

# CIRT Conference Report

## C I R T   S p r i n g C o n f e r e n c e

*“Class, wisdom, information and pure fun...  
masterful and memorable”*

That is how one member summarized the CIRT Spring Conference, and from all accounts, the conference was truly outstanding.

Policy briefings in the U.S. Capitol Building, taking over a congressional hearing room for a lively and provocative debate on the upcoming elections, as well as enjoying a wonderful dinner and great entertainment at the historic Stephan Decatur House, provided the more than 60 CIRT members and guests with an engaging and informative first day of events.

The following morning’s events at the beautiful Mandarin Oriental Hotel featured politicians and two excellent programs on business management and new approaches in construction site safety. During all of this, the camaraderie and networking among the group was remarkable! Please read on to get a hint of the conference activities, and make plans to attend the Fall Conference in Colorado Springs, October 23—25, 2006.



CIRT members convene in the U.S. House of Representatives Agricultural Committee Hearing Room for the last session of the afternoon where long-time Washington insider, Wayne Valis, regaled them with his political punditry and inimitable story telling.



Kevin A. Hassett, Resident Scholar and Director of Economic Policy Studies at the American Enterprise Institute. Kevin’s comments on the U.S. economy in a global environment were candid, thoughtful, and extremely interesting as was his assessment of the presidential political horizon .



*Alan H. Hantman, FAIA, and Architect of the Capitol welcomed the Round Table to the Capitol.*



Above, Alan shows, with the assistance of Mark Casso, points to his areas of responsibility to the United States Congress for the maintenance, operation, development, and preservation of the United States Capitol Complex, which includes the Capitol, the congressional office buildings, the Library of Congress buildings, the Supreme Court building, the U.S. Botanic Garden, the Capitol Power Plant, and other facilities.



# Program Highlights



**Lt. Governor Michael Steele** of Maryland, who is also running for the United States Senate, stopped by CIRT's Wednesday morning breakfast. Below, the Lt. Gov. speaks with newly elected CIRT Chairman, **Ron Drnevich** (Gannett Fleming, Inc.) and **Charlie Thornton** (Charles H. Thornton Company).



Above, CIRT Board Member **J.J. Suarez** (CSA Group) introduces his friend and Congressman, **The Honorable Luis V. Gutierrez** (D-IL). Rep. Gutierrez, speaking about a House sponsored bill on immigration, told members "to criminalize social workers, priests, parents, neighbors, and others who may help illegal immigrants, does nothing to fix our broken immigration system."



## Corporate Lifecycle presented by FMI

2006 FALL CONFERENCE  
October 24 - 25, 2006



Make your reservations by  
September 8, 2006

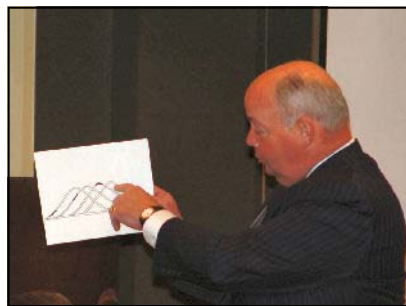
Please call: 800-634-7711



Above, **Ron Magnus** (FMI Corp.) leads a session on "The Corporate Lifecycle" which focused the members on how to analyze their firms' progress over an extended period of time and what warning signs may exist that could lead to a company's downfall.



Right, **Patrick MacLeamy** (HOK Group) illustrates that larger companies could be on multiple points, and on multiple curves at the same time, depending on markets, geographical locations, divisions and disciplines.



If you would like a copy of the slides Ron presented, please contact Ron directly at [rmagnus@fminet.com](mailto:rmagnus@fminet.com).



L-R: **Tommy Holder** (Holder Construction); **Bob Fee** (Hunter Roberts Construction Group); **Ron McKenzie** (TIC Holdings); and **Bob Luffy** (American Bridge Co).  
Below, L-R: **Steve Halverson** (Haskell Co); **Ken Isaacs** (Graycor Cos.); **Jeff Levy** (RailWorks); and **Charlie Thornton** (Charles H. Thornton Co.)



# Program Highlights

## CIRT Names Drnevich as New Chairman



Newly-elected CIRT Chairman  
**Ronald J. Drnevich**  
Chairman & CEO  
Gannett Fleming, Inc.

**Ronald J. Drnevich**, Chairman & CEO of Gannett Fleming, Inc. was elected on April 26th by the CIRT membership to ascend to the Chairmanship for a one-year term. Gannett Fleming, Inc., an international planning, design, and construction management firm, has been providing quality, full-service, multidisciplinary engineering services and technical innovation in the U.S. and abroad since 1915. Currently employing more than 1,900 highly qualified, dedicated individuals that provide an array of services in the transportation, water/ wastewater, institutional/industrial/commercial, environmental, and information technology disciplines, Gannett Fleming's 90 years of experience has made them a leader in the engineering industry.

Ron has spent 42 years with Gannett Fleming, and has served as CIRT's Vice Chairman, Treasurer, and the Program Committee chairman in previous years since becoming an active member of the Round Table in 1995.

