



CEAC Newsletter

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

June 2008

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE COUNTY ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA

A PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

By
George Johnson

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I can't believe it is already Memorial Day weekend, which is considered to be the unofficial beginning of summer. However it doesn't feel much like summer. The last few days we have seen rain, hail, snow and even two tornadoes touch down in Riverside County. It seems that even the unstable weather is not as unpredictable as the State budget situation. We have all seen the Governor's May Revise for next year's proposed State budget. With a projected \$16 billion shortfall, we can all be certain the State will look to local government to help balance their budget problems.

The good news so far is that the Governor is not currently recommending any reductions to our transportation revenues beyond the five month suspension of our Gas Tax subventions. Most of you have submitted your Prop 1B list of projects to the State and have received your allocations. We all need to show the State how important these local streets and roads monies are to us by delivering our projects and spending our Prop 1B allocations. By doing so, we will be in a much stronger position to obtain our next round of Prop 1B revenue. Initially we asked the State to spread the remaining 60% of the counties share of the Prop 1B funding in equal installments over the next four years. We are hearing the State only wants to appropriate the funds in two installments, so we are now expecting to receive half of our Prop 1B money in FY 09/10 and the balance in FY 10/11.

As the State continues to grapple with their budget problems, we each have the responsibility to stretch our transportation dollars as far as we possibly can in an attempt to adequately maintain our county roads. CEAC will continue developing our Local Streets and Roads Needs Assessment with the assistance of our consultant, Nichols Consulting

A PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE (CONT.)

Engineers, Chtd. Nichols should be contacting each of you over the summer months to gather your pavement condition information as we look to provide the State with a comprehensive and consistent set of pavement data which will communicate our local needs. Please make sure you provide your data in a timely fashion so we can keep our Needs Assessment on schedule.

I spent the week of April 20-24 in Portland, Oregon at the annual NACE Conference. As you know, Phil Demery ran for the position of NACE Secretary/Treasurer. Unfortunately Phil was not successful in his campaign, as Richard Macchi from Texas won the election. Richard Macchi has been involved with NACE for many years and I'm sure he will serve NACE well. I know CEAC will support Richard as he goes through the NACE chairs. That being said, I also know Phil is very well respected by many NACE members and is already being encouraged to run again next year as his talents will serve NACE well. Phil, regardless of the election results this year, you are definitely a winner. Congratulations on your effort and willingness to represent California at the NACE level.

Speaking for the other CEAC members who attended the NACE Conference, I think you will share my sentiments that the Oregon Association of County Engineers and Surveyors did a wonderful job and held a very successful conference. For those unable to attend this year, I encourage you to attend a NACE Conference, as it is a good opportunity to share ideas with other County Engineers from across the nation. Personally, I learn a great deal at the very good technical sessions and enjoy the opportunity to meet County Engineers from other states. A big "thank you" is in order to those CEAC members who did attend this year's conference and helped make our annual CEAC Snap-E-Tom Reception a success. Thank you, Mehdi Sadjadi, Win Westfall, Phil Demery, Gerry Shaul, Mike Crump, Peter Rei, Pat DeChellis, Pattie McNamee, Leo Sumner and Luann Johnson for getting out of bed early and showing CEAC hospitality by welcoming our guests and serving about 120 Snap-E-Toms!

One of the primary goals of CEAC is to increase the active participation of our members through a variety of forums. One of the best ways to get involved is by attending your CEAC Regional meetings. I have been fortunate to attend the San Joaquin Valley Regional meeting hosted by Tulare County on February 15, and more recently the Northern California Regional meeting on May 9, hosted by Lake County. The professional and personal relationships we have developed at the Regional level led to a good exchange of ideas and the information sharing you can only obtain from your companion County Engineers. I want to thank both Regions for including me in their meetings. I look forward to visiting the other regions in the months ahead.

