



# CEAC Newsletter

September 2014

Editor: Ken Miller



## President's Message

By

Scott D. McGolpin

As summer winds down we focus on completing our capital improvement programs prior to a winter season that we all hope brings much needed rain and snow to our great state. Another season is ending as well and this one is in Sacramento; the California State Legislature is coming to a close for the 2014 legislative session. I want to take the opportunity to reflect on the California State Association of Counties' (CSAC) influence on matters of statewide policy on a variety of important public works issues.

Informed by each of us who make up the County Engineers Association of California (CEAC), CSAC has monitored nearly 150 proposed public works measures and taken the lead role in advocating in support or opposition of a number of bills critical to counties in 2014. Moreover, these efforts help set the tone for broader conversations around the state budget, financing public infrastructure, and the regulatory environment facing county public works departments across California. CSAC and CEAC are considered reliable sources of county information and the state's leaders regularly seek our feedback and counsel.

An example of CEAC's important role and influence can be found in AB 2471 by Assembly Member Jim Frazier. As originally introduced, the measure would have imposed stringent timelines on our public works contract change order process.

CALIFORNIA  
*Counties*



## President's Message (cont.)

However well-intentioned the author and sponsors were, CSAC staff identified a number of issues with the measure and took an oppose position based on the analysis and feedback of California's 58 counties. Although CSAC attempted to negotiate a workable solution, the measure ultimately died due in large part to CSAC's continued concerns. While we may see the issue surface again in 2015, CSAC will be well prepared to negotiate a workable solution because of the indispensable relationship between CSAC and the county engineers.

Another success story is that of SB 498 by Senator Ricardo Lara. A CSAC and Los Angeles County co-sponsored measure, SB 498 would help to facilitate the development of cleaner and more efficient technologies for converting biomass materials to renewable energy and give California counties additional tools to manage their waste stream. After a hard fought two-year legislative process, the measure awaits action by the Governor. I encourage all counties to write letters of support to the Governor and request his immediate signature on this bill!

My time as President has shown me that so much more goes on during the legislative session than can be accommodated in this article, but I hope this provides some insight into the effectiveness and importance of this organization. Our success relies on the active participation of county public works directors and staff throughout your organization. I strongly encourage you and your colleagues to attend the 2014 CEAC Fall Policy Conference in Sacramento from September 17-18. Participants can look forward to a summary of legislative and budget activities from the 2014 legislative session, updates on a num-

ber of on-going state and federal policy efforts, such as examining the potential of a road user charge in California, and an opportunity to review and recommend legislative proposals for 2015. Through a strong partnership with CEAC, and the active participation of all of our members, CSAC can be quite effective in making positive change for all of our communities throughout California.

I look forward to seeing each of you in Sacramento for our 9<sup>th</sup> Policy Conference to work together to influence future legislation to improve our State.

~Scott

## Policy Conference Sponsors



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# Member Spotlight

## New Regional Director - Central Coast Region

### John Presleigh

Director of Public Works and Parks  
Santa Cruz County  
701 Ocean Street, Room 410  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

John replaces Paavo Ogren, who recently left the Public Works Director position in San Luis Obispo County to join the Oceano Community Services District.

## New Affiliate

**Gallagher Asphalt Corporation** has rejoined CEAC after a brief absence. Gallagher Asphalt Corp. founded in 1928 offers expertise to cover a wide variety of paving needs and more including grinding, grading, milling, hot-in-place recycling, mix design, stone and base. They offer a wonderful blend of the latest technology, a dedication to craftsmanship and an unrelenting concern for timely completion of projects.

Gallagher Asphalt Corporation  
18100 S. Indiana Avenue  
Thornton, IL 60476  
Contact: Patrick Gallagher, Vice President  
Phone: (708) 877-7160  
Fax: (708) 877-5222  
Email: [patrick@gallagherasphalt.com](mailto:patrick@gallagherasphalt.com)  
Web: [www.gallagherasphalt.com](http://www.gallagherasphalt.com)

Additional contact: Patrick Faster, National Sales Director.  
Email: [pfaster@gallagherasphalt.com](mailto:pfaster@gallagherasphalt.com)

Note: Patrick Faster was recently re-elected as President of the Asphalt Recycling and Reclaiming Association for 2014/15.



