



NORTHERN MICHIGAN
UNIVERSITY

FOR ALUMNI & FRIENDS

CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT NEWS

ISSUE #10 WINTER 2020



NEWS FROM MARQUETTE

Renovations in our future

The newest capital outlay project on campus is the renovation of the Jacobetti Complex. There was quite a bit of discussion involving a new building, but the \$28.6M could not support the new programming area. Our faculty team is ecstatic about the renovation, as our lab areas will remain largely untouched. The new building would have cut about 70% of the square footage from our lab areas. Miron was selected as the Construction Manager, and is working with Neumann Smith during the preconstruction.

The progress status is "pending" as our submittal to the State of Michigan, seeking approval to move beyond schematic design, requires legislative approval. We hope to have some more substantial updates for the summer newsletter

▲ Elevation view of south side of the Career & Technical Education Facility (CTEF). The new façade will bring natural light to a number of the renovated classrooms, and create a welcoming egress once about 44,000 sf of the current building is demolished. Floor plan on page 3.

FACULTY CONNECTIONS



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CONGRATS TO THE GRADUATES December 2019



••••• **Nick Barnes** (Chicago, IL) with Evan, David, Mike, Heidi & Avery. Nick is moving back to Chicago to continue pursuing management opportunities, while also sharpening his carpentry skills through an accelerated trade program.

Alex Hamilton (Chesterfield, MI) is pursuing opportunities in Southeast Michigan.



••••• **Evan Kennard** (Vassar, MI) with Evan Lucas. Evan will be returning to Duralast in Saginaw, MI, and traveling the country with their repair/warranty team. He will also be doing QA/QC work, in addition to his various other assigned responsibilities.

Tyler LaChapell (Ishpeming, MI) will be going to work for Kiewit's Infrastructure Division.



••••• **Daniel Menze** (Marquette, MI) and **Andrew Plomer** (Gould City, MI) with David, Evan, Avery Blanck & Heidi. Daniel is looking to move toward the southeast part of Michigan to start his career, and Andrew is heading to Appleton, WI to work for Boldt, initially as an estimator.

Alex Murray (Sault Ste. Marie, MI) is pursuing opportunities in the east of the Upper Peninsula as well as the northern Lower Peninsula.



••••• **David Prado** (Huffman, TX) is pursuing opportunities in Texas.

••••• **Jalen Saunders** (Auburn Hills, MI) with Evan, David, and Heidi. Jalen will be heading to Mortenson's Civil division and traveling quite a bit.

Tyler Waisanen (Kingsford, MI) is pursuing opportunities in California



••••• **Colton Wiggins** (Marquette, MI) with Evan (and a very tired David) and Heidi. Colton is planning to stay in Marquette County and is entertaining a variety of options.

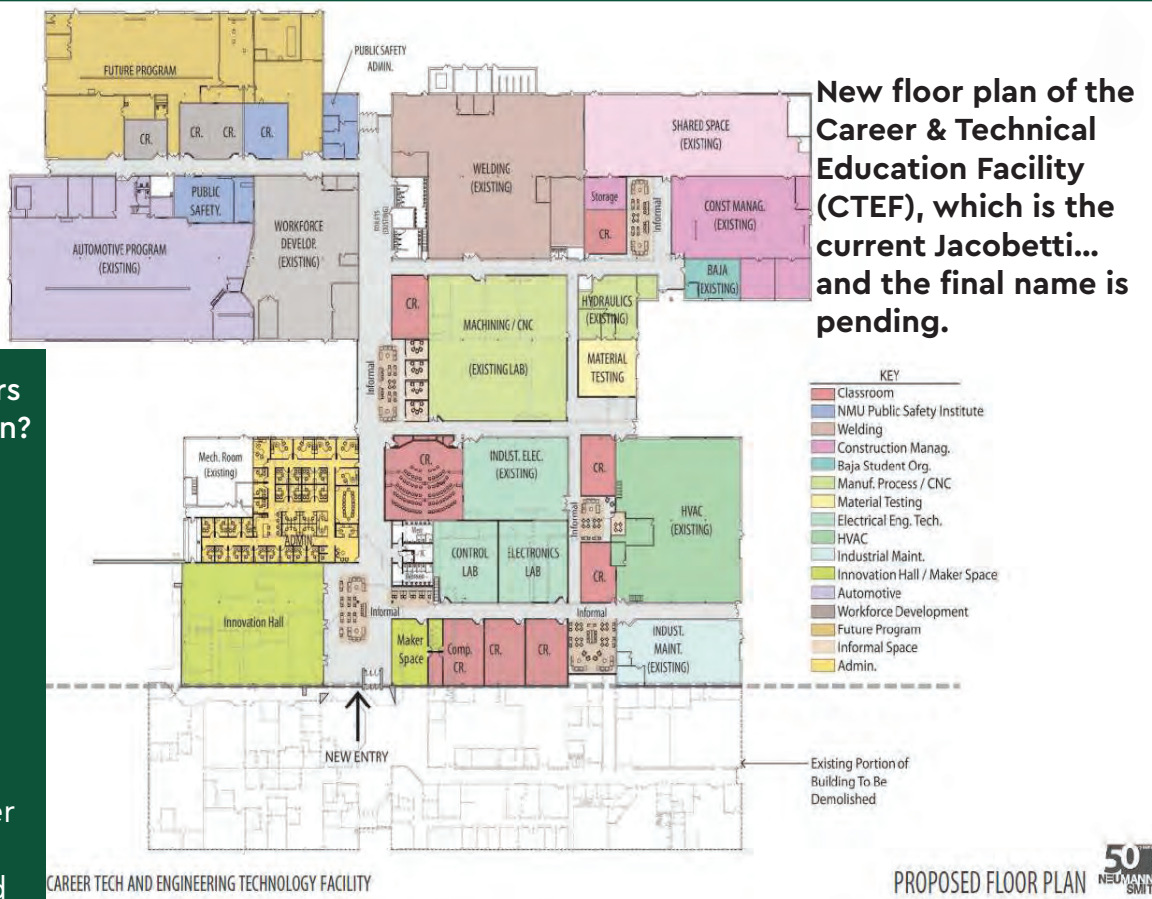
Alex Wiitanen (Houghton, MI & Huntersville, NC) is pursuing an opportunity in Charlotte, NC.