Riverside County had the good fortune to host CEAC's annual Public Works Secretarial Seminar this year, held on April 30 – May 2, at the Temecula Creek Inn. The Seminar, with a total of 45 attendees, allowed the assistants to gain a better understanding of what we, as County Engineers, encounter in our professions as well as learning more about the role CEAC plays. The conference provided a good forum for our assistants to share information, gain knowledge and develop relationships that will help them improve their respective county organizations and better support each of us in our daily operations. It was also an opportunity for Riverside County

A PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE (CONT.)

to share many of the innovative programs we have developed and are so proud of. I encourage each of you to consider sending your Assistants to future CEAC Public Works Secretaries Seminars, as this is another way we can grow and expand participation within CEAC. I would like to personally thank my Executive Assistant, Pat Groeneveld, and the other women of the Riverside County team, for working so hard to make this year's seminar successful. Next year's PWSS will be hosted by Contra Costa County, with San Luis Obispo County hosting in 2010 and Sonoma County in 2011. I want to express my thanks to each of these counties for stepping up, as a part of our CEAC family, to host this important conference. I also want to challenge each of you to out perform the wonderful event provided this year by Riverside County.

As many of you know, CEAC has a unique contractual relationship with CSAC, whereby we pay CSAC for enhanced services to support our organization. As part of our recent contract negotiations, we were successful in creating a new CEAC Program Manager position which will be dedicated to serving and supporting CEAC. CSAC has been actively recruiting to fill this new position and I'm hopeful we will soon have a new member in our CEAC family who will help make our organization even stronger.

~George



NACE Attendees

Left to Right: Leo Sumner, Gerry Shaul, WinWestfall, Peter Rei, Patti McNamee, Pat DeChellis, Mehdi Sadjadi, Luann Johnson, George Johnson, Mike Crump, Phil Demery



“Snap-E-Tom”

By

Dave Gravenkamp, CEAC Historian

The NACE 2008 Spring Conference is now history as is another CEAC hosted Snap-E-Tom reception. I’m told that about 120 guests were served at this years’ event.

Did you ever wonder when the Snap-E-Tom reception started and why it has continued?

I may have already told this story, but if I can’t remember, then there’s a good chance that you can’t either. Like most of my stories about our history, they in large measure come from **The Old Crow**, Bill McIntosh. Bill, throughout his career as Lassen County Public Works Director, and probably still today, kept a daily diary. No doubt his diaries have enabled him to accurately “recall” our past.

Bill indicated that the first Snap-E-Tom event was the inspiration of Jack Lambie, Los Angeles County Engineer, NACE President 1960, and CEAC President 1967. The National Association of Counties (NACO) met in San Diego in July, 1965. Jack figured it would be a good idea for CEAC to host a reception for the NACE members that were attending the NACO conference. He recruited **The Stud Pelican II**, Bruce McClain, Director of Public Works for Monterey County, NACE Western Region Vice President 1965-66 and CEAC President 1966 and also Bill, CEAC President 1964 and NACE President 1968, who together gathered the necessary supplies for the reception. The first Snap-E-Tom reception was then held at the Hotel El Cortez, was well attended and according to Bill was “impressive” to the attendees.

DROPPINGS (continued)

The next year, 1966, the NACE Conference was in Cleveland. Both Bruce and Bill attended and decided to have another reception. Two cases of Snap-E-Tom mix was shipped in by Greyhound bus. As a hospitality suite wasn't available, the reception was held in their room. Needless to say it was a bit crowded. NACO met in New Orleans in July 1966 and the Lambie led clan put on the third California Snap-E-Tom reception in two years at the Monteleone Hotel.

The NACE Spring Conference was held in Seattle in 1967. To show a little "class", Bruce and Bill bought three gallons of the cheapest juice they could find, emptied the jugs, filled them with the Snap-E-Tom mixture, set up a table at the entrance to the elevator at the base of the Space Needle, and served Snap-E-Toms to the members as they headed to the top of the Needle. Later the same year in August, NACO met in Detroit coincidentally at the time of the Detroit riots. On the first night of the conference a 9:00 PM curfew was in effect in the City and on the second night the curfew had been extended to 10:00 PM. Despite these obstacles, California managed another reception. Two more receptions were held in 1968, the first in April at the Savory Hotel in Des Moines at the NACE conference and again in July at the Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C. at the NACO conference. Bill indicated that his suite at the Savory was so large that it had three room numbers, which allowed the Snap-E-Tom attendees to fit comfortably.

