



HAMMONTREE HIGHLIGHTS



A Newsletter from Hammontree & Associates, Ltd. and Morris Knowles & Associates, Inc.

(A Hammontree Company)

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Utica and Marcellus Shale - Pipelines - U.A.V. (Drone) Services - Transportation - Bridge
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Summer 2019

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James C. Bollibon, P.E.,
P.L.S., is Retiring After
40 Years of Service**

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Above photo: Kennard Road Bridge, MED-CR 78-0.91, Hammontree was the engineer for this new 83-foot single span concrete box beam superstructure with a composite deck.

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Kennard Road Bridge Complete

Hammontree was hired by the Medina County Engineer for the replacement of a deficient single span steel beam bridge. The new replacement structure is a 83-foot single span concrete box beam superstructure with a composite deck.

This new Kennard Road Bridge is supported on an integral rear abutment and a semi-integral forward abutment. The new structure was built with zero skew, eliminating a variable beam length.

Services Provided Include:

- Maintenance of Traffic Design
- Roadway Design
- Structure Design



Photo above: MED-CR 78-0.91, Kennard Road Bridge in Medina County

Liberty Street Design-Build Bridge

Hammontree teamed with Marucci & Gaffney for a design-build project to replace a deficient steel truss bridge over Camp Creek and a concrete dam in Garrettsville, Portage County, Ohio. The new 87-foot long Liberty Street Bridge is a galvanized steel beam structure featuring semi-integral abutments on drilled shafts, which were selected to minimize impacts to the existing dam. A water line is carried on the bridge as well as a sidewalk and pedestrian railing. Additional storm sewers were constructed as part of the project to improve drainage.



Photo above: Liberty Street Bridge road view

Services Provided Include:

- Bridge Design
- Roadway Design
- Drainage Design
- Surveying



Photo above: Liberty Street Bridge side view

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Saltsburg Borough, in PA, has selected Morris Knowles & Associates as their Municipal Engineer

Morris Knowles has been selected as the Municipal Engineer for Saltsburg Borough, Indiana County, PA and will assist the Borough in public works projects as needs arise.

The first order of work will be to assist the Borough with their required Corrective Action Plan (CAP), setting forth actions to be taken to reduce sanitary sewer overload and provide needed capacity to their wastewater treatment plant. This will also help to prepare the required post construction compliance monitoring plan as part of the previously approved Long Term Control Plan.

Morris Knowles & Associates Serves as a Representative, on behalf of Bellwood Borough, as a Member of the Blair County Intergovernmental Stormwater Technical Committee

Morris Knowles, as a representative, on behalf of Bellwood Borough/Blair County Intergovernmental Stormwater Committee, serves as a contributing member of the Blair County Intergovernmental Stormwater Tech Committee. The ISC Tech committee is comprised of the participating municipal engineers who represent each of the eleven (11) individual member communities. The ISC formed this collaborative group to provide technical advice and assist with engineering.

All municipalities within urbanized areas are governed under the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Agency's (PADEP) Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) requirements, to which Bellwood Borough is mandated to comply. Requirements are to inventory and map all storm sewer conveyance systems, prepare an annual report to DEP, prevent silt from getting into streams, monitor and sample storm outfalls entering streams and attend periodic audits by the DEP.

The Intergovernmental Stormwater Committee was formed by the eleven (11) participating municipalities to share in the costs, rewards and grant writing in order to comply with the DEP MS4 Requirements for Pollution Reduction Planning and Implementation.

Hammontree & Associates Selected as Municipal Engineer for the Village of Lakemore, Ohio

Hammontree was selected to be the Municipal Engineer by the Village Council of Lakemore, Summit County, Ohio. Hammontree is currently working on an Asset Management Program for their water system.

The Village was also assisted by Hammontree in obtaining a 0% interest loan from the Ohio EPA. This includes partial loan forgiveness (similar to a grant) to help pay for the cost of this program. Hammontree will be performing civil site reviews on plans for two new developments in the Village.

New Partners at Hammontree

Hammontree announces new partners from the Pennsylvania office, Morris Knowles:
Mr. Brian S. Majeran, E.I., CPESC, CPSWQ
Mr. Dan R. Irvin, P.E. and,
Mr. Troy A. Leighty, P.L.S.

Hudson Meadows Retirement Community Under Construction

The new Hudson Meadows Retirement Community is under construction. Hammontree was hired by Resort Lifestyle Communities and Cameron General Contractors to provide civil engineering for this new \$15 million Resort Lifestyle Community in Hudson, Ohio. This 133-apartment independent living facility is located on 35 acres off Barlow Road in Hudson, Ohio.



Photo shown above: Aerial view of Hudson Meadows Retirement Community under construction,
(Courtesy of Cameron General Contractors)

Career Perspective from James C. Bollibon

Written by Tiffany N. Ramsey, reporter for Hammontree Highlights

Coming from humble beginnings, James C. Bollibon watched as his role models paved the way for his future successes as a civil engineer. He said his life and career were pretty easy compared to others. Bollibon's grandparents, both of Eastern European decent (Croatia and Hungary, respectively), came to America to work in the coal mines and steel mills that were booming at the time. Bollibon would never meet his paternal grandfather who died at a young age from Black Lung Disease, caused by working in the coal mines. Hoping to pave a better way, Bollibon's father became a mechanical engineer and thus an interest in engineering was born.

