



CEAC Newsletter

November 2013

President's Message

By

Tom Mattson, Humboldt County

I am grateful that you have given me the opportunity to be president of this great organization in its 99th year. It was truly an honor to represent the County Engineers Association of California this year. From our regular conferences, to regional meetings, through our committees I am inspired by all of our members and how much you put forth to improve our organization. Our CLODS, Affiliates, CHICS and County Members all contribute to the betterment of County Engineering throughout the State.

It is remarkable how different all of our counties are, but also how many similarities we have when it comes down to the jobs we perform. Our organization shows what can happen when people from many different walks of life and backgrounds put aside their differences and work to improve the lives of our citizens.

As we move into the future, we need to continually consider the additional duties that Public Works Departments are adding that have historically not been discussed at CEAC such as Parks, Facilities and Airports, to name a few. In the future we need to find a way to incorporate discussion on these topics.

Many of the issues we face never seem to have solutions, but we never quit. From declining basic revenue sources such as the gas tax, to the supermajority needed to pass funding initiatives, we continue to fight the good fight every year to bring sense to the funding sources and rules that govern our operations.

The year, among many accomplishments, we were able to update our website, get a one-year extension of secure rural roads funding, elevate safety

CEAC
County
Engineers
Association of California
Established 1914
Celebrating 100 Years

CALIFORNIA
Counties



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

President's Message (cont.)

issues on our road networks to the top levels of State and Federal transportation partners and delay the buy America provision of Map-21 in order to keep multi-millions of dollars in transportation projects from being shut down as the economy still struggles to recover. At our spring conference with the League of Cities, we conducted a brain storming session covering issues with federally funded projects that will lead to a more efficient process. It is important to me to also thank Caltrans for their effort into finding out what issues we face instead of responding "that's the way it is". It is truly a strong partnership with local agencies and Caltrans local assistance the makes the federal system work for us.

Our organization has some of the best people working for it who have helped me through this year. This includes the Board of Directors and the CLODS who help direct this organization as well as mentor me. Merrin Gerety, who kept me on time and task, always helping to ease my workload. Our CSAC partners DeAnn Baker, Karen Keene, Kianna Buss and Cara Martinson for their continual efforts on our behalf and for staffing our committees, keeping us informed of all legislative issues that may impact our organization. And also of course, Patti Hughes, who makes sure all of our conferences are successful.

I have been fortunate to get to a place in life where I don't have to work, I get paid to do what Confucius recommended many years ago...."choose a work that your love and you will never have to work another day". CEAC certainly fits that model, and I look forward to continually contributing to this organization in the future.

//Tom Mattson



Thank you Tom for your service to CEAC!

In Memoriam

Lloyd H. Roberts
Honorable CLOD and CEAC President 1985-86
April 29, 1929 - October 8, 2013

Lloyd Roberts passed away on Tuesday, October 8th at Stollwood Convalescent Hospital in Woodland, at age 84.

Lloyd was born in Oakland California and attended schools in Rodeo and Richmond, California. Lloyd served in the Army during the Korean War, achieving the rank of first lieutenant. He later earned a degree in civil engineering in 1956 from the University of California, Berkeley. After graduation, Lloyd became a licensed civil engineer, working for four years at a large engineering firm in San Francisco followed by three years as City Engineer for the City of Pinole.

Lloyd and his first wife Marilyn moved to Davis, CA in 1963 when he began work for Yolo County, where he worked for 25 years until his retirement from the position of Director of Public Works and Transportation.

During his career, Lloyd served as Executive Director of the Yolo County Aggregate Producers Association, Director of the American Public Works Association Chapter, President of the Maintenance Superintendents Association of California and President of our CEAC organization in 1985-86.

Following retirement, Lloyd remained active by first designing and building a new home in Grass Valley and later with a friend Peter Pettler, invented and patented a device for detecting ice on road pavement. Lloyd enjoyed traveling to numerous locations around the world with his second wife Roseanne.

