



# CEAC Newsletter

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

## SUMMER 2006

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE COUNTY ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA

### A PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

BY  
MAURICE SHIU

I want to keep you updated on what has happened with CEAC. The last few months have been busy with regards to the legislature and the organization.

As you all know, the infrastructure bond package was finally voted on by the legislature in May. The debacle on March 17th actually helped our cause. Soon after March 17th, DeAnn Baker drafted a proposal to add \$2 billion to the infrastructure bond package for city and county roads. DeAnn and Anna Laforte, from San Francisco City and County, and the League of California Cities, organized about 15 public works directors from both cities and counties to visit the Governor's office as well as the Chair of the Senate Housing and Transportation Committee to present the needs of local streets and roads. Both the League and CSAC lobbied hard and at the last minute, \$1 billion was included for county roads. It was a brilliant battle orchestrated by DeAnn.

Likewise, the battle over the allocation of the Proposition 42 loan payback in fiscal year 06/07 was just as exciting. At one point we were fighting to preserve the \$255 million that was in the Governor's budget proposal. Then the Assembly cut the amount by half and gave the money just to cities. When the final budget deal was agreed to, cities and counties ended up with \$440 million for local streets and roads. The \$440 million represents the total repayment plus accrued interest. You should have received a check by the time you receive this newsletter. Who says Christmas only comes once a year?

CSAC was, however, not successful in trying to get \$30 million a year for the next four years from the SAFETEA-LU equity bonus program for county roads. You have to agree that we have done a good job when comparing the wins and losses.

At the last Board of Director's meeting, CEAC approved taking over the operation and management of the California Cities and Counties Streetlight Association (Cal SLA). On June 15, the current executive board of the CalSLA voted to

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## **PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE (CONT.)**

disband and transfer the assets and management to CEAC. The reason that we are taking over the administration of the CalSLA is to provide a more permanent base for its operation. Besides, CalSLA has become somewhat obscure. The hope is with CEAC administering the program, the success of CalSLA can be better communicated and, hopefully, it will have an increase in the payment of dues. Last year, CalSLA represented cities and counties in front of the California Public Utility Commission at rate hearings and was able to save us over \$10 million.

One of the two initiatives that started last November is the statewide local streets and roads needs assessment. Brian Lee of San Mateo County was asked to chair a committee to implement the assessment. The group came up with a totally different approach from past practice. It is a federal requirement that every Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and the resulting State Transportation Plan is financially constrained. In calculating the available financing resources, local streets and roads needs are quite often ignored or understated. If we can convince the Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) and the Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) that it is important to have a good understanding of the local streets and roads needs, the effort will now be continuous and statewide. The concept sounds incredibly simple. However, there is still much to be done. The committee has met with the Rural Counties, CalCOG, and the RTPA groups and has obtained their endorsements. Now we are in the process of developing a RFP for a consultant to develop the methodology to normalize all the pavement management programs used by the various agencies. I want to thank Brian Lee and his committee members for all their efforts so far.

The second initiative that was started last November was to review our organization. We wanted to look at where we are now, where the general membership would like to see the organization in two years, design a way to get us there and then to implement the agreed upon action plan. The leadership team really appreciated your input last November and again at the March meeting this year. Under the leadership of Henry Hash of Tulare County and Daniel Woldesenbet of Alameda County (by the way, congratulation to Daniel for being appointed the Director of Alameda County Public Works), the Administration Committee met on May 19 to develop an implementation plan. From that exercise, fourteen action items were developed. From these action items, a list of quick hits was presented to the Board of Directors on June 9. The quick hits are as follows:

### **Make our member forum more user friendly.**

We will be partnering with CSAC to purchase the necessary software to make this a reality. We will also review the kind of information that members want to see listed on the website.

### **Review the newsletter format and the CEAC charter.**

In the past the newsletter may have been the only form of communication beyond the mailing of legislative information. If we are able to make the website more user friendly and be our primary media for communication, we will have to rethink the content of our newsletter. The Board asked that we hold off on the review of the newsletter until we are able to update the website.