## Award of Recognition

CEAC Affiliate Member, **VSS Emultech/Valley Slurry Seal Co.** of West Sacramento, was recently presented with the International Slurry Seal Associations' *2014 President's Award For Excellence*. This President's Award is presented in recognition of contracting achievements which exemplify the highest quality of workmanship and compliance with the best standards of practice.

The award was given to **VSS** after completion of work with **Mendocino County** on its 2013 Multi-Layer Pavement Rehabilitation, DOT Project.

Mendocino County's goal is to maintain 100 miles of road rejuvenation annually, even as shrinking budgets have impacted the county's ability to maintain proper road infrastructure.





## Member Spotlight - Public Works Secretarial Seminar 2014



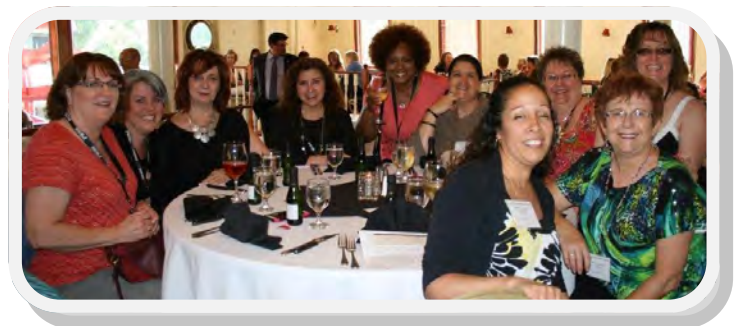
The 29th Annual Public Works Secretarial Seminar was hosted by Sacramento County on May 21-23, 2014. The seminar kicked off the evening of May 21st with a welcome reception and greetings by Sacramento County Supervisor, Phil Serna, and Director of Sacramento Dept. of Transportation (and CEAC President-Elect), Mike Penrose. The following two days were filled with tours, presentations and activities arranged by an organizing committee chaired by Deborah Ryan.

Interesting and educational tours were taken of the Freeport Water Authority, the Vineyard Surface Water Treatment Facility, the Sacramento International Airport and new Central Terminal B along with a behind the scenes tour of the baggage handling process, and finally a tour of Sacramento's history museum and Old Sacramento's "underground".

Through presentations during the seminar, attendees learned of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan, were given an informative "Public Speaking 101" class on how to give successful presentations, were provided with a case study of the Sacramento County economy, and heard about the "Bridges of Sacramento County".

The 30th Annual Public Works Secretarial Seminar for 2015 will be held in Mendocino County.

Some of the seminar attendees at the Welcoming Reception



Sacramento County's  
Organizing Team

*Thank you Sacramento!*

## Member Spotlight



On Wednesday August 13th, the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (Dusty Williams, General Manager) hosted CEAC's Southern California Region Meeting with CEAC President, Scott McGolpin in attendance.

A wide range of regional and statewide topics were on the agenda and discussed including: Eight new legislative and policy proposals; Update on the Highway Bridge Advisory Committee; Statewide local streets and roads needs assessment; Federal lands access program; Statewide water fee initiative; California water bond; DWR flood investment strategy; Cal Fish & Wildlife bird nesting policy; Street monument preservation responsibility; County information sharing; and a communications initiative.



Retired CEAC PW Directors, CLOD Gerry Shaul (Lake Co.), Carl Bonomini (Trinity Co.) and CLOD Tom Hunter (Plumas Co.), along with Steve Mellon (Quincy Engineering) display their "find" after a recent trip to inspect water quality and the environment along the Sacramento River



## CEAC 100 Years

During its 100 year history, CEAC has been served by individuals that had exceptional talent and not only supported the CEAC organization, but served their counties, communities and local organizations with the highest engineering and professional expertise. Following are brief biographies of three of these individuals two of which each served two terms as CEAC President:

**Howard L. Way**  
San Bernardino County  
CEAC President 1930-31 &  
1931-32



Howard Lambert Way was born in Beaver City, Nebraska on Feb. 25, 1887. Coming to California at an early age, he attended schools in Whittier (where his father was constable for many years) and was an alumnus of the University of California. He maintained a private engineering practice in Spokane, Washington, from 1910 to 1912, and was an engineer with the Atlas Mining Co. in the Yukon Territory from 1912 to 1915.