Lloyd was an active father in Boy Scouts in the 1970s and enjoyed golfing. He was also an avid model railroader who belonged to several model railroad and railroad historical societies in California and Nevada. His own exceptional model railroad layout was featured in an article in 'Model Railroader' magazine.

Lloyd is survived by his wife, Rosanne, sister Marian, sons Doug and Paul and multiple grand children and great-grandchildren.



In Memoriam

Norman H. Caldwell

Honorable CLOD and CEAC President 1970-71

May 16, 1916 - October 18, 2013

Norman was born in Frankfurt, Indiana and came to California with his family in the early 1920s. He was one of the Great Generation, having grown up in the Depression and fought in World War II. Norman saw our world change a big way in his 97 years.

He was the first in his family to have a specialized higher education, graduating from the University of California, Berkley with honors as a Civil Engineer in 1940. Under the auspices of the Army Air Corps, he received a double Masters Degree in Meteorology and upon graduation he was commissioned as a lieutenant in the Army Air Force.

Norman married Ruth Kuns on December 6, 1941 and very shortly thereafter began his career as a military officer first in Arizona and at the close of the war in India, Burma and China where he became a pilot and was involved in flying supplies from Burma to China over the Himalayas, known as "Flying the Hump."

After the war, Norman and Ruth returned to Santa Barbara where Norman began work with Santa Barbara County from which he retired as Director of Public Works in 1976 after 27 plus years.

In retirement, Norm shared his expertise with many local engineers and architects. He served on the restoration committee of the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation, and engineered the refurbishment of roads and bridges for the Sandpiper, Paso Robles and La Purisima golf courses in the 1980s.

Norman received many deserved honors and awards during his lifetime including the Order of the Flying Cloud from the Chinese government and the California State Parks Volunteer of the Year Award to name a few.

He is survived by his wife, Ruth, and daughters, Margie and Jean, and their families.



Droppings



By

Dave 'Road Runner' Gravenkamp

CEAC Historian

"CEAC Heros"

As you know, we will soon be celebrating our 100th anniversary and as such I thought it would be appropriate to single out a few of those who helped make our organization what it is today. The first on my list wasn't a CEAC President, nor for that matter a member. I am talking about State Senator Randolph Collier.

In his first Newsletter as Editor, Ed Hanna, in the January 1970 issue, paid the following tribute to senator Collier:

An Overdue Acknowledgement

Back in 1946 and 1947, when young Senator Collier was leading the Senate Committee on Transportation Problems, the Editor was Surveyor and Road Commissioner in San Benito County and in a position to observe what happened. The Senator almost single-handedly whipped together the Collier-Burns Highway Act of 1947, and pushed it through to adoption by the State Legislature. This was the Act that brought order out of the chaos of County Road Administration in California and place it under a single Road Commissioner in each County. It was a difficult and thankless job, and the people of California owe a debt of gratitude to the Senator.

The County Engineers Association owes much to a few dedicated men who played a large part in development of our organization into a strong and active County Engineers Association - Harmer Davis, Red LaForge, and Bob Glenn, to name a few. However, the man to whom we owe the most is Senator Collier.

Prior to 1947, this Association consisted of about 15 members, each paying his \$5 annual dues, and we seldom had a turnout of over 12 or 15 members at our meetings. The Senator helped us blossom forth into a full-fledged and active organization and guided us through some difficult times. He insisted on a strong Association and, with the aid of Red LaForge, prevailed upon us to adopt our County Road Standards. He then gave us a very unique form of recognition in California - enactment of our Standards, by reference, into State Legislation. Let us never forget how much we owe to Senator Randolph Collier. Ask any of the old timers - they know!

Not long ago, in the June 2007 Newsletter, I offered another tribute to the Senator, which I'll repeat here.