Commenting on his election, Drnevich said, "I see a major role for CIRT, in its now 19th year and beyond, to be a major influence and advocate for our nation to give serious attention to improving and indeed, restoring our aging infrastructure as well as accommodate future economic development."

Joining Ron on the Executive Committee are **Scott Lynn** (Atkinson Construction) as Vice Chair; **Harvey Hammond** (HNTB Corp) as Treasurer; and **Doug Pruitt** (Sundt Construction, Inc.), who will stay-on as the Immediate Past Chairman. Newly elected Board of Director members include: **Peter E. Beaupré**, PCL Construction Enterprises, Inc.; **Thomas M. Holder**, Holder Construction Co.; **Patrick MacLeamy**, HOK Group, Inc.; and **Harold Yoh, III**, Day & Zimmermann, Inc. CIRT wishes to

thank the following members who retired from the ExCom and Board: **Tom O'Neill** (Parsons Brinckerhoff) as immediate Past Chairman; **Bob McCoolle** (Alberici); **Murray Savage** (PSI); and **Tom Traylor** (Traylor Bros., Inc.).

### 2006-2007 Officers & Board of Directors

#### Chairman

Ronald J. Drnevich, **Gannett Fleming, Inc.**

#### Vice Chairman

Scott S. Lynn, **Atkinson Construction**

#### Treasurer

Harvey Hammond, **HNTB Corp.**

#### Past Chairman

J. Doug Pruitt, **Sundt Construction, Inc.**

Robert E. Alger, **The Lane Construction Corp.**

Peter E. Beaupré, **PCL Construction Enterprises, Inc.**

Steven B. Blake, **ARCADIS G&M**

Linda Figg, **Figg Engineering Group**

Ronald J. Gafford, **Austin Industries, Inc.**

Steven T. Halverson, **The Haskell Co.**

Thomas M. Holder, **Holder Construction Co.**

Patrick MacLeamy, **HOK Group, Inc.**

Dominick M. Servedio, **STV Group, Inc.**

J.J. Suarez, **CSA Group**

Matthew M. Walsh, **The Walsh Group**

Harold Yoh, III, **Day & Zimmermann, Inc.**

## Eliminating Worker Injuries: The Next Step in Getting There!

**Charlie Bacon**, President & CEO, Limbach Facility Services, LLC, who served as moderator, and speakers: **Jay Greenspan**, Founder, JMJ Associates; **Paul Anderson**, Co-COO, Skanska USA; and **Peter Vigue**, CEO & President, Cianbro Corp., presented an excellent session on safety which provided members with examples of "Incident & Injury Free" programs that attempt to change the culture in firms with respect to the attitude of all parties involved with respect to safety.



Above, **Peter Vigue** candidly shared the circumstances that caused him to make safety the highest priority for his company and what they do to educate and empower their employees with respect to job site safety.

Left, **Jay Greenspan** (JMJ Associates), tells members how making a commitment to "injury free" principles goes beyond the attitude "we've done the best we could" with regards to safety.

A big thank you to Charlie Bacon for coordinating this excellent session!

Left, **Paul Anderson** (Skanska USA) presents "The Word is Out....A Cultural Revolution" in which he shares with members what Skanska is doing to take safety to the next level of incident and injury free.



# Photo Highlights



L to R: Rebecca Gafford and Ron Gafford (Austin Industries); Ron Skaggs (HKS, Inc.); Brenda Greco & Chuck Greco (Linbeck) — the Texas contingent!



Here, "Jacques", sings with "the passion of the French"!



Kevin McMahon (Edwards & Kelcey); Bob Alger (Lane Construction Corp.); and Gerry Salontai (Kleinfelder, Inc.)



Gilberto Neves (Odebrecht Construction); Tom Gunkel (M.A. Mortenson Co.); and Jeff Levy (RailWorks Corp.)

After an afternoon of rapid-fire speakers and policy discussions, the CIRT members and guests were ready for a fun-filled evening at the historic Stephen Decatur House across from The White House. What first appeared to be three eccentric waiters doing their job, were soon revealed to be something much more. Known simply as **The Three Waiters**, this trio entertained the group with their comedy and superb operatic voices. The evening turned out to be a wonderful experience with great company, delicious food, excellent wine and outstanding entertainment.



L to R: Tom & Patti Keckeis (Messer Construction); Bruce Grewcock (Peter Kiewit & Sons Inc); Doug Pruitt (Sundt Construction); and Julie Casso



L to R: Mark Casso (CIRT); Pamela Mullender (ACE Mentor Program); and Charlie Thornton (Charles H. Thornton Co.)



They look like waiters..... they work like waiters.....they are **THE THREE WAITERS**  
[www.threewaiters.com](http://www.threewaiters.com)



One of the Three Waiters serenades Deryl McKissack (McKissack & McKissack).



R: Irv Richter (Hill International) chats with Alan Hantman (Architect of the Capitol) and Craig Davis (Performance Contracting Group).

