



# M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Construction Management

Spring 2014, Volume 78, Issue 1



# ORANGE & BLUEPRINTS

# Orange & Blueprints

a bi-annual publication

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Director of the Center for Advanced Construction  
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### **Front cover photographs:**

Top left: Executive Committee Member - Matt Webster	page 4
Top 2nd from left: Construction Hall of Fame Inductee - Jim Pugh	page 5
Top 3rd from left: UF Knight Fellow - Preston Haskell	page 17
Top Far right: BCN Alumni - Rodney Kincaid	page 13
Bottom: WINNING BCN Competition Teams	page 20

## UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS IN 2014

March 27	Tampa Golf	Valrico, FL
April 24	Orlando Golf	Winter Garden, FL
May 1	Miami Dinner	Ft. Lauderdale, FL

### **Corrections to Fall 2013 Newsletter - Alumni Updates**

**Nico Hohman, BCN 2011** was hired by Jesuit High School in Tampa to be the Director of Alumni.

**Chris Lucas, BCN 2000** was hired to be the Director of Institutional Planning at Jesuit High School in Tampa.

# A Message From ...

## Dr. Christopher Silver, Dean



Something about 2013 seemed to be like a race against time throughout the year, and then it reached a point where it never seemed to end.

Ah 2014, a new start! And also a chance to plan for the future. Here at the College, we have asked each of the units to undertake a strategic assessment of its needs and expectations for that future.

At the campus level, the theme of “UF Rising” is tied to an initiative intending to elevate the university’s profile into the Top 10 of Public Universities. You might have heard about a recent result from Kiplinger placing UF as number three on the 2014 list of Best Values in Public Colleges, behind the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the University of Virginia. This is no surprise given the quality of students we attract to our programs in DCP and how relatively inexpensive the cost of those programs is when compared to our competition. And our efforts to expand online instructional capabilities to meet the needs of those who, for various reasons, cannot enjoy the campus experience is a way to reach many more.

From the College standpoint, one of the key goals should be to ensure we continue to invest in top faculty and the supporting technology to ensure we maintain the quality we are so proud of. Another goal is to enable more of our students, at some point in their study, to have some sort of international experience. With nearly three decades of teaching, mentoring and consulting in the international arena, it has been my experience that students who engage their discipline, whether it be planning, design or construction within a unique and different context, become more confident, more self-reliant and more effective in their professional practice. We want many more of our students to have this experience and competitive advantage.

Finally, from the campus perspective, we need to boost our research capabilities. This is not to the detriment of professional educational training but rather to enhance it. Engaging our undergraduate, master’s and doctoral students in research enterprises, from the applied work in communities to the more abstract in a laboratory setting, adds further to their competency. And, of course, the research itself provides a means to support students in ways that the current state funding and tuition cannot.

Faculty, facilities, global engagement and research. We do all of these so very well. But to remain on top, we need to plan how we will ensure them for the future. Join us this year in this important exercise of strategizing for the future of BCN, DCP and, of course, the Gator Nation.

## Dr. Robert Ries, Director



Since its inception in 1935 through the establishment of the School in 1976, Building Construction has been associated with our program. In order to better reflect the development of the industry and the profession, the Rinker School has changed its name from the M.E. Rinker, Sr., School of Building Construction to the M.E. Rinker, Sr., School of Construction Management. Changing the name of the School was supported by the students, alumni, industry, faculty, and friends of the School. Construction management better reflects what we teach and the career path of the School’s graduates. The name is more inclusive of the breadth of construction projects and the skills our graduates obtain. Please join us in celebrating the name change at several events over the course of the year.

Company participation in the Fall 2013 and the Spring 2014 Career Fairs have reflected what appears to be steady progress toward recovery in construction. About 75 companies were represented at both career fairs. Students obtain internships that provide valuable educational experiences and, in many cases, their first job after graduation through the Career Fair. Many thanks to the companies and the staff as well as the faculty of the Rinker School to make this not only possible, but a highly successful event.

This past year has been outstanding for the School’s competition teams. Sincere thanks to the team sponsors who mentor and financially support the competition teams. Congratulations to our teams who placed as follows:

- Associated School of Construction Region 2 Competition
- LEED Competition Team won **First Place**
- Design-Build Competition Team won **First Place**
- Heavy/Highway Competition Team won **First Place**
- Heavy/Highway Competition Team won **Best Presentation**

- Associated Builders and Contractors Competition
- Construction Management Team won **First Place for Quality Control**

- Associated School of Construction Open Competition
- LEED Competition Team won **First Place**
- BIM Competition Team won **First Place**

This past fall the Rinker School graduating class consisted of 21 undergraduate students and 13 graduate students including one Ph.D. student. About 85% of the class had job offers or had accepted a position before graduation. We continue to work with our alumni on job placement after graduation. We are looking to strengthening enrollment. Between 45 and 50 students are on track to become Junior I’s in the fall.

# BCN Advisory Council Executive Committee

The BCN Advisory Council Executive Committee held its bi-annual meeting on November 8, 2013, at Rinker Hall. Present for the meeting were Bob Angle, Ann Baker, Christine Beaudoin, David Brandon, Earle Cooper, Sean DeMartino, Rick Derrer, Tim Good, John Gooding, Dale Hedrick, Sid Jordan, John McIntyre, Harley Miller, Jeff Nelson, Steve Palmer, Robert Ries, Dave Schmit, Domenic Scorpio, Dave Senko, Erik Sharpe, Tom Sheffield, Chris Silver, Rick Smailes, John Sofarelli, Rob Springer, Wayne Wadsworth, and Matt Webster.

The committee discussed regional club activities and goals, the needs of the Rinker School, recruiting activities, feedback from students, sponsorship opportunities, and the curriculum as it relates to the new accreditation guidelines.



The EXCOM members met in Rinker Hall.

The meeting began with a special introduction of the recipients of the recruiting scholarships that the members created a few years ago. The students introduced themselves and explained why they chose BCN. The EXCOM members introduced themselves and each one offered advice for the students, such as follow your passion, stay true to your values, never compromise your principals, be willing to admit if you make a mistake, ask questions if you don't know something, take the time to watch tradesmen and respect the trades, and once your graduate be sure to come back and set an example for the next group of students. Both the students and the members thought this was a wonderful experience and want to continue this in the future.

Dr. Rick Smailes introduces the students. (l-r) Brett Maddox, Samantha Leonard, Jose Orjuela, and Andrew Entsminger



## Meet Matt Webster, BCN Advisory Council EXCOM Member



*Each edition of the Orange & Blueprints feature a member of the EXCOM. This edition features new member Matt Webster.*

Matt assumed his career would be in the Army Corp of Engineers upon graduating the Rinker School of Building Construction in 1995. While at the University of Florida, he held an Army ROTC scholarship and was commissioned a 2nd Lt. prior to graduation. After four years as a combat engineer and two tours overseas, Matt decided to separate from the Army. While explosives and minefields were fun to play with, his real passion was building. Matt returned to Gainesville with his wife Anita, a Gator alumnae and resident of the North Central Florida area. He started working for Charles Perry Construction in 1999 in the minor projects division as a Project Engineer. The division focused on Continuing Service Contracts at the University of Florida and Santa Fe College. From 1999 to present, Matt has continued to work on Continuing Service Contracts and developed the minor projects division in Gainesville into the Diversified Projects Division. Matt is now Vice President of the division and the DPD services contracts from Tampa, Orlando, Daytona, Gainesville, Jacksonville, Tallahassee and anywhere in between.

In 2011, Charles Perry Construction merged with PPI Construction Management to become Charles Perry Partners, Inc. Matt continued with the Diversified Projects Division. He enjoys all his responsibilities, but working with his divisional team

gives him the most satisfaction. "Seeing my teammates develop and succeed is the most rewarding part of my job," Matt said. He also indicated that the students' experience and education is the most important obligation he can fulfill to the EXCOM committee. Stewardship is one of Charles Perry Partners five core values. This also resonates with Matt through his involvement in the community. He has been involved with the Builders Association of North Central Florida since 2002 and served as President in 2012. As part of the Charles Perry Partners team, he has been involved with Rebuild Together North Central Florida, Habitat for Humanity and Santa Fe College Apprenticeship Program. He graduated from Leadership Gainesville Class 35 and is a member of the Leadership Gainesville Alumni Association. He currently serves on the Business Community Coalition board and he was recently accepted as a board member to the Community Foundation of North Central Florida.

Matt has also stayed involved with the Rinker School of Construction Management. He actively recruits interns and participates in the bi-annual career fair. He has served as "Professor for a Day" numerous times with co-workers. Prior to being on the EXCOM board, Matt was a stand-in for the curriculum reviews. For the past five years, he has served as a mentor in the UF mentor/protégé program, a program supported by the UF Small Business and Vendor Diversity Relations Division. Matt is a certified general contractor, plans examiner and building inspector in the state of Florida. He holds LEED AP BD&C and Green Globes certifications. He continues to learn through the school of hard knocks every day.

Most of all Matt enjoys time with his family. Living in Gainesville with his wife and three children, he enjoys their time together on the family farm and visiting Walt Disney World.

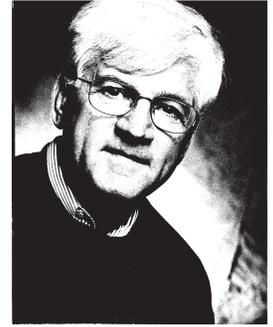
# Construction Hall of Fame

The M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Construction Management established the Construction Hall of Fame Award in 1980 to recognize the accomplishments of those distinguished leaders who have made a difference in our industry, the community and the University of Florida throughout their careers in construction. The inductees' names will be displayed on the "Hall of Fame Wall" of the School. We are honored to announce that James H. Pugh, Jr. has been selected to be inducted into the Rinker School's Construction Hall of Fame for 2013.