Starting in 1969, only one Snap-E-Tom reception was held each year in connection with the NACE conference, but during the period of 1977 through 1983 receptions were again held at both the spring and summer meetings of NACE and NACO. It was during this period that Donna Castleberry, Clay's wife, (Clay was CEAC President in 1976) made a beautiful Snap-E-Tom banner for use at the receptions.

During the late 70s and early 80s, NACE became more independent and the spring conference became the major annual meeting for the organization. The Snap-E-Tom has since been held only at the spring event. It is quite interesting that CEAC no longer asks to host the reception, but NACE automatically puts it on the program. This important CEAC/NACE tradition has now been going non-stop for forty-four years.

I never ceased to be amazed how pieces of our CEAC history including the Snap-E-Tom, the Buffalo Bull Award and the CLODS barbeque have been carried forward through the years.

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MAURICE SHIU RETIRES

Friends and family honored Maurice Shiu, Director of Public Works for Contra Costa County and honorable CLOD, at a joyous retirement party in Concord on March 28th after 36 years of dedicated service to the County and its residents.

Maurice graduated from the University of California, Berkeley with a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering in 1969, followed with a Masters degree in Transportation and Traffic Engineering also from Berkeley in 1971 and began his long and successful career with the County shortly thereafter.

Maurice was named CEAC's County Engineer of the Year in 2003 and became CEAC President in 2006 (the 4th person from Contra Costa County to achieve this honor).

Maurice was very active through the years in the American Public Works Association and recently capped his career by being selected as the Public Works Leader of the Year by the APWA's Bay Area chapter.



CONGRATULATIONS



Maurice and Family: Angela, Esther, Maurice and Perkin

CALIFORNIA CITY-COUNTY STREET LIGHT ASSOCIATION
CAL-SLA



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The California City-County Street Light Association (Cal-SLA) was organized in 1981 to represent cities and counties before the California Public Utility Commission (CPUC) on street light rates and to provide information to cities and counties on lighting issues. Currently we address both street lights and traffic signals.

Since 1984 Cal-SLA has intervened and actively worked on every major rate case concerning the three utilities: Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E), Southern California Edison (SCE) and San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E). Cal-SLA has saved California cities and counties more than \$100 million in lower electric rates for street lighting.

Street lighting is a unique public service. The CPUC treats street lighting as a separate customer class. Cal-SLA is the only organization that speaks solely for street light customers—cities and counties in California.

In 2007 Cal-SLA was involved in rate cases for all three major electric utilities: PG&E, SCE, and SDG&E. The major general rate case for 2008 will involve Southern California Edison. Cal-SLA submitted expert witness testimony on street light rates and how much of the utility's revenue requirement should be assigned to the street light class. A summary of Cal-SLA's recent activity and achievements are presented below.

REPRESENTATION BEFORE CPUC

Pacific Gas & Electric

Cal-SLA, with other parties, negotiated a settlement of the rate case, and the CPUC adopted the settlement. The general rate case decision shows that street light rates will be reduced by 9%. This results in a \$6.0 million savings to the cities and counties in PG&E service territory.

Southern California Edison

In November 2007 SCE filed a general rate case requesting approval from the CPUC to increase electric rates by \$726 million in 2009, \$216 million in 2010, and \$287 million in 2011. The sum of the three year increases totals \$1.229 billion. Cal-SLA has intervened in this rate case.

STREET LIGHT ASSOCIATION (Continued)

In March 2008 SCE filed its second application proposing an overall rate increase of 12.1%, but for street lighting SCE is requesting a 20.5% increase over current rates. Cal-SLA estimates that this could be a \$50.0 million increase to street light customers—cities and counties in SCE's service territory. Cal-SLA intends to actively participate in this phase of the general rate case to make sure that street light rates are more reasonable and fair to local governments.

In 2006 Cal-SLA was successful in getting the rate increase proposed by SCE reduced from 20% to 3.7%.

San Diego Gas & Electric

In January 2007 SDG&E filed its rate case proposing a \$2.3 million, or 13.8%, increase in street light rates. Cal-SLA intervened and after submitting expert witness testimony there was a negotiated settlement that there would be a zero increase in the overall street light rate. Cal-SLA's effort at the CPUC will more than likely result in a savings of \$2.3 million to cities and counties in SDG&E's service territory.

DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION

Cal-SLA keeps its members informed on developments in street lighting and related issues. Cal-SLA encourages energy efficiency and suitable lighting of public streets and neighborhoods. Through the efficient use of street lighting Cal-SLA seeks to promote sustainable energy. Cal-SLA is a strong proponent of LED traffic signals, which can reduce electric consumption by 80-90%. Cal-SLA provides information on street lighting and traffic signals through workshops and energy conferences.

In our latest conference on April 4, 2008 in Monterey the topics covered included economic uncertainty now facing the state and how it affects local budgets; financing energy efficiency projects for cities, counties, and special districts; energy saving measures in municipal facilities; LED street lighting studies in San José and Oakland; community choice aggregation and related by-products; review of energy legislation; and street light acquisition.

We are currently planning a fall conference in Southern California. This may be a good opportunity for you to share with your colleagues a successful program within your city or county. Please contact Cal-SLA (contact information listed above) if you would like to make a presentation or if there is a particular topic you would like to see addressed at the next conference.

NEW PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTORS

CONGRATULATIONS to each of the following who have been appointed as Public Works Directors in recent months:

Rick Rudometkin, Modoc County

Ed Reiskin, San Francisco City and County

Julie Bueren, Contra Costa County

Paavo Ogren, San Luis Obispo County

Brent Siemer, Lake County

NEW AFFILIATE

Kingsway Sales & Marketing, Inc.

6724 Lockheed Dr., Ste. 4

Redding, CA 96002

Company Representatives:

David Mahrt, Sr.,

David Mahrt, Jr.,

Doug Waisner

Phone: (530) 722-0272

Fax: (530) 722-0450



Kingsway Sales & Marketing has developed and provides a complete product line of fire protection, vapor suppression, and decontamination systems. The patented state of the art TriMax technology provides a finished foam to seal flammable vapors and solution spills. For more information contact Mr. David Mahrt, Sr. at the above phone number. You may also see more about their product line at www.tri-max.info.

CSAC NAMES PROGRAM MANAGER

CSAC announced the appointment of Merrin Gerety to the position of Program Manager earlier this month. Merrin will provide direct support to CEAC with emphasis on both the short and long term goals of the organization and including the planning and execution of CEAC's three annual conferences. She will be taking over the general duties most recently handled by Kiana Buss and Katrina Thompson. This new and restructured position is intended to provide an enhanced level of service and ensure that CEAC's administrative needs are fully met.

Merrin brings to the position thirteen (13) years of experience in the architectural/engineering/construction industry. Her background includes business development, human resources and operations management with her most recent position being that of Business Development Manager for Nolte Associates, Inc.

Merrin can be reached at (916) 327-7500. Ext. 507 or by e-mail at mgerety@counties.org.

Welcome to CEAC Merrin!

NORTH BAY REGION

Birgitta Corsello, Resource Management Director for Solano County, has volunteered to serve as CEAC's Regional Director for the North Bay Region. Thank you Brigitta!

BEDROLL CONFERENCE

The 2008 Bedroll Conference is scheduled for July 16 –18 at Camp Conery, Lake Almanor, Plumas County. This year the conference has been opened up to all of CEAC's members although there is a limit of fifty (50) participants.

If you are interested in spending some time with your public works peers in collaborating on common issues facing our counties while at the same time enjoying some fresh mountain air and good food, please contact this year's Program Director, John Wrysinski, Director of Public Works in Colusa County at (530) 458-0466 or by e-mail at jwrysinski@ccdpw.com.

Don't miss out on a great opportunity..... Sign up now!



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**Priorities and Principles
For A New Authorization of Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity
Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU)**

Adopted May 22, 2008 by the CSAC Board of Directors

The California State Association of Counties (CSAC), representing all 58 counties in California, has developed the following priorities and guiding principles for the authorization of a new federal transportation funding act. While we refer to the authorization of a new act as a "reauthorization" of the current act – SAFETEA-LU – CSAC supports the idea of creating a new and visionary act which builds upon the existing successful programs currently being implemented under SAFETEA-LU, but is also redesigned and streamlined to meet the needs of a national transportation system that faces unique challenges unlike any other time in history. A simple "reauthorization" of the existing act will not provide us with the tools necessary to meet these challenges. These priorities and principles are aimed at improving the current federal transportation funding act as well as at addressing new and significant policy issues that require attention in the next reauthorization. CSAC is committed to assisting with the development of the next generation of federal transportation funding to ensure that our nation's transportation system allows us continued economic prosperity and is safe, secure, well-maintained, and that previous and future investments are preserved. Additionally, the next act should be environmentally sustainable and provide for a multitude of transportation options that are equitable and accessible to all Americans.

