

The 2007 PINNACLE AWARDS



Northern Nevada's construction community showcases its best work of the past year at the annual PINNACLE Awards, sponsored by the Nevada Chapter of the Associated General Contractors. The PINNACLE Awards program was established in 1999 by the Nevada Chapter AGC to honor the "Best of the Best" in northern Nevada construction projects and to recognize members who show leadership, excellence and community spirit.

This year, there are 23 entries from 12 different companies, five specialty contractors and 18 general contractors. This year's winners will be announced at an awards luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Friday, Nov. 16 at Harrah's Reno Convention Center. For ticket information call 329-6116.

ABOUT THE PINNACLES

General contractors compete for the PINNACLE Award in two divisions: under and over \$5 million. Specialty contractors vie for the PINNACLE in the over \$500,000 and under \$500,000 categories. Projects are submitted in the following categories: excellence in project management; meeting the challenge of a difficult job; contractor's innovation; sensitivity to environment/history/culture; and excellence in client service.

This year's PINNACLE Awards were judged by members of the Idaho Chapter of the Associated General Contractors. There were several judging criteria.

JUDGING CRITERIA

Meeting the challenge of a difficult job:

Criteria included design/engineering constraints; environmental constraints; labor and material issues; mid-project changes and the response to those changes; scheduling issues; external issues with owners, government, regulators and other outside parties; and overall complexity/precision of the job.

Excellence in project management:

Some of the issues each PINNACLE entry in this category should address or explain are: overall organizational approach; communication and coordination; techniques to optimize performance; productivity; overall quality of work and performance; resource or environmental constraints; budgeting and cost controls; and safety.

Contractor's innovation:

This category stresses innovation in completion of the project; either bringing something new to the industry or to the region's construction landscape. Some of the criteria in this category could

include: use of unique materials; innovation in procurement; scheduling techniques; new database or applications; new communication techniques; unique design or engineering; production/equipment initiatives.

Sensitivity to environment/history/culture:

Criteria includes restoration of a historical site or building — the project should have demonstrated environmental stewardship as evidenced by practices and efforts to protect the environment and ecosystems of the affected area. Other criteria include: maintaining significant cultural/historical design aspects of a building or site; inclusion of alternative energy sources/appropriate energy (or water) conservation management; innovative construction techniques to minimize environmental impacts; unique design/construction features which enhance sustainability (such as materials); site remediation issues; and interior environmental/cultural issues and challenges.

Excellence in client service

Quality control, adherence to contracts and documentation, addressing disruption issues, communication protocols, teamwork between general, subs, specialty contractors and client, workmanship, timing/scheduling.

ABOUT THE AGC:

For 68 years, the Nevada Chapter AGC has helped build the northern Nevada community with Skill, Integrity and Responsibility. The chapter's 300-plus members make up a bulk of the area's construction firms and related businesses.

The construction industry accounts for more than 23,000 jobs in Washoe County. Construction jobs represent 10 percent of the county's employment composition and show one of the highest average hourly wages at nearly \$21, according to the Nevada Department of Employment. This gathering brings together northern Nevada's top general contractors and building professionals who employ an estimated 10,000 workers and are responsible for approximately \$400 million in payroll.

The Nevada Chapter AGC was formed in 1939 by a group of Nevadans to replace the dangerous gravel roads in northern Nevada with modern asphalt. Today AGC members battle floods, build hospitals, parks and schools. The Nevada Chapter strives to support the image and awareness of the construction industry and the community quality of life with "Skill, Integrity and Responsibility."

For more information, log on to www.nevadaagc.org.

Granite Construction

Project: VA Medical Center
 Neighborhood Repaving
Contractor: Granite Construction
Project Size: Under \$5 Million
Category: Meeting the Challenge of a Difficult Job

Anytime a construction project starts in city neighborhoods, residents typically pose one question first: "How will this affect me?" In the case of the VA Medical Center Neighborhood Repaving project done by Granite Construction, that impact was minimal.

In all, 26 city blocks in the area of Wells and Kirman avenues and Wilson Avenue between Thoma and Vassar, were dug up. Gutters and sidewalks were replaced and new roads put down.

During 75 intensive days of construction, residents were only denied access to their homes for a total of eight hours. Each street was excavated sequentially, followed by base rock replacement on the same day and then repaving the next day. When it was all done, Granite Construction brought the project in 15 days ahead of schedule.

Not only was the project completed in a neighborhood-friendly manner, but recycled rock was placed and reclaimed asphalt pavement was used throughout, saving taxpayer dollars in an

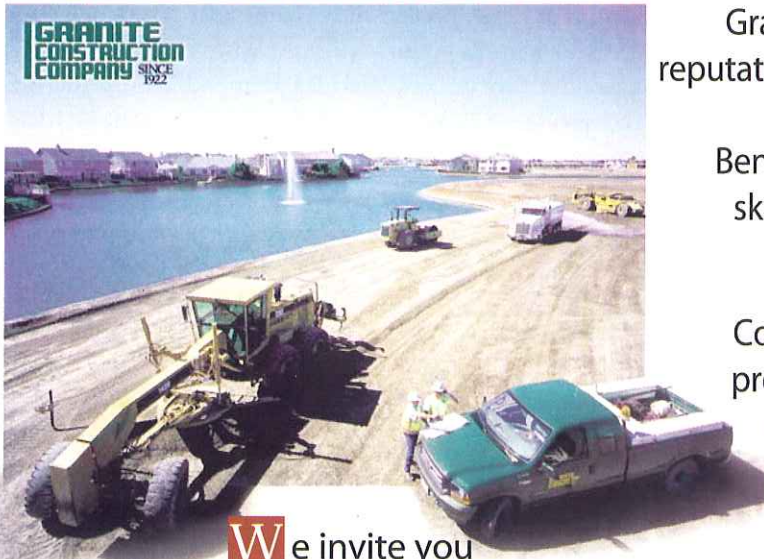
environmentally friendly manner.

Project manager for the City of Reno, Kerrie Koski, says construction crews helped residents take things from their cars to their homes when driveway access was restricted. One neighbor wrote to compliment the "speed, courtesy, professionalism and friendship" shown by the construction workers.



Granite Construction dug up 26 city blocks around the Veterans Medical Center and replaced gutters, sidewalks and roadways during 75 days of construction. Construction crews often helped residents by carrying items to their homes.

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