

Getting to know your fellow ACA Board Members

# ACA Board & Staff Bio's

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# 2011 Board Chair Scott Ellison



## **ACA Board Chairman – 2<sup>nd</sup> Year on the ACA Board, 2010 Vice Chair**

Scott has thirty-eight years of construction industry experience in positions requiring specific knowledge in construction management, administrative, operations, business development and project management with demonstrated abilities in owner/developer relationships from project design to completion. A highly analytic businessman with a proven track record in expanding gross revenues and profits through effective and dynamic leadership. Exceptional business sense and intuitive abilities with outstanding problem resolution skills, A leader. Scott is employed by Turner Construction Company, the Nation's Largest General Contractor as General Manager for the Arizona, New Mexico and Southern Nevada regions. Scott is a member of or affiliated with the following organizations;

- Arizona Contractors Association (Chairman)
- Arizona School Board Association
- Alliance for Construction Excellence
- Arizona Association for Economic Development
- Support Sky Harbor Coalition (Board Member)
- Arizona Business and Education Coalition
- Skilled Standards Commission (Commissioner)
- National Association of Industrial and Office Properties (NAIOP)
- Phoenix Community Alliance
- ACE Mentor Program of America
- Construction Management Association of America
- Who's Who of Professionals
- American Concrete Institute
- American Society of Healthcare Engineering

In addition, Scott has held contractors licenses in the state of California and Nevada. Scott is married to Tina and has resided in Scottsdale for the past 15 years.

# Vice Chair Carl McFarland



**Vice Chair Carl McFarland – Past Chair, Director 2001-2004, 2009 - Current**  
Carl McFarland is a managing partner for the southwest operating group for Bernards Builders. Previous to his current position Mr. McFarland was a construction executive with M.A. Mortenson, Pulte Homes and Barton Malow. Mr. McFarland is a graduate of the University of Colorado and is a former Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Arizona Contractors Association.

# Treasurer Gary Keyfauver



## **Treasurer Gary Keyfauver – Assistant Treasurer 2010**

Gary is a project manager with Tpac, a division of Kiewit Corporation's Northern California District. He brings to Tpac over 30 years of experience in the architectural, engineering, and construction fields which includes 20 years in the precast/prestressed concrete industry. His primary responsibilities include business development, client relations, conceptual estimating and project management for major projects in Arizona, California, and Las Vegas.

An alumnus of ASU, the University of AZ, UC Riverside and Boston University, Gary's education includes engineering, architecture, chemistry and environmental science. He is a LEED AP with Green Building and Sustainability Certificates from Colorado State University and Harvard and is an active member of the USGBC AZ Chapter.

# Secretary/CEO David Jones



## **Secretary/CEO David Jones – 1998 - Current**

David is currently the president/CEO of The Arizona Contractors Association where his responsibilities include: ACA Operations & Management Director, Chief ACA Lobbyist, Industry Liaison, Registrar of Contractors (ROC) Advisory Committee Member, Phoenix Civic Plaza Expansion Advisory Committee Member and Arizona Chamber of commerce Economic Development Committee Member. As the chief lobbyist for the association, David has demonstrated an extraordinary ability to build and maintain cooperative relationships among business, civic and political leaders in the state of Arizona.

When he joined the ACA staff in April 1998, he brought 20 years of progressively responsible corporate, public administration and management experience to the position. During his career, David also served as vice president of corporate affairs for two, large general contractors in Indianapolis, Indiana.

In addition to his career in the construction industry, David has brought his dynamic, high-energy professionalism to the Indiana political arena. For seven years, David was a member of the Indiana House of Representatives (1984 – 1991) where he served on numerous House committees including: Roads and Transportations, Public Safety, Cities and Towns, Governmental Affairs, and Ways and Means, as well as, co-chairing the Indiana State Fair Legislative Committee. David also acquired clients for special interest representation in the Indiana General Assembly as a governmental affairs lobbyist in the state of Indiana (1995 -- 1997). He presented issue findings to Senate members, separately and collectively, to advocate or detour pending House bills on behalf of clients. A partial client list includes: Indiana Private Hunting Reserves, Indiana Independent Appliance Dealers and veterans' groups.