Mr. Way entered service with the County of San Bernardino in 1915 as Deputy County Surveyor. He became acting County Surveyor in 1924 and was elected to that post in 1926, and was repeatedly re-elected to that post until ill health necessitated his retirement on March 1, 1952, six weeks before his death.

He also held the responsible and demanding post of County Highway Commissioner from 1937 until his retirement. In addition, he was the Chief Engineer for the County Flood Control District, appointed first in 1939, when that District came into being.

When he entered County service in 1915, the Highway Department had practically no motorized equip-

ment. Way was a leader in modernizing the Department and watched the Department grow until the County's highway system stretched to 3,700 miles. He was instrumental in setting up a central garage and machine shop and a dozen branch maintenance stations to insure that County roads received the best of service. He established an extensive cost accounting system to keep track of funding and expenditures.

In addition to serving as CEAC President, Mr. Way was Chairman of the California State Chamber of Commerce Highway Committee and also was a member of the nationwide Board of Highway Consultants of the Federal Bureau of Public Roads. He was serving as Vice President of the American Association of Road Builders at the time of his death.

**Alexander C. (Chope) Fulmor**  
Riverside County  
CEAC President 1928-29 &  
1935-36



Alexander C. Fulmor was born in Eel River Island, Humboldt County, on August 27, 1876.

He came to Riverside County in 1905 at the age of 28 to join the office of County Surveyor, George Pearson, whom he succeeded in 1914. He retired from that post in January 1946 after serving eight terms (32 years). He was one of just three men to hold that elective office. Pearson having been the original holder when the county was formed in 1893 and Ada Clinton "A.C." Keith who succeeded Fulmor. A.C. Keith also served as CEAC President in 1955-56.

As a private surveyor, he laid out roads up Mt. Rubidoux, opened in 1907. He also designed the picturesque entrance road to the City of Riverside at that time around the north end of Mt. Rubidoux, now known as Buena Vista Drive.

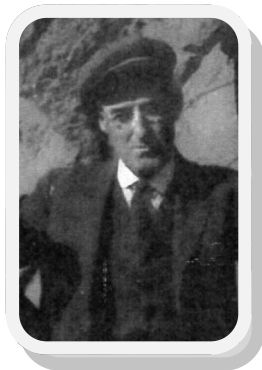
## CEAC 100 Years

As County surveyor, Fulmor designed several especially prominent roads in addition to many less spectacular. Among them were the Hemet-Idyllwild, Banning-Idyllwild, and Palms-to-Pines roads, which together make up a network which made possible modern automotive access to the San Jacinto and Santa Rosa Mountains, replacing primitive lumbering roads. With an engineering representative from Orange County, he designed the Ortega Highway, crossing the Santa Ana Mountains from Lake Elsinore into Orange County.

Mr. Fulmor was one of the initial members of the Riverside County Planning Commission serving for 28 years starting in 1928, and was its chairman for 10 of those years. He is remembered as designer of the county's best scenic roads and is the namesake for Lake Fulmor.

A.C. Fulmor passed away June 2, 1965 in Riverside at the age of 88.

**Ralph R. Arnold**  
Contra Costa County  
CEAC President 1924-25



*The following is an excerpt is from the History of Contra Costa County as edited by F J Hulnaiski.*

Ralph R. Arnold was a native of Pennsylvania, and was born in Clearfield County on March 26, 1874. In 1877, his parents moved to Kansas, where he received his public school education.

Mr. Arnold began his independent career in Colorado, where he followed engineering and surveying. Since engaging in this vocation he has worked in California, Utah, Wyoming, and Nevada. During this time he established a record for honesty, reliability, and efficiency. In April 1913, he came to

Martinez, Contra Costa County, where he was met with gratifying success. He was chosen by the people of his county as county surveyor in the fall of 1914 and the voters of the county can rest assured that Mr. Arnold will conduct his office along the most approved and businesslike lines. He is affiliated with the Republican party.