## **PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE (CONT.)**

### **Better communication with CSAC.**

CEAC is not a lobbying organization. We are an affiliate of CSAC and we make legislative recommendations to CSAC. Ever since Proposition 13 ( I hate to use that as a reason, but it is true) CSAC's attention has been in the areas of human and health services, law and justice and general purposes revenue shift. Decline in infrastructure, on the other hand, had been gradual. We have been successful in band-aiding the crumbling infrastructure and have been successful in shifting much of the capital improvement burden to new home buyers. Members feel that we need to strengthen our relationship with CSAC toward working for a solution to address the needs of infrastructure.

We also want to look at how we make legislative recommendation to CSAC. The current practice of us making legislative recommendations after the respective CSAC policy committees have already met at the fall conference does not improve communication. The Board of Directors gave direction to convene a meeting of all the CEAC committees in September to formulate legislative recommendations and to provide a venue to network on the many issues confronting the organization. The cost of the meeting will be minimal to encourage a high level of participation. This meeting has been scheduled for September 28 and 29 at the CSAC offices in Sacramento. Keep these dates open on your calendar. Mike Crump, President-Elect, will be sending you more information as we continue the planning for this function. We have been moving at a very fast pace on this thanks to the efforts of Katrina Thompson.

**I hope to see you all in September.**

*Maurice*



**Thank you DeAnn and Katrina for your continuing efforts on behalf of CEAC!**

## PHIL DEMERY ELECTED NACE WESTERN REGION V.P.

As you probably read in a recent “NACE News”, due to an unexpected retirement, Frank Hemen, the current NACE Western Region V.P., was elected to fill the position of NACE Secretary-Treasurer. To backfill the void left in the region, NACE President, Hiene Junge of South Dakota, utilized a process whereby each of the Western Region state representatives from Arizona, California, Colorado, Oregon and Washington voted on a candidate via teleconference. Phil, CEAC’s current NACE Representative (also Honorable CLOD, Past CEAC President and Director of Public Works for Santa Barbara County), was nominated and successfully elected to the position on the NACE Board of Directors.

Phil will fill out the remainder of the existing term, which expires in 2007 at the close of the NACE annual meeting.

## “CONGRATULATIONS PHIL”



**APPROVED**  
**Minutes for March 3, 2006**  
**CEAC Board of Director's Meeting**  
**Hyatt Islandia Hotel – Marlin Club – San Diego**

1.0 CALL TO ORDER/OPENING REMARKS/INTRODUCTIONS

President Maurice Shiu called the County Engineers Association of California, Board of Director's meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Hyatt Islandia Hotel Marlin Club in San Diego with the following in attendance:

**Officers**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>County/Agency</u>
Maurice Shiu	President	Contra Costa
Mike Crump	President Elect	Butte
George Johnson	Secretary	Riverside
Mehdi Madjd-Sadjadi	Treasurer	Marin (Retired)
Ken Miller	Newsletter Editor	San Bernardino (Retired)
Tim Hackworth	Past President	Placer
Phil Demery	NACE Representative	Santa Barbara
William (Bill) McIntosh	Treasurer Emeritus	Lassen (Retired)
Dave Gravenkamp	Historian	Siskiyou (Retired)

**Regional Directors**

Farhad Mansourian	North Coast	Marin
Julie Bueren	Central Coast	Contra Costa
Jon Wrynski	Northern California	Colusa
Tom Bolich	South Central Coast	Santa Cruz
George Johnson	Southern California	Riverside

**Committees**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Committee</u>	<u>County/Agency</u>
Cheryl Creson	Land Use	Sacramento
Jeff Pratt	Flood Control & Water Resources	Ventura
Wes Zicker	Land Use	Placer
Henry Hash	Public Works Administration	Tulare
Brian Lee	Public Works Administration	San Mateo
Farhad Mansourian	Oversight	Marin
Mike Emmons	Survey	Santa Barbara
Peter Rei	Transportation	Tuolumne
Pat DeChellis	Transportation	Los Angeles

**Other Attendees**

DeAnn Baker	Legislative Representative	CSAC
Katrina Thompson	Legislative Assistant	CEAC/CSAC
Max Bridges	CLOD	San Benito (Retired)

2.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

## 2.1 CORRESPONDENCE

Treasurer Mehdi Madjd-Sadjadi sent letters to ARTBA, NACE and the seven new Public Works Directors.

