



CEAC Newsletter

Editor: Ken Miller, 11374 Oak Hill Lane, Yucaipa, CA 92399

February 2008

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE COUNTY ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA

A PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

By
George Johnson

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Let me start by wishing everyone a Happy New Year. I hope you and your families had a happy and safe holiday season. I want you all to know how honored I am to have been selected by the CEAC membership and CLODS to serve as your President for 2008. I have so much respect for the public service you provide to your respective counties and how we come together through CEAC to serve the entire State of California. I want to acknowledge Mike Crump, our Past President, for his leadership and hard work during the past year as our glorious leader. Mike did a tremendous job representing CEAC and I will be calling on him throughout the year for his continued guidance. I also want to congratulate Peter Rei for accepting the position of President-Elect and Patrick DeChellis on his installation as incoming Secretary. Each of us, together with all the Board of Directors, is excited to work for CEAC in the coming year.

Last year at this time we were all celebrating the successful passage of the Governor's Infrastructure Bond Package, Propositions 1A through 1E. It seemed that infrastructure funding had again become important in the State after so many years of neglect. Just when we thought we were going to be receiving more money for our local streets and roads with the first allocation of Proposition 1B funds expected this year and the expectation of Proposition 42 funds becoming permanent beginning in the 2008/09 fiscal year, the Governor's draft budget has proposed a five month delay, beginning in April 2008, of our Gas Tax subventions. While this is still a proposal, and although there are many months ahead of us before the State budget will be finalized, it is obvious the State's financial situation, with a projected \$14.5 billion shortfall, will impact us at the local level. It remains to be seen what the final budget implications will be to our counties, but one thing is certain, we will be affected. We simply don't know to what extent. CEAC, in conjunction with CSAC, is actively working to minimize

A PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE (CONT.)

the impacts.

Even with the State's financial situation, it is important for CEAC to move forward and plan for the future. We have secured enough financial pledges to proceed with the Local Streets and Roads Needs Assessment. This is a critically important effort to cities and counties throughout California. The Needs Assessment has been a priority of CEAC for as long as I have been involved with CEAC and I am excited we have found a way to make this effort a reality. If you haven't yet provided your financial pledge, we do welcome your involvement. We would really like the Needs Assessment to be supported by all our counties and the best way to show support is by participating. We are in the consultant selection process and expect to have a consultant under contract by the end of February, 2008. Our consultant will then be contacting each county to gather pavement condition ratings. Our goal is to make the Needs Assessment a living document with regular updates to be used as a tool to better educate our policy makers and partners at the state level in an effort to increase funding for local streets and roads.

Our Flood Control and Water Resources Committee initiated a similar Needs Assessment. Through their efforts we have developed a partnership with the State Department of Water Resources and are working on the California Water Plan Update 2009, which will incorporate flood management considerations.

Another hot topic facing each of us this year will be climate change and how we deal with this emerging issue in our respective counties. CSAC has developed some guiding policy statements and principles, but much of the implementation will be accomplished through our collective efforts. Our CEAC Oversight Committee has discussed the importance of climate change and is asking each of our CEAC Policy Committees to discuss the impacts of climate change by adding the topic to this year's agendas.

Shifting gears a bit, many of you know Bill McIntosh, retired Public Works Director from Lassen County, affectionately known as "Old Crow" by the CLODS. It was great to see Bill at the annual CSAC Fall Conference in Oakland and we all enjoyed his active participation in the conference events. Bill recently dealt with a health related issue and is recovering from surgery. We wish Bill a speedy and complete recovery so we can enjoy his involvement at upcoming CEAC and NACE functions.

I also want to remind our membership that you will be receiving your annual ballot from NACE for the upcoming NACE election of officers. Our very own Phil Demery, Sonoma County Transportation and Public Works Director, is on the ballot running for the position of Secretary/Treasurer. Please make sure you take the time to mark your ballot for Phil and return it in the sealed envelope to NACE. Each county receives only one vote. As California has only 58 counties, it is critically important for each and every county to cast their vote for Phil. NACE will install the officers at the annual meeting in Portland, Oregon on April 20-24. It would be great to have good representation from CEAC in Portland to show our support for Phil and share in his installation.

A PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE (CONT.)

The San Joaquin Valley Region asked me to attend their regional meeting on February 15, 2008, and I'm looking forward to the discussion. As your President, I would like to attend other Regional meetings, so please keep me in mind as you put your schedules and agendas together. I know some of our Regions have been more active than others and attending your Regional meeting will provide me with more tools to evaluate what is working well and where other Regions may be able to improve.

On a final note, I want to remind everyone of our annual Spring Conference being held in La Jolla on March 5-7, 2008. For the golfers in the group, the golf tournament will be held on Tuesday March 4, 2008. I look forward to a good turnout at the Spring Conference. I can assure you there will be very timely topics with information we can take back to our respective counties and put to immediate use.

We are entering a very difficult time due to the state's financial situation. CEAC will be working hard to represent your interests. I encourage all of you to attend your Regional meetings, our CEAC conferences and to participate in our various Policy Committees. Your active involvement is critical to the success of CEAC. I look forward to the year ahead and working with each of you to improve the quality of life for the communities we serve as County Engineers.



Our Glorious Leader for 2008



CEAC - Engineer of the Year - 2007



2007 CEAC President Mike Crump presents Tom Bolich, Santa Cruz County, with the “Ed Hanna Memorial Award” for exemplary application of engineering management principles in the field of county engineering.

Congratulations Tom!



“CEAC Memorial Fund Scholarship”

By

Dave Gravenkamp, CEAC Historian

Reported in the September 2007 CEAC Newsletter was the announcement of the three \$2,000 CEAC Scholarships awarded for 2007. They were Jennifer Shore, University of the Pacific, Cardiel Bugarin, U.C.L.A., and Adam Bogage, U.C. San Diego. If you have been around for awhile you may recall reading in the Winter 2001 Newsletter (specifically CEAC History 1971– 1972) why the fund was established. In case you don’t have a copy lying around, let me refresh your memory. Bill Jones, Solano County, and Howard Van Reyper, Yolo County, died together in a boating accident in route home following the annual meeting in Monterey. This tragic event spawned the CEAC Memorial Fund, which under the initial stewardship of Jim Pott, has helped many deserving students in their quest for an engineering degree.

Steven Roberts was the first recipient of a \$500 scholarship and was sponsored by Vic Sauer, Contra Costa County. Scholarships in the amount of \$500 were awarded each year until 1988 when the amount was increased to \$1,000. In 1991 two \$1,000 scholarships were awarded and in 1994 the amount was again increased to \$1,500. Beginning in 2005 applicants were no longer required to have a sponsor. Nearly \$90,000 has been awarded since the inception of the program.

Money to support this important CEAC activity came initially from CEAC members who donated to the fund in remembrance of a member or close relative. Vic Sauer, while alive, was a significant contributor, giving not only in memory of a CEAC member, but also in memory of

DROPPINGS (continued)

relatives, friends, and perhaps even a family pet. The Northern California Bedroll Conference has in the past contributed \$14,000 to the fund. As Vic is gone and the last contribution from the Bedroll Conference was 2001, the program is now almost totally supported from the CEAC treasury.

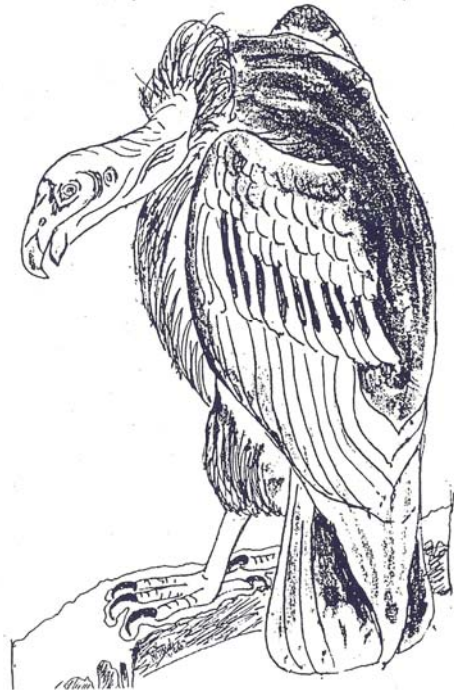
Should you wish to contribute to this cause, your check should be directed to our Treasurer, Mike Sadjadi. Mike will acknowledge receipt of your donation and advise the family that a donation has been made to the Scholarship Memorial fund in the decedent's memory. +



