



CEAC Newsletter

September 2012

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For the 118th Annual Meeting of CSAC

at

**Long Beach Convention Center
and Hyatt Regency Long Beach**



**REGISTER BEFORE SEPTEMBER 28TH
AND SAVE \$\$\$**

Go to ceaccounties.org for all conference
and registration information.



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

Member Spotlight

CEAC President Daniel Woldesenbet, our Glorious Leader, is an experienced public sector executive with over 25 years of leadership, professional engineering and management experience. Currently, as the Director of the Alameda County Public Works Agency, he oversees the provision, maintenance and operation of public infrastructure.

Daniel also serves as the General Manager of the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District that manages the District's natural creeks, channels, levees and associated flood control infrastructure.



As a champion for sustainability, Daniel has been promoting green practices in the development and implementation of programs and projects. He also leads professional staff that perform tidal and sea level rise studies that are focused on developing safeguards against flooding due to global warming.

Daniel holds a Ph.D. in Public Administration, a M.B.A. and a B.S. in Civil Engineering, and is a licensed Professional Engineer.

Sonoma County has announced that its “**Public Works Warrior**”, **Phil Demery**, will be taking a permanent vacation commencing September 22nd.

Phil has been the Transportation and Public Works Director for Sonoma County since May of 2007. He previously was the Public Works Director in Santa Barbara County, a position he had held since 1994. Phil is a graduate of Colorado State University, receiving both B.S. and M.S. Degrees in Civil Engineering. Prior to working for Santa Barbara County, Phil worked for the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation in Denver conducting physical and mathematical modeling of hydraulic systems.

An Honorable CLOD, Phil has been one of CEAC's most active members, serving as President in 2003, and constantly trying to move the organization forward by providing opportunities for professional and technical development, networking among the counties, and actively trying to resolve legislative, budget and administrative issues of importance to all of the counties at both the State and Federal levels.

Phil has garnered numerous awards in his career including the Chic's “Golden Egg” in 2007, CEAC's “Engineer of the Year” in 2011 and the un-glorious “Buffalo Bull” in 2004 and 2009.

Phil has been prominent on the national level, as well, serving as the President of the National Association of County Engineers in 2011 and being honored as the association's “Urban County Engineer of the Year” in 2012.



Member Spotlight

IN MEMORIAM

William “Bill” Cypher, passed away on May 1, 2012. Bill Served as a Deputy Director of Operations for the San Joaquin County Department of Public Works and was a “Life Member” of CEAC. In addition to his retirement from San Joaquin County, he retired as a Lt. Colonel in the U.S. Army. Bill was preceded in death by his wife, Mildred, and leaves his daughter, Janice Lauren Tierney and grandson, Andrew.

NEW AFFILIATE

MIG, Inc., established in 1982, is a multi-disciplined engineering and planning firm with headquarters in Berkeley, other California offices in Davis, Fullerton, Pasadena, and San Diego with additional offices in Portland and Eugene, Oregon and in Raleigh, North Carolina. MIG has focused on planning, designing and sustaining environments that support human development. For each endeavor “our approach is strategic, context-driven and holistic, addressing social, political, economic and physical factors to ensure our clients achieve the results they want.”

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RETIRED ENGINEERS

Retired County Engineers, **Gerry Shaul**, Lake County, **Tom Hunter**, Plumas County, and **Carl Bonomini**, Trinity County, proudly display their recent salmon catch. The three unselfishly continue to do volunteer fish studies on the Sacramento River under the supervision of Tom Mlcoch and his fishing guide son, Mark Mlcoch. They advised that they will soon be publishing a report on the health of salmon in the river, how they taste, and their sensitivity to quarter sticks of dynamite.



L To R: Gerry Shaul, Tom Hunter, Carl Bonomini.
The names of the salmon were not known.

Clay Castleberry recently advised that he and Donna have just celebrated 45 years of happy marriage and he further said, “45 out of 57 is pretty good odds.” He was just kidding, Donna, and he corrected himself by saying, “all 57 have been wonderful.”

Clay indicated he and Donna are enjoying time with their grandchildren and are extremely proud of their son, Steve, the “new” Public Works Director of Nevada County.

Public Works Secretarial Seminar

Santa Barbara County hosted the 27th Annual Public Works Secretarial Seminar at Fess Parker's Doubletree Resort in Santa Barbara. The seminar, which occurred May 11 through 9, was well attended by 51 staff members representing 18 California counties.

The seminar began on the evening of Wednesday May 9th with introductory remarks by Santa Barbara County CEO, Chandra Walker, Assistant CEO Renee Bahl, Public Works Director, Scott McGolpin and Public Works Executive Secretary, Michelle Garcia followed by dinner, networking and entertainment.

Thursday included a morning training session on "Dealing with Change", a BBQ lunch at a regional park, and an afternoon session on composting and a walk through of the County's Mission Creek Project.

Friday's closing included presentations by Santa Barbara County staff on Street Saver/Road Needs Assessment, Geographic Information Systems, Waste Conversion Technology, Solar Power and Water Resources.

Thank You to Santa Barbara County for hosting this informative and beneficial annual seminar with a Very Special Thanks to Michelle Garcia , Executive Assistant, for her diligent efforts in arranging for this successful event.



Seminar Attendees During a Lunchtime BBQ at Rocky Nook, One of Santa Barbara County's Beautiful Parks

Droppings



A year or more ago, I included excerpts from early CEAC Newsletters in the "Droppings." I ended with issue No. 10, April 1964 with Bill McIntosh, the Old Crow, having been installed as CEAC President. Included herein are bits and pieces of a few more Newsletters.