General Objectives

- Support a more streamlined and flexible approach to allocating federal funds, in which federal programs provide state, regional, and local agencies the ability to allocate federal funds for a range of highway, transit, local road, and bicycle/pedestrian improvements based on need. This could take shape by reducing the current 108 programs under SAFETEA-LU into a smaller number of more flexible programs, such as the 10 new federal programs recommended by the National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission. Regardless of what a more streamlined act looks like, the following are priorities that should be included in the next reauthorization:

Protect and Enhance Transportation Revenues and Expenditures

- Enhance revenues and keep the Highway Users Trust Fund solvent. This includes support for an increase and/or index of the federal gas tax.
- When considering consolidating existing programs, retain support for core programs such as preservation and safety.

Protect Previous and Future Investments via System Maintenance and Preservation

- Provide increased funding as it is critically needed to provide for adequate maintenance and preservation of both the existing local and state transportation systems.
- Provide increased funding for preventative maintenance on bridges.

Increase Safety on Existing Transportation System

- Increase funding for safety infrastructure projects on the existing transportation system, with an emphasis on programs/projects aimed at reducing fatalities, especially on the rural road system where fatality rates are the highest. Specifically, support and increase funding for the High Risk Rural Road Program (HRRR).
- Ensure funding for the implementation of the Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP).
- Promote and increase funding for bicycle and pedestrian safety projects and programs.

PRIORITIES AND PRINCIPLES (Continued)

Improve Environmental Stewardship and Address Climate Change Concerns

- Provide financial incentives to States that adopt and set greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions targets and programs to accomplish those targets.
- Provide funding to mitigate GHG emissions impacts in addition to air, water, and other environmental impacts.
- Provide incentives in current programs and/or provide new funding sources for climate change neutral or friendly transportation projects and programs. For instance, local street and road maintenance and preservation programs do not add to the GHG emission inventory and actually provide GHG emissions benefits by getting the traveling public to their destinations more quickly and efficiently.
- Provide financial incentives for rural sustainability. Understanding that every community in the nation must grow more efficiently in order to successfully combat climate change, jurisdictions that implement GHG emissions reductions strategies that focus on city-oriented growth and require conservation of critical resource and agricultural lands within the unincorporated area should be compensated for the loss of property taxes and other fees and taxes so that counties can continue to provide the necessary services to all countywide area residents, including equitable access to revenues available for infrastructure investment purposes.
- Provide financial support for planning processes, at the regional and countywide level, such as California's Regional Blueprint Planning Program, that integrate transportation and land use in ways to reduce projected vehicle miles traveled and fuel consumption, promote jobs/housing proximity, and transit oriented development.
- Provide assistance for data collection and determining and quantifying GHG emission sources and levels, vehicle miles traveled and other important data to assist both local governments and regional agencies in addressing climate change in environmental documents for long-range transportation plans.
- Provide funding for retrofitting equipment and for alternate fuel infrastructure.

Streamline the Regulatory and Project Delivery Processes

- Support streamlining of federal regulations/requirements to facilitate more expeditious project delivery. For instance, mandate federal permitting agencies to meet the prescribed scheduled and deadlines that are specified in the environmental review process, reduce overhead, eliminate waste, and reduce documentation that is redundant with processes required under state law.
- Ensure that federal project oversight is commensurate to the amount of federal funding.

Increase State, Regional, and Local Agency Flexibility to Respond to Needs

- Maximize the use and flexibility of federal funds by not requiring minimum federal matches.
- Eliminate the need to program multiple phases for small projects.
- Eliminate need for TIP programming for air quality neutral projects.

