



CEAC Newsletter

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FALL 2006

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE COUNTY ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA

Inside This Issue:

CEAC Policy Conf.	2
Board of Director's Meeting Minutes	3
Surveyor	7
Flood Control	8
Land Use	9
Scholarship	10
In Memoriam Ardis Campbell	11
In Memoriam Jack Gilmore	12
Pavement Preservation	13
Droppings	14
Condors Soar	15
What Do You Know?	16
Buffalo Bull Award	17
Barbecue 2005	18
This and That	19

CEAC/CSAC Annual Fall Meeting Nov. 28 - Dec. 1, 2006 Anaheim, Orange County

Join your County Supervisors, engineering peers and other County officials in CSAC's 112th Annual Meeting at the Disneyland Hotel. The general sessions, keynote speakers, committee meetings and training sessions will be packed with worthwhile information to enable us all to improve on our daily performance and build a solid future for our Counties.

Note: Online registration has closed, **but it is not too late to attend this conference.** For further information on how to register at this time, contact Katrina Thompson, CEAC and CSAC Legislative Assistant, at (916) 327-7500, ext.512 or kthompson@counties.org.



All Materials Submitted Subject to the "3 Rs" - Review, Revision, Rejection

CEAC POLICY CONFERENCE

The recent Policy Conference on September 28th and 29th in Sacramento, with over eighty of our CEAC members plus several affiliates in attendance, was a huge success.

Six of our committees were able to meet on Thursday. In addition, a luncheon session on Thursday provided an interesting overview of the problem of illegal dumping from the state-wide perspective as well as a presentation by Butte County on its fight to eradicate illegal dumping at the local level. On Friday, the CEAC Board of Directors met in the morning to address issues and work priorities developed during Thursday's committee sessions. In addition, the Transportation Committee met followed by a general luncheon meeting that provided an overview of CEAC's 2007/08 policy and legislative priorities.

Although there were overlaps in the times for the committee meetings on Thursday, the closeness of the meeting locations enabled many to share their time between concurrent meetings. CSAC's conference room on K St. and the larger room at the CSAC conference center on 11th St. proved to be up to the task of accommodating the well attended conference.

THANK YOU to the CEAC Executive Committee, all committee chairs and co-chairs, and CSAC staff for making this a successful endeavor.

Also, a big **THANK YOU** to **THE WILDAN GROUP** for their conference sponsorship!

CLODS - IN ACTION

Senior CLOD and our Glorious Leader, *The Old Crow*, Bill McIntosh, having recovered from a few ailments that had kept him grounded for a while, called the flock together somewhere in the East Bay area during the month of October for a meeting of old minds, oops friends.

The most important thing we learned at the meeting is that arrangements for another great CLODS Barbecue are being made for the Annual Meeting in Anaheim. *The Bald Eagle*, Gerry Shaul, has been busily working with ORANGE COUNTY Public Works staff in putting together the event. All we know at this time is that the Barbecue will be held at the San-Tee-Ah-Go Regional Park somewhere in Orange County.

You won't want to miss the Barbecue Program as Gerry has arranged an awesome lineup of entertainment industry celebrities for your pleasure. Be sure and bring your cameras and autograph books.

BE THERE : GOOD FOOD - GOOD PEOPLE - GOOD FUN

**Minutes for June 9, 2006
CEAC Board of Directors Meeting
Plumas County Department of Public Works – Quincy CA**

1.0 CALL TO ORDER/OPENING REMARKS/INTRODUCTIONS

President Maurice Shiu called the County Engineers Association of California, Board of Directors meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. at the Plumas County Department of Public Works with the following in attendance:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>County/Agency</u>
Officers		
Maurice Shiu	President	Contra Costa
Mike Crump	President Elect	Butte
George Johnson	Secretary	Riverside
Mehdi Sadjadi	Treasurer	Marin (Retired)
Tim Hackworth	Past President	Placer (Retired)
Doug Wilson	Parliamentarian	Tulare (Retired)
Regional Directors		
Jon Wrysinski	Northern California	Colusa
George Johnson	Southern California	Riverside
Committees		
<u>Name</u>	<u>Committee</u>	<u>County/Agency</u>
Wes Zicker	Land Use	Placer
Pat DeChellis	Transportation	Los Angeles
Brian McDermot	Transportation	Siskiyou
CSAC Staff		
DeAnn Baker	Legislative Representative	CSAC
Katrina Thompson	Legislative Assistant	CEAC/CSAC

2.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

2.1 SELF INTRODUCTIONS

2.2 CLODS REPORT

Treasurer Mehdi Sadjadi advised that Bill McIntosh, though he really wanted to, could not attend today's meeting due to a recent surgery.