••••• **Nathan Williams** (Oconomowoc, WI) with Heidi. Nate will be a Facilities Manager with JX Industries. He will be covering all of their facilities throughout Wisconsin, and helping support their growth into Michigan.

Q/A Where are seniors heading after graduation?

- Appleton, WI
- Charlotte, NC
- Chicago, IL
- Detroit, MI
- Flint, MI
- Marquette, MI
- Milwaukee, WI
- Minneapolis, MN
- Petoskey, MI
- ...and multiple other states once assignments are provided



NEW FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

James Conlin

Jim is half-complete with his first year of full-time teaching in the program. He signed on to a three-year term after coming to us from Mortenson, where he was a Project Manager in their Wind Division for the previous eight-plus year. Prior to working for Mortenson, Jim was with Power Construction in Chicago.

Along the way, Jim built partnerships as well as development companies throughout the upper Midwest. As Co-owner and Managing Member of both Ironshore Properties and MARQ Investments, his property development experience is quite vast, as is his portfolio.

In addition to teaching CN445 (Property Development), Jim has taught, or will be teaching, CN107, CN110, CN251, CN252 and CN283. He has had a positive influence on the program and the students in just one semester. Maintaining Jim's presence is a high priority for the program.



James Thams

Jim is the Director of Facilities and Campus Planning with NMU's Engineering and Planning Division. He has played a major role in every campus construction project during the last 20+ years. Jim has taught as an adjunct at NMU before, but this is his first stint with the Construction Fun Bunch.

Mr. Thams has chaired NMU's Master Planning Committee for more than a decade, and is, in the truest sense, responsible for every project from cradle to grave. He has exceptional preconstruction experience, which is a perfect fit for the class he taught last semester - CN450 Project Control. This year's group of students in CN450 received a unique view into the process for a capital outlay project in Michigan. Maintaining Jim as an adjunct professor is also high priority for the program.



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Mark Weir (2007)

Mark is a Division Manager for Kelso-Burnett in Chicago, IL. Mark started his career with Kelso Burnett when interning with them in 2005 and 2006. Upon graduation, he started full time in 2007.

He lives in Chicago (Buckton), IL with his wife, Ciara, and daughter, Maeve. The family often flies back to Ireland, Ciara's home country.



Mark came to NMU determined to work hard and play hard. The faculty agreed...mission accomplished! He excelled in the classroom, and was well known to have fun outside the borders of NMU's campus.

Mark does not have a single career highlight. Instead, he is proud of the relationships built and client base expansion during the last dozen years. Kelso is the preferred contractor for firms like Hyatt, Bankers Life and Nike. His largest project to date includes working on the Bank of America in Chicago.

He has committed to give back to NMU. Mark spearheaded Kelso Burnett's involvement with NMU's Women in Construction by sponsoring the lunch for the entire event. He also continues to participate in our annual Career Fair each fall.

"Fast Five" with Mark

ONE Favorite movie? *Moana* (Maeve rules the roost)

TWO Best NMU memory? Going to The Upfront on dollar beer night to see the live music shows!

THREE Greatest professional accomplishment? Being raised in a construction trade family, I am able to provide work and opportunities for the next generation of trade families.

FOUR Best part of coming back to Marquette? Catching up with my friends who have stayed and started their families in Marquette. Close 2nd, Blueberry Wheat Ale at The Vierling.

FIVE Person he would most like to meet? I would like to meet my grandfather who passed away before I met him.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Michael Willaert (May 2021)

Michael was born in Detroit, and raised in Clinton Township in Southeast Michigan. He was a varsity swimmer, golfer and a four-year marching band member. Michael was a youth group member and volunteer for the Christ United Methodist Church of Fraser throughout middle school and high school.



He is a junior, and this year's President of the Northern Michigan Constructors.

Michael worked for the Christman Company the last two summers (and winter breaks). Michael really enjoyed seeing the same project (Sports Medicine Clinic to serve the Detroit Pistons) over two consecutive summers, and can now see it as an occupied building. He opted to go with Whiting-Turner in San Antonio, TX, during the summer of 2020. His soft-spoken and action-driven leadership style has been a huge benefit for the NMC this year. He has guided the group back to a strong sense of community, and re-invigorated a sizable group of students that want to do more than the minimum. Michael has spearheaded a lot of the NMC outreach, and has been an ambassador for the program. He appreciates the doors of opportunities that the program has placed in front of him.

One notable highlight of which Michael is especially proud is receiving a 4.0 gpa. during his first semester at NMU. He was a bit nervous entering NMU. Everything was new, and he didn't know a soul, so the affirmation that he belonged was a great confidence boost.

