

## Our Mission

To be the leading consultant solving the engineering or land surveying problems unique to rural-urban communities and their enterprise—government, business, and agribusiness. And in the process, to build trust and lasting relationships with the people among whom we work and live. ◀



It's a rare occasion when the Algona office is all together at one time. But they were when they posed for this picture for Algona's annual Progress publication.

## 2008 Iowa ACEC Engineering Excellence Awards to KPL

ACEC of Iowa has announced its 2008 Engineering Excellence Awards. The annual competition recognizes achievements in four areas: transportation, water and wastewater, buildings and systems, and special projects. Two separate projects designed by Kuehl and Payer, Ltd. will receive awards.

The wastewater system improvements project for the City of Strawberry Point was named the winner of the Grand Place Award (first place) in the Water and Wastewater Category. The project improvements featured Iowa's first covered aerated lagoon designed to remove ammonia year round. The system protects the waters

of Backbone State Park near Strawberry Point. Final effluent from the lagoon system not only meets but exceeds Iowa Department of Natural Resource requirements. The project manager was Neal Kuehl.

In a separate project, the commercial district storm water management improvements project completed for the City of Orleans received the Engineering Achievement Award in the Special Projects Category. This project, managed by Kent Rode which evolved from a study originally conducted by Don Etler solved flooding problems in residential areas below the commercial district. The design  
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## Neal Kuehl goes to final meeting as ACEC National Director from Iowa

Serves on organization nominating committee

NEAL KUEHL completed a four year term as ACEC of Iowa National Director with attendance at the ACEC Fall Meeting in Maui in late September. "Normally, my duties at the spring and fall ACEC meetings have been to serve as Iowa's official delegate and vote on issues coming before the national organization on ACEC of Iowa's behalf," says Neal. "At this meeting, however, I had the distinct privilege of serving on the Nominating Committee for ACEC."

This came about because Iowa had a member—Greg Thomopolus from Stanley Consultants—join the national executive committee earlier this year.

The ACEC nominating committee is comprised of five past presidents of ACEC and the three national directors from states who had members elected to the executive committee this past year. This year, therefore, in addition to the five past presidents, the national directors from Texas, California and Iowa were part of the nominating committee.

The committee obligations included meetings last May at the Spring Conference in  
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## PROJECTS

### Design for the Winnebago water plant begins

THE LAST NEWSLETTER reported that Kuehl and Payer, Ltd. would be working for Layne-Western on the design of facilities to house the Layne-Western LayneOx® **water treatment system** for Winnebago, Nebraska. Design has now started with John Devitt.

But the client has changed and is now the **Winnebago Tribe** of Winnebago, Nebraska, instead of Layne-Western. Equipment for the project has already been purchased from Layne-Western; and the Indian Health Service decided to contract directly with Kuehl and Payer, Ltd., instead of using Layne-Western as the contracting entity.

The project will now be a design-bid-build project instead of a design-build project as previously reported. The plans and specifications are to be completed in 90 days with the bid letting to take place in late winter. Neal Kuehl is project manager.

**Denison, Iowa's Municipal Utilities** board will decide at its meeting on December 18 whether to convert its **water plant purification system** to purchased liquid chlorine or onsite generated liquid chlorine. (See *Chlorination Alternatives Study for Denison Municipal Utilities*, July - September, 2007 issue of **Interaction**.)

Neal Kuehl will attend that meeting. Neal and the operator and manager of the Denison Municipal Utilities made a field trip to Dell Rapids, SD in early November to visit a plant that uses onsite generation of 0.8% sodium hypochlorite. The group liked what it saw, but the final

decision on using a similar system will be made later this month.

Work will start the first week of December on the \$400,000 **water main replacement** project in **Albert City**. "The contractor hopes to get a large percentage of the work done before he has to quit for the winter," says Neal Kuehl, project manager. Earl Zimmerman will be the KPL project representative on the project.



**Construction of the zero depth addition to the Belmond pool. This photo was taken November 19.**

Work is continuing on the **zero depth addition to the Belmond swimming pool** with the first concrete placed the week of November 26 and completion scheduled for the 2008 swimming season. Henkel Construction of Mason City is the Contractor. Brian Klein is the KPL project representative.