Previously, David was a member of the Indianapolis City-County Council Indianapolis, Indiana (1980 -- 1984) and chaired the Legislative Liaison Committee, and served on Administration, Roads and Transportation, Public Safety, and Public Works committees.

# Past Chair Rod Luker



## **Past Chair Rod Luker – Vice Chair, Director – 2005 - Current**

Rod is Executive Vice President for Construction and Development for Superstition Mountain Properties, Inc. and Superstition Mountain Builders, Inc. As a third-generation licensed commercial and residential contractor, he brings over 25 years of experience to the design and construction of award-winning commercial projects as well as custom and semi-custom homes within prestigious communities.

With an extensive background in land planning, community development, infrastructure and construction, Rod helped develop Superstition Mountain Builders into one of Arizona's most prestigious luxury builders in less than a decade. Under his leadership, the company has been honored with multiple Gold Nugget design awards presented by the Pacific Coast Builders Conference and *Builder* magazine as well as other national recognition from *Travel + Leisure Golf* magazine, *Residential Architect* and *Arizona Foothills*.

Prior to joining Superstition Mountain Properties, Rod was a Project Manager for Luker Contracting, Inc., an Arizona company formed in 1946 where he learned the construction trade from his grandfather and father who still owns the company. He managed all phases of construction for multiple commercial and residential projects such as controlling costs and overhead, sourcing new sites for acquisition, reviewing bids, preparing design phase constructability reviews, supervising staff, and other responsibilities. While serving in this position, his father's company was named 1987 General Contractor of the Year presented by the Arizona Subcontractors Association.

Rod received a bachelor's degree in Business Management from the University of Phoenix. He holds a B-01 Commercial, General Commercial Contractor License and a B-Residential, General Residential Contractor License.

# Assistant Treasurer Brad Thornton



## **Assistant Treasurer Brad Thornton – Past Chair, Vice Chair, Director – 2005 - Current**

Brad Thornton is the current President & CEO at University Mechanical & Engineering Contractors, Inc. where he has worked for the last 30 years. Prior to becoming UMEC's President & CEO in 2005 Mr. Thornton was the Executive VP – Division Manager – in Arizona. In his tenure at UMEC Mr. Thornton also served as the Sr. Vice President – Operations Manager; Vice President of Operations and a Project Manager. In Brad's career he has work for Ferdinand Metal Company, The Waldinger Corporation and Industrial Heating and Plumbing.

Born	-	Des Moines, IA July 12, 1956 (Same Age as ACA)
Wife	-	Susan - Registered Nurse @ St. Joseph's Hospital
Daughters-	Claire 20 – Junior @ University of Arizona	Emily 17 – Junior @ Desert Vista Highschool

## INDUSTRY AFFILIATIONS

ACA (Arizona Contractors Association) - Board Member (Past Chair) 2004-Current

PAC (Plumbing and Air Conditioning Contractors Of Central & Northern Arizona) –Member 1987 - Current

ACCA (Air Conditioning Contractors of Arizona) –Member 1987 - Current

ASHRAE (American Society of Heating, Refrigerating & Air Conditioning Engineers) – Member 1981 - Current

ASU/CREATE (Arizona State University-Construction Research and Education for Advanced Technology Environments) – Member 2000 - Current

ASU/ACE (Arizona State University-Alliance for Construction Excellence) – Member 2002 - Current

SMACNA (Sheetmetal and Air Conditioning Contractor's National Association) – Member 1987 - Current

# General Counsel Josh Grabel



## General Counsel Josh Grabel – General Counsel - 2010 - Current

Josh Grabel is a partner with the law firm of Snell & Wilmer, L.L.P. licensed to practice in both Arizona and New Mexico. He concentrates his practice in construction litigation and other complex commercial matters. He has extensive experience in representing of owners, developers, general contractors, subcontractors, suppliers, design professionals and lenders in public and private projects. Josh has substantial experience in public bid procedures, bid protests, contract administration, preparation of construction claims, calculation and proof of damages, surety law, lien and bond claims, licensing and registration requirements, architect and engineer liability, registrar of contractors' disputes, personal injury litigation, administrative law issues, legislation, insurance risks and coverage, and bankruptcy matters. He has served as ACA's corporate counsel since October 2009.