Mr. McIntosh did want to remind the Board that if requested by the President, the CLODS will provide the CLODS bar-b-que at the Fall Conference.

2.3 CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence from March '06 through May '06 was presented for member review and comment, as follows:

2.3.1 CEAC State Affiliate Report/NACE Annual State Report (3-20-06)

2.3.2 State Fair Political Practices Report (3-9-06)

2.3.3 Questionnaire from Alameda County (3-21-06) Note: Response was made to Alameda County, as it was not related to a lobbying organization.

2.3.4 Welcome to CEAC – Cathryn Hilliard, Construction Industry Force Account Council (5-6-06)

2.3.5 Invitation to Hiene Junge, NACE, to speak at CEAC Annual Fall Conference (5-30-06)

2.3.6 Congratulations and notice of dues paid to NACE and ARTBA – William S. Brunet, Public Works Director Imperial County (5-16-06)

2.3.7 Congratulations and notice of dues paid to NACE and ARTBA – Fred Abadi, Ph.D., Public Works Director San Francisco City and County (3-10-06)

2.3.8 CEAC to Will Kempton, DOT, regarding encroachment permit process (5-30-06)

2.3.9 To Banky Curtis, CA Dept of Fish and Game, regarding February 16 '06 meeting and relationship building (3-9-06)

- 2.3.10 Nick Goldstein – ARTBA – Check for \$5,800.00, fifty-eight California counties membership dues (03-16-06)

2.4 REGIONAL DIRECTOR REPORTS

The following Regional Director Reports were presented for member review and comment:

- 2.4.1 South Central Coast Region Director's Report submitted by Tom Bolich
2.4.2 Southern California Region Director's Report submitted by George Johnson

2.5 COMMITTEE REPORTS

The following Committee Report was presented for member review and comment:

- 2.5.1 Scholarship Committee Report submitted by Tom Bolich

3.0 DISCUSSION ITEMS

3.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MARCH 3, 2006

Motion and Second (Crump/Wrysinski) to approve the Minutes of March 3, 2006, CEAC Board of Directors meeting. **Motion was unanimously approved.**

3.2 VISION 2008 STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

- 3.2.1 Consider recommendations from the Administration and Member Services Committees regarding the implementation of CEAC Vision 2008 and take appropriate actions.

Vision 2008 Four Key Themes

1. Promote the Public Works profession
2. Expand membership participation in CEAC
3. Facilitate more interaction with Board of Supervisors
4. Better internal and external communications

President Shiu referred to his report of June 5, 2006, to the Member Services and Administration Committees, Daniel Woldesenbet and Henry Hash, outlining the fourteen key points that were developed in a brainstorming session held on May 19, 2006. Further, the following seven items were put forth as immediate recommendations.

Immediate Recommendations/Discussion Points:

1. CEAC Website:
 - CSAC is considering the purchase of ACTIVA software
 - CEAC could participate in cost sharing
 - Total cost approximately \$5,000.00
 - Will be maintained by CSAC staff
2. CEAC Newsletter:
 - Include member profiles
 - Include special accomplishments
 - It will take member participation
 - Information exchange
 - Continue to have fun/lighter side
 - Integrate with updated website
3. CEAC request to participate in CSAC New Supervisor orientation
 - Explain unique role of Road Commissioner, etc.
 - Explain benefits and role of CEAC
 - Each County public works operates differently
 - All agreed to the importance, but still need to figure out how to present our position to Supervisors
 - Doug Wilson cautioned that we need to be careful about how we get the message out.
 - We don't want to be self-serving and we should send a "good messenger".
4. More active at CSAC Policy Committee
5. Mini CEAC Conference in August/September to develop CEAC recommendations on Policies in various technical areas and legislative recommendations prior to CSAC Fall Conference
6. Continue to work on remaining recommendations

Discussion

Doug Wilson emphasized another area of importance, Regions. He noted that the regions are an integral part of CEAC, and the regional aspect would be a good way to get more of the membership involved. It was pointed out that the initial recommendations were developed to provide a structure for immediate actions.