Bollibon grew up around engineering; one could say, it was in his blood. His father's résumé was impressive, boasting two bachelors degrees and a masters in mechanical and industrial engineering. His father, a WWII veteran, obtained all of his degrees by attending night school on the GI Bill. Bollibon chose civil engineering to step out from the shadow of his father's accomplishments and was able to attend college full time, without debt, while making lifelong friends thanks to those who came before him.



Photo above: James C. Bollibon



Photo above: James C. Bollibon in the early years at Morris Knowles & Associates, Inc.

James C. Bollibon has worked for Morris Knowles & Associates, Inc. for the vast majority of his career and will be retiring after over 40 years of service as a civil engineer, 15 of those years as president, an impressive feat for anyone, in any field. When asked if he would miss being an engineer, Bollibon responded with a simple, "yes." He assured that should someone see him lurking in the office halls after his retirement, he will have donuts in hand.

At the age of twenty-three, Bollibon states he became very interested in learning from the "old timers" as he calls them. When they stopped in the office, he would visit with them and discuss past projects and their involvement. Morris Knowles attracted him with their reputation of being one of the most eminent engineering firms of the early 1900's. Bollibon wanted to help grow the firm, after it fell on harder times, back to its former glory. At one point, he says, he had only three co-workers. "Some say growth for the sake of growth is not worth it. I disagree. Growth allows people to thrive and make a living. I thought if I am put in a position of great responsibility, I want to build a team," he states.

Bollibon spent six months in the field prior to office work. There he gained valuable skills and knowledge he would not trade. His ability to recognize the constructability of a project has been pivotal to his success. Bollibon believes, without time in the field, one is missing core decision making skills and experience that are not available in an office environment.

In addition to the mathematical and scientific aptitudes, Bollibon states that the most important personality trait in engineering is the ability to be a team player. When asked how he thinks his co-workers would describe him, he replied, "I hope they would say fair and someone who led by example. I would never ask someone else to do a job that I would not do myself," he says.



Photo shown above: New Speedway in New Castle, PA. Morris Knowles has provided engineering and surveying services for Speedway over the years in PA, OH, and WV.

Bollibon recalls two of the more challenging projects he has worked on: the Bellwood Borough Water and Sewer Improvement Project and the Upper Tyrone Township Sewer Project. These projects were both tied up for years due to municipal delays, funding, concerns about water and sewer rates, and taxes. He recalls around 1979-1980 writing feasibility studies and thinking, “I hope someday before I

die or retire, they complete these projects.” He says it took nearly 40 years, the span of his career, to finally finish.



Photo above: Bellwood Borough Waterline Replacement Project

Photo below: Upper Tyrone Township Sewer Project



What do you have to say about the person replacing you as President?

Bill Utzman will be replacing me as President and Mark Zimmerman will move into the position of Vice President. I have great confidence in both their technical abilities and desire to look out for the clients and employees. I’m looking forward to seeing where they can take the company.

Do you have any insights or advice for the future of the firm?

I have a quote in my office from Lee Iacocca, who was the developer of the Ford Mustang and bailed out Chrysler with the introduction of the minivan. It’s simple but sums up my thoughts on business. “Start with good people, lay out the rules, communicate with your employees, motivate and reward them. If you do all of those things effectively, you can’t miss.” My other favorite quote is an old Chinese proverb. “People who say it cannot be done should not interrupt those who are doing it.”

What would you like to say to your co-workers?

Work hard, have fun, keep learning, and enjoy the ride. I’m looking forward to enjoying my retirement while watching the continued journey of the company. I appreciate the opportunities that I have been given and know that the friendships that developed here will last into the future.

In retirement, Bollibon plans to spend time with family and his “spoodle” Sunshine, as he calls his wife’s Spaniel and Poodle mix. Bollibon will be a grandfather soon, and he says he will spend plenty of time spoiling the new addition. He also plans to do some home improvements. “I am a bit of a tinkerer,” he jokes. He also plans to do more hunting and fishing, as being outdoors is something that has always appealed to Bollibon. The walls of his office are proof of that, lined with trophies he says his wife won’t let him keep in the house. “I am sure I will drive my wife nuts,” he says. Bollibon plans to stay busy. He says jokingly, “I’ve been called many things but lazy has never been one of them.”



Photo above: Jim and Lorie Bollibon



Photo above:
Mr. William Utzman, P.E.,
New President of Morris Knowles



Photo above:
Mr. Mark Zimmerman, P.E.,
New Vice President of Morris
Knowles



Photo above: Jim and
the big fish

Innovative Carbide, LLC Hires Morris Knowles

Morris Knowles provided civil engineering and surveying services for a major building expansion and new parking lot for Innovative Carbide, LLC in Irwin, Westmoreland County, PA. Innovative Carbide, LLC produces high quality tungsten carbide products serving many industries, including aerospace & defense, automotive, oilfield & energy, housing & construction and general wear and engineered parts.

Morris Knowles researched the zoning and permitting requirements for this neighboring property and designed the new parking areas to minimize stormwater infrastructure requirements.

Services Provided Include:

- Surveying Services
- Lot Consolidation Plan
- Civil Site Engineering Design
- Stormwater Design
- Permitting
- Meeting Attendance and Project Coordination



Photo above: Innovative Carbide in Irwin, PA.



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Offices in Ohio and Pennsylvania

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