Jim Pugh graduated from the University of Florida School of Building Construction in 1963. At UF, he was active in Student Government, Commander of the Army ROTC, and was inducted into Florida Blue Key Honorary. His first construction job was as an estimator for Manual Builders in Orlando. In 1970, he formed Epoch Properties, and in the ensuing 43 years, has developed hotels, timeshare, and 37,000 rental apartments from California to Virginia. His company is annually listed as one of the Giants of Housing in the U.S.

The Bergstrom Center for Real Estate Studies at the Warrington College of Business Administration at the University of Florida has named Jim a "Legend of Real Estate in Florida."

Some of his community involvement includes Chairman of Dr. Phillips Center for Performing Arts, a \$500,000,000 Performing Arts Center now under construction in Downtown Orlando, Board of Oversight for the Bob Graham Center for Public Service at the University of Florida, Member of the Greater Orlando Aviation Authority Board, Board of Trustees for the Orlando Museum of Art, Chairman of the Orlando-Orange County Expressway Authority, President of the Orlando Utilities Commission, Chairman of the Investment Advisory Council for the Florida State Board of Administration, and Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the Atlantic Center for the Arts.



Jim and his wife, Alexis, have two children and live in Winter Park. He is an instrument-rated, multi-engine, type-rated Citation Jet Pilot, with over 4,500 hours of flying time. He is also an active Gator Booster and Bull Gator.

Jim was inducted into the Construction Hall of Fame on November 9th at the BCN Homecoming BBQ.

# Alumni in Higher Education

Matt Stevens lives in Melbourne, Australia and is a Senior Lecturer in Construction, Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning, at The University of Melbourne. His area of scholarship is strategic and operational issues of construction contractors. He teaches the following graduate subjects: Corporate Construction Management, Project Management in Practice, Specialist Contracting, and Experiences in Industry. His first book, *Managing a Construction Firm on Just 24 Hours a Day*, has been adopted by contractors, associations, sureties and over 30 colleges and universities in the U.S., Europe, Asia, Africa and Australia. His latest book is *The Construction MBA* has been adopted by many of the same organizations.

Matt is president of Stevens Construction Institute, Inc. With over 35 years' experience as a general and specialty contractor, he has been working with contractors as a management advisor since 1994. He earned an undergraduate degree in Construction Management from University of Louisiana-Monroe and an MBA from Rollins College, Winter Park, FL. His doctorate is from the University of Florida's Rinker School.

Stevens has performed Strategic Planning, Business Evaluations, and Productivity Improvement engagements with dozens of construction firms and conducted hundreds of training sessions ranging from one day seminars to week long boot camps across the country.



Matt has written technical and business process manuals for firms seeking to re-engineer their firm's methods or document good operating practices. He assists companies in keeping processes efficient, implemented, and structured for efficient monitoring.

Stevens writes a monthly newsletter for his blog, *The Construction Contractor's Digest*, a regular column for *Contractor* magazine, published nine mobile apps for Apple and Android systems that are specifically designed for construction contractors.

## Previously featured alumni in higher education include:

Tom Gormley, BCN 1979  
John Dryden, BCN 2006  
Jim Sullivan, BCN 2001 & 2007  
Caesar Abi Shdid, BCN 2006  
Bilge Gokhan Celik, BCN 2006  
Zeljko "Z" Torbica, BCN 1997  
James F. Goddard, BCN 1972  
Huanqing (Happy) Lu, BCN 2002

Fall 2013  
Spring 2013  
Fall 2012  
Spring 2012  
Fall 2011  
Spring 2011  
Fall 2010  
Spring 2010

Theo Haupt, BCN 2001  
Steven Van Dessel, BCN 2000  
Yimin Zhu, BCN 1999  
Richard Smailes, BCN 1976, 1977 & 2000  
John C. Mouton, BCN 1978  
Harold (Hal) Johnston, BCN 1983  
Bradford L. Sims, BCN 1996

Fall 2009  
Spring 2009  
Fall 2008  
Spring 2008  
Fall 2007  
Spring 2007  
Fall 2006

# BCN Alumni Regional Club Updates

## Tampa Bay Gator BCN Alumni Club

The Tampa Bay BCN Gators held the 6th Annual Inshore Tournament at Hula Bay Bar & Grille on Friday, October 25th. The tournament hosted a record 37 boats and raised over \$22,500 for the Rinker School! Under great Tampa Bay blue skies and a slight wind, Amprop Development, led by **Pat Walsh (BCN 1974)** won the tie-breaker for 1st place with 81.5". Taking 2nd place was the BCN student boat sponsored by **Rob Springer (BCN 1984)** and Springer-Peterson Roofing with 81.5". And on the podium again this year, the team who has won or placed in 5 of the 6 TBBCN tournament, JE Charlotte Construction led by alumnus **Jeff Charlotte (BCN 1983)** with 81.25". All three winners won with combinations of snook, redfish, and trout. Troy Logan from Ferguson Enterprises won "Big Fish" with a 33.75" Snook.

New to the tournament this year was the category for "Most Fish." This award was offered in memory of BCN alumnus **Chris Zutes** who was an avid Tampa Bay angler. The winner for "Most Fish" was Glenn Gifford with RoyalAire Mechanical who caught 22 fish. To commemorate the award, Chris' father George Zutes was also presented with the inaugural award in front of a standing ovation tournament crowd.



The BCN Students accept the proceeds that go to the Rinker School. (l-r) Chris Lucas (BCN 2000), Jacob Weiss (BCN Senior 2), Dustin Hinson (BCN Senior 2), Taylor Greer (BCN Senior 2), and Andrew Wilbert (BCN 2000)

The TBBCN Gators are grateful for the opportunity to give back to the school and we really appreciate all of the great support received from our alumni and industry.

**Tournament sponsors include:** McIntyre, Elwell, & Strammer, Amprop Development, Clark Construction, Springer-Peterson Roofing, Brandon Construction, Ferguson Enterprises, Tappouni Mechanical, ARCO Murray, Wal-Mark Contracting, RoyalAire Mechanical, Creative Contractors, Wells Fargo, Pioneer Homes, Marco Bay, CEMEX, Nelson Construction, Ajax Paving, AFN Consulting, L&W Supply, Gator Gypsum, Power Design, Copeland Architectural, Coastal Construction Products, Peninsular Mechanical, Tampa Bay Trane, JE Charlotte Construction, Flagler CE, CQ Insulation, Danner Construction, J. Kokolakis Contracting, Batson-Cook, Merit Professional Coatings, Allied Building Products, CRA Inc., West Star Interiors, KHS&S, Hubbard Construction, Kobrin Building Supply, Doyle Electric, Angle & Schmid, Trinity Construction Management, McCann & Baird Flooring, Hanlon Acoustical, Cooper Johnson Smith Architects, Sofarelli & Associates Architects, Angler 360, and Guy Harvey Group.



The Amprop Development won 1st place in the tournament. (l-r) Chris Lucas (BCN 2000), Pat Walsh (BCN 1974), Andrew Wilbert (BCN 2000), Fred Bickley, and Gary Eng.

## Miami Gator BCN Alumni Club

On September 12, 2013 the Miami BCN Alumni Club hosted a social with over 50 alumni and friends in attendance at O Lounge at YOLO in Ft. Lauderdale. A big thank you goes to **James A. Cummings** and **e-Builder** for organizing the event.

*A special thank you goes to  
e-Builder  
for sponsoring this social.*



# BCN Alumni Regional Club Updates

## Atlanta Gator BCN Alumni Club

The Atlanta Gator BCN Alumni Club held their 4th Annual Golf Benefit on Tuesday, October 29, 2013 at The River Club. This event raised \$45,000 for the Rinker School. Dr. Ries, Dr. Sullivan, Professor Cook and the LEED Team represented BCN at the event. Thank you goes to all who participated, sponsored and organized this successful event.



Pictured on the left: Bill Turpin (BCN 1988), Sr. VP of Holder presents Dr. Jim Sullivan with a check for the proceeds of the fundraiser



Pictured on the right: LEED Competition Team members (l-r) Josh Reed, Chris Tatum, Max Welch, John Mouw, Andrew Entsminger and Griffin Isabel

The University Of Florida School of Building Construction Atlanta Alumni Club's  
**2013 GOLF BENEFIT**  
 for the M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Building Construction



*Thank you to our Sponsors. With your support we raised over \$50,000 for the Rinker School of Building Construction!*

### ORANGE & BLUE PARTNERS



### FIGHTING GATORS



### EVENT SPONSORS



### FRIENDS OF UF



# BCN Alumni Regional Club Updates

## Jacksonville Gator BCN Alumni Club

The Jacksonville BCN Alumni organized the Northeast Florida Gator BCN Alumni Club 1st Annual Golf Tournament on Friday, November 1, 2013 at the Deercreek Country Club. The event was a success with over 80 golfers raising \$16,000 for the Rinker School. Thanks goes to all of the supporters who made a significant impact on the success of this event. Another big thank you goes to the club organizers for their hard work in putting this event together.

### **The sponsors of this event were:**

Grand Gator Sponsors: Haskell, Stellar, The Conlan Company

Dinner Sponsor: The Questcom Group, Inc.