As I drive by the Siskiyou County Courthouse almost daily, I'm continually reminded of the individual who probably had the most significant impact on the road systems of every county in the state. The life-size statue of Randolph Collier sitting on a park bench with his newspaper occupies a prominent spot at the northeast corner of the courthouse block. Numerous other tributes to Collier are scattered throughout the north state. The Collier Rest Stop is the first rest area on Interstate 5 from the north and Collier Way is the principle entry into the City of Etna in Siskiyou County. Collier Tunnel in Del Norte County is located on State Route #199 linking Grants Pass, Oregon with Crescent City, California. No doubt many of your counties can claim roads, bridges, parks, etc., named after the Senator.

Randolf Clayton Collier was born in Etna on July 26, 1902 and he attended Siskiyou Union High School in Yreka. A turning point in his life came at

Droppings (continued)

age 13 with the death of his mother. He attended the University of California where he met and subsequently married Aida Pillsbury. Upon graduation, they returned to Yreka where he took over his father's failing company. Collier's start in politics came in 1925 when he became Police Judge in Yreka, serving in that capacity until 1938, when he was elected to the State Senate.

Prior to 1948, most counties, particularly rural counties, divided what little road money available into five equal parts. Each county supervisor had his own road foreman and crew who worked only on roads in his/her district. The Collier-Burns Act established one unified county road system headed by a road commissioner appointed by the Board of Supervisors. With the assistance of the Institute of Transportation and Traffic Engineering headed by Harmer Davis, a formula was devised for the state-wide distribution of the new gas tax provided for in the bill. The distribution was based primarily on registered vehicles and miles of county roads. Counties benefitted greatly and rural counties benefitted enormously.

Soon Collier chaired the Senate Transportation Committee from 1946 to 1968 and the Senate Finance Committee from 1969 to 1974. At one time he was considered the most powerful legislator in the State, even more powerful than the Governor. It has been said that votes in Collier's committee were always unanimous and always in agreement with the Senator. In the late 60s and early 70s, when Interstate 5 was being constructed through our Siskiyou County, the Division of Highways proposed an alignment which bypassed Yreka and followed a less severe vertical alignment through Montague located six miles to the east. Senator Collier promptly authored legislation which mandated that the Interstate pass through the county seat.

Other important transportation legislation during his tenure included the California Freeway System Act of 1959 and the California Transportation Act of 1961. Collier served as a State Senator from January 2, 1939 to December 6, 1976. He served as Chairman of the Scott Valley Bank from 1979 to 1983. Randolph Collier died in Sacramento on August

2, 1983.

Known as the "Silver Fox of the Siskiyou", "The Father of the Freeways" and "Randy" to his friends at CEAC, Collier was a staunch supporter of good roads. The Ed Hannas, Bruce McClains, Bill McIntoshes and others were always welcome in Collier's office. CEAC, however, ceased to be as close of a friend with the passage of the Collier-Unruh Act. Collier insisted on a level of general fund support in his language, yet CEAC backed the less restrictive Unruh approach. Although the Hannas, McClains and McIntoshes continued as friends with Collier, our organization lost a powerful ally. However, Randy did attend the CLOD's BBQ in Fresno in 1981. I wonder had we chosen to ride a different horse, would our fiscal plight today be any different?

No doubt you will agree that we (CEAC) owe a great deal to Senator Randolph Collier. Hope to see you in San Jose, where we will kick off our year long celebration of our 100th.