*Mr. Arnold was featured in an article that appeared in the October 1923 issue of "Popular Science Monthly", which has some interesting quotes and outlooks on engineering of that time. A portion of the article is re-typed below.*

**"THE WORLD NEEDS ENGINEERS** - and is willing to reward them with honors, fame and money."

When Ralph R. Arnold says the "the world needs engineers," it means something. For Ralph R. Arnold is County Engineer of Contra Costa County, California, and builder of the famous Franklin Canyon Road.

"Engineers are in demand," said Mr. Arnold the other day. "It is getting harder and harder to get trained men."

"Very often, when a board of directors discusses the necessity of having some engineering work done, it is not a question of expense, but where can we find the man?"

"Too many young men simply drift along in some routine work that doesn't interest them. Every man ought to soberly face the facts, and ask himself... 'Do I want to make this my life's work?'"

"If there is any formula for success it is this: Decide early in life what you are going to be. Study every angle of that business or profession. Get into the business in a practical way as soon as possible. Then 'work like the dickens' and continue studying."

"Maybe I lay too much emphasis on study, but I don't think so. The hours I spent at home studying my I.C.S. course meant so much to me that I'm naturally enthusiastic. With present day facilities for studying by correspondence, there is absolutely no

## CEAC 100 Years

excuse for a man not being a success. Why, even today, I refer to my old I.C.S. instruction papers several times a week on some particular problem. That shows how practical they are!”

Mr. Ralph R. Arnold is only one of thousands upon thousands of men and women who have started from nothing and won their way to the high places by sheer grit and spare-time study.

*The article goes on to say how International Correspondence Schools prepare men and women for bigger jobs and larger salaries in more than 300 lines of work. While I.C.S. still operates today, the programs offered are quite scaled back from what existed in the early 20th century due to many other alternatives for education.*

We are continuing to gather historical information about CEAC’s first 100 years and are still searching for photographs of the following CEAC Presidents. Any assistance you could provide in locating any of these in your Department or County archives would be greatly appreciated.

Arthur E. Cowell, Merced County, 1921-22  
H.F. Cozzens, Monterey County, 1933-34  
Marshall Wallace, Sonoma County, 1950-51  
Earle A. Burt, Los Angeles County, 1951-52  
Joseph H. Mack, San Diego County, 1953-54  
Carl L. Lind, Fresno County, 1957  
Charles S. Dumble, Kern County, 1958-59  
David K. Speer, San Diego County, 1968-69  
Clinton D. Beery, Fresno County, 1972-73  
S.H. Cantwell, San Mateo County, 1977-78





# Droppings



By

**Dave 'Road Runner' Gravenkamp**

CEAC Historian

## **"The Stomp"**

Although not an official CEAC event, the annual outing of the American Society of Big Game Hunters and Pelican Egg Stompers, ASBGH&PES, was attended by several California County Engineers and therefore the "Stomp" will be the subject of this *Droppings*.

As I never personally attended the Stomp, the information for my story comes from Bill McIntosh, former Lassen County Director of Public Works and 1964 CEAC President and also more recently from John Mitchell, who followed Bill in Lassen County and was CEAC President in 1996.

In doing the who, where, when, what and why for this story, I will do the "who" last. As you might guess, the Stomp occurred in Lassen County, more specifically at the McIntosh, Uptegrove and Voight cabins on U.S.F.S. lease land at Eagle Lake. The Big Game Hunter portion of the name suggests the Stomp occurred in the fall of the year during buck season. John indicated that he attended 27 Stomps, which I assume was all of them, starting in the early 60s and continuing until the late 80s. John confided that the reason he was invited was because his father owned a large ranch nearby, where most of the hunting for the event took place.

Further, as he was the youngster in the group, he was assigned the heavy lifting, including rocking chairs, beer kegs and pianos. As most County Engineers of the time sat at a desk and weren't known for active life styles, I questioned whether anyone ever shot a deer at one of these gatherings. John assured me that they did and even recalls one instance of seeing a pickup truck loaded down with seven bucks.