Lunch Sponsor: Amteck

Beverage Cart Sponsor: Consolidated Electrical Contractors, Batson-Cook Company

Closest to Hole Sponsor: Thermal Construction Specialists

Longest Drive Sponsor: Ivey Mechanical

Hole Sponsor: Auld & White, C.C. Borden Construction Inc., CEMEX, Ed Waters & Sons, Gerdau, JS Thomas Mechanical LLC, Petticoat-Schmitt Civil Contractors, JAX Refrigeration, WW Gay Mechanical Contractors, White Cap, Kiewit

Foursomes: Batson-Cook Company, CEMEX, FaverGray, Gerdau, J. McLaughlin & Co., Miller Electric, Milton J. Wood, Pond & Company, Stan Weaver, Tritt Rendzio, Brasfield & Gorrie, Vulcan, Gate Precast

Twosomes: Auld & White, Coldroom Systems, Inc., Ed Waters & Sons, Emerald C's Development, Professional Cooling & Control



The CEMEX team consisted of Eric Almond (l-r) with Almond Engineering, Shelton Lee with CEMEX, Tim Conlan with Auld & White Constructors, and Roger Harrison of CEMEX.

The Haskell Team won 1st place with (l-r) Todd Russell (BCN 1989), Terry White, Will Inman (BCN 2005) and Bradley Stone (BCN 2010).



Rinker School Director, Dr. Robert Ries (l-r) plays with Auld & White's Jared Vincent (BCN 2009), Professor Mike Cook, and Steve Auld (BCN 1977)



The Batson-Cook team consisted of (l-r) Bob Hoffman with Miller Electric, Daman Deas with Benjamin Moore Paints, Ted Romanowski, Independent Financial Manager, and Thad Blinn (BCN 1997)



The Gerdau Team consisted of (l-r) Ken Wagner (BCN 1979), Chuck Parliment, David Adzema and Paul Hardaker (BCN 1971)



The Faver Gray Team consists of (l-r) Mark Messinese, Bill Eddy, Keith Faver (BCN 1988), and Richard Polissner



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UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

# BCN Alumni Regional Club Updates

## Central Florida Gator BCN Alumni Club

In 2014, the Central Florida Gator BCN Alumni Club held the 1st Annual Sporting Clay Challenge on February 7th at the Teneroc Shooting Center in Lakeland. Participants included: Nassal Company, Springer-Petersen Roofing, Clancy & Theys, Balfour Beatty, Winter Park Construction, Turner Construction, CALIC Group, Cost Construction Services, James A. Cummings, J. Raymond Construction Corp., DPR, and Moye, O'Brien, O'Rourke, Pickert & Dillon. The event raised \$8,000 for the Rinker School.



## Save the Date

**TAMPA BAY  
BCN GATORS**

ANNOUNCE THE  
**9TH ANNUAL  
GOLF SCRAMBLE**

MARCH 27, 2014  
RIVER HILLS COUNTRY CLUB

BENEFITTING THE

DANNY M.E. RINKER SR.  
SCHOOL OF CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT  
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA



*The M.E. Rinker, Sr.  
School of Construction Management  
and the  
UF South Florida BCN Alumni Club  
requests your attendance at*

### The Rinker School's Banquet Fundraiser

**Thursday, May 1, 2014**

**Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino**  
One Seminole Way, Hollywood, FL  
954-327-7625

Cocktail Reception at 6:30 pm  
Dinner and Program at 7:30 pm

RSVP by April 18, 2014  
to Kim Stanley at  
kimms@ufl.edu or 352-273-1187

**Travis Kolbjornsen, BCN 2007** was featured in the Florida Gator, a UF Alumni Association for the Twenty under Thirty edition. Travis is a project scheduler for Walt Disney World Co. Facility Asset Management. He is involved with different community and industry activities such as past president of the Central Florida Gator BCN Alumni Club and mentor to the ACE (architecture, construction & engineering) high school students.



**6th Annual  
CENTRAL FLORIDA GATOR  
BCN CLUB GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Benefitting the  
University of Florida  
M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of  
Construction Management

**When:** April 24, 2014  
(12:00 p.m. Shotgun Start)

**Where:** Orange County National  
Golf Center and Lodge  
16301 Phil Ritson Way  
Winter Garden, FL 34787

**Cost:** \$1,600.00 / Foursome

Tee-off at 12:00 p.m. / Awards dinner at 5:00 p.m.  
Please arrive by 10:30 a.m. to register.

## Alumni working together

With the help of the InTec team, Ocala Regional Medical Center's new trauma unit and helipad went online months before its scheduled completion date and treated its first patient within hours of opening. The trauma center and helipad serves Marion, Hernando, and Citrus counties at Ocala Regional's facility at 1431 SW First Avenue and is the only center of its kind in the tri-county area.

Louie Wise, III (BCN 1994), owner and CEO of InTec Companies, said, "The success of the trauma and helipad project is attributed to the passion of the entire InTec team. The schedule was very aggressive – 90 days, but knowing in the end the project was designed to save lives, we just kept working hard toward completion." InTec offers fully integrated facility services in both the public and private markets from concept through continuing operations by providing expertise in building construction, mechanical, facility automation, and electrical services. The family of companies includes: The Alexander Group Construction Services, Climate Control Mechanical Services, Base3 Facility Automation, and Gibson Electric Power Services.



BCN Alumni shown on the helipad on top of the hospital. (l-r) Sara Garrett (BCN 2013), Mechanical Estimator; Rob Boyer (BCN 1995), Vice President of Operations for Mechanical Services; Louie Wise, III (BCN 1994), Owner and CEO of InTec; Brett Shaffer (BCN 1999), Vice President of Construction Services; and Allen Standridge (BCN 1985), Preconstruction Director.



Starting January 2014, the joint venture with Batson-Cook and Balfour-Beatty will have 4 UF BCN grads working on the Tampa Port Authority Petroleum Facilities Improvements Project. Batson-Cook's Kyle Carr (BCN 2013), Bradley Harris (BCN 1997), and Andrew Spangler (BCN 2003) will be working on Phase 2 of the project with Balfour-Beatty's Gary Vargas (BCN 1993).

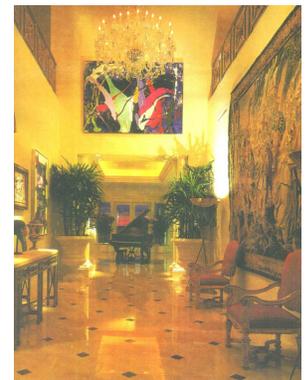
## Lessons Learned

written by  
Jim Kalemeris, BCN 1951



In 1990, I completed the Lindell Home. It won several awards and was named best home built in Florida by the Home Builders Association. The Florida Chapter of the American Institute of Architects named me "Outstanding Builder of the Year" and Mr. Lindell rewarded me with a brand new Mazda automobile. However, none of this would have happened if I had not noticed something that did not seem quite right.

The grand hall and reception area had two large chandeliers from Paris, each weighing about five hundred pounds. At the closing stages of construction I was standing at the second floor railing enjoying the view. While I was looking I noticed the links of the supporting chains of the chandeliers opening up. It would be a matter of time before they both fell down.



I immediately informed the superintendent and the area was closed and with two sets of scaffolds to support the chandeliers. Steel cables were run through the chains and connected to roof supports, taking the stress away from the chains. A disaster was averted by a chance observation.

## Grand Guard 2013

Alumni who graduated in 1963 become Grand Guard Members during a visit to UF to celebrate their 50th year reunion. On November 26th, these BCN alum visited the Rinker School where they enjoyed lunch, reminisced and toured Rinker Hall and the BIM lab. This year, BCN had the largest representation in school history.

Dr. Rick Smailes (l-r) welcomed 1963 BCN Alum John Bankston, Wayne Goff, Jim Pugh, Donald Crews with Dr. Edward Minchin. Not pictured are Robert Poppel and Burton Jordan.



# SHOW YOUR RINKER SCHOOL PRIDE

To purchase items, contact Sara Green by phone at (352) 273-1182 or by e-mail at saraann@ufl.edu.  
(checks only - no credit cards accepted)



BCN Alumni T-shirt  
(back of shirt shows "BCN Alumni")  
\$15



BCN Hard Hat  
\$40



BCN Polo Shirts  
(S, M, L, XL, XXL)  
(men and ladies)  
\$35



## Alumni in the news

### Chip Bachara, BCN 1982

Bachara Construction Law Group has been named to the "Best Law Firms in America 2014" list in the category of Construction Litigation by Best Lawyers and *U.S. News and World Report*. The Bachara Group is one of only four law firms voted to the list in this specialty area in Northeast Florida, which highlights the best law firms in America based upon peer and client reviews. "We are very pleased by this recognition," said Chip Bachara, the firm's founder and managing partner, "particularly because we were reviewed against many firms that are older and larger than ours. It's an honor to be in such good company."



Chip Bachara,  
BCN 1982

### John Carlson, BCN 2012

Local building industry members receive honors at State Builders Conference. Four members of the Charlotte-DeSoto Building Industry Association (CDBIA) received prestigious honors at the Florida Home Builders Association (FHBA) Fall Leadership Conference held October 17-19, 2013 in Tampa, FL. The Eagle Award is given to an individual for their unique contributions to the Florida Home Builders Association. Started in 1998, only 70 individuals have been awarded this distinct honor. Two local individuals were awarded the Eagle Award at the recent FHBA Fall Conference. CD-BIA member **John Carlson, BCN 2012**, had received a scholarship from the Future Builders of America (FBA), and utilized his schooling to positively impact the building industry. Currently John is employed with CORE Construction as a Project Engineer and was bestowed the Eagle Award for his dedication to FBA as a camp counselor and his passion for the building industry.

### Monarcha Marcet, BCN 1981

In October, Monarcha was awarded the Homes for Life Award by the National Association of Home Builders. Recognizing excellent remodeling work for aging-in-place and universal design, Monarcha was presented the award at the NAHB Remodelers' Annual Gala at the 2013 Remodeling Show in Chicago. Monarcha designed the Single-Space award-winning kitchen for meals that can now be prepared and enjoyed by all of the family members of a multigenerational household, including an adult child with a wheelchair.