Motion and Second (Crump/Johnson) to accept and begin work on the initial recommendations.

Motion was approved.

Doug Wilson cautioned there were too many unclear issues that require clarification.

3.3 CSAC REPORT

CSAC Legislative Representative DeAnn Baker reported:

3.3.1 CSAC is anticipating an on-time state budget and significant legislative progress.

3.3.2 Introduction of SB 1694 SAFETEA LU

3.3.3 Seeking money in Infrastructure Bond, with \$1 billion for counties and \$1 billion for cities

3.3.4 Local road rehab eligible in STIP

3.3.5 Prop 1A permanently fixes Prop 42 in November '07

3.3.6 Prop 42 early payback in Governor's budget

3.3.7 Five different county sales tax measures all failed at recent election

3.3.8 Anderson Initiative (eminent domain) main impacts are the protection of private property rights and the affect on redevelopment properties.

Both DeAnn Baker and Karen Keene now have full time analysts.

3.4 NEEDS ASSESSMENT REPORT

President Maurice Shiu reported the Bay Area developed a Local Streets and Roads Strategic Plan, which was included for Members review and comment.

CSAC Legislative Representative DeAnn Baker met with RTPA's to explain CEAC's Needs Assessment request. The next meeting will be held on July 19, in San Diego. Brian Lee and Julie Bueren have done a good job of moving this effort forward with assistance from Jim Biery. The RTPA's are generally supportive; we will continue to work with them.

Doug Wilson expressed concern about the consistency or lack thereof in all of our pavement management systems and noted this was the difficult part of past efforts. Maurice Shiu responded that the Committee discussed this obstacle, but felt some common parameters could be developed to gather data for the cities and counties.

3.5 TRAVEL REQUEST FROM BRIAN MCDERMOTT TO REPRESENT CEAC AND PARTICIPATE IN A FOREST RECEIPT TRIP TO WASHINGTON D.C.

Brian McDermott, Siskiyou County, submitted his letter of May 25, 2006, to Maurice Shiu, President, for the members review. Mr. McDermott asks that CEAC provide sponsorship for his travel expenses to Washington D.C. on September 13-14, 2006, to represent Siskiyou and the other thirty-six California counties who stand to lose over \$60 million in funding when PL 106-393 expires at the end of the year. The revenue from this Act provides 50% of Siskiyou's annual road budget and its loss would be devastating.

Motion and Second (Wrysinski/Johnson) to approve sponsorship to Brian McDermott for this important and educational trip. Expenditures are not to exceed \$1,500.00.

Motion was unanimously approved.

3.6 OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

The Oversight Committee submitted draft additions/deletions to the CEAC Bylaws.

The matter was deferred to the Board of Directors September meeting for decision on full membership consideration at the Fall Conference.

3.7 TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Mehdi Sadjadi presented the Treasurer's Report for the period ending May 22, 2006, for member's review.

The Treasurer made the following comments:

One county, Modoc, still has not paid. Mike Crump will discuss with Modoc at the next Regional meeting, scheduled for the week of the 12th.

Six (6) new affiliates were added, three from the Spring Conference and three from the NACE

conference. Treasurer Sadjadi advised Affiliate dues, currently \$250.00, could easily be increased if there is a need.

Contracts need to be reviewed with CSAC and MOU's need to be reviewed with the League of California Cities.

Dating back to 1984, the Newsletter Editor is paid a monthly fee of \$350.00, however there is no contract in place, although it is included in the budget.

The Spring Conference generates revenue for CEAC \$15,000 to \$20,000.

The Fall Conference costs CEAC \$5,000 - \$10,000.

3.8 SPRING AND FALL CONFERENCES

President Elect Mike Crump has been considering methods to improve the Spring and Fall Conferences in conjunction with CEAC Vision 2008 efforts and opened the discussion to the members. It was suggested that at the Spring Conference the General Membership meeting be included with the Friday morning breakfast.

4.0 ADJOURNMENT

The Board of Director's meeting was adjourned.

/S/ George A. Johnson

September 29, 2006

Minutes Approved by George A. Johnson
Secretary CEAC

Date



*“If 40 million people say a foolish thing it does not become a wise one,
but the wise man is foolish to give them the lie” ~ Somerset Maugham*

SURVEYOR POLICY COMMITTEE

MEETING OF 9/28/2006

By Michael Emmons, Chair (Santa Barbara County)

The CEAC Survey Policy Committee addresses issues related to the Profession of Land Surveying within County Government. The primary focus is on application of the Professional Land Surveyor's Act (Business and Professions Code Section 8700-8805), the Subdivision Map Act (Government Code Section 66410-66499.58), and the Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors Board Rules.