A busload of high school students from Clarkston, MI, visited NMU's campus in November, and Michael made himself available the whole weekend. He answered all of their questions, and provided a sounding board for them after explaining why he chose NMU over other options. Since that visit, six Clarkston seniors have applied, and been admitted, to NMU.

Q/A When is the 2020 career fair and alumni golf outing?

- FAIR: Thursday, 24 September
- GOLF: Saturday, 26 September

Get info at mandary@nmu.edu or call Mike at (906) 227-1573.

MARQUETTE, MI



▲Heidi organized and executed another incredible event at the Jacobetti on Friday, October 18....the picture above shows just the volunteer group for Women In Construction – Marquette. There was another 90+ high school participants from around the Upper Peninsula.



ADDISON, IL



▲Heidi, along with Bernie Steiger, Mary Howenstine and Lauren Aramburu, put together a fantastic program in Addison, IL. on November 8 at the Technology Center of DuPage. Many of our alumni and corporate friends made it possible and made it a success by providing financial support, volunteers or both.

SENIOR PROJECTS 2019



▲ The team designed and built a storage structure for the **Girl Scouts at the Mehl Lake Camp**, south of Gwinn.

L to R: Nathan Williams, Danny Stacey, Colton Wiggins, Nathan Hayes, Mr. Don Millbach (Director for The Girl Scouts of the Northwestern Great Lakes), Brooke Bailey, Alex Hamilton and Dean of the College, Mr. Robert Eslinger.



▲ The students prepared a feasibility study for a **ROTC Confidence Course** in Marquette. Currently, the team is required to travel at least four hours by car/bus in order to practice on a course. Multiple locations and funding options were also presented.

*Front row kneeling L to R: Noah Brown (Cadet and Construction Mgt. Major), Seth Berenz (Cadet and Construction Mgt. Major), Nick Barnes and Kyle Maki (Cadet)
Back row standing L to R: Jessica Copi (Captain), Joshua Ingram (SFC), Nick Quinn, Adam Nolde, Luca Lippert, Ben Hoffman, Evan Kennard, David Prado and Joshua Gosseck (Cadet).*



▲ The students worked to install a variety of elements for the **Iron Ore Heritage Trail**, which is located near the mouth of the Carp River at the base of Shiras Hill on the Lake Superior side.

*Front row L to R: Carol Fulsher (Executive Director of Iron Ore Heritage Trail), Alex Murray, Don Britton (Board member of IOHT), Andrew Plomer and Matthew Marquardt.
Back Row L to R: Max Kujala, Tyler Waisanen, Daniel Menze, Alex Wiitanen, Nick Leach (City of Marquette Representative), Al Reynolds (Negaunee Township Representative) and Rick Kauppila (Owner of U.P. Fabricating)*



▲ This group had a design build project for the **School of Art & Design** that involved creating exterior storage for their blacksmithing materials. A pavilion-type structure was designed, complete with soil borings (from Tri-Media) and an engineer's stamp (by IDI). The slab portion was poured as part of this phase, and the canopy could be in the future.

*Front row kneeling L to R: Ed Tascoff, Jalen Saunders, Alec Walters and Mitch Gallitz
Back row standing L to R: Andy Smith (NMU Building & Grounds Supervisor), Daric Christian (Associate Dean for Art & Design), Noah Herington, Brandon Makowski, Griffin Boo, Tom McManus (Studio Technical Supervisor for Art & Design) and College Dean Robert Eslinger.*

◀ This group created a feasibility study for the **Wells Sports Complex** Board of Directors. The WSP group sought some schematic designs and cost estimates for various additions and upgrades to the Wells Sports Complex in Delta County.

*Front row kneeling L to R: Max O'Halleran and Kenny Wilkins.
Back row standing L to R: Gabe Baumann, Tyler LaChapell, Kathy Kohtala (Wells Sports Complex Board Member), Michael Martin (Wells Sports Complex Board Member), Matt Jensen (Wells Township Supervisor) and Tyler Meng.*

FACULTY OUT AND ABOUT



▲ Kelley & Jim, Mike & Susie, Heidi & Kevin + Evan & Ashley hanging out at Susie's house in the fall.



▲ Thanksgiving at the Andarys with Matthew (2021) & Tania Goss, along with Amanda and Megan (2021) Antal, Susie, Jason & Mike.



▲ While Evan and Jim were hanging out at a Marquette event in the lower harbor last fall, they happened upon Wynnie Maravilla (2018).



▲ During a Blanck family off-roading day, Matthew Marquardt (2020) became available to help get one of the vehicles out of the mud.



▲ Heidi was bartending with Thomas Wahlstrom (2018) during a fall event at Elizabeth's.



▲ Hanging out in Addison, IL, after the Women in Construction event...L to R: Adam Glover (2008), Jim, Mike, Heidi, Randy Durecka (2007) and Megan Antal (2021).