Monarcha Marcet,  
BCN 1981



Florida Home Builders Association honorees are (l-r) Bill Truex, **John Carlson**, Suzanne Graham, and Bud Windell

# Alumni Updates

**Donald Jones, BCN 1959** is retired and for the past 15 years worked as work-ampers performing work in 17 different states alongside his wife, Joan, of 53 years. Some of their work included managing a restaurant, amusement parks in Iowa, Kentucky, rock shops in Utah, campgrounds in Pennsylvania, Wyoming and working for NASCAR and NFL.

**Robert Brownell, BCN 1967** has been retired for several years and is currently teaching Construction Estimating, Construction Contracts and Codes, as well as Technical Math II for the trades at Pulaski Technical College, No. Little Rock, AR. He and his wife have a small horse farm west of Little Rock.

**Lamar Powers, BCN 1970** retired in December. Lamar was Facility Director at Valencia College in Orlando, FL. He also taught the estimating and scheduling classes at Valencia. He served as an officer of Florida Educational Facilities Planners Association. Lamar plans to continue teaching, do some consulting, and travel.

**Frank Riggle, BCN 1970** retired in 1993 as Engineer from the Army and moved to St. Augustine. He has been busy buying & building homes, offices, and condos and assisting Flagler College with overseeing construction of five buildings. He was instrumental in getting 10 acres of land donated to the Betty Griffin House (for battered women) and graciously built two 3,000 sf homes plus an 11,000 sf home for them for free.

**Bill Pinto, BCN 1973** In April 2013, Bill retired from Hardin Construction after 39 years. He said that it has been "immensely enjoyable traveling, spending time with family & friends, and especially his nine grandkids."

**George Luttrell, BCN 1974** is the Area Manager for Fluor on a large Coal Seam Gas Upstream Project for Santos based in Brisbane, Australia. He has been on this assignment for two years and looks to finish it in March 2014, and plans to return to the US and his home in Greenville, SC. At this point he will celebrate his 40th graduation anniversary and employment with Fluor. He has two sons studying at Clemson University, one a senior in pre-med, the other a sophomore in Construction Science and Management. George plans to retire in two years.

**Pat Pannell, BCN 1976** has been Associate Professor at South Dakota State University for the past ten years. He retired December 2013 and headed to Colorado where he plans to consult or possibly teach a few classes at the community college.

**Rick Pugatch, BCN 1976** joined Crocker Partners in February 2013. Mr. Pugatch has over 35 years of experience in development and construction of a versatile range of projects from concept through completion. He has successfully managed many projects, from master planning and entitlement phases through construction, close out, and turn over to owners and developers. These included low, mid and high rise office buildings, parking decks, corporate headquarters, industrial, retail and government use buildings. He has also been responsible for millions of square feet of tenant improvements including first and second generation space. Before starting with Crocker Partners, Mr. Pugatch was employed as Vice President of Flagler Development from 2006 to 2010, and as Vice President of The Hogan Group from 1989 to 2006. Prior to that he was employed in various capacities by Reese Interests, Arvida Corporation and Development Corporation of America.

**Mark Starcher, BCN 1989** President of Evergreen Construction Management based in Leesburg, FL. Mark founded Evergreen Construction Management in 2009 as a design builder and construction manager for healthcare, retail, education, institutional and interiors clients statewide. Since its founding, Evergreen has seen phenomenal growth and in 2013 Evergreen has expanded into north and southwest Florida with healthcare and retail projects in Tallahassee, Gainesville, Jacksonville, multiple projects in the Sarasota and Clearwater areas. Evergreen is currently building the \$4.5 million Leesburg Regional Medical Center Urgent Care and Administration Center, The Ambulatory Surgery Center Renovation at the Villages Hospital, the new \$2 million Mellow Mushroom restaurant in Eustis which will be LEED certified and a new \$2.5 million Science Center for Mt. Dora Bible School. Mark recently started the Annual Leadership Prayer Breakfast of Lake County which had its inaugural event in November of 2013.

**Albert Valin, BCN 1992** just started Valin Construction Company based out of Clearwater.

**Jonathan Antevy, BCN 1994** is co-owner and co-founder of e-Builder. e-Builder recently moved into their new office (25,000 sq ft) in Plantation, FL. Some of e-Builder's clients are Facebook who is building data centers all over the world, and The Related Group who is building the largest development in the country located in New York City. He and his wife just welcomed their 3rd daughter, Leetal, to their family.

**Chris Britton, BCN 1996** will be Brasfield & Gorrie's project manager on the College Hall of Fame to be built in Atlanta, GA and will include a 7,500-sq. ft. ballroom, retail space along the street edge and an upscale restaurant. It will be funded mostly through private sponsorships and philanthropy. With more than \$55 million in committed equity so far, \$1 million comes from the City of Atlanta. The project is scheduled to finish in time for an August 2014 opening.

## CELEBRATION OF RINKER SCHOOL'S NAME CHANGE

**As you are aware, the Rinker School is now the M.E. Rinker, Sr., School of Construction Management. Please plan to attend the 2014 Homecoming Bar-B-Q where we will officially celebrate the School's Name Change on Saturday, October 18th.**

**Kevin Kernan and Michael Huskey, BCN 1994** graduates, joined The Haskell Company upon graduation and will soon be starting their 20th year with the integrated design-build firm. Both have spent the majority of their careers delivering projects for the public sector and are currently collaborating on multiple design-build projects for the US Coast Guard.

**Myrnabelle Roche, BCN 1998** is a Senior Litigation Attorney in Plantation, FL and works with the Law Office of Lorraine Lester.

**Domenic Scorpio, BCN 1998** recently left his partnership of 18 years to start D.E. Scorpio Corporation, an independent CM and Design-Build General Contracting Company based in Gainesville, FL

**Tom Harl, BCN 1998** just celebrated the birth of his 3rd child, a baby girl delivered on November 17th at Shands at UF. In January, he also celebrated the 7th anniversary of his company High Mark Construction, LLC based in Lake City, having experienced incredible growth doubling work volume for each of the last 3 years in a row.

**Karl Weber, BCN 2004** graduated from the University of South Florida with a MBA in 2012 and works as a Quality Consultant with the American Contractors Insurance Group based out of Dallas, TX since August 2013.

**Wesley Smith, BCN 2005** works with HITT Contracting Inc. and was recently promoted to Project Manager.

**Brittany Lee Culbreath, BCN 2006** resigned from Sauer Inc. after 7 years as a Project Manager and joined her husband, Jesse, to run their family-owned company Emerald C's Development, Inc. in Jacksonville, FL and raise their 2 ½ year old son, Mason.

**Jordan Clark, BCN 2011** and a fellow 2011 Auburn Grad with Walton Construction Services of Atlanta placed, framed, and CO'd a 5 story, 162 unit luxury apartment complex in Cobb County, GA in 10 months.

**Daniel Pigott, BCN 2012** is working in the field with Springer-Peterson Roofing & Sheet Metal while also playing Minor League Baseball.

**Adam Rossmell, BCN 2012** started as an assistant project manager for Burkhardt Construction after graduation where he was assigned to a streetscape project in downtown Mount Dora that finished in September of 2013. He has recently been put in charge of managing 3 parks in Hallandale Beach. He got married in October after graduation and he and his wife live in West Palm Beach.

**Mike Yahraus, BCN 2001** and **Luis Hidalgo BCN 1995** have been promoted to the position of Project Executives by Coastal Construction Company. Mike is currently managing two major projects on Miami Beach, the Monte Carlo and the Surf Club. Luis recently completed the Palace in Coral Gables and is now building the Chateau project on Miami Beach.

## 6000th Undergraduate Graduates

Each semester after graduation, a letter is sent to undergraduate students who have just graduated letting them know of their class rank and the number of graduate from the school. Fall 2013 marks that 6,000th graduate from the Rinker School. Congratulations to Faith Berjano for being a part of the history of the Rinker School.



## *Getting a Second Chance at a College Education at the University of Florida by Rodney Kincaid, BCN 1959*

Back in the 1950's the U.S. Army had an attractive incentive plan that allowed active military personnel to take an early discharge if they enrolled in college or a university within 90 days. The only catch was you had to enter the Army Reserves for the next eight years.

I decided to take advantage of the Army's offer and re-enroll at the University of Florida for the second time – hoping my second experience was better than my first. I attended the university two years earlier as an undergraduate student pursuing a degree in Agriculture so that I could eventually take over management of a family farm in Gainesville. However, Agriculture was not a path I was prepared for nor wanted to take. As a result, I decided to drop out of school and enter the Army, using that two-year enlistment to contemplate what I actually wanted to do in life. I knew it wasn't farming.

When I arrived in Gainesville seven days after my discharge, I decided to enroll in the lower division program designed for Architecture students. Not long after, we were given our first assignment. We had to design and build a model of a two-bedroom bungalow and bring it to the class where it would be critiqued by the professor. The Day of Reckoning came and the professor moved from one student to another, commenting on their work. It became apparent that I was going to be the last in line to be critiqued. Finally after analyzing the work of a couple dozen students, the professor stopped and stood in front of my design, studying my creation – speechless. After what seemed like an hour, he turned to me and said, "Rodney, you worked very hard on this, did you not?" "Yes sir, I certainly did," I answered meekly, not sure where this conversation was going. "You know Rodney, there is nothing about your work here that I can compliment you on." Then after another long silence, he said, "Have you thought about becoming a contractor? You know they make a lot more money than an architect." That was the point in which I realized that my passion wasn't in Architecture but in building and construction. I would build what other, more talented people would design.