Committee membership is comprised of County Surveyors (including those who may carry the title of Director or Deputy Director of Public Works), Deputy County Surveyors, and City Surveyors of large metropolitan cities.

The most important issue recently addressed by the Survey Policy Committee at the CEAC "mini-conference" in September 2006 was related to preservation of survey infrastructure. The Committee recommended that the Board of Directors of CEAC request that CSAC sponsor legislation for monument preservation. If successful, this legislative change will eliminate the antiquated exemption for lots in tracts in collecting the \$10 monument preservation fee attached to grant deeds of property being transferred. Such a change would provide counties and large metropolitan cities with adequate funding to preserve this valuable asset and make future surveys less expensive for landowners, developers, and government agencies.

Currently, the Committee is discussing possible solutions for the shortage of qualified Land Surveyors available to the government for appointment to County Surveyor and other licensed government positions. Many counties have experienced difficulty in recruiting such individuals and, with the low passing rate of those taking the licensing test, the future for filling this vital function may well rest on creative efforts rather than a wide pool of candidates. This topic was thoroughly discussed by the CEAC Oversight Committee white paper entitled "Strategies for Counties to Accomplish Professional Land Surveying Services" which was adopted by the Survey Policy Committee last year.

Other issues being discussed include changes to the Business and Professions Code for preservation of vertical control on Corner Records, supporting efforts to fund the Enforcement Division of the Board of Registration and the Land Surveyor Technical Advisory Committee (LS TAC), and participation in statewide Geographic Information Systems (GIS) committees.

FLOOD CONTROL & WATER RESOURCES POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING OF 9/28/2006

By Jeff Pratt, Chair (Ventura County)

Underlying and related to a number of legislative agenda desires is something that we are calling the committee's white paper on "Flood Control." It is a proposal for a statewide flood control needs assessment. The assessment would include: a statewide assessment of the potential for damage; existing infrastructure (with condition index); barriers to implementation; and recommendations. After the FCWRPC meeting, a "white paper" subcommittee met to flesh out the issue. It was decided to ask the CEAC Board of Directors for funding that would allow the committee to hire a consultant and scope the problem with a deliverable of an RFP that could be used to hire a consultant to perform the overall assessment. This request was presented to the Board on 9/29/2006. This item has been moved to the highest priority for the committee.

After reviewing FCWRPC existing legislative priorities and guidelines, several additional items were discussed by the committee. Highlights of these action items are as follows:

1. Include, as a long term priority item, the clean up of concentrated environmental wastes e.g. Mercury mine sites. The problem being that if you volunteer to clean up such sites, the volunteering party may take on liability for the existing contamination regardless of who may have caused the contamination.
2. Use CSAC/CEAC as a forum to sponsor workshops or meetings with appropriate legislative authors on any future "water bond" funding proposals to ensure that flood control needs are considered for funding.
3. Support state legislation that provides money for levee rehabilitation/repair/upgrade etc. statewide and not solely in the Bay-Delta area as is currently being proposed.
4. An FCWRPC coalition is going to meet with the Department of Water Resources to ask that they either budget \$200 million annually for subvention funding or that they use a budget trailer bill to secure the funding. The coalition will be comprised of representatives from counties currently due subvention funding for past project expenditures including: Orange, Santa Clara, Napa, Los Angeles, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.
5. At the next meeting of the FCWRPC at the Fall Conference, the committee will be discussing the "200-year" flood protection standard currently under consideration by the State and by FEMA.
6. Also at the Fall Conference, the FCWRPC will discuss HR4973, which is proposed federal legislation dealing with residual risk and associated costs.

LAND USE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 28, 2006

**By Cheryl Creson (Sacramento County) and
Wes Zicker (Placer County), Co-Chairs**

Welcome Remarks and Introductions

Agenda Items:

2006 CEAC Legislative and Administrative Guidelines

Discussion was led by Cheryl Creson, Wes Zicker and DeAnn Baker

Items 2, 3, and 4 of the Agenda were discussed together. There was general agreement that there is no legislation to propose at this time from the Land Use Committee, but we should continue to monitor legislation particularly for regional governance issues. Previous legislative proposals have suggested incentives for those entities who participate in smart growth planning such as the “Blueprint” in the Sacramento area. Many rural counties have not initiated such a regional planning process and thus could be at risk for funding opportunities should such proposals not include a rural functional equivalent. In addition, there is concern regarding erosion of land use power for the local City/County governments.

