hired as senior project manager and **LUKE MARTIN** as project manager. In addition, KA has promoted **ANTHONY LEON** and **RODY LAGESON** from assistant project manager to project manager.



Steven McKendry comes to KA with more than 25 years in the construction industry. Most recently he served as a senior regional

preconstruction manager for Minneapolis-based Target Corporation, where he coordinated preconstruction activities on \$2.5 billion in project estimates, resulting in the funding of \$500 million in projects annually. Prior to Target, McKendry was the managing partner for Crown Construction Entities in Denver. He received his B.S. in Construction Management and Real Estate Finance from the University of Denver.

Prior to joining KA, Luke Martin was a project manager for Ryan Companies US, where he managed numerous projects around the country, including a complex renovation and addition at the University of Nebraska. He received his B.A. in Construction Management from Minnesota State University, Mankato.

Anthony Leon has served as an assistant project manager for KA since 2013. He has worked on The Marshall, a mixed-use project on the University of Minnesota campus, and various projects at the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport. He received his B.S. degree in Business from the University of Wisconsin-Stout and holds an Advanced Training certification from OSHA.

Rody Lageson joined KA as an

assistant project manager in 2013. He was a decorated civil engineer in the U.S. Air Force, where he managed training, equipment and construction. He received a M.S. in Construction Engineering from the University of Washington, Seattle, and a B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of New Hampshire, Durham. He also holds an Advanced Training certification from OSHA. ♦

Robert Muir Company, the prolific Minnesota shopping center development company of the 1990's and early 2000's announced today that they will close their operations and management offices in Edina and turn over daily management of their shopping center properties to a company headed by former Robert Muir partner Kelly Doran.

Doran was president of Robert Muir Company from 1992 to 2005 when he left to form **DORAN COMPANIES**, the brand under which he operates his own development, construction, and property management businesses. Partnering with Robert Muir, the two made for a dynamic force in developing millions of square feet of shopping centers in little more than a dozen years. Their developments included Oakdale Village, Village of Blaine, Rivertown Village in St. Cloud, Silver Lake Village in St. Anthony, Calhoun Commons in Minneapolis and four major shopping centers in Woodbury.

Presently, the Robert Muir family continues to own Woodbury Village, Woodbury Village Green, Shoppes of Woodbury Village, Tamarack Village/Woodbury and Rivertown Village in St. Cloud—all of which will be consolidated with the Doran properties portfolio and managed from the Doran corporate headquarters in

Bloomington.

Kristin Muir, who is handling the transition for the Muir family said, "It gives us great comfort to once again be connected to someone who had such great success working with our father in the past."

Doran, who during the Great Recession pivoted to developing multi-family projects and growing his construction company, will now have in excess of three million square feet of combined Doran and Muir properties under his management.

"I cherish the time I worked with Robert. He was a great mentor during the years we worked together and he remains a great friend," Doran said.

Robert Muir, who retired from the company several years ago, is living in Florida. ♦

INSPEC, INC. in Minneapolis is pleased to announce that **LAURENCE J. KOCH**, AIA, has joined the firm. Mr. Koch has over 31 years of experience specializing in exterior walls, windows, and specialized consulting of architectural systems. Larry's wealth of experience in quickly assessing complex situations and delivering effective solutions is a great addition to Inspec's expertise with building envelope projects. ♦

Would you like to see your name or your company's name in the *Member To Member* section of *Construction Views*?

If so, please send all company press releases, announcements and updates to Corinna Hastings, Executive Director and Editor, at info@mnconstruction.org or 4248 Park Glen Road, Minneapolis, MN 55416.

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Corinna Hastings, CAE
Executive Director and Editor

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