# Director Jerry Buesing



## Director Jerry Buesing – 1<sup>st</sup> year on ACA Board

As CEO and founder of Buesing Corp, Jerry Buesing formed his company in 1965 in Minnesota. Buesing's mantra is "*Simply the Best*". His philosophy and approach for the past 45 years is very simple...appreciate those you partner with and employ; respect and learn from opportunities; and always look for ways to improve.

In the mid 1980's Jerry decided to relocate the operations to Arizona and begin providing "*Simply the Best*" service for the construction industry in the Phoenix area. Initially his primary concentration was in the area of bridge, street, heavy highway, underground work, excavation and backfill and construction material transportation. Over the years he has successfully expanded the business by adding a shoring team, a shotcrete team and a recycling center.

Jerry has over 45 years experience as a leader in the construction industry and continues his vision of providing the best service at a competitive price by maintaining the company's commitment to the community.

# Director Scott Macpherson



## Director Scott Macpherson – 1<sup>st</sup> year on ACA Board

Scott Macpherson is a Vice President and manages the Rider Levett Bucknall (RLB) Phoenix office. He has more than fifteen years of experience in providing cost management and cost estimating on numerous public and private sector projects – specifically commercial, residential, educational, industrial, healthcare, hospitality and institutional developments. Scott joined RLB in March, 1999 and since then has been providing conceptual cost estimating and planning, as well as highly detailed estimates as required as well as flourishing with ever increasing responsibilities. In 2005 Scott was named Principal and Manager of the Phoenix office. In January 2011, Scott was promoted to Vice President.

# Director Rod Pace



**Director Rod Pace – 1<sup>st</sup> year on the ACA Board**

Mr. Pace is currently the President and CEO of Rosemont Copper Company. The Rosemont Project is currently in permitting process with construction expected to start 2011. The project has been designed using 21 century technology, along with sustainable practices to make the Rosemont Project a model mine of the future. Prior to joining Rosemont, Mr. Pace worked over 25 years with Washington Group International (Formerly Morrison Knudsen). Past positions held include: Mine Design Engineer, Project Engineer, Operations Manager, Manager of Engineering and Environmental, Director of Engineering, V.P. of Operations and Engineering, and Board of Director of Joint Ventures. Mr. Pace has diverse operations background having worked in metal mines, coal mines and industrial minerals projects. Mr. Pace provided leadership for the start up of six mining operations between 1999 and 2005, in his previous role as Vice-President of North American Operations of Washington Group International. Mr. Pace has a Bachelor of Science in Mining Engineering from the Colorado School of Mines, with a Minor in Mineral Economics.

# Director Jessica Pacheco



**Director Jessica Pacheco – 1<sup>st</sup> year on ACA Board**

Jessica is the Director of Governmental Affairs for Pinnacle West Capital Corporation. For more than 119 years, Pinnacle West and their affiliates such as APS have provided energy and energy-related products to people and businesses throughout Arizona. In her current position she directs the Company's state and local governmental strategy as well as managing stakeholder relationships. Prior to Jessica's role with Pinnacle West, she operated her own consulting and lobbying firm - Lincoln Strategy Group and was the former Vice President of Public Affairs with the Arizona Chamber of Commerce & Industry, where she was the chief lobbyist. Prior to her role with the Chamber she worked for Arizona Public Service Company.

# Director Mike Rock



Mike Rock is President of Kitchell Contractors, one of four U.S. firms that pioneered the concept of construction management in the early 1970s. Mike oversees all Kitchell Contractor divisions including health care, commercial, environmental services, custom homes, medical equipment planning, and Native American. With flagship offices in Phoenix and San Diego County, Kitchell's notable projects currently underway or recently completed include Phoenix Children's Hospital (AZ), Diamond Children's Center at University Medical Center (AZ), Wildhorse Pass Resort & Casino (AZ), Jacobs Medical Center (CA), Rough Rock Community School (AZ), University of New Mexico Housing (NM), Scott & White Healthcare (TX), and the San Benito County Courthouse (CA).