Item 5 on the agenda was regarding Proposition 90 on the November election ballot. Jean Hurst from CSAC discussed this Proposition and the potential disadvantages it would have on public agencies in relation to acquisition of right of way and takings of property, business opportunities, etc. The campaign against it has a number of backers, but additional funding is being sought. Handouts were provided.

Item No. 6 was funding for road maintenance. Wes Zicker discussed two methods that Placer County uses for funding Operation and Maintenance of roads. The first is a County Service Area Zone of Benefit for chip seals and overlays. The second is a Permanent Road Division for “public roads” that aren’t County maintained. The County assists the residents in forming a district and assessing themselves for operation and management. The County provides the service and the payment is a line item on the tax bill. Wes is to provide CEAC with the advisory information used by Placer County for these funding options to be posted on the CEAC website.

2006/07 Proposed Action Requests

Fall Conference: A decision was made to invite County planners to our committee meeting at the fall conference in Anaheim. We should also work to schedule a joint meeting with the Planning Directors Association. In addition, it was decided that a list of Best Management Practices should be generated and discussed one at a time at future committee meetings.

LAND USE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING (CONT.)

Potential topics are as follows:

- A. Streamlining Development Processes
- B. Under grounding of Utilities
- C. Development Impact Fees

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am. The next Land Use Policy Committee meeting will be held from 8:00 am to 10:00 am on November 29, 2006 at the Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

By Tom Bolich (Santa Cruz County)

After a review of ten applications for the 2006 CEAC Memorial Fund Scholarships, the committee selected the following three junior year students to each receive a \$2,000 scholarship:

- **Jordan Damarel** of Concord, attending University of California, Berkeley and majoring in Civil and Environmental Engineering;
- **Trevor Mallo** of San Jose, attending Santa Clara University and majoring in Civil Engineering; and
- **Samporn Boonsalat** of Stockton, attending the University of the Pacific and majoring in Civil and Water Resources Engineering.

CEAC congratulates each of you on this achievement and wishes you the best in all your future engineering endeavors.

IN MEMORIAM

Ardis Arleen Campbell
1933-2006

“A marvelous person who impacted the lives and captured the friendship of so many people.”

Ardis, devoted wife of Honorable CLOD Budge Campbell, mother, and friend, highly respected educator and valued community member, died peacefully, with grace and dignity on Thursday October 12, 2006. She was surrounded and survived by her husband of 51 years, her two daughters Colby and Kenzie of Sacramento and her son Colton with wife Marilyn of Washington D.C. Her oldest son Craigie proceeded her in death.

Ardis was born in Oregon, but spent most of her formative years in Chico. As one might expect, she was “Miss” everything in high school, graduated with high honors from Chico State, with a Bachelor of Arts Degree and secondary teaching credential, and subsequently earned a Master of Arts Degree in counseling from the University of San Francisco. “She was everybody’s best friend” according to Budge, who met his future wife in the sixth grade.

Ardis’ long career in education began with her first full time teaching position in the English Department at Ukiah High School in 1974, progressed to work as a Dean/Counselor in 1988 and concluded with retirement in 1999. Ukiah High Assistant Principal, Dan Stearns (also one of her former students) said, “She was one of the most popular teachers in the last 40 or 50 years. Ardis made the journey through literature rewarding, fun and enlightening. I couldn’t think of a better teacher to have when you’re reading ‘Romeo and Juliet’ as a freshman. You just ended up falling in love with Shakespeare.” She loved her “**Kids**”.

Ardis was very active in community affairs and well known for developing the ice cream social in the park, initiating the Bicentennial fire hydrant painting, participating with friends in landscaping the high school, working with the 4-H, starting libraries for several local elementary schools, substitute teaching, participating in CEAC and on and on.

All of us at CEAC extend our deepest sympathy to Budge and the family.