Senator Randolph Collier

Board of Directors



CEAC Board of Directors Meeting
 CEAC 8th Annual Policy Conference
 Thursday, September 12, 2013 – 12:30 – 2:30
 CSAC – Peterson Conference Room
 1100 K St., 1st Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814

Call to Order (Mattson) Meeting was called to order at 12:50 pm on Thursday, September 12, 2013

Meeting Roster:

Officer	Office	County
Tom Mattson	President	Humboldt
Scott McGolpin	President Elect	Santa Barbara
Michael Penrose	Secretary	Sacramento
Mehdi Madjd-Sadjadi	Treasurer	Marin (Retired)
Doug Wilson	Parliamentarian	Tulare (Retired)
Ken Miller	Newsletter Editor	San Bernardino (Retired)
Daniel Woldesenbet	Past President	Alameda
Patrick DeChellis	NACE Representative	Los Angeles
Dave Gravenkamp	Historian	Siskiyou (Retired)
Regional Directors	Region	County
Steven Kowalewski	Bay Area	Contra Costa
Rick Tippet	Northern California	Trinity
Tom Garcia	Sacramento Mother Lode	Calaveras
Michael Selling	San Joaquin Valley	San Joaquin
Paavo Ogren	Central Coast	San Luis Obispo
Jeff Pratt	Southern California	Ventura
Committee Chairs	Committee	County
Matt Machado	Transportation	Stanislaus
Pattie McNamee	Fellowship	Contra Costa (Retired)
Chris Stone	Flood Control/Water Resources	Los Angeles
Rick Marshall	Land Use	Napa
Jim Porter	Oversight	San Mateo
John Presliegh	Scholarship	Santa Cruz
Pat Proano	Solid Waste	Los Angeles
Steven Steinhoff	Survey	Los Angeles
CSAC/CEAC Staff	Title	Agency/County
DeAnn Baker	Senior Legislative Representative	CSAC
Karen Keene	Senior Legislative Representative	CSAC
Kiana Buss	Legislative Analyst	CSAC
Cara Martinson	Legislative Analyst	CSAC
Merrin Gerety	CEAC Program Manager	CSAC/CEAC
Other Attendees		
David Fleisch		Ventura
Bob Perreault		Plumas

All Officers, Regional Directors, Committee Chairs and Staff are listed. Those

Board of Directors

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shown shaded were not in attendance.

2. Approval of Minutes –

- July 26, 2013 minutes - Upon a motion by Pat DeChellis and second by Steve Steinhoff, were **unanimously approved**.

3. Correspondence (Tom Matson)

- a) CTCDC Appointment. Michael Kenny, San Diego (Alternate)
- b) Letter from Jerry Quinn proposing to do a white paper report regarding the legality of doing storm damage repairs under Road Commissioner authority and receiving reimbursement for the work by FEMA and Cal EMA payment for that work. *Action Item: This item will be brought back to the November Directors meeting to determine if CEAC will approve the effort and fund it.*

4. CLODS Report (CLODS) – Medhi Madjd-Sadjadi reported that the CLODS have received the new officer nominees. Working on the CLODS B-B-Q, the program is being developed and the site has been picked.

5. NACE Report (Pat DeChellis) – Pat did a fly in to Washington DC, for NACE regarding longer heavier trucks on the nations roadways. He provided notice of the Western Regional NACE conference in Laughlin, Nevada. Announced the 2014 NACE conference in Baton Rouge, Louisiana

6. CSAC Report (CSAC Staff) – DeAnn Baker – reported staffing changes at CSAC: 1. Kiana Buss has been appointed as the Land Use/Transportation Lobbyist, Christopher Lee will be Kiana's new analyst.

Merrin Gerety reported that the 100 year anniversary video was in the process of being made. That November will be the official kick off of CEAC's 100 year celebration. Some discussion on selecting the dates for next year's policy conference. *Action Item: Merrin and Kiana will select the date for next year's policy conference.*

7. Regional Directors Reports

- San Joaquin Valley – Michael Selling reported that chapter will be putting together a plaque for CEAC highlighting the 100 year anniversary of CEAC, there are two more chapter meetings planned for this year.
- Northern California – Rick Tippet reported there will be snow plow rodeo October 29th. Discussed the National Forest Travel Management plan
- Central Coast – Paavo Ogren reported they last met in mid-August. Whoever hosts the chapter meeting does some sort of presentation as a part of the chapter meeting. They focused on roads emergency responses at the meeting.
- Bay Area – Steven Kowaleski reported they met on June 6th. Various topics included 100 year CEAC anniversary, staffing level impacts in District 4 Local Assistance, full trash capture devices, aging infrastructure, integrated pest management, and e-business.
- Southern California – Jeff Pratt the chapter established a subgroup of 7 counties to go back to Washington to lobby on issues that are of importance to all of the counties.