An employee-owned company with annual billings between \$300-500 million, Kitchell is an industry leader in virtual construction, quality assurance and environmental services. In addition to its contracting group, Kitchell's family of companies includes CEM (public sector program/construction management), Kitchell Development, and American Refrigeration Supplies. Markets include hospitality, health care, corrections, utility, alternative energy, master-planned, retail, performing arts and academic institutions.

The driving force behind Kitchell's decision to enter the master planned community market, which quickly became highly profitable, Mike soon realized the importance of creating an environmental services division, which now offers its deep expertise to organizations throughout the Western states. With interest in Kitchell Environmental Services increasing and the construction market continually evolving, Mike then realized the need to create, in turn, Kitchell's renewable energy division. Mike firmly believes that in order to stay vital, construction firms must do more with less which means harnessing the benefits of virtual construction, staying up-to-date on new construction materials and modularization techniques, and, most importantly, mitigating risk.

Mike received his architectural engineering degree from the University of Colorado in 1987, the same year he began working for Kitchell. A LEED Accredited Professional since 2004, Mike has completed executive business courses with Stanford Executive Leadership, FMI Leadership Institute and AGC Leadership Development Forum. He is a member of the Arizona Contractors Association and the Urban Land Institute and is executive leader of the John C. Lincoln Hospital annual food drive.

# Director Tim Snyder



Director Tim Snyder – Director, 2009 -Current

Tim is Partner & President, *Brewer Commercial Services*. Brewer Commercial Services is one of four Plumbing companies within the Brewer Companies. Prior to that, Tim was VP of Sales with Cuberunner, a startup company that had a software product that was developed outside of the USA where we built the infrastructure to develop and support a direct and channel sales model. Tim also served as Director of Sales, Western Region for Tarantella a leading provider of secure, application access software. Tarantella was acquired by Sun Microsystems. Tim spent thirteen years with the Amdahl/Fujitsu Corporation. His last position with Fujitsu was Vice President of Strategic Accounts.

# ACA VP of Operations Brett Jones



Brett Jones is the Vice President of Operations for the Arizona Contractors Association Inc. Mr. Jones has been employed by the association since 1999; Mr. Jones is currently responsible for ensuring that effective operations and infrastructure are in place to support association members and staff, as well as ensuring that the organization is well positioned in a rapidly evolving and competitive environment by being an agent for ongoing organizational change. Mr. Jones is also responsible for maintaining the associations' safety program and governmental affairs program. Prior to being the association Vice President of Operations, Mr. Jones was their Director of Governmental Affairs & Safety. In that capacity since 1999, Mr. Jones was responsible for executing the associations' legislative and governmental relations agenda. While operating in this position, Mr. Jones created the Contractors' Grassroots Network (CGN), which consists of industry advocates who convey to their legislators and local officials the association's position on key issues affecting the construction industry and Arizona. As a result, since this program was established thousands of letters, e-mails, and phone calls have been made and sent resulting in many successes for the association and the Arizona construction industry.

Prior to 1999, Mr. Jones was a liaison between the Indiana State University students and the City of Terre Haute as the Director of Legislative Affairs for the Student Government Association at Indiana State University. Prior to that Mr. Jones served an extensive internship in the governmental affairs department of the Indiana Manufacturers Association. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Supervision from Indiana State University in 1998.

In April of 2007, Mr. Jones was appointed to the SCF Arizona Board of Directors. SCF Arizona is Arizona's largest workers' compensation insurer. As a member of the Board of Directors Mr. Jones was one of seven trustees over \$3.6 billion in policyholder assets. Mr. Jones served as the Chair of the Corporate Responsibility Committee and Governance Committee. Mr. Jones is also a board member of the Valley Citizens League. Mr. Jones is also a member of the National Association of Corporate Directors (NACD).

# Director of Member Relations

## Raquel Morales



Raquel joined the ACA staff in April 2005. She has brought 10 years of Office Administration experience to this position. She joins us from Perini Building Company where Raquel concentrated her efforts on Minority Subcontractors and Prequalification. Previously, Raquel worked her way up the corporate ladder with McDonald's Corporation. Raquel received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from Western International University in 2003. Raquel completed various management training courses specifically tailoring the Steven Covey Seven Habits of Highly Effective People.