## 2.2 CLODS REPORT

CLOD Bill McIntosh reported the new Newsletter Editor, Ken Miller, put on a nice show for the Buffalo Bull award last night. The Committee is considering candidates for next years Buffalo Bull award.

## 2.3 NACE REPORT

NACE Representative Phil Demery reminded members that the annual NACE Conference will be held in Grand Rapids MI, April 9th to 14th. Phil Demery advised of the upcoming Southern California Pavement Preservation Conference, to be held April 25th and 26th at AQMD offices in Diamond Bar. The two main themes will be to look at new technologies and their integration into pavement management systems. Two Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) Stakeholder's Committee meetings are upcoming, March 7th in Sacramento and on March 9<sup>th</sup> in Ontario.

President Maurice Shiu advised NACE is providing free registration for those attending the conference for the first time. Also, an offer has been extended for CEAC to provide registration payment for someone who may need it, as Contra Costa County is paying M. Shiu's fee, thus freeing funds earmarked for CEAC President's costs.

## 2.4 REGIONAL DIRECTOR REPORTS

A written report of the South Central Coast Region meeting of January 20, 2006, was presented for the member's review and comment.

## 3.0 CONSENT ITEMS

### 3.1 LIFE MEMBERSHIP

A motion was made to award Life Membership to Don Labelle, Director of Public Works, Alameda County and Past-President CEAC, who will be retiring on March 16, 2006, and Tom Hunter, Director of Public Works, Plumas County and Past-President of CEAC, who will be retiring on June 9, 2006.

Motion and Second (Miller/Crump) to approve Lifetime Memberships for Don Labelle and Tom Hunter.

**Motion was unanimously approved.**

## 4.0 DISCUSSION ITEMS

### 4.1 VISION 2008 STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

4.1.1 Review information from the Thursday morning General Membership Meeting and provide direction to the Member Services Committee (Daniel Woldesenbet and Katrina Thompson).

4.1.2 Consider recommendation from the Administration Committee on CEAC Strategic Plan (Henry Hash).

President Shiu suggested combining the agenda items for discussion purposes.

**Discussion:**

Members validated four key themes discussed under Vision 2008 at the General Membership Meeting:

1. Promote the Public Works profession
2. Expand membership participation in CEAC
3. Facilitate more interaction with Board of Supervisors
4. Better internal and external communications

Phil Demery suggested continuing to move forward and then tasking a specific group. Henry Hash stated the Strategic Plan has been an ongoing agenda item for some time without much action and would like to report accomplishments at the next Conference and looked to the Board of Directors for direction.

Mike Crump emphasized the need to focus on Vision 2008. Tim Hackworth reminded the members that Strategic Plan efforts would require significant money and facilitation and suggested that the group focus on something doable, such as Vision 2008.

Pat DeChellis noted newer members don't see the same value in CEAC as long term members, stating that CEAC is becoming more diverse; one size does not fit all. Members must ensure flexibility, and Pat DeChellis suggests that CEAC do a little more than Vision 2008 alone, allowing CEAC to have something "more" to present at the 2006 Fall Conference. Henry Hash offered to take the lead, stating he would need help and asked what the members could accomplish between now and the Fall Conference.

Phil Demery responded that Vision 2008 identified four key themes and the obstacles to achievement. He suggested that the members identify the short and long term goals and present those goals at the Fall Conference and solicit comments from the General membership.

Tom Bolich offered his staff to assist Henry Hash with Website development. Farhad Mansourian suggested forming a focus group, or groups, to work with Henry Hash, perhaps focusing on just one item at a time.

Maurice Shiu, to summarize the discussion to this point, stated the Strategic Plan effort on a full scale is too expensive, so focus should be on the four key Vision 2008 themes. We need to show results to the General membership at the Fall 2006 Conference.

Tim Hackworth stated that more than just one item must be completed. Phil Demery suggested development of conceptual ideas, providing the information to the membership and designating time for discussion/development at the Fall Conference. Mike Crump agreed, noting the general membership's comments from the Fall Conference could be incorporated into the final Vision 2008 statement which could be presented at the Spring 2007 Conference.

Maurice Shiu declared action was required by Fall 2006 and strongly supported moving forward with Henry Hash taking the lead on behalf of the Administrative Committee with involvement of the Executive Committee.