DONOR FUNDED SCHOLARSHIPS



SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS: ▲ (Seated L to R) Nick Hughes, Daniel Webber, Michael Willaert, Morgan Pelach, Kenny Wilkins, Matthew Goss, Nick Quinn, Noah Brown, Bowen Holmes and Spencer Cota

FACULTY & ADVISORY BOARD: (Back rows – L to R) Mike, Evan, Mikayel Vietzke, Kevin Bredeson, Adam Glover, Jon Nehls, Derrick Pass, Jim Johnson, Cole Thoreson, Curtis Brown, Kayla Billmeier, Jim Chernosky, Paul Bentley, Andy Patt, Bob Mantz, Scott Ampe, Heidi & Jim



◀ Michael Oswald (COO of Hill & Wilkin-son) with David

John Nehls (Field Operations Manager of Mortenson with David) ▶



▲ Gary Schreiber (VP of Power Construction) with Heidi and David



▲ Jon Slack (Project Manager for Clark Construction) with David



▲ Alex Williams (Project Manager for Miron) with David



◀ Mark Weir (Division Manager for Kelso-Burnett) with David

Scott Ampe (L) and Jim Chernosky (R) with David. Both representnig Auch Construction ▶



Since the beginning of the construction-specific scholarship program nearly five years ago...almost \$75,000 has been awarded to deserving students. Pictured are a number of the corporate donors, and some alumni that make it happen. What is not pictured are the many alumni and their families that have donated over the past five years. The faculty cannot begin to express the depth and breadth of our sincere gratitude. Thank you for making it happen, and thank you for allowing it to keep happening. Dave Nyberg is NMU's Director for Corporate Engagement

ADVISORY COMMITTEE NEW MEMBERS



▲ **Curtis Brown** (2012). Project Manager with Barton Malow in Grand Rapids, MI.



▲ **Jim Chernosky** (1992) Senior Project Manager with Auch in Pontiac, MI.



▲ **Bob Mantz** (2011) Area Manager with Hensel Phelps in Denver, CO.



▲ **Randy Durecka** (2007) Project Manager with Walsh in Chicago, IL.



▲ **Andy Patt** (2008) Project Manager for Whiting-Turner, Baltimore, MD



▲ Following the scholarship selections, paneling the senior projects and a full day of meetings, the Advisory Committee was incredibly thirsty...so, one of the local pubs was kind enough to host the team.

CAREER FAIR 2019



▲ It was a beehive of activity during the career fair in the Jacobetti Commons. More than three dozen companies and over 150 students attended the event in September.



▲ Following the breakdown of the tables from the career fair, faculty and alumni gathered for this picture. It was another example of how important the role of our alumni is. Without their involvement, there would not be a Construction Management Career Fair...still the only program-specific career fair at NMU!



▲ After the career fair, a big group gathered downtown for a bite to eat.

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▲ Great time at the golf outing. Low scores? Maybe better stories!

ACG SCAN 2019

The 2019 Associated General Contractors sponsored another Student Contractor Awareness Night. NMU hosted it, and welcomed the AGC of Michigan, industry professionals as well as students from both NMU and MTU. A bus was used to visit three active projects in Marquette...the new Subaru dealership, the new Ojibwa Casino and the Carpenters Local 1510 new training facility.



◀ ▼ Casino Addition



◀ Carpenters training facility



◀ ▼ New Subaru dealership



ALUMNI HAPPENINGS

Tammy Leemon (1999) is a Project Manager with CBRE in the Sturgeon Bay, WI area. One of her recent projects was the Associated Bank within the TiletownTech Building in Ashwaubenon, WI. The bank is not your typical financial institution. It features augmented reality. ▶



▶ **Jeremy Bubb** (2008) and his wife, Ariel, welcomed a baby boy last July. Grayson was 7lb 14 oz, and was over 20" long. Jeremy is with Lunda as a Project Manager out of their Minneapolis area office, and has been busy with the new light rail and train stations for the Twin Cities.



▲ **Caity Tefft** (2017) is a Project Manager for Carey Contracting in Iron Mountain, MI. One of her recent projects was renovating the Caring House in Iron Mountain. The Caring House is a shelter that provides a wide variety of resources to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking.



◀ **Sodam "Sophie" Park** (2018) and **Mitch Hanson** (2018) were married in South Korea on September 1, and had a reception in Chicago, IL, in October. They reside in Texas where Sophie is a Project Engineer for Hill & Wilkinson, and Mitch is a Scheduler for Kiewit's Infrastructure Division.



◀ **Jim Chernosky** (1992) is a Senior Project Manager for Auch in Pontiac, MI. One of his more interesting projects is a multi-phase emergency department project for Henry Ford Health System in Dearborn. The job adds a 12,000sf addition. The old ED is relocated to the new space and the old ED space gets renovated. Since it never closes, Auch is renovating around patients.

ALUMNI HAPPENINGS



◀ ▼ **Chris Cardinal** (2008) and his wife, Kenna, welcomed their third child on September 23. Cleary Andrew joins older brothers, Calim and Cohen. Chris is providing a point of view (POV) from seat



of the laser screed during a large pour. Chris is the Vice President for Mark Cardinal Concrete in Fon du Lac, WI.