Construction of the **Camp Dodge wastewater lift station** will be complete and will go on line in early December. Pumps were being installed the week of November 26 and the fiberglass superstructure will be delivered the first week of December. Neal is the project manager.

A number of projects are winding down for 2007. Says Bob Payer, "The **grading and infrastructure for the Storm Lake school** is essentially complete and building construction has begun. The **East Ridge addition in Holstein** has been

let to Godberson Smith. Underground work on utilities is scheduled to start as weather permits with some work accomplished through the winter. Paving and completion will be next summer."

Plans for the **reconstruction of West Lake Shore Drive in Storm Lake** is 90% complete. This project will be let after the first of the year. The total reconstruction of Lake Shore Drive will be let next summer.

Three new projects have started. "Two are **parking lots**. One for the **Community Center in Aurelia**. Brian Ewalt is working on that one. And one involves the **parking area around the Storm Lake Municipal Airport**. Zac Andersen and I will be working on that one.

"We have also been hired by **Newell to do their 2008 street improvement construction**. This includes construction of one-half mile of East Jensen Street."

In the area of Management and Local Government Services, Clarence Krepps is leading **searches for city managers** for the cities of **Cherokee and Oskaloosa**. Both are scheduled for early January interviews.

Scott Shevel reports, "Highway **construction staking for Highway 60** is 90% complete. We are done for the year there with clean up in the spring. The **Alwaysis staking** is complete and we are done with the Walgreens project. The **East Ridge subdivision in Holstein** is awaiting the preliminary plat approval of zoning, the **Swingen subdivision** is in final plat phase. That's in **Lost Island**. And we are doing a topographical and boundary survey at **ADP in Manning**."

Jeff Krueger in Sac City says, "We are up to the usual down here. A lot of farm surveys and

such. We also continue to help with additional **Sara Lee turkey sites.**"

Ivan Droessler is doing the engineering for these sites. According to him, the design of **nine four-barn turkey barns** sites is complete with construction on seven sites basically done. "**Six additional five-barn sites** are planned for 2008 with one site and one potential site currently identified.

"The design of a **manure storage barn for two Phase I turkey barn sites** were completed in November with construction planned for next year. These Phase I Sara Lee barns involve four feet thick concrete slabs that are 70 feet wide and 100 feet long. Side walls are four feet reinforced concrete."

In other animal waste projects: Construction of a **circular manure storage tank** for

**Mickelson** was completed in late October and construction of a **reinforced concrete deep pit for Klocke** was completed in September. Ted Zimmerman was the inspector from KPL on both of these projects.

Ivan also reports that the **annual water quality reports for Cherokee, Sac, and Buena Vista landfills** have been completed. "Tom Grafft and Zac Andersen worked on those. Modifications to the **hydro-geologic monitoring system** are due this winter. The **closure report for the Sac County landfill** will be completed this month and **closure plans for the Cherokee landfill** will be prepared by January with bidding in February."

The **Northeast First Street project in Alta** is complete except for seeding says Kent Rode. "We are also in the process of preparing **preliminary plans for an Emmetsburg business park**. That project will

include a RISE grant for improvements."

Curt Wiseman says four design projects are finishing up and will be let in February and March.

These include a **lagoon for Early, another for Pomeroy, storm sewer improvements for Algona**, and a **lift station and force mains for Leland**.

"We are also working on the **Buena Vista County solid waste building addition**. That's a transfer station. Bob Payer is doing the structural portion of that project."

### Drainage news

The field survey of **Drainage District 6, Calhoun County**, has been completed by Greg Villegas and Jon Myers. The engineering report is due this winter. "This project involves the clean out of approximately five miles of open ditch," says Ivan Droessler, project manager.

"The open ditch survey on **Losey Drainage District, Monona County** was completed by Jon Myers. And the engineer's report for two miles of open ditch clean out is due this winter.

"**FEMA repairs for Monona County** are underway with L. A. Carlson the contractor. KPL's Ted Zimmerman is providing on site work and inspection. **FEMA repairs in Sac County** are also underway. Richards Construction is the contractor there with Greg Villegas doing the onsite inspection.