Issue No. 11, July 1964:

The CEAC Board of Directors met in San Francisco on May 22 with all of the officers, Directors, and committee chairmen present. *(Betcha its been a while since that has happened.)* At the meeting, Dave Speer, San Diego County, submitted a sample of a membership certificate together with a sample of an official CEAC seal.

It was noted that Clinton D. Berry, former Deputy Road Commissioner of Kern County, assumed the position of Public Works Director for Fresno County formally held by Sam Black. Also, Hugh Naill, formerly Road Commissioner for Del Norte County, is now with Mendocino County, assisting Jim Richardson.

Issue No. 12, October 1964:

President Bill reported on the NACO annual meeting held in Washington D.C. in early August. Accompanying Bill were Jack Lambie and Newt Templin, Los Angeles County, Cy Weiler, San Diego County, and Dave Pierson, Imperial County. A highlight of the trip was a reception on the East Lawn of the White House. In attendance were Secretary of State, Dean Rusk, Secretary of Defense, Robert McNamara, Secretary of the Treasury, Dillon, Secretary of the Interior, Stuart Udall, Secretary of Labor, Wertz, along with "Lady Bird" and

By

Dave 'Road Runner' Gravenkamp
CEAC Historian

"Early Newsletters, Continued"

Lynda Johnson and also President Lyndon Johnson, who addressed the group. At the NACO President's Banquet later in the conference, Senator Hubert Humphrey gave the keynote address. *(Counties had more respect in 1964?)*

Laverne Nelson, formerly of San Diego County, was appointed Road Commissioner for Del Norte County. Joseph Spaeth, formerly with the State Division of Highways, was chosen by the Calaveras County Board to succeed Vern Story as Public Works Director.

Issue No. 13, January 1965:

CEAC officers included: David Pierson, President; Bruce McClain, Vice-President; Bill McIntosh, Past President; and Bob Glenn, Treasurer and Newsletter Editor. In his "State of the Association" letter, newly elected President Pierson, told of all he hoped to accomplish in the ensuing year. He also noted that the President's banquet would be held on January 27th at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel at a cost of \$6.00 per person. It was noted that Vic Sauer, Contra Costa County Director of Public Works, had been selected as one of the APWA's "Top 10 Men-of-the-Year" for 1964.

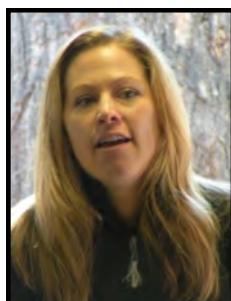
The Tres Pinos Committee continues to welcome nominations you may have for the annual Buffalo Bull Award. You may make submittals to me or to the Newsletter Editor who will in turn pass along your nominations to the T.P. Committee for wiping and vetting.

All nominations are kept strictly confidential.

Bedroll Conference 2012

CLOD Tom Hunter, retired Director of Public Works for Plumas County, reported that another successful Bedroll Conference took place in July at Camp Conery in Lake Almanor. Tom indicated that a full house of 54 county engineers and consultants were able to attend, enjoying great food and spectacular weather while being briefed on a wide variety of public works issues and topics. A field trip to a new and impressive bridge being constructed near Quincy was a highlight.

Nineteen golfers took advantage of an afternoon of golf with a few of the high performers as follows: Low gross - Gary Hicks with an 81; Low Net - Steve Mellon with a 69; Closest to the Pin - Matt Satow; Long Drive for Men - Howard Michael; and Long Drive Women - Katrina Lynch.



A few of the Attendees.

A Missing Treasure:

The Capitol Police in Sacramento issued an all points bulletin on August 24th for the painting shown below. The painting was apparently stolen from the Capitol Rotunda Gallery in a brave mid-day robbery in plain sight of hundreds of tourists, including several bus loads of school children, and also in front of dozens of sign wielding protestors of pension reform and a proposed November tax initiative.

The historical significance of this painting is that it was originally done as a “self-portrait” by a governor trying to visually express his inner feelings during the annual budget preparation process. Anyone with information as to the whereabouts of the missing treasure shall immediately contact any member of the Montezuma County Grand Jury. A generous reward has been offered for its return.

P.S. Should any county employee be caught with the painting, he or she will be immediately terminated.



“A Self Portrait”

“Jest a Minute”



A **priest** was invited to attend a house party. Naturally, he was properly dressed and wearing his Priest's Collar.

A little boy kept staring at him the entire evening. Finally, the priest asked the little boy what he was staring at.

The little boy pointed at the priest's neck.

When the priest finally realized what the boy was pointing at, he asked the boy, “Do you know why I am wearing that?”

The boy nodded his head yes, and replied, “It kills fleas and ticks for up to three months!”

Three buddies die in a car crash and go to heaven for an orientation. They are all asked, “When you are in your casket and friends and family are mourning over you, what would you like to hear them say about you?”

The first guy says, “I would like to hear them say that I was a great doctor of my time, and a great family man.”

The second guy says, “I would like to hear that I was a wonderful husband and school teacher and made a huge difference in our children of tomorrow.”

The last guy replies, “I would like to hear them say, Look! He's moving!”



Buffalo Bull Nomination????

Golfers Prayer

“Almighty God, as we play through our 18 holes of life, we pray that you will give us a drive that's both long enough to reach our goals, and yet straight enough to keep us out of trouble.”

“Help us avoid the traps and hazards of life; nevertheless, should we find ourselves in them, give us the tools, skills and desire to escape them with no penalty. May we always stay in bounds.”

“Help us to be willing to stand by - and not play through - those in genuine need. May we always play with honor.”

“And finally, when we've putted out on the 18th green, we pray that we will have demonstrated the integrity of our character, so that you will judge us worthy enough to join your threesome and play eternally on your heavenly course.
Amen.”



My husband and I divorced over religious differences.

He thought he was God, and I didn't.