Provide Assistance for Data Collection

- Provide funding, training, tools, and uniform standards for the collection of roadway and traffic data specifically for the local and rural roadways. Without adequate data on local and rural roadways it is difficult to evaluate safety performance. There are no uniform, national standards for traffic safety data collection, system analysis, and management except with reporting of fatal incidents.

<p>For more information regarding these priorities and principles, please contact: Joe Krahn, Waterman & Associates, (202) 898-1444 DeAnn Baker, California State Association of Counties, (916) 327-7500 ext. 509</p>
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Business gets silence from condor experts in land deal

By Noaki Schwartz
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Biologist Noel Snyder got an intriguing call from a development-company representative a day after it announced it was moving forward with plans to build nearly 3,500 luxury homes, condos and hotels on land used by the endangered California condor.

Would he like to make \$3,000 for one day's work reviewing the company's plan to safeguard the condor from the development?

There was just one catch: Snyder would have to sign a promise not to publicly criticize the Tejon Ranch Co. project.

"My jaw dropped," said Snyder, one of the foremost experts on North America's largest flying bird. "It was very clear to me I could've asked for \$10,000. I could've asked for \$50,000."

The scientist said he turned the job down for fear it might prevent him from objectively evaluating the plan and, if he disagreed, from testifying against it in court. He has since decided the project could significantly harm the condor.

But others have taken the offer from Tejon. The developer has retained the services — and secured the public silence — of three condor experts. That's a significant portion of the half-dozen or so scientists specializing in condors on Tejon, according to the developer's chief consultant on the bird, Peter Bloom.

In truth, many environmentalists are delighted by the deal, under which Tejon



Provided by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

A California condor.

will set aside an extraordinary 375 square miles for the bird and other wildlife. It would be the biggest parcel in California history to be designated for conservation.

Five of the nation's most influential environmental groups, including the Sierra Club, the Natural Resources Defense Council and Audubon California, helped negotiate the plan and gave it their blessing when it was announced earlier this month.

But critics say that with hundreds of millions of dollars at stake, Tejon is systematically trying to stifle any remaining opposition to its plans, which are still awaiting approval from various government entities.

"Given the small number of experts with knowledge of this land and given Tejon's behavior to now, I think one of their tactics is to bottle up some or all of those experts so there can be no dissent if this lands in court," said Adam Keats, an attorney with the Center for Biological Diversity, which is considering suing the project.

Tejon spokesman Barry Zoeller bristled at the criticism.

"If there is any assertion or implication that any attempt was made to get an

opinion or buy an opinion from someone, that is absolutely incorrect and flies in the face of the independent evaluation" of the conservation groups, he said.

Zoeller said Tejon routinely requires consultants to sign confidentiality agreements because information leaks can harm the company's stock and its shareholders.

Companies often hire environmental experts as consultants with the expectation they will give an honest assessment but not publicly bash a plan. In the past decade, however, developers increasingly have required consultants to actually sign contracts with clauses preventing them from speaking out, said Tom Scott, a former consultant who is now a natural resources specialist at the University of California at Berkeley.

The condor has near-mythical status in California and virtually any project seen as even remotely threatening to its habitat faces stiff opposition. Getting the conservation groups and the condor experts to sign off on the deal — and, in the case of the experts, not publicly criticize any parts of it — gives the project a major boost.

CALENDAR OF FUTURE EVENTS

2008 Bedroll Conference
July 16 - 18, 2008
Camp Connery
Lake Almanor



CEAC Fall Policy Conference
October 30 –31, 2008
Sacramento
Conference Hotel: Sheraton

CSAC 115th Annual Meeting
December 1—4
San Diego
(Note: Conference days are Monday through Thursday)

2009 Joint Spring Meeting of CEAC and Public Works Officers Institute
March 25 –27
Monterey
Downtown Convention Center

2009 NACE Annual Meeting
April 19 –23
Peoria, Illinois

SPRING CONFERENCE GOLF by Mort August

A beautiful day at the Encinitas Ranch Golf Course was enjoyed by 45 intrepid (Intrepid??? It appears that Mort is still savoring his “Golden Egg Award”) attendees to the annual pre-conference seminar on round dimpled white objects (pink in the case of Katrina) across greens, fairways and the occasional sandy beach on March 4th.