"Work estimates for **FEMA repairs in Calhoun County** were completed in September by Greg Villegas and the field review by FEMA was done in October with all repairs approved. Bids for construction will be obtained in January."

*If you'd like more information about these or other projects talk to any of the people mentioned. ◀*

## News about KPLers

### Heidi Rode to intern in Kansas City for the summer

**Heide Rode**, sophomore at Iowa State University in Civil Engineering and daughter of **Kent Rode**, has accepted a summer internship at HNTB headquartered in Kansas City. The engineering firm has 60 offices around the United States. Heidi will be working in their environmental group.

The internship is the result of a job fair interview. It is rare that a sophomore is selected for such a position.

**All State Concert**  
**Katy Shevel**, daughter of **Scott Shevel**, was selected to

perform at the All State Concert to be held in Ames, Iowa at the Hilton Center. Katy will play the flute.

She is also a pianist and has won several performance awards.

### Congratulations

To **Kurt Edwards**, daughter of **Diane Edwards**, and **Leah Franzkowiak** who were married



Kurt and Leah

November 24 at the Summit Evangelical Church in Alta. A reception was held at the Alta community building.

Says Diane, "After four years of having the engagement ring, he finally popped the question and she said 'yes'."

The couple has purchased an acreage south of Alta where they will live. Kurt farms and Leah, a graduate of Northwestern College in Orange City, is an accountant at the Cherokee Regional Medical Center in Cherokee.

### Happy birthday

To **Joanne Fraser** whose birthday is October 3; to **Clarence Krepps** whose birthday is October 19.

To **Kent Rode** whose birthday is November 5; to **Tom Grafft** whose birthday is November 12; to **LaDonna Brummer** whose birthday is November 13.

To **Brian Klein** whose birthday is November 20; to **Zac Andersen** whose birthday is November 25; to **Diane Edwards** and **Brian Ewalt** whose birthdays are November 29.

To **Don Etler** whose birthday is December 4; to **Dave Anderson** whose birthday is December 15; to **Skip Leonard** whose birthday is December 17; to **Bryan Muhlbauer** whose birthday is December 21; and to **Barb Pingel**, **Mark Wolf**, and **Tom Mason** whose birthdays are December 23. ◀

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**NEAL, continued ...**

Washington D.C. and then two full days in Maui of interviewing nine candidates for three positions on the ACEC Executive Committee and three candidates for the position of Chairman Elect. "The candidates were from all across the country—mostly presidents of their companies, and listening to their backgrounds and goals was a real privilege."

The individuals nominated from this process will begin their tenures on the ACEC Executive Board at the May, 2001 spring meeting with the Chairman Elect becoming the ACEC president in the spring of 2009. «

**AWARD, continued ...**

which included detention basins, treatment, and the rerouting of storm water to an Iowa lake was unique because the detention basin is located on privately owned property in a wetland program. So the project was cooperative effort between Orleans, the NRCS and the property owner.

The awards will be presented to Kuehl and Payer and their clients during the annual ACEC/Iowa Awards Banquet in Des Moines in April. «

**Welcome aboard to Zac Anderson**

ZAC ANDERSEN has joined Kuehl and Payer in the Storm Lake office as a civil engineer working with Bob Payer and Ivan Droessler. Zac is a 2005 graduate of Iowa State University, and "an avid ISU fan!" He comes to KPL from McClure Engineering in Fort Dodge.



Zac grew up on a farm near Arcadia where he went to high school at Ar-We-Va. "I still help out on the farm from time to time. And my in-laws farm, too, so I help out there."

Zac and his wife, Cathy, live in Lake City. "With a couple of dogs—a border collie and

black lab mix and a yellow lab. I love dogs."

Zac also likes sports. "Basketball, baseball, football."

Next time you are in Storm Lake stop and say "hello" to Zac. «

**Happy Holidays ...**

**And don't forget the Christmas Party and Dinner on December 15 at the new Kings Point Lodge on the Lake in Storm Lake..**