Phil Demery said that each jurisdiction has ideas. NACE has a list of the top ten reasons to get involved with NACE, and he will provide that list to Henry Hash.

## **Summary**

Maurice Shiu extended participation in the development of the Vision 2008 to the full Board of Directors. Henry Hash concurred and stated that his intention is to present each of the four Vision 2008 themes, fully developed, at the 2006 Fall Conference.

### 4.2 OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE RECOMENDATIONS: BY-LAW CHANGES AND DUES STRUCTURE

Oversight Committee Chair Farhad Mansourian presented the Committee's recommendations:

#### 4.2.1 Regional Boundaries

Each Region to provide Farhad Mansourian with input prior to the Fall 2006 meeting so he can compile the results and make recommendation to the Board of Directors at the Fall meeting.

#### 4.2.2 Definition of Principal Members

Oversight suggests each County designate a Principal member with other persons from the same County designated as Affiliate members.

##### **Discussion:**

Ken Miller read the definition of Principal members from the By-Laws, which states that a County may have more than one Principal member.

#### 4.2.3 Role of Deputy Directors

Currently, Deputy Directors are not allowed to be Committee Chairs or Officers. Other organizations urge participation by Deputy Directors, but limit decision making to Principal members. Also, major Committee Chairs don't have a vote at Board of Director meetings.

After discussion, Oversight will provide language to broaden participation and eligibility of Deputy Directors, to allow them positions as Committee Chairs and Officers, with the permission of their County Director.

Also, Oversight recommends expanding the Board of Directors to include Committee Chairs. Farhad Mansourian will also analyze the "quorum" at Board of Director meetings.

#### 4.2.4 Dues Structure

Farhad Mansourian suggested first determining programs, developing program costs and then developing a dues structure recommendation.

Farhad Mansourian will prepare documentation in support of suggested changes to the By-Laws and will present to the Board.

#### 4.3 TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Mehdi Madjd-Sadjadi presented a written Treasurer's Report for the period ending January 1, 2006, for member's review.

The Treasurer made the following comments:

Suggests Farhad Mansourian look at an increase in affiliate dues from the current level of \$250.00, as a part of his overall dues structure review. CEAC should continue to add Affiliate members.

The Memorial Fund needs to be promoted, perhaps a job for the Affiliates.

NACE dues have been paid.

Main sources of revenue are Membership dues, Affiliate dues and the Spring Conference.

ARTBA has increased fees from \$5,800 to \$7,375. CEAC covers ARTBA dues for all member Counties. CEAC recently received a letter from ARTBA in which they outlined their activities.

Treasurer Madjd-Sadjadi reminded Committee Chairs to base any consultant contracts on the calendar year rather than the fiscal year.

Motion and Second (Mansourian/Bolich) to accept the Treasurer's Report as submitted.  
**Motion was unanimously approved.**

#### 4.4 CALIFORNIA STREET LIGHT ASSOCIATION

Motion and Second (Hackworth/Bueren) to provide CEAC/CSAC staff assistance to the CSLA.

**Motion was unanimously approved.**

#### 4.5 NEEDS ASSESSMENT STUDY

Brian Lee presented a written Need Assessment Study for the member's review and comment.

##### 4.5.1 Accept Progress Report

Report accepted as submitted.

##### 4.5.2 Provide Direction on Work Scope and Financing Plan

##### **Discussion:**

Brian Lee presented a draft of a letter to the City-County Leadership Committee, which will be revised to show the sender(s) as CSAC and the League of California Cities. There is need for a credible study. Effort to be made to get RTPA's and MPO's to incorporate needs into RTP's which should be updated every fourth year. It was determined the Committee should continue to move forward, using the same methodology.

#### 4.6 DISTRIBUTION OF NEWSLETTER

Ken Miller advised the cost of printing the Newsletter is based on its size and the number of copies including the number of color pages.

4.7 CSAC STAFF REPORT

CSAC Legislative Representative, DeAnn Baker presented the CSAC Staff Report, advising the Policy Committee meetings were well attended. Prop 42 signature gathering for the November ballot is in process. Jim Keene is interested in attending future CEAC meetings as he has a strong interest in infrastructure.