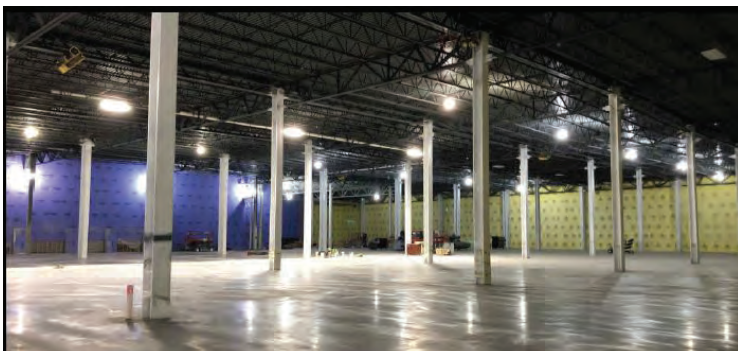
Ryan Rhodes (2018) is a Project Engineer with O'Brien Construction Company in Troy, MI. He and his wife, Olivia, welcomed their new baby girl, Isabelle, a couple months ago. Additionally, Ryan is working on an eight-story 286 unit apartment building. ▼ ▶



▲ **James Eickhoff** (2018) is a Project Engineer with Mortenson and is on the hub of a turbine in Iowa. The wind farm he is building contains the largest turbines in the United States...capable of producing 4.2 MW each. One of his project teammates is friend and classmate **Nick Sexton** (2018). James had a busy year – completing two repowering projects in Texas along with the new one in Iowa.



◀ ◀ **Josh Gustafson** (2006) is a Senior Project Manager with Mortenson's Minneapolis Operating Group. His most recent project is the Graco Koch Expansion. It includes the addition of 410,000 square feet of manufacturing space directly adjacent to an existing manufacturing floor, 29,000 square feet of lab space, and 112,000 square feet of office space (both new and renovations). This project is being completed in conjunction with limited disruptions to an active manufacturing and office facility that runs 24 / 7 / 365. The entire scope of the project is on schedule to be complete within the original 14 months allowed.



ALUMNI HAPPENINGS



▲ **Kerry Klausner** (2011) is a Project Manager with McCarthy Building Companies. The picture is a Monday morning (sunrise) safety talk at his Tomahawk Creek Wastewater Treatment Facility project in Kansas City, KS.



▲ ▶ **Steve Hunter** (2012) is a Project Manager for Barton Malow out of the Southfield, MI, office. Steve is pictured with his family: daughter Josie (born in June 2019), Sarah and daughter Maggie. He has been working, for the last 18 months on the Freedom Compressor Station in Manchester, MI (with fellow NMU CM Alumnus, Charlie Sullivan). The project is a multi-phase natural gas compressor station upgrade to support the increased load on the Consumers Energy system. More recently, he has been tasked to lead Barton Malow's solar initiative in preparation for the next 10 years as Michigan utilities prepare to make the significant shift in their power generation.



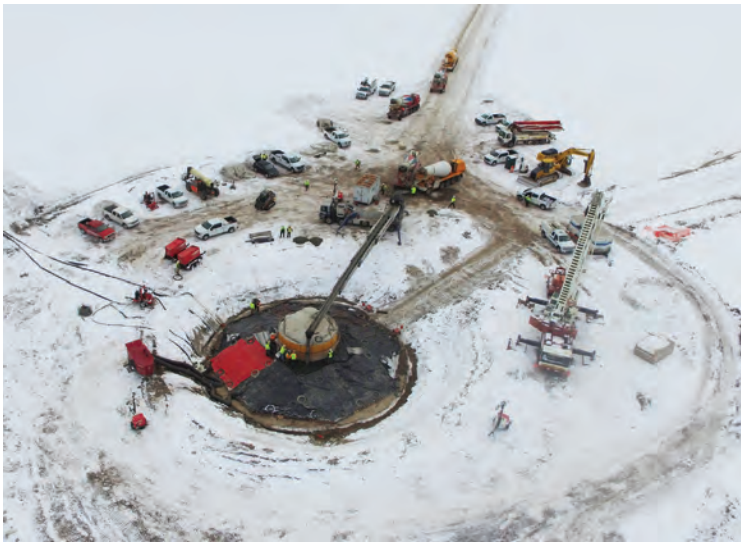
▲ **Noah Talentino** (2018) is a Senior Field Manager with the US Army Corps of Engineers, and is in Chattanooga, TN, on the Chickamauga Lock Replacement Project. It is a temporary assignment to establish work procedures and provide lessons learned for the construction of the New Soo Lock. The Chickamauga Lock is on the Tennessee River and Noah is currently working towards foundation preparation and casting monolith walls. The total project cost will surpass \$750M.



▲ ▼ **Jorge Rios** (2016) is a Senior Field Engineer for The Whiting-Turner Contracting Company, out of their Southern California office. He is still working on parts of Disney's "Galaxy's Edge" project, and will be transitioning to a project for Netflix in Los Angeles early in 2020.



ALUMNI HAPPENINGS



▲ **Dan Mayville** (2013) is a Project Engineer with Barton Malow out of their Southfield, MI, office. He has been working on foundation systems for wind turbines in the south central part of the Upper Peninsula. Foundation construction was abandoned in the fall due to major rain events that flooded the excavations and the surrounding wooded area. They restarted the process, and with the help of three 4" submersible pumps, a 4" diesel trash pump and an 8" diesel trash pump, they were able to get the water level down to a workable level after six days of continuous pumping. Their last pour of the year was completed in mid-December.



▲▶ **Wilbur Jennings** (2008) owns Wilbur Construction in Marquette, MI. He and his wife, Amy, specialize in renovations and additions for residential dwellings. The two pictures are from recent kitchen renovations that he completed.



◀ **Michael LaFleur** (2015) is an Integrated Construction Coordinator with Mortenson's Federal Contracting Group. He is working on a bio safety lab for the USDA in Athens, GA.

▶ **Amber Burden** (2003) is a Project Manager and Estimator with Hallack Contracting in Hart, MI. She was working on a \$1.8M project to expand the width of the ORV entrance to the riding dunes in Silver Lake, MI, almost 4,400 Redi Rock blocks in total, with 13 different walls, all in critical dunes. She needed to customize an off road truck into a flatbed in order to haul the concrete units up... eight at a time.