*As one by one the autumn leaves fade in the forest deep,
As one by one, in each of you must come the touch of sleep;
As one by one, the roses burst into the morning light,
So one by one, your souls shall wake again beyond the night.*

IN MEMORIAM

Jack S. Gilmore

1921 – 2006

Jack Gilmore, former Road Commissioner for Glenn County passed away on August 12, 2006 in Orland, California at the age of 85. Jack was employed by the Glenn County Road Department for 38 years, where he worked his way up the ladder to be one of the early Road Commissioners in the Northern California Region of CEAC.

Jack was born in Red Deer, Alberta, Canada on June 21, 1921. His family moved to Orland in 1926 where he lived until his passing. He graduated from Orland High School in 1939, joined the Air Force in 1942 and served in England during World War II until 1945.

Jack married the love of his life, June Gundry in 1946 and they celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in July of this year.

Jack was a proud member of the Orland Volunteer Fire Department for 34 years. Even after retirement from the fire department, he was a very active exempt member as well as a member of the Orland Masonic Lodge.

His joys in life were his family, TGIF, trips to Reno, meeting his friends each morning at the Donut Hole, and being a part of the Volunteer Fire Department.

Jack is survived by his wife, June, his daughters Ann, Bonnie, Kathy, a brother and numerous nephews, nieces, relatives and a wonderful circle of friends.

We at CEAC offer our heartfelt condolences to June and the family.

PAVEMENT PRESERVATION CONFERENCE



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Industry and Agency**

2 Day Educational Conference Covering:

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- Aggregates
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January 25th – 26th, 2007

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Sponsored by the California Chip Seal Association and Caltrans

(Optional Industry/Agency Golf Tournament on Jan. 24th)

For more information and registration forms go to www.chipseal.org



Droppings

from out of the past

The Hat Third Installment

By Annonny Mous

In the last edition of the Newsletter, our Historian attempted to expand the history of **The Hat** through a simple question and assignment posed to the current possessor. As of the publishing date of the current Newsletter, no reply to the question had been forthcoming. Accordingly, the question is now repeated in case the current possessor of **The Hat** had inadvertently overlooked the question previously. "I am asking that the current possessor inventory what's on **The Hat** and provide a list (to the Historian) so that it can be shared in the next Newsletter." Since **The Hat** is scheduled to change hands, or heads, on Friday December 1, 2006, it is incumbent on the possessor that the requested inventory be provided no later than 4:19 pm on Saturday, November 24, 2006. **REMEMBER: There will definitely be a new Past-President on December 1st,..... but a new CLOD??????**

ATTENTION CLODS:

Question: "What do we do with our CLODS' wrist watch when it stops running?"

Answer: "Take it to your friendly jewelry store and have the battery replaced, cost approximately \$5.00."

~ VD

California condors soar above the Grand Canyon

By **LARRY BLEIBERG**
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

GRAND CANYON, Ariz. — Visitors usually come to the Grand Canyon to look down. Now there's a reason to look up. Dozens of California condors, a species nearly extinct 20 years ago, soar in the wild above northern Arizona. Many can be seen at the South Rim of Grand Canyon National Park, riding thermals, spiraling higher into the sky.

Condors are the largest land-based

bird in North America. They stand 4 feet tall and sport a wingspan of more than 9 feet. They are easy to spot: large, jet-black birds with triangular white patches on the bottoms of their wings.

The birds have attracted quite a following. Shelly and Jon Soderberg of Sacramento and their 12-year-old son had been waiting 90 minutes to see them. Suddenly, two condors began circling above the canyon's Bright Angel Trail, briefly perching on rocks a

SEE PAGE H-2, CONDORS

CONTINUED FROM H-1

few dozen feet from the rim.

"It's a bit neater seeing them here than at the zoo," Soderberg said as he zoomed in on them with a digital camera.

Saving the birds has taken decades. Condors, which once lived throughout North America, saw their territory decline over the millennia. But the population plummeted in the past century due to habitat loss, pesticides and hunting (the birds are scavengers, and those that eat game shot by hunters are poisoned by the lead in the ammunition).

By 1982, the birds were all but gone. Only 22 remained.

"It's about as close to extinct as you can come," said Thom Lord, field manager for the Peregrine Fund, an international bird conservation group.

In a last-ditch effort to save the species, biologists in 1987 removed all of the birds from the wild. Then conservationists began a breeding program at zoos in California and Oregon. Success came quickly.

After five years, the population was back to a few hundred birds.