Upcoming Events:

Fall Conference at the Disneyland Hotel  
Legislative Conference at the end of March

4.8 COMMITTEE ACTION REQUESTS

None submitted

4.9 REGIONAL DIRECTOR ACTION REQUESTS

None submitted

4.10 CSAC/CEAC CONTRACT REVIEW

Motion and Second (Miller/Crump) to authorize the Executive Committee to begin contract negotiation with CSAC.

**Motion was unanimously approved.**

4.12 APPROVAL OF MINUTES – NOVEMBER 30, 2005

Motion and Second (Sadjadi/Bueren) to approve and accept as submitted the Minutes of November 30, 2005.

**Motion was unanimously approved.**

**Additional Comments:**

Flood Committee Chair Jeff Pratt asked for direction from the Board of Directors on the Vision for the Committee.

5.0 ADJOURNMENT

The Board of Director's meeting was adjourned to the next meeting on June 9, 2006, in Quincy, CA.

/s/ George A. Johnson  
George A. Johnson  
Secretary CEAC

June 9, 2006  
Date

ATTACHMENTS

Treasurer's Report; NACE Report; Committee Reports 1) Survey Policy 2) Needs Assessment 3) Scholarship; Regional Director Reports 1) South Central Coast Region

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# Droppings

*from out of the past*

## The Hat ... Continued By Dave Gravenkamp, Historian

Well that bit of our history sparked almost no interest as I received but one reply to my question, "What did you affix to the hat at the conclusion of your term as CEAC President and why?" I'm guessing that many of our past leaders just don't remember. Perhaps knowing what was on the hat might jog their memory.

Accordingly, I'm asking the current possessor to inventory what's on the hat and provide a list to me that we can share in the next Newsletter. Thanks, Maurice!

Also if you have suggestions on topics of historic significance, I'd really like to hear from you.



## BED ROLL CONFERENCE

Tom Hunter, Plumas County Director of Public Works, reported over 40 in attendance at another successful conference at Camp Conery adjacent to Lake Almanor in Plumas County. Tom indicated “there was a great exchange of ideas and problem solving and all had a good time. The weather was beautiful and the bear did not show up the second night (apparently the local bear wanted to finish up the remnants of the first evenings’ salmon meal that was in the garbage cans). He was pretty noisy and did not care if the spotlight was on him or not.”

Howard Dashiell, Mendocino County, moderated the Thursday program which included presentations by Don Raffaelli on LTAP happenings and programs, Scoot Straub on bridge programs, DeAnn Baker and Karen Keene of CSAC on legislative opportunities, Terry Abbott of Caltrans with updates on Local Assistance and a concluding presentation on “Rounabouts”, which was the hit of the program.

Some of the attendees were able to get in a little fishing time at Lake Almanor, while others enjoyed a round of golf at the pine tree lined Bailey Creek Golf Course. Although no results were available, it is rumored that Katrina Thompson won a prize in only her third golf outing. You’ll have to get the details from her.



Mike Crump, CEAC President-Elect and Director of Public Works for Butte County, discusses CEAC issues with conference attendees.

**New Plumas County Director of Public Works** - Tom Hunter advised that Bob Perrault will be moving over from Caltrans and will commence his duties as the new Director on August 28th. **Congratulations Bob!** Tom’s last day of extended service will be August 30th.

## NEW AFFILIATES

### **CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY FORCE ACCOUNT COUNCIL**

837 Arnold Dr, Suite 200  
Martinez CA 94553  
(800) 755-3354, fax (925)957-1800  
E-mail: [cifac@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cifac@sbcglobal.net)  
Cathryn Hilliard,  
Sally Riley, Bill Seifert

The Construction Industry Force Account Council monitors State and Local public works construction projects to assure that State Contracting Laws for competitive bidding and force account work are being followed.

For more information, you may contact their website.  
([www.cifac.org](http://www.cifac.org)).

### **SEMMATERIALS LP**

14929 Slover Ave.  
Fontana, CA 92337  
(909) 829-0505  
Fax (909) 829-8074  
E-mail: [smetcalf@semgrouplp.com](mailto:smetcalf@semgrouplp.com)  
Scott Metcalf

SemMaterials is a North American company that provides a wide variety of products and services in the energy industry areas of crude oil, natural gas, and petroleum products. They supply asphalt emulsions, polymer modified asphalts, technologies and services to agency and contractor customers in the United States and Mexico. SemMaterials has a portfolio of paving materials that helps customers build longer-life roads and provides them solutions for improved maintenance and repairs.