ALUMNI HAPPENINGS



▲▶ **Jon Slack** (2015) is a Project Manager with Clark Construction in Lansing, MI. He is currently working on an eight story 190,000sf hotel/casino addition and renovation. Included is a rendering from a local media site to provide an idea of what the project will look like. They are adding a second hotel tower, new signature restaurant, a high-limit/VIP gaming area and lounge, and transforming the lobby. Substantial completion is planned for December, 2020. Also pictured are John's wife, Amanda, and daughter, Isla... who recently turned two.



▲ **Rachel Posthumus** (2011) joined ICCF in June 2018 as a Facilities Project Manager. She is on the far left of the picture operating the laptop. Rachel serves the Grand Rapids community by providing affordable housing opportunities through rentals and home ownership assistance. Housing ranges from 100 year old, single family homes to brand new, 5 story, mixed-use buildings. As the Facilities Project Manager, she leads a team of 8 and they are responsible for the daily maintenance and rehab construction of 580 rental units. She enjoys the new challenges that every day brings, and finds the work incredibly rewarding. For fun, she and her husband, Mike, still spend their free time camping and mountain biking, owning/operating Switchback Gear Exchange, and enjoying their fishing cabin in Montana.



▲ **Matthew Boonstra** (2017) is a Project Manager with Midwest Building Group in Grand Rapids, MI. He recently completed a multi-building apartment complex in Big Rapids, MI.



◀ **Matthew Shem** (2006) is an Executive Vice President with Hill & Wilkinson in Richardson, TX. He and his wife, Tiffany, have two kids with differing opinions about Santa. Blake is not too excited at all, while Liam is good to go.



▲ **Zach Lange** (2018) on the left and **Nathan Williams** (2019) on the right spent the summer together on multiple projects for Payne and Dolan. They are pictured here during a milling operation at NMU's Northern Center.

ALUMNI HAPPENINGS



◀ **Nikk Glazier** (2008) is a Project Manager with Whiting Turner in Washington, DC. He has recently turned over two 7-story Independent living buildings in Washington, DC, with the first resident moving into their apartment in January. His next project is a \$330M high rise project in Tyson's Corner, Virginia. The rendering above is for the development of a new high-rise Life Plan Community in Tysons Corner, VA. The project consists of a 5-story podium topped by two towers (Tower 1 - 23 stories atop the podium, and Tower 2 - 14 stories atop the podium). This comprises 300 Residential Independent Living units, 78 Life Center/Assisted Living/Memory Support units, common areas, retail, below grade parking with triple stacked parking system and public park.



▲▶ **Scott Allerding** (2011) is a Superintendent for CopperRock Construction in Grand Rapids, MI. He lives in Hastings with his college sweetheart/wife, Liz, and their three children: Annemarie, David and Alice. Scott is shown above standing outside a 6,000 sf home renovation he completed in Grand Rapids. What started as a termite-infested 100+ year-old home was transformed into a \$1+M property.



▲▶ **Tyler Lenderink** (2017) is an Office Engineer with Hensel Phelps in Denver, CO. He is working on the Rockies McGregor Square Project in downtown Denver. It's a \$250 million mixed use development for the Colorado Rockies MLB team. Currently it is on schedule for completion in December 2020. The development contains an 11-story core and shell office building, 13-story condominium with 105 units, and a 13-story 176 room hotel. All three buildings sit on a 2 story underground parking lot that is the size of a city block. They have 4 placing booms and three tower cranes that are lit with Rockies purple LED lights at night.



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ALUMNI HAPPENINGS



▲ **Thomas Wahlstrom** (2018) is a Project Engineer with Gundlach Champion out of Iron Mountain, MI. The KBIC Marquette Casino opened its doors to the public on Friday, December 20, ahead of the scheduled contract date. The facility includes an all new, expansive gaming floor, lounge bar, event center, and the Superior Eats grill. Thomas will remain on site with GCI to continue light remodel work to the old casino facility, extra work requested by the KBIC, and the construction of the Marquette Tavern, coming spring 2020. Since June 2018, Gundlach Champion has had four different CM alumni working at different times and in different capacities on the Marquette Casino project.



▲ ▲ **Derrick Carter** (2017) is a Project Engineer with Mortenson's Milwaukee Operating Group, but was able to switch between buildings and wind energy throughout 2019. He worked on a wind farm in Iowa, as well as a hospital addition and a medical center in Wisconsin.



▲ ▲ **Andrew Kruse** (2014) is a Superintendent with Mortenson, and recently completed the Green River Wind Project in southern Illinois. He is off to Northern Arizona for his next project, and is likely to be working alongside **Nick Sexton** (2018)



▲ ▲ **Ben Herman** (2009) is a Project Manager with Grand Traverse Construction in Traverse City, MI. His main project for 2019 was the New Peninsula Community Library on Old Mission Peninsula in Traverse City. An eight-month scheduled build of a new 5,400SF library and Community Center. Project contract value was just south of \$2M. He just broke ground on two additions to Cherry Knoll Elementary School in Traverse and is also managing the general trades package for a build out of one of downtown Traverse City's old historical buildings, "Old City Hall".