No, the story doesn't end there. There are more chapters to this story. And more challenges that I would face during my college tenure at the University. The most daunting challenge was coming to grips with the fact that I had not taken my earlier educational experience at the University seriously. My previous grades were horrendous and would prove to be a difficult, if not impossible, obstacle to overcome. During the time I was in the service, the University was addressing a significant problem that was getting worse: students remaining in school despite failing to reach the academic status necessary to enter the Upper Division level of studies. Basically, those students were taking up space, preventing new students from enrolling. To resolve the problem, the University had imposed a new rule. Students now were required to maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA for the first five semesters in order to remain in school and advance to Upper Division. If you didn't, your college days were over and you were sent on your way. My odds for reaching the minimum GPA were as promising as my two-bedroom bungalow design was to my Architecture professor. My previous grades were

that bad. Nevertheless, I persevered and did my best with the little time I had to work with. I was able to bring my grades up to a 1.9 level – but I was still short of the required standard and out of time.

I was sitting on a bench in the Plaza of Americas ruefully pondering my situation and my future prospects. Dr. Herman Block, at that time the Director of the Building Construction Department, saw me and sat down next to me. He could tell I was in pain and asked if I wanted to talk. After I explained my dire situation, he said, "Get up. Let's take a walk." We walked to a nearby building. It was building for the Dean of the College of Architecture and Fine Arts, which also encompassed the architectural, interior design, landscape architecture, the Arts and Building Construction departments. The Dean invited both of us into his office. Surprising to me, Dr. Block was well aware of my situation before I even discussed it with him. And our meeting with the Dean was no happenstance. That became apparent as Dr. Block discussed my situation, offering information I had not shared in our earlier conversation. He asked the Dean if he would allow me to continue my education at the University, even though I failed to meet the minimum requirements. The Dean took a few moments to ponder the question before answering. He said he could approve it on several conditions: I would have to return to the summer school session, take enough courses and obtain the needed grades to meet the required 2.0 GPA. I was determined to make the most out of this second chance and not let either Dr. Block or the Dean down. Not only did I achieve high academic grades – I graduated with around a 3.2 GPA – but I embarked on what has been a long and successful career as a commercial building contractor in Central Florida. In fact, my company celebrated its 50th anniversary in December.

Dr. Herman Block gave me a second chance to continue my education and pursue my passion for building. He was compassionate and caring and took a personal interest in his students, not just with me but with many others who came through his doors over the years. Dr. Block had a profound impact on my life, helping me become the builder I am today. And Dr. Block? He continued his stellar career in building a highly respected Department of Building Construction at the University of Florida and was responsible for creating the first statewide contractor examination known as "The Block Exam" that preceded the current Construction Industry Licensing Examinations. I owe a lot to Dr. Herman Block and so do the many construction students at the University of Florida who had the opportunity to learn under him.

There is a moral to this story that all students should take to heart: make the most of your time in school because you might not get a second chance. There may not be a Dr. Herman Block out there to help you.



# Fall 2013 Welcome Reception

The Rinker School hosted its Fall 2013 Welcome Reception at Rinker Hall on Thursday, September 5th with nearly 100 students and faculty in attendance. The student clubs set up tables and had social hour with the new students before the presentations began. Presentations were made by BCN faculty & staff on the BCN programs for international exchange, job placement, internships, student clubs and student competition teams. The faculty, staff and current students welcomed the newest members to the BCN Family with a "White Hat Ceremony."



Pictured on left is the incoming Junior 1 class.

Pictured on right is the incoming Graduate Student class.



*Thanks to  
J. Raymond Construction  
for sponsoring this event.*

# Fall 2013 Graduation Dinner

BCN held its graduation dinner on Friday, December 13, 2013 at the Hilton University of Florida. Over 120 graduates, family and BCN faculty attended this event to celebrate the graduation of another group of BCN students.

Graduation dinner sponsor J. Raymond Construction's John Sofarelli spoke to the class and offered some words of advice to the students as they enter the construction industry.

Dr. Ries presented **Westin Jensen** with the **Academic Excellence Award**. **Dr. Sullivan** was presented the **Teaching Excellence Award** by the graduating class. Dr. Rick Smailes awarded the team, consisting of **Michael Dimond and Westin Jensen**, the **Best Capstone Project Award**.



John Sofarelli, BCN 1981 gives advice to graduating students.



Dr. Jim Sullivan is presented the Graduating Seniors Teaching Appreciation Award.



Westin Jensen is presented the Academic Excellence Award by Dr. Robert Ries



*Thanks to  
Hedrick Brothers  
AND*

*J. Raymond Construction  
for sponsoring this event.*



*Bringing Visions to Reality Since 1979*



Dr. Russell Walters presents Abby Butcher with the Fluor Safety Award.



Dr. Rick Smailes presents Michael Dimond and Westin Jensen with the Best Overall Capstone Project Award

## Community Involvement

The Junior 1's volunteered for Rebuild Day. Doc Wetherington joined in to help the BCN Students.



# Homecoming 2013

On Saturday, November 9th, BCN held its annual Homecoming BBQ. Nearly 100 alumni and friends of the Rinker School of Construction Management gathered on the front lawn to celebrate UF's 2013 Homecoming. The event began with a memorial tree planting for Dr. Jimmie Hinze, followed by the induction of Jim Pugh into the Construction Hall of Fame, and visiting and eating a wonderful meal before heading off to the Gator game.



The 2013 BCN Homecoming Float.



Dr. Robert Ries speaks to the crowd of BCN family & friends.



**Bob Angle, BCN 1967**, and his wife Carol Beth spend a few minutes with current BCN students Andrea Valdes, Chris Mullins, Brock Smith, Tommy Powell, Jacob Weiss and Caleb Eiler

# Field Trips



Dr. Sullivan took the Junior 1 students to the Heavener Hall project that is being constructed by Ajax Building Corp. Thanks to BCN alumni **James Marini, BCN 2007** and **Jordan Wise, BCN 2010** for providing the tour. Special thanks go to Ajax Building Corporation for allowing the BCN students to tour the site.



The student chapter of CMAA would like to thank Bryan Lawson of Elkins Construction for providing a tour to the Naval Airforce Base in Jacksonville FL. It was rewarding experience for the students.



The Comprehensive Estimating graduate class visited the Heavener Hall construction project being constructed by Ajax Building Corporation on October 15, 2013 and **James Marini, BCN 2007**, Project Manager and **Jordan Wise, BCN 2010**, Assistant Project Manager provided a comprehensive tour of the building and highlighted the interesting features of the project. Heavener Hall is an undergraduate classroom building for the Warrington College of Business Administration. It is 55,000 SF in size with approximately \$18 million construction budget. The project is scheduled to be substantially completed by September 2014. At the time of the visit erection of structural steel beams and placing formwork for concrete shear walls were in progress. Special thanks go to Ajax Building Corporation for allowing the visit, James Marini for coordinating the visit, and Jordan Wise for providing a guided tour of the project

## Outside BCN

Current BCN Student has fascinating hobby. **Blake Russ, Junior 2**, has been fascinated with reptiles since the age of 6. He has now moved on to bigger reptiles such as alligators and snakes. Earlier this year he earned bragging rights for catching the biggest snakes in the "Python Challenge" in the Florida Everglades. He also won the largest Burmese python prize and second place for the most harvested category. He is going to use his winnings to take a trip to Brazil to catch his dream....a Green Anaconda.



## ¿Sabía usted?

Did you know that in 2007 the Rinker School responded to the construction industry needs by requiring all UF and transfer students entering the BCN upper division program to have one semester of Spanish in College. Students admitted to UF as freshman take SPN 1180 - Construction Spanish. The Rinker School is the only major other than the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences that has a foreign language requirement in addition to the University foreign language requirement.

# Fall 2013 & Spring 2014 Career Fairs

The Rinker School held its Fall Career Fair on October 22, 2013 and Spring Career Fair on February 11, 2014, at the O'Connell Center. The career fairs were attended by 75 companies each time and approximately 260 students and visitors. Many pre-BCN students attended the fair looking for internships, as well as alumni and students from other schools within the college and other construction management programs in Florida.

The next career fair will be on October 28, 2014. For more information, please contact the job placement office at (352) 273-1187.



Stiles Construction representatives Hallie Gunter and Martin Lowe.



Holder's Senior Vice President Wayne Wadsworth (BCN 1989) speaks with a student.



Fred Strammer (BCN 1983) & Mark Freeman from McIntyre, Elwell & Strammer General Contractors

The Construction Management Career Fair  
October 28, 2014 9:00 am - 1:30 pm  
Stephen C. O'Connell Center

For more information, visit our website at:  
[www.bcn.ufl.edu](http://www.bcn.ufl.edu)  
(click on job placement, recruiter information)

## Foreign Exchange Program

written by  
Alex Melvin, Senior 2

My semester exchange in Australia was a chapter in my life that I can only begin to describe how incredible it was. Having begun my obsession for traveling during my final year of Architecture, studying in Mexico, I had nothing but excitement for what my future will hold for me. Going to study at RMIT (Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology) alone, with no connections to America, I saw this as an opportunity to meet as many new people as I possibly could, as fast as I possibly could.

Studying abroad is not about what you learn in the classroom, is about, the unplanned weekend trips and nights out with new friends from literally all over the world, even taking advantage of celebrat-



ing spring break in Cairns, diving the Great Barrier Reef, hiking the rainforest, and bungee jumping from 50m (165') high. Having done all of those and a whole lot more, I would without a doubt say some of the best times I had while in Australia were the late night conversations with other world travelers, sharing goals, dreams, outlooks on life, and stories from back home.

This experience has given me the opportunity to learn and observe the way in which another culture goes about solving the same fundamental construction and educational issues with completely different economical, political and social influences. Studying abroad has opened my mind to the possibilities of what this profession can bring to humanity and brings me nothing but excitement for the future and the role that I will play in its creation.