O.K. you ask. Where did the rest of the name, Pelican Egg Stompers, come from? Well, the noted cabins were located at Eagles Nest, some distance from the Eagle Lake Highway, later renamed the William D. McIntosh Memorial Highway (aka County Route A-1). John said that the road to the cabins was quite primitive with both poor alignment and grade. Apparently the Lassen County Public Works Department had designed a much better road to Eagles Nest that was eventually nixed when the "enviros" got wind of the proposal and screamed "You'll destroy the pelican eggs!" I do recall seeing a photograph, in one of the ASBGH&PES scrapbooks that Bill annually produced, showing the "Stompers" gathered around several eggs (actually 'Leggs') and doing their thing. It's a good thing that the CHICS hadn't yet arrived on the scene.

As this report is getting long, I'll save the "who" to a future Newsletter. Hopefully, by then I'll have a better handle on who the who were. Please let me hear from you if you were one of those "Stompers" or know of someone who was.

When asked why the event ended after 27 years, John replied, "Everybody kept dying".



## Platinum Sponsors for 2014

**Thank you so much for your commitment  
of support to our CEAC organization !**



## “New State” News

Your Newsletter Editor recently received the attached news article and map from a CEAC friend in the proposed State of Merlot. Now I am not sure whether the purpose of the submittal was to simply bring this ridiculous (as the headline states) proposal to the CEAC membership for information or to lobby CEAC for support of the concept. Knowing that CEAC cannot lobby, I am sure it was for information only. By the way, who in their right mind would support such a cockamamie idea.

Hold on a minute. The article says that 1.3 million California voters have already signed a petition to place the idea on the ballot. Recalling recent low voter turnouts, is it possible that such a measure could pass? Maybe CEAC should begin planning for the worst by re-aligning our six regions to mirror the six “new” states.....with the “new state” acronyms being CEAW, CEAME, CEAS, CEADU, CEABL, and finally CEABO”..... the last befitting of a stinky idea.

# California’s six states of ridiculousness

By GEORGE SKELTON

Splitting California into six chunks is still a crackpot idea, but maybe it's time to start taking this semi-seriously.

That's because 1.3 million California voters have signed petitions to place the nutty notion on the ballot, its rich promoter says. So it's a good bet the proposal will land there.

But not until November 2016. That means we've got to hear about this doomed fantasy for another two-plus years.

Delaying the statewide vote for two years, rather than plac-

ing it on the upcoming ballot, will give everyone time “to sort of stomach” the six-state concept, says its sponsor, Silicon Valley venture capitalist Timothy Draper.

“It gives people time to get over their initial reaction and think about, ‘What could my government look like? How could I improve it?’ This is a major opportunity for all of us.”

Draper contends that California, with 38 million people and extremely different geographies, is too unwieldy to govern, and its elected state representatives are too far out of touch

with the citizens.

“We don’t have the best government,” he complains. “In fact, it’s the worst government. It’s not the fault of the people in government. I know many of them. It’s systemic.”

His ballot initiative — which requires only 808,000 valid voter signatures to qualify — “will start the conversation” among citizens, he says, about how to “reboot and refresh” the state.

A 24-member board of commissioners would be appointed by the Legislature and county boards of supervisors to guide the California crackup — to

divvy up financial and property holdings, and make a lot of lawyers and consultants very rich.

Of course, Congress and the president also would need to sign off on adding five more stars to the flag and creating 10 additional California senators. I figure the senators would split half Democrat, half Republican.

I can’t imagine very many people — practical, sane people with real lives — volunteering to spend five minutes on the conversation that Draper wants to start. They may waste hours gazing at World Cup soccer, but futilely discussing a reconfigu-

ration of California governance that’s never going to happen?

“A colossal waste of time,” says Democratic consultant Steve Maviglio, a former gubernatorial and legislative adviser who’s trashing the idea pro bono. “California will now be the butt of jokes for two years — another ‘one of those crazy California things.’”

He has formed a small bipartisan coalition of opposition with Joe Rodota, a Republican con-

TURN TO STATES, PAGE 7B

George Skelton is a columnist for the Los Angeles Times.





## Condor News

The following article was submitted by John Mitchell, 1996 CEAC President. John presently resides in the central Oregon City of Prineville, population 9,250, located on U.S. Route 26 northeasterly of Bend, Oregon.