ALUMNI HAPPENINGS



◀ ▲ **Michael Holbrook** (2014) owns Holbrook Custom Designs outside of Petoskey, MI. Business has been great and 2020 is shaping

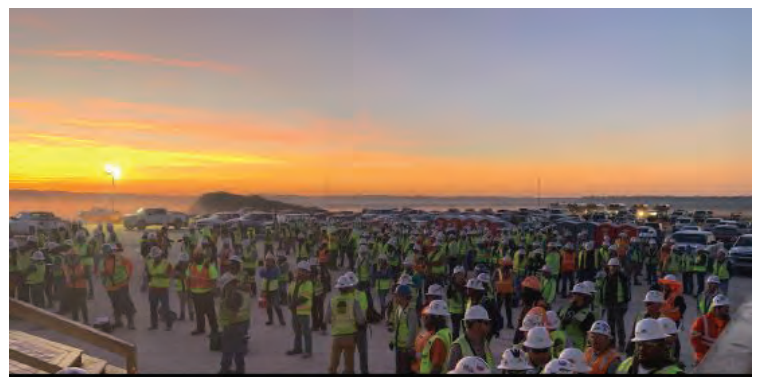
up to be another solid year. His son is now nine months old. Michael strives to find time to enjoy at his sawmill, because things are always better when you can mill a bunk or more worth of walnut.



▲ **Matthew Weatherdon** (2004) is a Project Manager with Chad E. Davis Construction in Portland, OR. He leads a team of 16 professionals and completes more than 300 homes per year. Above is a picture of his new home where he lives with his wife, Lua, two sons, Roman and Tabor, and Mount Hood in the backdrop. Prior to his role with Chad E. Davis, Matthew had been a Superintendent with Polygon Homes and a Land Development Specialist with DR Horton.



▲ **Chris Kirby** (2006) is a Senior project Manager with ComEd in Chicago, IL. One of his projects is rebuilding a 138kV Transmission Line through Matthiessen State Park. This project was part of a NERC Compliance Program.



▲ ▲ **Peter Gibson** (2017) is a Project Engineer with Mortenson's Solar and Renewable Division. He is currently working on the Columbia Solar Project outside Gainesville, FL. Fellow alumni, **Elizabeth Boose** (2019) and **Josh Crim** (2018) with him. Misae 1 Solar Project in Childress, TX, is a 336 MWdc energy center spread out of 1,750 acres. Plus, a morning stretch and bend on the 775 acre 105 MWdc Columbia Solar Project.

ALUMNI HAPPENINGS

Mark Bonovetz (2000) is a Corporate Field Safety Manager for AZCO, Inc. in the Fox Valley of Wisconsin.

Matthew Hewson (2003) owns Hewson homes, and is also Co-Owner of Exclusive Custom Homes in Oakland County, MI.

Chris Mattice (2003) is a Superintendent with D.R. Horton Homes in Minneapolis, MN.

Lawrence Kimama (2004) is a Project Manager with PIDC Construction in the greater Boston, MA, area.

Kyle Swenor (2004) is the General Manager and Partner with True Blue & Associates in Traverse City, MI.

Michael Beuschel (2006) is now the Director of Construction at Wolverine Building Group in Grand Rapids, MI.

Ryan McAllister (2006) is a Project Manager with iiCON Construction Group in Colorado Springs, CO.

Will Stange (2008) is a Superintendent with Frank Rewold and Son in Rochester, MI.

Tom Labuz (2009) is a Superintendent with Mortenson. After completing the Chase Center in San Francisco, CA, he moved back to Minneapolis and is now running projects at multiple sites for Mortenson's Fairview Healthcare program.

Ryan Lucas (2010) is a Superintendent with Miller-Davis in Kalamazoo, MI.

Kelsey Hopkins (2011) is an Assistant Project Manager with Yates Construction in Dallas, TX.

Matthew Kehrer (2011) is a Lead Superintendent with the Gilbane Building Company's New England Division.

Kyle Reuter (2012) is a Project Manager and Estimator with A.C.E. Building Service, a design-build contractor, out of Manitowoc, WI.

Alex Latvala (2015) is an Assistant Superintendent with LendLease in Chicago. He is working on his third project with them. A couple of highlights from the current site: Doing a senior living facility in Deerfield, IL (about 25 miles North of downtown Chicago) that's roughly \$60mil. It's a 6-story facility housing 240 units between levels 2-6 (equates to about a 30-33 story high rise). Wood frame construction with a TPO roof. L1 is precast. He is serving a joint role as site safety manager and assistant super and he is one of two people managing the finishes within each of the units

Joshua Maier (2015) is an Assistant Superintendent with Erhardt Construction in Ada, MI.

Jerad Patterson (2015) is a Project Manager with Dressler Mechanical, Inc. in Marquette, MI.

Drew Wudtke (2016) is a Project Manager with Boldt in Appleton, WI.

Jared Swajanen (2017) is a Senior Project Engineer with Skanska out of their Cincinnati, OH, office.

Noah Jutis (2018) is a Project Engineer with Ideal Contracting in Detroit, MI.

Alex Murray (2019) is a Field Coordinator with Springfield, Inc. in Kingsley, MI.

Andrew Plomer (2019) will be an estimator with Boldt in Appleton, WI. He is also an avid outdoorsman and one of his fishing expeditions can be seen at: [youtube.com/](https://www.youtube.com/)

DEPARTMENT OUTREACH

Norther Michigan University is still a "well kept secret" according to many students and parents that we meet during our outreach. In an effort to not be a secret, our faculty team worked with Mr. Steve Wyckoff (Construction Trades Teacher at Clarkston, MI Community Schools) to bring a bus load of his students to NMU for a quick visit. In less than 24 hours, they were able to work out at the PEIF, attend a Wildcat hockey game, receive a walking campus tour, chat with our admissions and financial aid professionals and cap the trip with a walk-through of the Jacobetti. It was a great weekend that all of the folks on campus supported!