Encinitas Ranch sits atop an inland coastal bluff with ocean views from 14 of the links that occupy what were once the flower fields of Paul Ecke - the pioneer that made poinsettias a must have at Christmas time. In fact, 90% of all commercial poinsettias start out from green houses within a mile of the clubhouse.

Valuable cash awards were given to the following folks who demonstrated skill in getting their objects to perform certain tasks.

MEN

Low Score

1. Dave Pearson, Kleinfelder
2. Mike Apodaca, Irvine

Low Net

1. Tim Maurier, Psomas
2. Ken Taylor, Willdan

Long Drive

1. Mike Penrose, Sacramento County
2. Manuel Gomez, Irvine

Closest to the Pin

1. Bob Moehling, City of Murrieta
2. Gary Johnson, Johnson and VerCliff

WOMEN

Low Score

1. Jeanne Slomanson, Willdan
2. Susan Pearson, Kleinfelder

Low Net

1. DeAnn Baker, CSAC
2. Cheryl Creason, Interwest

Long Drive

1. Merrin Gerety, Nolte (Now CSAC)
2. Jeanne Slomanson, Willdan

Closest to the Pin

1. Merrin Gerety
2. Cathi McDade, SEM Materials

We are looking forward to the next pre-conference seminar during the first week of December, back in the San Diego area again. The format may be changed to a scramble to get more people involved in this informative session.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

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.

Brian Lee of San Mateo County was the winner of the quiz for February. He identified the species as the sequoia redwood (the giant sequoia would also have been an acceptable response as it is larger, but not as tall as the redwood), the blue whale and the California Condor. The common relationships that he listed were: largest of species; long life; beautiful; and found in California or along the coast. Two desirable relationships not mentioned were: the California Condor has been found to nest high up in hollowed out areas in the sequoia and have been observed to feast on the carrion of blue whales.

Brian will receive a copy of "Historical Atlas of California" by Derek Hayes for his effort.

June 2008 Quiz Question

Fill in the blank: When Charles Lindbergh began his record-setting first solo transatlantic flight in May 1927, he began from _____, where his aircraft, the "Spirit of St Louis", had been built by the Ryan Aeronautical Corporation.

Tie breaker: What is the generally accepted estimate of the native population of California before the arrival of Europeans?

Send your responses to the Newsletter Editor by August 20th. Give it a go!

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.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Some Healthy Questions with Humorous Answers

Q. Should I cut down on meat and eat more fruits and vegetables?

A. You must grasp logistical efficiencies. What does a cow eat? Hay and corn. And what are these?

Vegetables. So a steak is nothing more than an efficient mechanism of delivering vegetables to your system.

Need grain? Eat chicken. Beef is also a good source of field grass (green leafy vegetables). And a pork chop can give you 100% of your recommended daily allowance of vegetable products.

Q. Is chocolate bad for me?

A. Are you crazy? HELLO Cocoa beans! Another vegetable!!! It's the best feel good food around!

Q. Should I reduce my alcohol intake?

A. No, not at all. Wine is made from fruit. Brandy is distilled wine, which means they take the water out of the fruity bit so you get even more goodness that way. Beer is also made out of grain. Bottoms up!!!

Q. Is swimming good for your figure?

A. If swimming is good for your figure, then explain whales to me.

Q. Is getting in shape important for my lifestyle?

A. Hev! Round is a shape!

The Eyes Have It

When you go to buy, use your eyes, not your ears.
~Czech Proverb

My eyes were made to erase all that is ugly.
~Raoul Duffy

One of my theories is that men love with their eyes; women love with their ears.
~Zsa Zsa Gabor

Life In The 1500's

In those days, they cooked in the kitchen with a big kettle that always hung over the fire. Every day they lit the fire and added things to the pot. They ate mostly vegetables and did not get much meat. They would eat the stew for dinner, leaving leftovers in the pot to get cold overnight and then start over the next day. Sometimes stew had food in it that had been there for quite a while.

Hence the rhyme, Peas porridge hot, peas porridge cold, peas porridge in the pot nine days old.

Sometimes they could obtain pork, which made them feel quite special. When visitors came over, they would hang up their bacon to show off. It was a sign of wealth that a man could, "*Bring home the bacon.*" They would cut off a little to share with guests and would all sit around and "*Chew the Fat*".

