

## **LEGISLATIVE VISITS**

### **Illinois ESOP Members Visit State Legislators in Washington D.C., May, 2009**

During the ESOP Association's Annual Conference in our nation's capital, officers and members of the Illinois Chapter had the opportunity to meet with members of Illinois' congressional delegation, including Representative Jan Schakowsky, Representative Bill Foster, and the Chief of Staff for Representative Danny Davis, and staff members for Senators Dick Durbin and Roland Burris. A large group from our chapter also attended the weekly Constituents' Breakfast with Senators Durbin and Burris. A contingent from Forsythe Technologies also had visits with numerous representatives.

Everyone we spoke with was receptive to our message and had positive opinions of ESOPs. As a result of Michael Silverman's efforts, we are proud to announce that we are finalizing details of a company visit to SmithBucklin by Representative Danny Davis in June. Representative Davis was recently named to the House Ways & Means Committee. We will provide more details as they become available.

The best way to show our representatives what ESOPs are really all about is to have them visit our great ESOP companies. If you would be interested in sponsoring a company visit and would like assistance with contacting your representative, please contact Julie Govreau, Chapter Vice President, Legislative.

### **SmithBucklin Corporation Hosts Member Meeting With Congressman Danny Davis**

On June 15, 2009, 32 members of the Illinois ESOP Community had the opportunity to discuss the value of Employee Ownership with Congressman Danny Davis at an event hosted by SmithBucklin Corporation. The collective efforts to share individual ESOP experiences with the Congressman made the event a resounding success.

Pictures of the event can be viewed at the following link: <http://jlurie.zenfolio.com/ilesop>.

In addition to Illinois ESOP Chapter Officers, Tony Lessmeister, David Solomon, and Julie Govreau, representatives from the following employee owned companies in the Congressman's 7<sup>th</sup> District participated:

Amsted Industries  
Campbell & Company  
Forsythe Technology  
National Bureau of Property Administration  
Pioneer Engineering  
SmithBucklin Corporation

The program opened with a short presentation about ESOPs, followed by a group discussion. Participants had the opportunity to share some background about their organization, its ESOP, and some personal stories with Congressman Davis as to how their ESOP has positively impacted employees, particularly front line workers.

Thank you to all who participated. The Illinois Chapter looks forward to continuing that team work with all of you in the future should lobbying efforts be needed to protect this wonderful structure of ownership.

Michael Silverman  
Vice President and General Counsel  
SmithBucklin Corporation  
[www.smithbucklin.com](http://www.smithbucklin.com)