When it was time to reintroduce them to the wild, some birds were returned to Southern California, but as an experiment, six were brought to northern Arizona, where they had not been seen since 1924.

Most were juveniles that didn't know proper bird behavior. For example, several roosted near the ground, where they were prey to coyotes. Another drank antifreeze and died.

Now there are about 70 condors in northern Arizona, and up to 20 may be in the Grand Canyon area at any time.

CONDOR FACTS

- ▶ California condors are the largest North American land-based bird.
- ▶ Condors nearly went extinct due to poisoning, hunting and power-line collisions.
- ▶ At one point condors thrived across North America, but in the last 6,000 years they retreated to the west coast of the United States.
- ▶ Adult height: about 4 feet. Wingspan: about 9½ feet. Weight: about 20 pounds
- ▶ The population of California condors had dipped to 22 by 1987. Now it is approaching 300.

IF YOU GO ...

- ▶ Finding condors: Condors are often seen near the South Rim of the Grand Canyon from spring through early fall. The best time for viewing is between 9 and 10 a.m. and around 5 p.m.

Resources:

- ▶ Grand Canyon travel information: www.nps.gov/grca
- ▶ Arizona travel information: www.arizonaguide.com
- ▶ For more on the condor: www.peregrinefund.org, listed under "Conservation Projects"



BOB GREISER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Vulture-like California condors prosper on the Central Coast.



“Do you think they’d believe we’re California Condors?”

WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

The Tres Pinos Committee met recently in an undisclosed location in San Benito County to review and evaluate the responses from Quiz No. 1 which appeared on page 14 in the Summer 2006 Newsletter. To get into the proper frame of mind and body to review and evaluate responses to an exciting Eighth Grade Arithmetic Final Exam, which was the subject of the Quiz, food and spirit were consumed freely. *The Committee* after much spirit and consternation was able to come to a unanimous decision through a silent voice vote. The results are as follows:

Number of Correct Responses: Naught

Number of Partially Correct Responses: Zero

Number of Responses Received Prior to the Deadline Date: Zilch

Number of Correct Responses Received After the Deadline Date: Nil

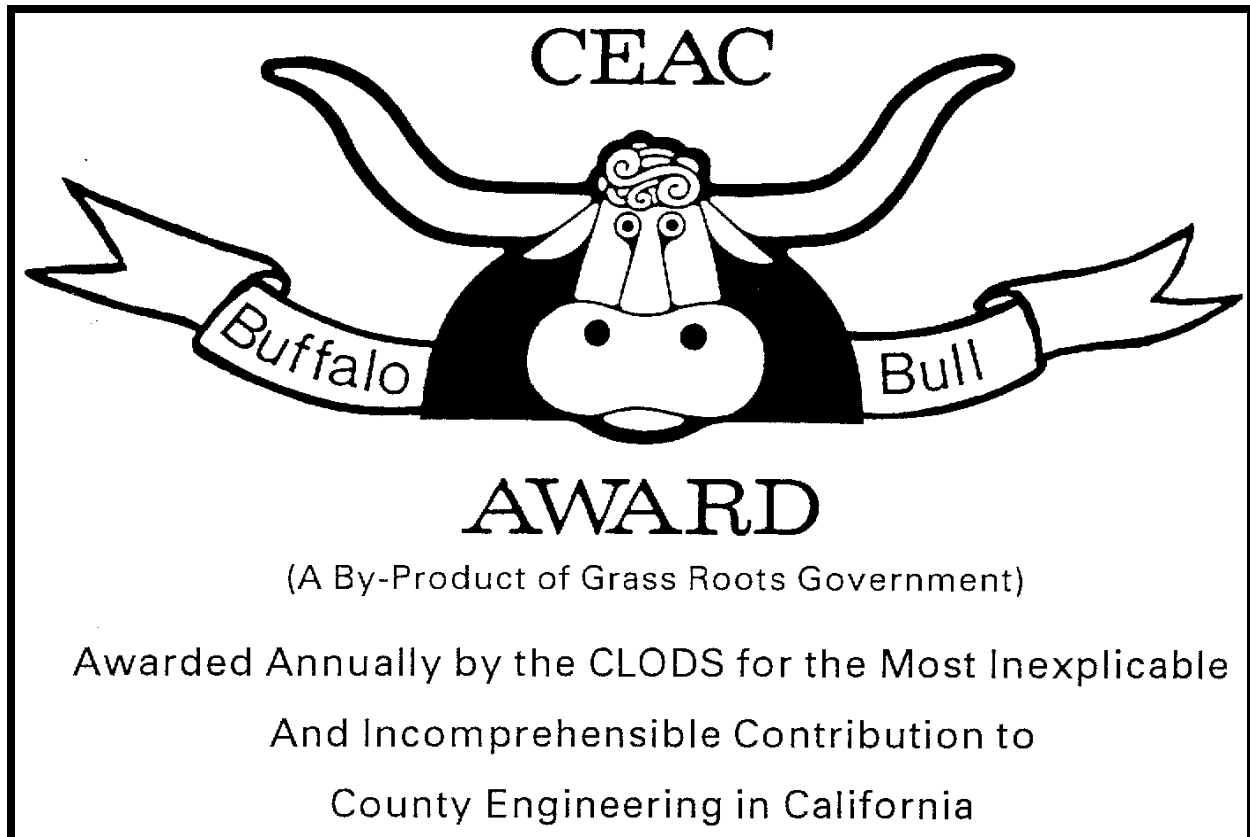
Total Number of Responses Received : Goose egg, Zip