The ABC Student Chapter for the Rinker School hosted the 1st Annual Kickball Tournament at Dr. Paul Oppenheim's farm on October 18th. Although there was a light rain the students had a wonderful time. Thanks to **Texas Roadhouse** for providing the tournament food and Dr. Oppenheim for providing the field.



# Preston Haskell

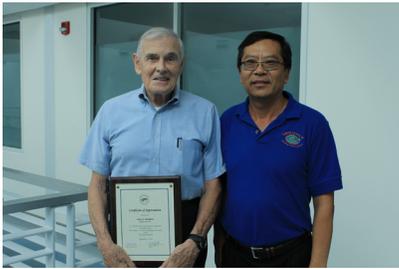


UF's Knight Fellowship in-Residence program started this year. The fellowship is funded as part of a three-year, \$3 million grant from John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. The vision of the program is to expose students to professionals who have been successful in the business world and contributed to their communities. Preston Haskell, founder of Haskell Co., was the first professional brought in for this program. During October and November, he provided several lectures to different colleges, classes and student clubs. He spoke

two times to Dr. Lucas' Design-Build class, met with the Design-Build Competition Team, and gave a public talk at the Rinker School.

# Guest Lecturers

The Rinker School would like to express our sincerest appreciation for the numerous guest lecturers who come to the Rinker School to speak to our students. The real world information that you provide to the students is invaluable.



Peter Markham, originally with Buena Vista Construction, spoke to Dr. Shi's class BCN 5715 - Advanced Construction Labor.



Bill Jordan, Corporate Attorney for Power Design spoke to Dr. Lucas' class BCN Design Build



Professor Mike Cook (l-r) presents plaques to Roger Swanger, Partner and Trey Long, Senior Manager of James Moore & Company for speaking to his class on Construction Finance.



Dave Schmit, BCN 1981 spoke to Dr. Rick Smailes' BCN 4787 - Construction Capstone class.



Dr. Robert Ries thanks Power Design's Lauren Permuy, BCN 2007 and Dan Somerville, BCN 2009 who spoke to the Dr. Lucas' class.



CPPI, Inc. representatives speak to Introduction to BCN Class

## A life lesson...

Each semester, Jim Tharp of Tharp Plumbing visits the Rinker Students as part of the plumbing course. He shows the students how to correctly install plumbing fixtures. While doing this he provides the students with some valuable life lessons and always has the students hanging on to every word. Special thanks to Jim Tharp for taking the time to share his knowledge of plumbing systems, but also importantly investing in the future of the BCN students. In the picture below, he is pictured with (l-r) Taylor Greer, Morgan Hayes, Michael Boykin, and Braxton Skinner.



Ajax Building Corporations (l-r) Jordan Wise (BCN 2010), James Marini (BCN 2007), Dr. Rick Smailes and Director of UF Real Estate Studies Tim Becker, and Rinker School Dr. Ries were judges for the BCN 4787 - Capstone course.



Students in BCN 4510 Mechanical Systems dry fit a drain, waste, and vent system for a bathroom.

# Fire & Emergency Services (FES) Program

## Advisory Council Meeting

The FES Advisory Council (FESAC), made up of industry professionals and FES alumni, met at Rinker Hall on October 29, 2013, to review the program and to discuss potential developments. The council members' varied backgrounds in Fire and Emergency Management help to keep the program abreast of industry trends. The Council welcomed JoAnne Rice, a new member, who represented the Florida Fire Marshals & Inspectors Association (FFMIA). Dr. Ries announced that Jeffrey Lindsey, Ph.D., has been selected as the FES Program Coordinator and will begin his duties in January 2014. The existing FES program goals and student learning outcomes were reviewed by the Council, with special emphasis on outcome assessment. A discussion of curriculum development continued from the previous council meeting held last March. FESAC, which meets bi-annually, will meet next on March 26, 2014.

Our new FES Program Coordinator Dr. Lindsey comes to us with thirty-plus years of experience in Fire and Emergency Services and a significant research background, having published numerous texts and research papers. He serves as a columnist for Fire Rescue 1 and JEMS; presents papers at state, national, and international conferences; and is considered a subject matter expert for investigative reports and legal cases. Dr. Lindsey taught at St. Petersburg College, Grand Canyon University, and The George Washington University in the upper baccalaureate level and master's level, with expertise in emergency management, EMS, fire services, and disaster response. He is retired Chief of the Estero Fire Rescue in Estero, FL.



Jeffrey Lindsey, PhD,  
FES Program  
Coordinator

## Summer & Fall 2013 FES Graduates



Michael Ung  
pictured on left.



Adam Mott  
pictured on right.



Daniel Garcia and  
his wife Jodi pic-  
tured on left.



Lawrence Cray  
with his wife,  
Heather and their  
three kids pictured  
on right.



Abraham Wilcox  
pictured on left.



Matthew Winheim  
and his grand-  
mother pictured  
on right.



Critical Care Paramedic Graduating Class for December 2013

## Air Medical Transport Conference (AMTC) 2013

In October 2013, members of ShandsCair, our co-sponsor of the Critical Care Paramedic Certificate Program, attended the annual meeting of the Air Medical Transport Conference (AMTC) in Virginia Beach, VA. The AMTC is the largest trade show for the air and ground medical industry, providing opportunities for medical transport professionals to learn about the latest techniques and innovative approaches to air medical practice. The conference provided excellent marketing opportunities for both the Critical Care Paramedic Class and the Rinker School's Fire and Emergency Services program.

Members of the ShandsCair Flight Program (l-r) Zach Hale (Flight Paramedic), Joni Godwin (Flight Nurse), Jesse Blaire (Flight Paramedic), and Krissy Stotts (Administrative Assistant)



# Scholarships

The Rinker School offers approximately 30 scholarships a year. We want to express our appreciation to the companies and individuals who have provided these opportunities for the BCN students. If you are interested in establishing a scholarship, please contact Ann Baker at [abaker@dcp.ufl.edu](mailto:abaker@dcp.ufl.edu)



**Abdol Chini Scholarship**

Marija Magoc \$1,000

**Brisbane Brown Memorial**

Alison Taylor-Sibley \$1,000

**Thomas Brown Memorial**

Caleb Eiler \$1,000

**Construction Association of South Florida**

Taylor Greer \$2,000

**Clark Construction**

Gavin Hancock \$2,000  
Jonathan Pigott \$2,000  
Justin Calhoun \$2,000  
Kierstin Beaumont \$2,000  
Nathan Blinn \$2,000

**Charles Denny Endowment**

Vishal Mahajan \$1,000

**Frank Reed Central Florida Builders Exchange**

**Jack Jennings & Son**

Kaley Rhodes \$1,200

**R.C. Stevens**

Carolina Alvarez \$ 600

**Walker & Company**

Alicia Lindquist \$1,200

**Foote Steel**

Jesse Mantohac \$ 600

**Hubbard**

Corey Runte \$ 720

**Tri-City Electric**

Channon Perry \$ 600

**James A. Cummings**

Darwin Cantero-Munoz \$2,000  
Zachary Smolich \$2,000  
Blake Russ \$2,000  
John Healy \$2,000

**Greg Jones Memorial Endowment**

Parna Daeimojdehi \$1,200  
Ryan Garcia \$1,200

**Thomas A. Plein Endowed Scholarship**

Michael Boykin \$1,000  
Chris Tatum \$1,000

**Matt Remsen Memorial**

Yuanxin Zhang \$1,000

**Professor Anthony Sections Memorial**

Braxton Skinner \$1,000

**Zachary Blain Schlitt Memorial**

Jennifer Miles \$1,500

**Sofarelli Scholarship**

Andrea Valdes \$1,000

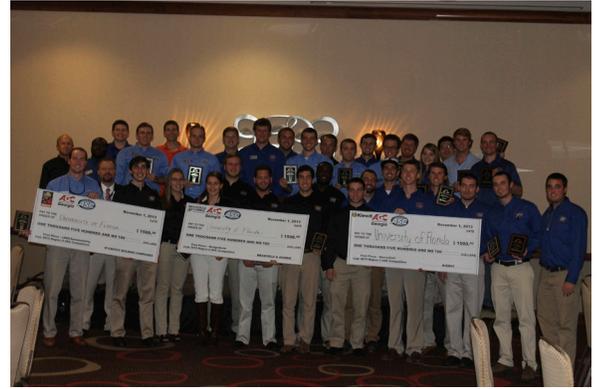
**Ronald Tadrowski Memorial**

Anna Rocha \$2,000

# Student Competition Team

The Associated Schools of Construction Region (Southeast Region) competitions were held in Atlanta, GA in late October and early November. This year, three of four Rinker teams that entered the ASC Competition were **FIRST PLACE WINNERS!** Congratulations to the Design-Build, Heavy Civil, and LEED teams. The Heavy Civil competition team also earned the **BEST PRESENTATION AWARD**.

The Design-Build Team consisted of Alden Slemkewicz, Abby Butcher, Chris Sullins, Tommy Powell, J.J. Sofarelli, Amy Jo Daily, Michael Goodwin (shadow) and Lee Kensel (shadow). The team was sponsored by **Haskell** who not only supported their team but also met with the team several times to provide guidance. Faculty sponsor - Doug Lucas.



The Heavy Highway Team members were Caleb Eiler, Gavin Hancock, Jordan Gray, Keith McConville, Derek Wohfiel (Civil), and Matt Smithman (Civil). Jeff Nelson of **Nelson Construction** met with the team several times to review and offer suggestions of their proposal. Nelson Construction was the sponsor of this team. Faculty sponsor - Ed Minchin.