Board of Directors

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They have also established a utility assault group to try to address issues at the PUC.
Sacramento Motherlode – No report

8. **Treasurers Report** (Sadjadi) – Medhi made one correction to report as presented it did not change the overall budget just cleaned up the allocation of cost to two categories (office supplies and expenses and postage). All counties paid their dues this year.

9. *** Committee Reports**

- a) Flood Control and Water Resources – Kiana Buss - Committee approved suggested updates to priorities and guidelines
- b) Solid Waste – No Report
- c) Surveyor – Steven Steinhoff - Discussion of Record of Survey and looking to schedule a workshop at the March meeting
- d) Land Use – Rick Tippet - Had some follow up on Rule 20A issues, discussed policies and priorities, discussed utilities,
- e) Transportation – Everyone was there – no report made
- f) Oversight and Special Tasks Committee – Jim Porter - Approved fees for website posting of jobs. All member Counties to pay the member fee, affiliates can post and pay the non-member fee. Affiliate membership and sponsorship fees were discussed and an additional survey will be sent to affiliates and a subsequent meeting will be held to discuss recommendation for revised fee structure. Officers manual – *Action Item: Jim will do a redline of the manual changes, and send out for comments before the November conference. Updating of the manual will then be addressed at the November committee meeting.*

10. **Other Committee Reports**

- a) Fellowship – Patti McNamee - Hospitality suite went well, talking about how to support the 100 year anniversary. At the fall conference they plan to put a pool hall night together.
- b) Scholarship – John Presleigh - 46 applications this year, great candidates.
- c) Outside Committees Reports – No Report
(HBP, CUCCAC, CCSFCC, SHSIP, TRCC, Traffic Control Devices (CTCDC), TDAWG)

11. **Life Membership** – No nominations at this time

12. **Unfinished Business**

- a) 2014 CEAC 100th Anniversary celebration (Brueren) – No report

13. **New Business**

- a) General Service Committee Survey – Tom received survey responses on what might be included or needed in a new committee. Pretty good response of there being a need for an additional committee. *Action Item: It was referred to the oversight committee to figure out what topics should be included in the new committee.*
- b) PWSS contribution – Tom noted that recently CEAC has been contributing \$1,500/year to help support the event. It was discussed that it would be appropriate to now contribute \$2,500/year to support the event.
Upon a motion by Pat DeChellis, and second by Paavo Ogren a contribution of \$2,500 was **unanimously approved**.

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- c) Affiliate Sponsorship Program – Attachment Four – already talked about earlier
- d) Caltrans Director attendance incentives – Low level of participation at conferences for the past few years. Discussion on how to get them to participate again. On a motion by Scott McGolpin and second by Paavo Ogren to waive the registration fees for the District Directors to attend the spring 2014 conference only and for the President to write a letter to the Directors inviting them to participate – **unanimously approved**.
Action Item: President to write the letter to the Directors.

14. Scheduled Conferences – 2013/2014

- a) CSAC 119th Annual Conference, San Jose, Santa Clara County, November 19-22, 2013
- b) CEAC Spring Conference/League of California Cities PWOI, Sacramento County, Sheraton Hotel, March 26-28, 2014

15. CEAC Board of Directors Meeting Schedule

- a) November 22, 2013, Time TBD (Annual Meeting)
- b) March 28, 2014, Time TBD (Spring Conference)

Tom Mattson adjourned the meeting at 2:43 pm

Minutes prepared by Michael Penrose, CEAC Secretary

New Public Works Director

In a recent Press Release, Orange County announced the appointment of Shane L. Silsby as the Director of Orange County Public Works effective November 4th.