“Congratulations to Our Newest CLOD”

Mike Crump, Butte County

California's Loyal Order of Dedicated Servants



GERRY SHAUL RETIRES

On Saturday February 9th Gerry Shaul, CEAC Past President 2004, CLOD, and of course Public Works Director for Lake County was honored at a retirement dinner by Lake County dignitaries, peers, friends and family.

After graduating with a BSCE from California State University in 1974, Gerry began his career as a Professional Civil Engineer with Burgwin, Pashey & Assoc. of Topeka, Kansas in February 1974 as a Project Engineer. By the time he left their employment to return to his home town in Lake County, California, he was the Branch Office Manager/Design Services Director.

In December 1981, he began his tenure with the County of Lake, as the County Engineer in the Public Works Department. In 1985 he was promoted to the position of Assistant Director of Public Works, a position he held until November 1990. During this period of time he also served as the Interim Public Works Director from May 1986 until September 1986. In 1990 Gerry accepted the position of District Engineer for Lake County Special Districts, a position he held until October 1992 when he was appointed the Director of Public Works which he has been for over 15 years.

During his tenure with the County of Lake, Gerry has been responsible for numerous capital and infrastructure projects ranging from water and sewer, to road and bridges, airport improvements and other governmental facilities including a multi-million dollar county jail that was

(Continued on next page)



Jill and Gerry

GERRY (Cont.)

the first county facility in the State to be constructed “on-time” and under budget. Gerry has overseen the county’s recovery from five Federal declared disasters (flood) and six State declared disasters (flood & fire).

Gerry is an articulate effective speaker, an innovative and imaginative leader and is not afraid of change. He accepts full responsibility for actions and decisions of subordinates and what the Department does or does not do.

As Public Works Director he has overseen the streamlining and computerizing of the Public Works Department, has been a leader in developing alternative funding sources and leveraging state and federal dollars to the maximum possible amount.

On a personal note he served his country as a Marine (including three tours in Vietnam), is married to Jill, and has three children Michele, Aaron & Ian and one grandchild Dylan.. Gerry is an avid hunter and fisherman and an outdoorsman.

*Gerry and Jill,
Thank you for your contributions to County Engineering and CEAC.
~Your CEAC Friends*



Enjoy It Gerry

What does a retiree call a long lunch?

A short lunch.

What does a retired government employee miss most about not having a job?

Not being able to call in sick 2 or 3 times per month.

FALL CONFERENCE – GUESTS



The Seven Wonders of County Engineering

If you were counting the brightly colored bridge you were wrong!

CEAC guests enjoyed getting together for breakfast, bunco, shopping,
and a wonderful cruise of San Francisco Bay.

Luann Johnson has planned another exciting guest program for the Spring Conference
in Torrey Pines.

If you haven't signed up yet, you can still do so.



FALL CONFERENCE - CLODS BBQ



“It all Begins”



“Ditto for the Beans”



“The Affiliates set up Shop”



“Supervisors at Work”

FALL CONFERENCE—CLODS BBQ



“The Hors D’oeuvres”



“ The Chicken is Done”



“Sausages Anyone?”



“The Crowd Gathers”

NACE NEWS

2008 NACE BALLOT



PHIL DEMERY, Director of Public Works,
Sonoma County, Calif.
NACE Secretary-Treasurer

CEAC Members, Don't forget to cast your ballots.

NATIONAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT WEEK APRIL 6 - 12, 2008

The theme for this year's National County Government Week, being held from April 6 - 12, 2008, is "Protecting Our Children". For more information on how you can celebrate this important week visit the National Association of Counties website at <http://www.naco.org/>

NATIONAL WORK ZONE AWARENESS WEEK APRIL 7 - 11, 2008

The ninth annual National Work Zone Awareness Week will be held April 7-11, 2008. The national kickoff for this event will be held in Sacramento, California. This marks the first time that the kickoff will be held outside the Washington, DC area. If you are planning your own event (and we hope you are) The National Work Zone Safety Information Clearinghouse and ARTBA through the Transportation Development Foundation has free and low cost resources. Proceeds from all sales go to the ARTBA Foundation to support scholarships for children of roadway construction workers killed on the job. For more information, see: http://www.work-zonesafety.org/news_events/awareness_week/2008/brochure.

NEW AFFILIATE

Soil Nail Launcher, Inc

955 Malachite Drive, Fruita, CO 81521

C/O James Chinchio

9362 Cedarview Way, Elk Grove CA 95758

Telephone: (916) 698-5133; Fax (916) 720-0218

E-mail: james@soilnaillauncher.com

Soil Nail Launcher, Inc. is a specialty contracting firm operating throughout the United States. Their expertise, proprietary tools and technologies, worldwide reach, and design/build/warranty service allow them to repair virtually any slope stability problem in any kind of geologic setting. With their innovative approaches to slope stabilization, it is possible to cut costs and completion time compared to traditional landslide repairs.

AFFILIATE MEMBER INSTALLED AS HONORARY CLOD

During the CLODS BBQ at the Fall Conference, “The Old Crow,” Bill McIntosh, anointed long time affiliate member, Norman Hawkins as an Honorary CLOD. Norm is only the sixth individual so honored. The others previously receiving the honor were Alan Hart (Caltrans), Harmer Davis



(ITTE Univ of Calif), A.P. (Buzz) Stokes (Chaplain), Vic Pottorff (CSAC), and Win Westfall (Willdan). Norm, the President and CEO of Hawkins Traffic Safety Supply in Berkeley, CA has been an active affiliate member for over 50 years and has attended annual conferences dating to the early 1950s. Norm has contributed greatly to improvements in highway safety throughout California.

“Congratulations Norm”



CEAC AFFILIATE MEMBERS

ACPA-SOUTHWEST - Newport Beach
ASPHALT PAVEMENT ASSOCIATION – Laguna Hills
BASF CORPORATION – Sacramento
CH2M HILL – Sacramento
CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY FORCE ACCOUNT COUNCIL (CIFAC) –Martinez
CONTECH BRIDGE SOLUTIONS, INC. – Rohnert Park
CSG CONSULTANTS – San Mateo
DRAKE HAGLAN & ASSOCIATES - Sacramento
DMJM & HARRIS, INC. - Sacramento
DOKKEN ENGINEERING - Rancho Cordova
ENNIS PAINT COMPANY - Walnut Creek
HARRIS & ASSOCIATES - Concord
HAWKINS TRAFFIC SAFETY SUPPLY – Berkeley
INTERWEST CONSULTING GROUP – Elk Grove
IMBSEN & ASSOCATES, INC. - Sacramento
L.T. MLCOCH, INC. – Redding
MAXIMUS, INC. - Sacramento
MENDOZA & ASSOCIATES – San Francisco
MGE ENGINEERING, INC. - Sacramento
MORRISON STRUCTURES, INC. – Redding
MRO ENGINEERS, INC. - Rocklin
NOLTE ASSOCIATES, INC. - Walnut Creek
OMNI-MEANS ENGINEERS & PLANNERS – Roseville
PARSONS BRINKERHOFF QUADE & DOUGLAS, INC. - Sacramento
PSOMAS & ASSOCIATES - Sacramento
QUINCY ENGINEERING, INC. – Sacramento
REPUBLIC ITS – Novato
ROAD SOLUTIONS – La Quinta
SEMMATERIALS - Fontana
TABER CONSULTANTS - West Sacramento
TELFER OIL COMPANY - Martinez
THE TIBURON GROUP, LLC - Vallejo
T.Y. LIN INTERNATIONAL - Sacramento
URS - Roseville
VANIR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT - Sacramento
VSS EMULTECH - West Sacramento
WEST YOST & ASSOCIATES, INC. - Davis
WESTERN EMULSIONS, INC. - Dana Point
WHEELER LUMBER, LLC - Redding
WILLDAN - Sacramento
WINZLER & KELLY, CONSULTINGS ENGINEERS - Santa Rosa
WOOD RODGERS, INC. - Sacramento