The Committee concluded that an 8th Grade Arithmetic Final Exam from Kansas was far too difficult for CEAC’s finest and easier questions must be used in any future quizzes. The \$25 gift card goes unclaimed.

Quiz No.2 - Fall 2006

List as many ways that you can think of to say zero in the English language. Lists must be in alphabetical order and must be received by the Newsletter Editor prior to Jan. 30, 2007. In case of ties, the earliest date of **ANY** submittal will prevail.

A \$25 gift card still awaits!



Once each year, each county receives a notice requesting **Nominations** for this very special award, and yes, this is that notice. **Nominations**, along with explanatory material are to be sent to the Newsletter Editor, who serves only as the expeditor of this tremendous undertaking. Upon receipt of a nomination, he immediately makes five (5) copies and sends the original and the five copies to an unknown P.O. Box in Tres Pinos, California.

Tres Pinos is located in San Benito County, east of the City of Hollister, and is the site of the late CLODS' Bull Condor's (ED HANNA) favorite watering hole- - "BOROVICH'S IRISH HACIENDA," and the home of the 8th Miracle of the World, "THE INVERTED THERMODYNAMIC SYSTEM OF WASTE DISPOSAL" better known as "THE OVER-HEAD SEWAGE TREATMENT SYSTEM."

A special CLODS committee, the Tres Pinos Committee, with unknown members and numbers, which was somehow created in 1972, when IRV MOHAR of Los Angeles County, became the first recipient, receives the nominations and determines the successful candidate.

ALL NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 3:37 PM ON JANUARY 30, 2007

The winner, along with two runner-ups will be recognized and "honored" at the Spring Conference President's Banquet in Monterey.

Not to worry - not to worry. Complete confidentiality and secrecy prevails.

CLODS BARBECUE 2005



“The CLODS”



More Food Like This is Planned for Anaheim - Don't Miss Out

THIS AND THAT....

HAVING just arrived at the edge of the river, the fisherman soon realized he had forgotten to bring bait. Just then he happened to see a little snake passing by who had caught a worm. The fisherman snatched up the snake and robbed him of his worm.

Feeling sorry for the little snake with no lunch, he snatched him up again and poured a little beer down his throat. Then he went about his fishing.

An hour or so later the fisherman felt a tug at his pant leg. Looking down, he saw the same snake with three more worms in his mouth.

A COMMITTEE is a group of the unprepared, appointed by the unwilling, to do the unnecessary.

A BOSS tells his new employee, "I will give you \$8 an hour starting today, and in three months I'll raise it to \$10 an hour. When can you start?"

The new employee replied: "In three months."

IN THE MEN'S ROOM at work, the boss placed a sign directly above the sink. It had a single word on it: **"Think"**

The next day, when he went to the men's room, the boss looked at the sign and right below, immediately above the soap dispenser, someone had carefully lettered another sign: **"Thoap"**



THE RECEPTION AREA of the doctor's office was filled to capacity, but the doctor was working at his usual snail's pace. After waiting two hours, an old man slowly stood up and headed for the door. When everyone stopped talking to look at him, he announced, "Well, I guess I'll just go home and die a natural death."

"I am a part of all that I have read" ~ John Kiernan



And



To You and Your Families