PROGRAM OUTREACH

Additional efforts of our team to reach beyond campus:

- The team took turns at the Upper Peninsula Construction Career Fair in September at the Marquette County Fair Grounds
- Heidi and Evan attended Washtenaw County's "Just Build It" in October
- The faculty team will be hosting three different schools on a couple different Fridays in February
- Evan & Heidi will be attending the Michigan Construction Teachers Association annual conference in February
- Mike will be attending the AGC's statewide awards meeting in Plymouth, MI, in February
- Mike will be attending the Michigan Construction Career Days in Howell, MI, in May.

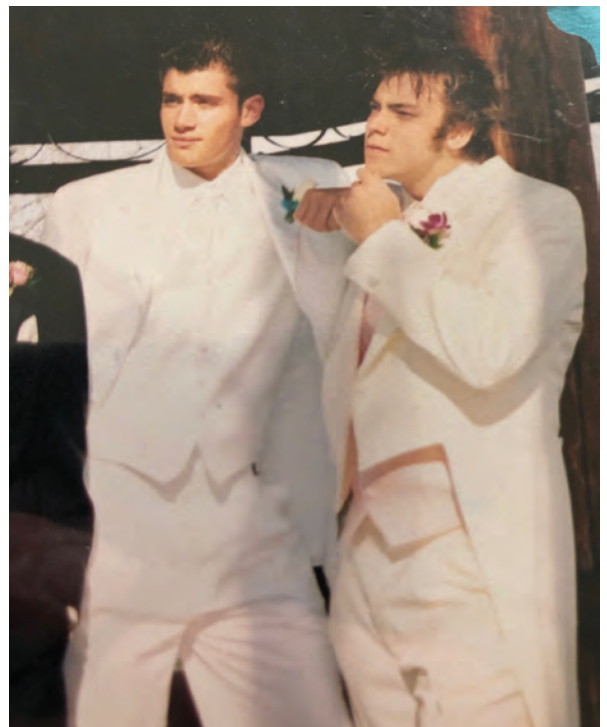
NEW FEATURE YESTERYEAR



▲ Large group of Construction students in New Orleans helping with Hurricane Katrina relief efforts. Their group was featured with Norm in an episode of "This Old House" in 2007.



▲ Solid group of students (flanked by Daryl & Mike) working on Habitat for Humanity home in Marquette...along with former NMU President, Dr. Judy Bailey. From L to R, the students are Matthew Callahan, Kristen (Emelander) Thompson, Brandon Bogue, John Stenzel, Eric Vollbach, Justin Hoffman and Matthew Hewson should be from 2004.



▲ Marquette Senior Prom, 2004. It's possible that not everyone knew these two would grow up to be college professors. **Jim Conlin** and **Evan Lucas** with that "classic look!"

CAN YOU JOIN US FOR THE CAREER FAIR & GOLF OUTING?

- FAIR: Thursday, 24 September
 - GOLF: Saturday, 26 September
- Get info at mandary@nmu.edu or calling Mike at (906) 227-1573.

NEW ONLINE DEGREE

Please help spread the word
about our new online Construction Management degree...
intended for the professional trades! ▼

CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT BACHELOR'S DEGREE

ONLINE FOR THE PROFESSIONAL

- ▶ Do you have experience in the construction industry?
- ▶ Do you desire an advancing role, and better pay, but lack the degree?
- ▶ Would you succeed in an online learning environment?

If you said "Yes" to these questions, consider earning your bachelor's degree in Construction Management online from Northern Michigan University.

This is a degree for those who already have skills in the construction field. We welcome your experience and will award university credit for the knowledge you have gained in the industry.

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

It is becoming increasingly important for construction managers to have a bachelor's degree.

—U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2019

UNDER CONSTRUCTION



Jon Nehls
Field Operations Manager
Mortenson Construction

GIVING BACK

ANNUAL GIVING...SOMETHING WE HOPE YOU WILL CONSIDER

We recognize that you have given and sacrificed a considerable amount to be where you are, and yet we are still going to ask that you consider giving a little more. We also know that you are now independent adults with financial burdens of your own...but here we are – seeking your altruistic support for our primary initiative: educating the next generation for a career in construction. In the truest form of leaving things better than you found them, you are in a position to have a positive impact on the development of our students...current and future. The good news is that this "giving section" will appear in every newsletter moving forward, so we'll be able to reinforce our message through repetition.

Giving to the NMU Foundation and designating the Construction Management Program as the recipient will carry benefits that are difficult to measure.

- You could help make the difference between a student completing their degree goal, or quitting due to the overwhelming financial pressure.
- You could be the person that puts us in a position to keep pace with today's technology (Ex.: so we are not reliant on the 1958 theodolites for surveying)
- You could leave a positive legacy at NMU that will last a lifetime (or more)
- You should know that \$1.00 donated is \$1.00 of impact. The NMU Foundation is a responsible steward for your resources. They do not take anything off the top...and your gift is tax-deductible

There are a number of ways to do it, but the following link makes giving relatively easy:

<http://connect.nmu.edu/s16cmn>

THANK YOU