Thank you for your continued support of CEAC !

WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

November 2007 Newsletter Quiz Question

If, on a statue in a park of a horse and a rider in military dress, the horse has both front legs in the air, what does this signify about the rider?

A number of readers responded with the correct answer to this question. Tom Bolich was selected as the winner for his quick and thorough response.

Tom writes as follows: “ Having just returned from a trip to Washington D.C., I am now an expert on Civil War statues. If the horse in the statue has both front legs in the air, it indicates that the rider died as a result of wounds incurred in battle. If only one leg is raised, the rider was merely injured in battle, and if all 4 legs of the horse are on the ground, it means that the rider died of natural causes.”

A CEAC polo shirt has been sent out to Tom for his correct response.

February 2008 Quiz Questions

Three of the largest living species in the world are found in California and/or along its coastline.

- (1) Name the three species.
- (2) Identify any common relationships among these three species.

Send your responses to the Newsletter Editor by April 15th. The earlier the better for you. The winning entry receives a book from Barnes and Noble.

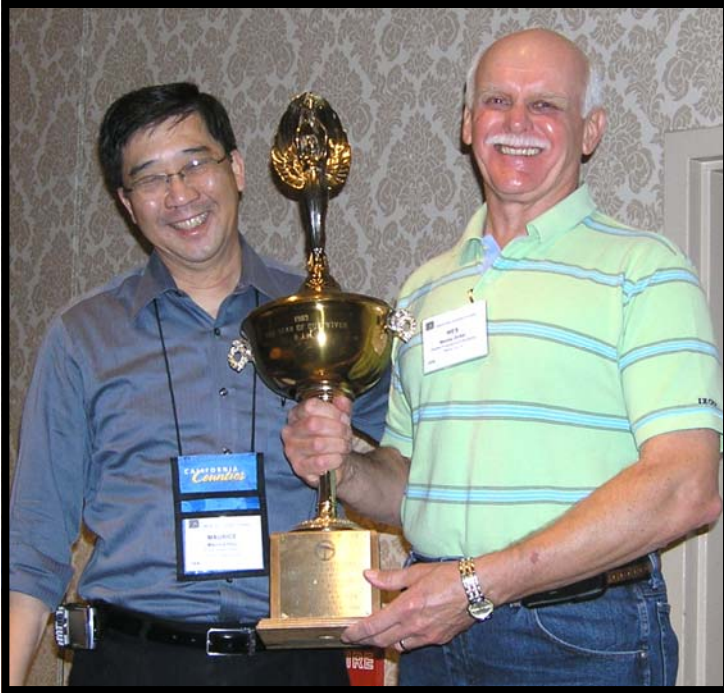
ATTENTION:

General Members, CLODS, Affiliate Members, Committee Chairs
Regional Directors, Board Members, Spouses, and anyone else.

YOUR NEWS, INFO, AND PHOTOS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

Send c/o the CEAC Newsletter Editor at the address shown on the front
page or by e-mail to sandramiller455@aol.com.
You may also phone at (909)797-4322.

MORE FALL CONFERENCE



Maurice Shiu, Contra Costa Co., on behalf of his spouse, Esther, presents the 2007 **Buddy Award** to Wes Zicker, Placer Co., who accepts on behalf of his spouse Paula. Unfortunately neither Esther or Paula were able to attend. The **Buddy Award** has been given annually since 1983 to the spouse of a county engineer for his/her dedication , support, and love of his/her spouse.