The LEED Team consisted of Max Welch, Chris Tatum, Andrew Entsminger, John Mouw, Taylor Greer, Griffin Isabel. **DPR** sponsored and supported team training. Faculty sponsor - Jim Sullivan.

The ABC Competition Team participated in the Construction Management Competition hosted by the Associated Builders and Contractors held in Las Vegas, NV during November. The team won **FIRST PLACE** in the Quality Control division. Team members were Benjamin Sams, Evan Southern, Jennifer Mills, Erik Bernal, and Chloe Scott.



A “shout out” goes to the Construction Management Team who participated in the ASC Region II competition also. Although the students did not place, they spent numerous hours preparing for the competition and learned invaluable skills in the process. The CM Team consisted of Michael Dimond, Kasey Faver, Marc Miller, Frank Davis, Corey Runte, and Kaley Rhodes. Faculty sponsor - Jim Sullivan

# 17th Rinker International Conference - Net Zero Symposium

The Powell Center for Construction & Environment, a research center in the Rinker School, hosted the Net Zero Built Environment Symposium which was held March 6-7, 2014 in Rinker Hall. The Symposium had 100 attendees and included experts from Europe, Australia, and Asia. The topic of the Symposium was the emerging high performance green building strategy of developing facilities that are self-sufficient in energy and water. The US Army is a national leader in net zero efforts with two Army installations, Ft Carson, CO and Ft Bliss, TX, committed to becoming net zero in about 10 years. Hal Alguirre, the Director of



Public Works for Ft Carson, provided a keynote presentation that described the path they are following to achieve net zero energy and water on an installation-wide basis. Dr. Paul Torcellini, Group Manager for Commercial Buildings Research at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Golden, CO, provided a plenary presentation on the national pathway to net zero energy. Jerry Yudelson, President of the Green Building Initiative in Portland, OR, spoke about the economics of net zero energy strategies. The two days of the Symposium were capped with a Solar Tour of Gainesville, led by Barry Jacobson, President of Solar Impact, Inc.

# Sponsorships

The Rinker School has a limited budget, and there are many activities and items for which we could certainly use your financial assistance. In return for your underwriting of these activities/items, we would provide appropriate publicity regarding your support.

For example, in the case of events, we would be pleased to have a company representative attend the event and say a few words on behalf of your firm. For the Newsletter, we would include prominent credit on the back page of the Newsletter.

The following is a list of events and their approximate cost for which your support would be very beneficial to the Rinker School and its students:

## AVAILABLE SPONSORSHIPS

Fall 2014	BCN Newsletter	\$8,000
Spring 2015	Welcome Reception	\$3,500
Fall 2016	Homecoming BBQ	\$3,500
Fall 2014	Graduation Dinner	\$3,500

*If you need additional information or would like to sponsor an upcoming event or activity, please contact Dr. Robert Ries (rries@ufl.edu).*

## UPCOMING SPONSORSHIPS

### Welcome Reception

Fall 2014 Holder Construction

### Homecoming BBQ

Fall 2014 Clark Construction  
 Fall 2015 Hedrick Brothers Construction

### Graduation Dinner

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### BIM Competition Team

Spring 2014 Turner Construction

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 Spring 2012 - Clark Construction  
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#### Welcome Reception

Spring 2010 - Brasfield & Gorrie  
 Spring 2011 - Hardin Construction  
 Spring 2013 - Clark Construction  
 Fall 2013 - J. Raymond Construction  
 Spring 2014 - The Weitz Company

#### BCN Newsletter

Spring 2010 - Clark Construction  
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 Spring 2011 - J. Raymond Construction  
 Fall 2011 - Acousti Engineering, Climate Control Mechanical Systems, Coastal Construction, and Scherer Construction of North Florida  
 Spring 2012 - CPPI Inc., Current Builders, J. Raymond Construction, Kiewit  
 Fall 2012 - CPPI Inc., Clancy & Theys, Kiewit, J. Raymond Construction  
 Spring 2013 - Coastal Construction, Current Builders, Hedrick Brothers, Kiewit  
 Fall 2013 - Balfour Beatty Construction, CEMEX  
 Spring 2014 - Balfour Beatty Construction, CEMEX

#### BIM Competition Team

Spring 2009 - Current Builders  
**(Spring 2010 - present)** Turner Construction

#### Commercial Team

**(1998 - present)** Balfour Beatty

#### Design-Build Team

**(2002-present)** Haskell Company

#### Heavy Construction Team

**(2006-present)** Nelson Construction

#### ABC Competition Team

Spring 2009-ANF Group and Florida Gulf Coast Chapter of ABC  
 Spring 2010-ANF Group, Tri-City Electric Co., Lotspeich Co. of Florida, William R. Nash, Inc., and Florida Gulf Coast Chapter of ABC  
 Spring 2011-present ANF Group and Florida Gulf Coast Chapter of ABC

#### NAHB Competition Team

2009 - Paul & Laura Dickert  
 2010 - National Housing Endowment and Paul & Laura Dickert  
 2011 - National Housing Endowment  
 2012 - Coastal Construction

#### LEED Competition Team

Spring 2009 - Holder Construction  
 Spring 2010 - James A. Cummings  
 Fall 2010 - Clancy & Theys  
 Fall 2011 - Coastal Construction  
 Spring 2012 - DPR Construction  
 Fall 2013 - DPR Construction

# Major Donor Companies

To show our appreciation to the construction companies who have contributed generously to the Rinker School, we have created a major donor status and provided the following recruiting advantages for our major donors:

All Major Donors shall receive a discounted registration fee for the career fair according to their level of donations (Gold, Silver and Bronze). See the fee structure below.

All Major Donors shall get preferential placement at the Career Fair.

All Major Donors can participate in a reception with the graduating seniors the evening before the Career Fair.

Major Donors will be given priority for interviews and seminars at the School before the Career Fair.

## **Regular Registration Fee:**

For a booth including two (2) recruiters/company representatives... \$1,000  
For each additional recruiter/company representative.... add \$400 each

## **Major Donor Registration Fee:**

### **Bronze Level**

For a booth including two (2) recruiters/company representatives....\$500  
For each additional recruiter/company representative.... add \$250 each

### **Silver Level**

For a booth including two (2) recruiters/company representatives....\$300  
Add one (1) additional recruiter/company representative free of charge.  
For each additional recruiter/company representative.... add \$200 each

### **Gold Level**

For a booth including two (2) recruiters/company representatives....\$300  
Add up to three (3) additional recruiter/company representatives free of charge.

## **Major Donor Levels:**

**Bronze:** Companies who have contributed \$10,000 or more to the Rinker School of Construction Management over the preceding 3 years.

**Silver:** Companies who have contributed \$50,000 or more to the Rinker School of Construction Management over the preceding 10 years.

**Gold:** Companies who have contributed \$100,000 or more to the Rinker School of Construction Management over the preceding 10 years.

## **Major Donors as of July, 2013**

### **Gold (\$100K or more in last 10 years)**

Baker Concrete  
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Holder Construction  
J. Raymond Construction  
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### **Silver (\$50K or more in last 10 years)**

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James A. Cummings, Inc.  
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### **Bronze (\$10K or more in last 3 years)**

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DPR Construction  
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The Conlan Company  
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Below are photos of the Major Donor Reception at Rinker Hall.



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Mr. Shannon M. Close  
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# Advisory Council

The M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Construction Management is honored to have an active Advisory Council whose members, both individual and corporate, serve as an important source of advice and support for the School. Advisory Council is an opportunity for you and your company to form a strong liaison with the School. In this way, we can be assured that our program is current and meets the ever-changing needs of the construction industry. We hope you will consider becoming a member of the Advisory Council for the M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Construction Management.

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Please send gifts to 304 Rinker Hall, PO Box 115703, Gainesville, Florida 32611

## Help Build the Future with the BCN Brick Paver Campaign!

Want to have your name in Rinker Hall, the home of the M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Construction Management? Buy a brick paver, support your School, and have your name etched in stone for the world to see! The 4" x 8" brick pavers are available to students, alumni and friends for \$125.00. There is a 3-line limit, with a 16-character limit per line.

Each space, period or other such punctuation is considered a character.  
Visit [www.bcn.ufl.edu](http://www.bcn.ufl.edu) for more information.

Please make checks payable to UF Foundation. Do NOT send cash. Be sure to note BCN Brick Campaign in the Memo Line. Please send checks to 304 Rinker Hall, PO Box 115703, Gainesville, Florida 32611

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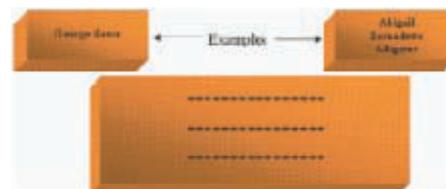
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## Faculty & Staff News



### Dr. Sherry Ahrentzen

Dr. Sherry Ahrentzen and Kim Steele, independent consultant from Arizona, collaborated on “Advancing Full Spectrum Housing,” a comprehensive design guideline for housing adults with autism. An expanded book on the topic is scheduled to come out in 2015.

### Dr. Esther Obonyo

Dr. Esther Obonyo completed a summer internship in July-August 2013 at JE Dunn’s Ocala Regional Medical Center project in Ocala, FL. Her goal was to understand construction risk management from the job site perspective to incorporate into a new class that she is developing. She was shadowing **John Shea, BCN 1989**, JE Dunn’s Superintendent and was also mentored by Brian Needham from Bayside Structures.



She is currently on sabbatical at the City College of New York studying the constructability aspects of sustainable and resilient masonry systems. She also received masonry training at Auroville Earth Institute India.