Those with money had plates made of pewter. Food with high acid content caused some of the lead to leach onto the food, causing lead poisoning death. This happened most often with tomatoes, so for the next 400 years or so, "*Tomatoes were considered poisonous.*"

Bread was divided according to status. Workers got the burnt bottom of the loaf, the family got the middle, and guests got the top, or "*The Upper Crust*".

Lead cups were used to drink ale or whisky. The combination would sometimes knock the imbibers out for a couple of days. Someone walking along the road would take them for dead and prepare them for burial. They were laid out on the kitchen table for a couple of days and the family would gather around and eat and drink and wait and see if they would wake up.

Hence the custom of holding a wake.

England is old and small and the local folks started running out of places to bury people. So they would dig up coffins and would take the bones to a bone-house, and reuse the grave. When reopening these coffins, 1-out of 25 coffins were found to have scratch marks on the inside and they realized they had been burying people alive. So they would tie a string on the wrist of the corpse, lead it through the coffin and up through the ground and tie it to a bell. Someone would have to sit out in the graveyard all night (the graveyard shift.) to listen for the bell; this, someone could be, "*Saved by the Bell*" or was considered a ... "*Dead Ringer*"

*And that's the truth....Now, whoever said
History was boring!!!!*

Author Unknown

“JEST” - A – MINUTE

A local newspaper reporter was inquiring as to the secret of their long and happy marriage.

The husband replied, “Well it dates back to our honeymoon at the Grand Canyon. We took a trip to the bottom of the canyon by horse. We hadn’t gone too far when my wife’s horse stumbled and she almost fell off.”

My wife looked down at the horse and quietly said: “That’s once.” We proceeded a little further and the horse stumbled again. Once more my wife quietly said: “That’s twice.” We hadn’t gone a half-mile more when the horse stumbled for the third time. My wife quietly removed a revolver from her purse and shot the horse dead.

I then shouted at her: **“What’s wrong with you woman! Why did you shoot the poor animal like that, are you crazy?”**

She looked at me and quietly said: “That’s once.”

“And from that moment, we have lived happily ever after.”

Government’s view of the economy could be summed up in a few short phrases: If it moves, tax it; if it keeps moving, regulate it....and if it stops moving, subsidize it.

~Ronald Reagan

The first grade teacher was reading the story of Chicken Little to her class. She came to the part where Chicken Little warns the farmer. She read, “...and Chicken Little went up to the farmer and said, the sky is falling!”

The teacher then asked the class, “and what do you think that the farmer said?”

One little girl raised her hand and said, “I think he said: ‘Holy Cr*p! a talking chicken!’”

The teacher was unable to teach for the next 10 minutes.

While attending a “marriage weekend” Walter and his wife Ann, listened to the instructor declare, “It is essential that husbands and wives know the things that are important to each other. He addressed the men, “Can you name and describe your wife’s favorite flower?”

Walter leaned over, touched Ann’s arm gently and whispered, “Pillsbury-All-Purpose, isn’t it?”

And thus began Walter’s life of celibacy.

INVESTING 101

Once upon a time in a village, a man appeared and announced to the villagers that he would buy monkeys for \$10 each.

The villagers, seeing that there were many monkeys around, went out into the forest and started catching them. The man bought thousands of these monkeys at \$10 , but as supply started to diminish, the villagers stopped their effort. The man then announced that he would increase his offer and buy monkeys at the increased price of \$20. This renewed the interest and efforts of the villagers and they started catching monkeys again.

Soon the supply diminished even further and people started going back to their farms. The offer was then increased to \$25 each, but the supply of monkeys became so little that it was an effort to even see a monkey, let alone to catch one.

The man then announced that he would buy monkeys at \$50. However, since he had to go to the city on some business, his assistant would now buy on his behalf.

In the absence of the man, the assistant told the villagers, “Look at all these monkeys in the big cage that the man has collected. I will sell them to you at \$35 each and when the man returns from the city, you can sell them to him for \$50 each.”

The villagers rounded up all of their savings and bought all of the monkeys. They never saw the man or his assistant again, only monkeys everywhere!

Now you may have a better understanding of how the stock market works.