Mort August, Willdan, proudly displays the 2007 **Golden Egg Award** presented by the CHICS (California's Honorable Intrepid County Sisters) for exemplary support of diversity in Public Works.



NACE President George Webb of Palm Beach County, Florida along with CEAC officers (L to R) Pat DeChellis (Secretary), Peter Rei (President-Elect), George Johnson (President), Phil Demery (NACE Western Region V.P.) and Mike Crump (Past President).

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Life In The 1500's

The next time you are washing your hands and complain because the water temperature isn't how you like it, think about how things used to be.

**Here are some facts about the 1500's
These are interesting.....**

Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May, and still smelled pretty good by June. However, they were starting to smell, so brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odor.

Hence the custom today of carrying a bouquet when getting married.

Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women and finally the children. Last of all the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it.

Hence the saying, Don't throw the baby out with the Bath water.

Houses had thatched roofs-thick straw-piled high, with no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the cats and other small animals (mice, bugs) lived in the roof. When it rained it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof.

Hence the saying, It's raining cats and dogs.

There was nothing to stop things from falling into the house. This posed a real problem in the bedroom where bugs and other droppings could mess up your nice clean bed.

Hence, a bed with big posts and a sheet hung over the top afforded some protection. That's how canopy beds came into existence.

The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt.

Hence the saying, Dirt poor.

The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on the floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on, they added more thresh until, when you opened the door, it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entranceway.

Hence the saying, A thresh hold.

(Getting quite an education, aren't you?)

McGuffey's Wisdom

Innocence is better than repentance.

He that is extravagant will quickly become poor.

If you behave better in one place than in another, let that place be at home.

To say little and perform much is the characteristic of a great mind.

It is not the happy people who are thankful; it is the thankful people who are happy.

Sin never stands still —it always continues to grow.

People who do not believe in prayer will make an exception when tragedy strikes.

Spiritual sickness cannot be cured by religious quacks.

Pride is the only disease that makes everyone sick except the one who has it.

There is no pillow so soft as a clear conscience.

Be cheerful! Of all the things you wear, your expression is the most important.

Do not allow anything in your life that you do not want reproduced in your children's lives.

Christianity is a battle, not a dream.

Faith is a gift—but you can ask for it.

Old Union Reminder

Nothing will give you more "free time" than being "on time."

“JEST”-A-MINUTE

A young engineer was leaving the office at 6 p.m. when he found the CAO standing in front of a shredder with a piece of paper in his hand.

“Listen,” said the CAO, “this is important, and my secretary has left for the day. Can you make this thing work?”

“Certainly,” said the young engineer. He then turned the machine on, inserted the paper, and pressed the start button.

“Excellent, excellent,” said the CAO as his paper disappeared in the machine, “I just need one copy.”



Two old men in a retirement village were sitting in the reading room and one said to the other, “How do you really feel? I mean, you’re 72 years old, how do you honestly feel?”

“Honestly, I feel like a newborn baby, I’ve got no hair, no teeth and I just wet myself.”

“If you can’t convince them, confuse them.” ~Harry Truman

“We need an energy bill that encourages consumption.” ~George Bush

AN ELDERLY COUPLE sat in their porch rockers watching a beautiful sunset and reminiscing about the good old days. Suddenly, she turned to him and said, “Honey, do you remember when we first started dating and how you would just casually reach over and take my hand?”

The man looked over at her, smiled and obligingly took her aged hand in his.

With a wry little smile, his wife spoke again. “Honey, do you remember how after we were engaged, you’d sometimes lean over and surprise me with a kiss on the cheek?”

The man slowly leaned over and gave her a soft kiss on her wrinkled cheek.

Growing bolder still, his wife said, “Honey, do you remember how, after we were first married, you’d kind of nibble on my ear?”

The man rose from his rocker and headed into the house. Confused, the woman asked, “Where are you going?”

“To get my teeth!” he yelled.