A graduate of Michigan State University with both a Bachelor and Masters Degree in Civil Engineering, Silsby most recently served as Deputy Director and Deputy City Engineer of Street Transportation for the City of Phoenix. In his nine years with the city, he also led a multi-disciplinary technical group in the Planning and Development Department. He previously worked for the City of Lansing, Michigan in their Transportation and Parking Department.

Shane recently accepted the 2013 Project of the Year Award from the American Public Works Association on behalf of the City of Phoenix and has served on the Board of the American Public Works Association, Arizona Chapter.

CEAC History

During the last year, Julie Bueren, Contra Costa County and Honorable CLOD, has been leading a committee effort to develop a celebration for CEAC's 100th anniversary in 2014. Part of this effort has been to gather information about the organization and many of its individual members. In doing so, many interesting facts and stories have surfaced about the early days of CEAC that have been hidden by time. Following are just a few of the interesting items that have been uncovered.

Leslie B Crook

In the "Droppings" in the September newsletter there was a brief biography of Mr. Crook, CEAC's 2nd President in 1915-16, but no photo was available. Below is a photo of Mr. Crook that was recently located.



Burdette Robert "Bob" Glenn

Bob was the first editor of the CEAC newsletter commencing with its first edition in late 1991. Bob continued to serve as the editor until 1970 when he was replaced by the illustrious, Ed Hanna ("Bull Condor").

Bob attended the University of Michigan receiving a B. S. Degree in Civil Engineering in 1918. While a senior he was captain of the university's baseball team. A little known fact about Bob is that he played in the major leagues for the St Louis Cardinals in 1920, pitching in relief in two games. While his pitching career was short, he went on to a long and fruitful career in engineering.

Bob spent many years working for the Institute of Transportation and Traffic Engineering (later renamed the Institute of Transportation Studies, ITS). Although not a County member, Bob was such a highly respected and strong supporter of CEAC that he was welcomed on the Board of Directors as the newsletter editor.

When the CLODS were formed in 1969, although retired by then, Bob was honored as a "Civilian CLOD" along with Harmer Davis of ITS, and Alan Hart of the State Division of Highways.



Bob in his U. of Michigan Uniform

Three of CEAC's past presidents, **George Posey** (Alameda County, 1918-19), **Wallace B. Boggs** (Alameda County, 1948-49) and **Lloyd Aldrich** (Sonoma County, 1920-21) were all instrumental in the planning design and construction of a major tunnel undercrossing of the Alameda-Oakland Estuary connecting Alameda and Contra Costa counties during the period of 1926 to 1937.

The planning and early design of the tunnel was supervised by George Posey, Chief Engineer for Joint Highway District No. 13, which was established solely for the design and construction of the tunnel.

Following George Posey's death, the design was facilitated by Wallace Boggs, who had been Posey's assistant engineer. Lloyd Aldrich was a director for the California Bridge and Tunnel Co., which later constructed the tunnel.

The tunnel was subsequently named the "Posey Tunnel".

Buffalo Bull Award



It's that time of year again when the **Tres Pinos Committee** makes its annual request andits last call for any and all nominations for the most prestigious **Buffalo Bull Award**.

The award is given annually by the **CLODS** to that special deserving 'poor soul' that has made the most inexplicable and incomprehensible contribution to County Engineering in California and/or has greatly embarrassed himself/herself, the engineering profession or the CEAC organization during the course of the last year.

Nominations are welcomed from CEAC members, affiliates, CLODS, CHICS or anyone else that desires to bring forth an anonymous nomination.

Please submit your nominations any time before January 30, 2014 to the Newsletter Editor or to any CLOD who will in turn pass the nomination along to the Tres Pinos Committee for vetting and ranking. The award of the precious grass roots award will be made during the President's Banquet at the Spring Conference in Sacramento.



Happy Thanksgiving to All