### Dr. Abdol Chini

Dr. Abdol Chini made a presentation at the Sustainable Building 2013 (SB13) conference that was held September 9-10, 2013 in Singapore. His presentation titled: “Construction and Demolition Waste Management in Hong Kong,” co-authored by Josephina Eramela of Hong Kong Polytechnic University, offered several strategies to reduce waste impact of the construction and demolition waste in Hong Kong. He also organized the 7th business meeting of Conseil International du Bâtiment (CIB) Working Group 115 – Construction Materials Stewardship that was held in conjunction with SB13 conference.



Dr. Chini was also an invited speaker at the 7th International Conference on Management Science and Engineering Management that was held November 7-9, 2013 at Drexel University in Philadelphia. The paper he presented, “A Framework to Explore Energy Saving Measures during Construction,” was co-authored by Dr. Sandpeep Shrivastava of Malaviya National Institute of Technology in Jaipur, India and won the first runner-up award of the conference. The proposed

framework uses the project’s bill of quantity, data related to materials transportation, and energy data for the required resources to estimate the probable energy consumption during construction.

## Recruiting Activities

### Introduction to Building Construction

As part of the recruiting effort, the Rinker School offers a one-credit hour class called Introduction to Building Construction. The purpose is to familiarize pre-construction students and the undecided majors with the nature and function of the construction industry and the Rinker School. Dr. Paul Oppenheim facilitates this class where they have BIM presentations; perform surveying, electrical, and plumbing exercises; listen to industry members describe the different roles in the industry; and get to participate in an equipment rodeo provided by Kiewit.



### ACE Summer Camp

The Rinker faculty, staff and alumni are continuing efforts in recruiting new students to the Rinker School by way of a ACE Mentor Program summer camp. The School will host UF’s 2nd ACE Summer Camp from July 28th through August 1st. The campers will experience job site visits and a variety of labs and other exercises in hopes of sparking their interest in the construction industry.

# In Memory of Dr. Jimmie W. Hinze

Jimmie W. Hinze was one of the key figures in the history of the M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Building Construction. He served as the Director of the Rinker School and the Fluor Program for Construction Safety during his tenure. His research on construction safety was ground breaking and provided the technical foundation for numerous contemporary approaches to construction safety. He was a founding member of CIB W99, an international working group on safety in construction. The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) recognized his significant contributions to the advancement of construction safety with the 2003 Peurifoy Construction Research Award. In 2003 and again in 2013 he was honored as an Outstanding Researcher by the Construction Industry Institute (CII). He was the recipient of the University of Florida Research Foundation Professorship and the Nancy Perry Teaching Excellence Award. He was inducted into the National Academy of Construction, a prestigious honor that recognized his enormous contributions to the construction industry. Dr. Hinze was described by everyone who met him as a gentleman and a very humble person, always putting his students and colleagues ahead of himself.



Dr. Jimmie Hinze  
1962-2013

On September 12, 2013, Dr. Jimmie Hinze, Professor and former Director of the Rinker School of Building Construction, passed away at the age of 67. A memorial service for Dr. Hinze was scheduled for Friday, November 8 at the Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Gainesville, FL.

The Rinker School planted a tree and unveiled a plaque in memory of Dr. Hinze on Saturday, November 9 during the BCN Homecoming event at Rinker Hall.



Mrs. Maxine Hinze and son Justin Hinze standing in front of the tree that was planted in front of Rinker Hall in memory of Dr. Jimmie Hinze.

Mrs. Maxine Hinze stands in front of the Fluor Center for Construction Safety where a memorial plaque for Dr. Jimmie Hinze was mounted.



## Richard (Rick) Allan Fisher, BCN 1978

Rick Fisher died suddenly, on February 23, 2013, of a cardiac arrest due to a blood clot in his home in Miami, FL. He had just turned 58 years old one week earlier.

In July 1973, Rick graduated from Miami Palmetto Senior High School, where he was the starting fullback of the Palmetto Panther's football team. Football was his love, his passion, it was where he found his glory. He received numerous scholarship offers, and decided on Georgia Tech, where he received a 4 year football scholarship. However, in July 1973, after a life changing freak accident resulting in a massive leg injury, his football dreams sadly became just memories, and he always wondered what could have been. Football was where his thoughts would always return. After a long recovery from his accident, Rick decided to still seek his building construction degree, and decided to attend University of Florida, where he became a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon. Because of the size of Rick's biceps and his ability to throw a football, his SAE brothers gave him the nick name "Hooks." When Rick married his high school sweetheart, Teri Kulikowski on July 30, 1977, they began the start of their married life together in Gainesville, where his SAE brother's welcomed her as "Mrs. Hooks". Rick graduated with his BCN degree in August of 1978.

After various job offers, Rick decided to go with a large development as a building foreman that was in the process of getting underway in West Palm Beach. Unfortunately, the purchase of the raw land by the developer fell through. At that point Rick & Teri decided to go back to Miami for him to look for other job opportunities. Rick then chose to go into his family's business, South End Plumbing, Inc., where he obtained his master plumber's license along with his building contractor's license and helped his father run the business.

Rick and Teri's first child, Kristen Nicole was born on February 15, 1983. A little over a year later, Kara Michelle was born on May 20, 1984, and many years later Rick got his son, Tyler Jonathan, on January 15, 1997.

With a degree in building construction, Rick used his skills in architecture to build and design three of his and Teri's homes. All withstood Hurricane Andrew. In fact, the new owner of the first house Rick built personally called to thank him for building a house of such sound structure, as his home had little to no damage. Rick was always drawing up plans of model rail road layouts, an abundant array of house plans, ranging from ranch style, to modern contemporary, which his children have all said they plan to use when they build their dream homes.

Rick loved life & people, cooking and creating his own foods, sauces & dressings, especially his salsa which was always requested for parties of friends and family. He always was ready to have a weekly family bar-b-que, and would proudly man the grill with occasional cannon balls into the pool to scare the kids. He was always so good at keeping in touch with his life-long friends and extended family. To know him, and to know his smile and his laugh, truly was, to love him. He leaves behind his eternally devoted wife, Teri Fisher, and their three children, Kristen and her husband Joshua Friedman, Kara Fisher (28) and Tyler Fisher (16). "Life is filled with years that mean nothing, and moments that mean it all."



# The Charles R. Perry Construction Yard - Craft Awareness

The Charles R. Perry Construction yard continues to be a great asset for the Rinker School. Faculty for all courses are encouraged to incorporate hands-based skills activities to all courses. Please contact Dr. Sullivan if your company is interested in developing course enhancements. Students continue to work with small hand

tools and plan reading, Bryan Light and Painter Masonry support the school with both brick and block labs, and Dr. Oppenheim continues his hands on piping and HVAC/Mechanical installation labs among other labs that continue throughout each semester.



*A Special Thanks goes to the Spring 2014 Newsletter Sponsors.....*



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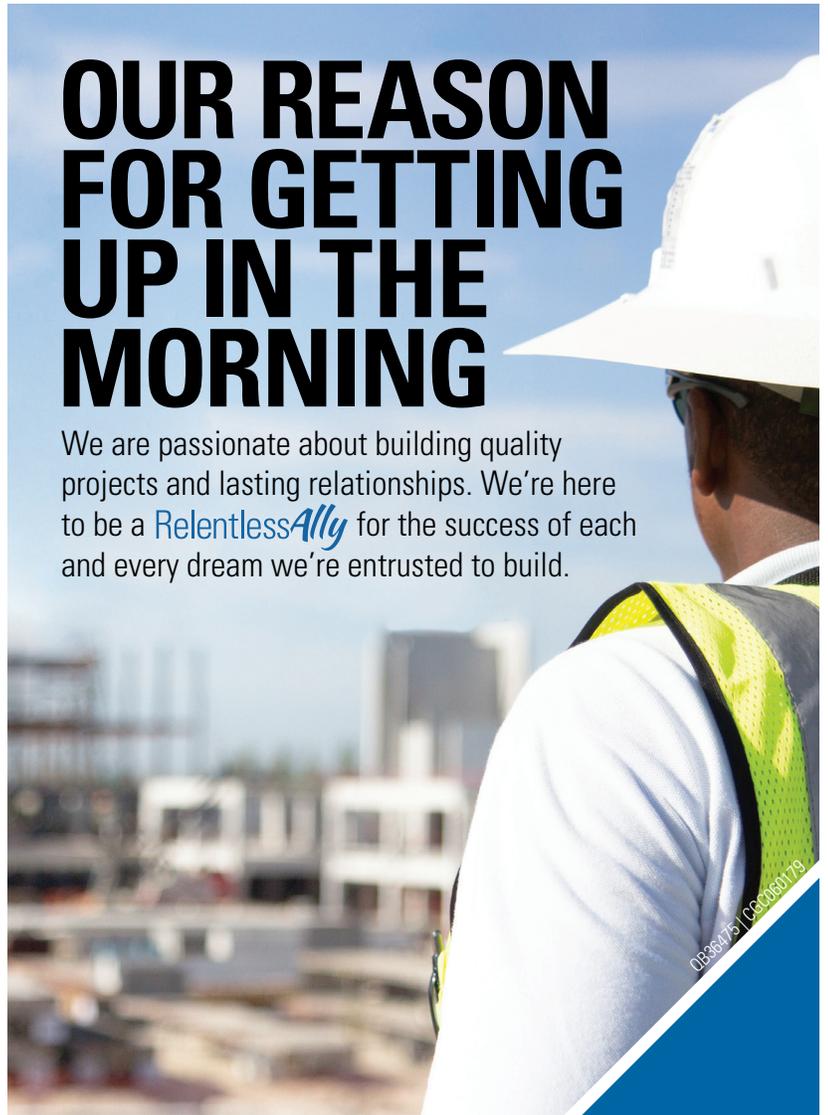


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