### TRAILBLAZER

## See condors in Oregon? She's making it possible

**F**eaturing a four-story aviary, two pools, and three big, bald residents, the *Condors of the Columbia* habitat at Portland's Oregon Zoo opens in May. Kelli Walker, senior keeper in charge of the California condors, is an expert on these critically endangered birds. [oregonzoo.org](http://oregonzoo.org).

**Q Just how large are condors?**

**A** They're the biggest soaring birds in North America, with a wingspan of almost 10 feet. They remind people of pterodactyls.

**Q What was their historic range?**

**A** From Baja California, Mexico, all the way up to British Columbia.

**Q They nearly went extinct?**

**A** In the 1980s, they were down to just 22 birds.

**Q How is the Oregon Zoo helping?**

**A** It's one of four breeding facilities. We have eight breeding pairs and produce eggs and chicks for release in Arizona, California, and Baja.

**Q What's special in the zoo habitat?**

**A** Condors love water, and one pool is three feet deep, so they can get their entire bodies in for baths. They like to drag their food in with them.

**Q What do they eat?**

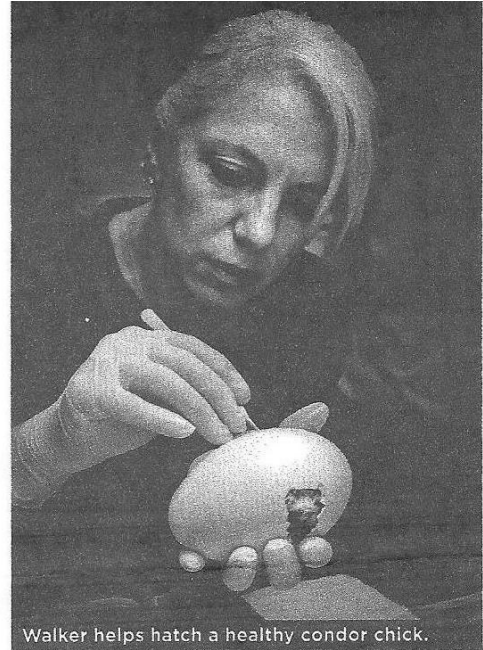
**A** Anything dead. Usually, the bigger the better.

**Q A favorite condor in the habitat?**

**A** Kaweah, a 28-year-old male. He'll try to steal anything you're working with. He's just naughty—and sneaky.

**Q How close can zoo visitors get?**

**A** The condors can go right up to the two viewing windows. I wouldn't be surprised if Kaweah did that.



Walker helps hatch a healthy condor chick.

**Q A surprising fact about condors?**

**A** They're not ugly! They're colorful, with what looks like a boa around their necks. When they're displaying, they turn brilliant orange and purple. Even if you don't think they're pretty, they *are* magnificent. —CHRIS BATY

Those new to CEAC may wonder....what is so special about the California Condor that justifies articles, photos, cartoons and references in the Newsletter??? Well here is the short version.

By the early 60s, late 1965 to be more precise, a large number of CEAC Presidents had accumulated after being thrown out of office. These Past Presidents wanted to continue to assist the CEAC organization in some manner and decided to form an organization of "has beens" to make further contributions. They considered many possible names for the organization and eventually formed what is known as California's Loyal Order of Dedicated Servants, the CLODS.

