



**2008 SDA St. Louis Board**

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SDA – St. Louis Chapter  
*Monthly Meeting Minutes*

Wednesday, September 24, 2008  
The Changing Face of Construction  
Tracy Hart, President, Tarlton

Engineer's Club, St. Louis, Missouri

**Members Present:**

Leigh Abernathy – CRB Consulting Engrs.  
Karen Dahl – Mackey Mitchell  
Cindy D'Anna - OWH  
Julie Finocchio – Arcturis  
Linda Hopkins – Horner & Shifrin  
Kim Hughes – Mackey Mitchell  
Diane Klug – Parsons Brinckerhoff  
Julie Lynch – SCI Engineering  
Katheryne Morschl – McClure Engineering  
Mary Niemeier – Pansing, Nolan, Matlock  
Cindy Petzoldt – Mackey Mitchell  
Cindy Risman – HERA Inc.  
Donna Scott – EDM Inc.  
Bob Staed – Ames & Gough Risk Mgt.  
Jean Tedesco – Tarlton  
Kristine Tillitt – EDM Inc.  
Danielle Weston – McClure Engineering

**Guests Present:**

Barb Roberson – UBS (Sponsor)  
Tracy Hart – Tarlton (Speaker)  
Kristin Bilgram - Aerotek  
Amanda Boyce – Mackey Mitchell  
Jennifer Brazier, RJN engineering  
Stephanie Coffey – Trivers  
Vanessa Davis – Horner & Shifrin  
Sue Ellison – Tarlton  
Paul Erskine – Aerotek  
Margie Fank – Mackey Mitchell  
Kelly Galvin – TME  
Robin Hofmeister – SCI  
Stacy Ingram – CRG  
Kay Kennington – Mackey Mitchell  
Mike Pelt – Aerotek  
Heather Ray – CRB  
Linda Smith – Tarlton  
Barb Vandiver – Tarlton  
Karla Zimmerman - Trivers

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1. The meeting began with informal networking. Danielle Weston opened the meeting at 11:50.

2. Introductions:
  - Introduced - Katheryne Morschl – Membership Chairman. Reminder membership that SDA has 32 Chapter Nationwide
  - Recognized Board Members – Jean Tedesco, Cindy Risman, Julie Finnochio, Diane Klug, and Karen Dahl.
3. Universal Business Supply – Barb Roberson.
  - Catalog – Green Recycled Products
  - Locally owned and operated
  - Provides next day delivery.
4. Cindy Petzoldt
  - Founder of St. Louis SDA Chapter
  - Presents Slate for 2009 –
    - Jean Tedesco – President
    - Julie Finnochio – President-Elect
    - Cindy Risman – Vice President
    - Karen Dahl – Secretary
    - Pat Brown – Treasurer
    - Danielle Weston - Director
5. Danielle Weston introduces Tracy Hart, President, Tarlton, The Changing Face of Construction.
6. Highlights of Career:
  - Locally, first woman to become president of construction business.
  - Chairman, 2008, Association of General Contractors, St. Louis.
  - St. Louis Business Journal, “Under 40” Award.
  - 25 Most Influential Business Women
7. Background of Speaker:
  - Degree - Communications from Michigan
  - Moved to Chicago to be in Advertising
  - Father suggested trying Marketing for construction companies.
- Worked for Tucker (construction) for five years and loved it.
- Husband received job offer in St. Louis.
- Came back to Tarlton in the Marketing area. So spent a year as a project engineer to find out what company did.
- Focused on repeat business and quality of service.
- 1999 – President. Partner with brother.
- Have always been involved. When first came back, involved in Society for Marketing Services.
8. Encouraged all of us to take the opportunity to lead an organization.
9. Presentation – Changing Face of Construction:
  - Nationwide shortage of skilled workers in the crafts.
  - Shortages in engineers.
  - Upcoming construction in St. Louis – Conoco Phillips, Ballpark Village, Washington University, Prairie State Energy, Mississippi Bridge, MSD’s new funding stream, Brown Shoe and potential nuclear plant.
  - Trade work hours have steadily increased since 1990.
10. Initiatives/issues of the construction trade:
  - Outreach into the community
  - Technical schools – Construction Careers Charter High, Rankin, ITT, Clyde C. Miller Technical High School, Special School District Vocational Programs.
  - Engineers and their counterparts – People are beginning to retire. Colleges are revamping programs to meet the demands.
  - Not sure what the impact of this outreach will be.
  - Retention in the trades.
  - Younger generation issues.

- Responsibility of the corporation – basic etiquette, training, work environment, family support.

11. Other issues:

- Material shortages/price fluctuations
- BIM – changing landscape; problems on how to share risks.
- Commoditization of services
- Health care costs
- Economic downturns
- Political uncertainty
- Most high schools matriculate to college.

12. Future ideas

- Traditional roles need to change
- Pursuing China for Midwest – import/export center.
- Consensus documents – hot topic.
- Green initiatives.
- Comprehensive permitting initiative.
- St. Louis as a transportation hub.

13. Danielle Weston adjourned the meeting at 1:00 PM. The next meeting will be October 22, 2008 at Alberici.