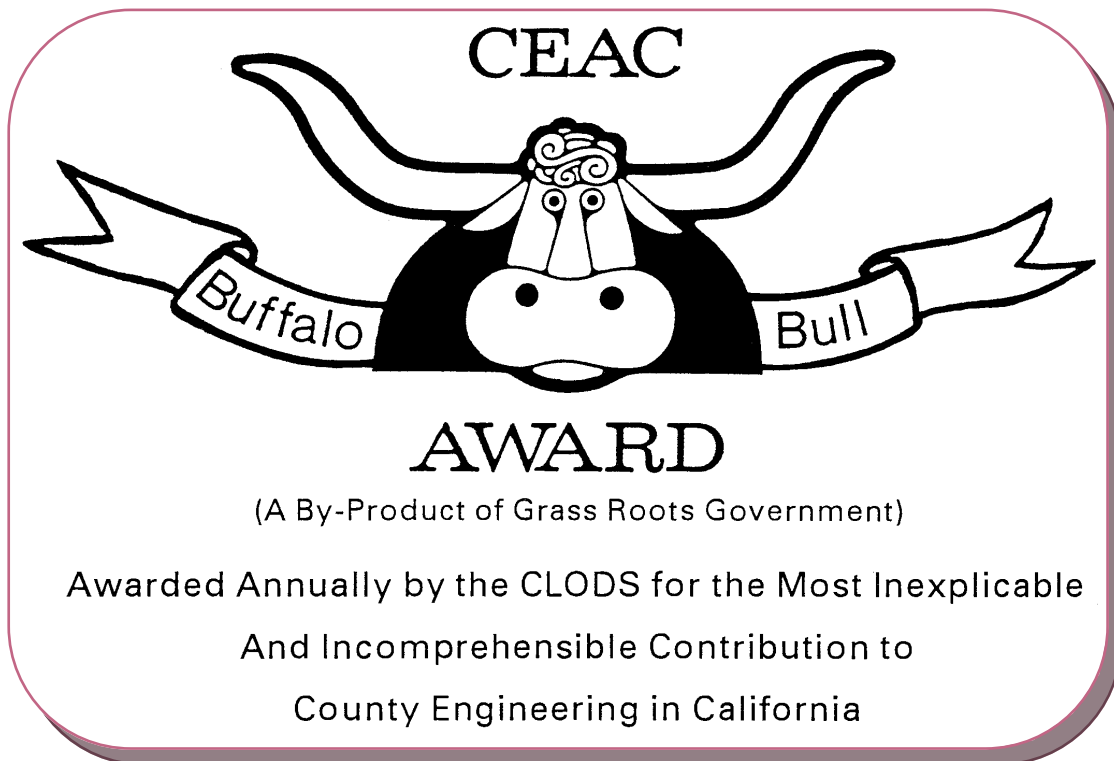
Some of the names originally considered for the organization including The Stud Turtles, The Seagulls, The Pelicans, The Condors, and The Old Buzzards subsequently were considered for an official symbol. The Condor was selected unilaterally by the drafter of the CLODS organization's by-laws, Bill McIntosh, without benefit of a vote or discussion.....on the basis that the Condor had a repulsive appearance, disgusting manners, vile eating habits and slovenly personal habits.....not unlike many of the "has been" past presidents.

## Buffalo Bull Award

California's Loyal Order of Dedicated Servants



once again solicits nominations from all CEAC members and affiliates for potential candidates for the prestigious Buffalo Bull Award. Don't delay, give this some rigorous thought and submit your nominations as soon as you can. All prospective candidates will be screened by a sub-committee of the acclaimed Tres Pinos Committee, with the most deserving candidates being honored at the President's Banquet during the Spring 2015 CEAC conference in Orange County. *Note: All nominations are kept strictly confidential!*



**Buffalo Bull Award**

You may submit your nominations  
and any supporting documentation to  
[kanuto2y@gmail.com](mailto:kanuto2y@gmail.com)



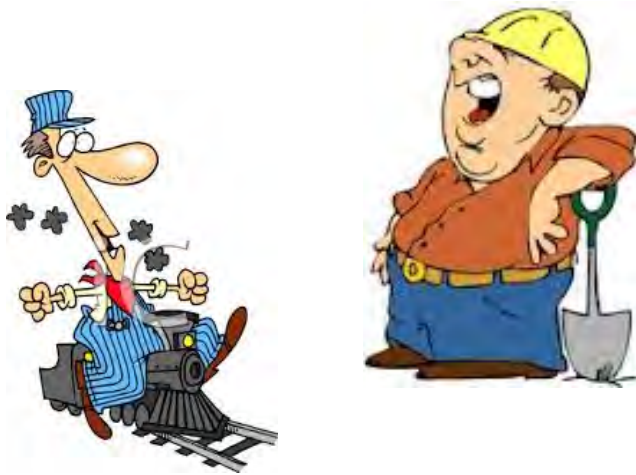
“Jest a Minute”



“It’s your office. They want to know if you can stay home a few more days.”



“I reckon everybody knows about this company’s poor safety record by now!”



“That’s right, I’ve decided to give myself zero pay raise this year.”

B.C./ by Hart