For more information, you may contact their website.  
([www.semgrouplp.com](http://www.semgrouplp.com)).

# WELCOME ABOARD

# EDUCATION - HOW TIMES HAVE CHANGED

Remember when our grandparents or great-grandparents stated that they only had an 8th grade education?

The following is a portion of the eight grade final exam from 1895 in Salina, Kansas. This is only the portion on "Arithmetic". There were also similar sections on "Grammar", "U.S. History", "Orthography", and "Geography". Each of the five sections requiring about one hour to complete for a total of five hours..

## Arithmetic (Time 1.25 hours)

1. Name and define the Fundamental Rules of Arithmetic.
2. A wagon box is 2 ft deep, 10 feet long, and 3 ft wide. How many bushels of wheat will it hold?
3. If a load of wheat weighs 3,942 lbs., what is it worth at 50 cts / bushel, deducting 1,050 lbs. for tare?
4. District No. 33 has a valuation of \$35,000. What is the necessary levy to carry on a school seven months at \$50 per month, and have \$104 for incidentals?
5. Find the cost of 6,720 lbs. of coal at \$6.00 per ton.
6. Find the interest of \$512.60 for 8 months and 18 days at 7 percent.
7. What is the cost of 40 boards 12 inches wide and 16 ft. long at \$20 per meter.
8. Find the bank discount on \$300 for a period of 90 days (no grace) at 10 percent.
9. What is the cost of a square farm at \$15 per acre, the distance around which is 640 rods.
10. Write a bank check, a Promissory Note, and a Receipt.

This may be the easier of the five parts of the exam. Next time you hear about an "8th grade education" you may have a different outlook on the achievement.

## WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

The Tres Pinos Committee has asked that a new section be added to the newsletter featuring a **Quiz and Reward** to test the knowledge and determination of our membership. In accordance with the committee's wishes, "WHAT DO YOU KNOW" will be an added and continuing column.

### Quiz No. 1 - Fall 2006

Answer Questions Nos. 2 through 9 of the 8th Grade Final Exam above.

Question No. 1 may be answered for extra credit.

Submit your answers on or before October 15, 2006 to the Newsletter Editor at the address listed on the front cover or by e-mail at sandramiller455@aol.com

**A \$25 gift card could be yours!**



# County Engineers Association of California

## **Policy Conference For 2007**

*Thursday, September 28 ~ Friday, September 29, 2006*

CSAC Office (1100 K Street, 1st Floor) &  
CSAC Conference Center (1120 11th Street, 2nd Floor)  
Sacramento, CA

### ***WHO SHOULD ATTEND:***

- Public Works Directors
- Assistant Directors
- Deputy Directors
- Public Works Staff
- CEAC Members or Affiliates
- Caltrans Staff
- CEAC Retired Members

### ***FEATURES AND BENEFITS OF THE PROGRAM:***

This conference will be an opportunity to attend multiple CEAC policy committees and participate in the legislative priorities for 2007, as well as network with other counties.

***DO NOT MISS THIS UNIQUE EVENT!!! ACT NOW!***

**The CEAC Board of Directors will be staying at the Hyatt Regency Sacramento and the Hospitality Suite will be there as well. Make your reservations with the hotel of your choice soon!!!**

**Registration Deadline: Monday September 18, 2006**

**Questions???** Please contact Katrina Thompson at CSAC.  
[kthompson@counties.org](mailto:kthompson@counties.org) or 916.327.7500 ext. 512.

## THIS AND THAT.....

**IN EXPLAINING** that a hectic schedule made it impossible for him to join us on a trip to a West Point football game, Henry Walker, CEO of AMFAC, wrote, "I applied for marital permission to obtain a motorcycle and I was sharply shut off. I am reminded of William Buckley's book about sailing across the Atlantic in his schooner with his son and friends several years ago. Mrs. Buckley was against the venture, as he knew she would be. He said, 'Dear, I am thinking of sailing our ship across the Atlantic next summer.' Her reply was, 'If you do, I will leave you.' He went on to say, 'So far, so good.'"

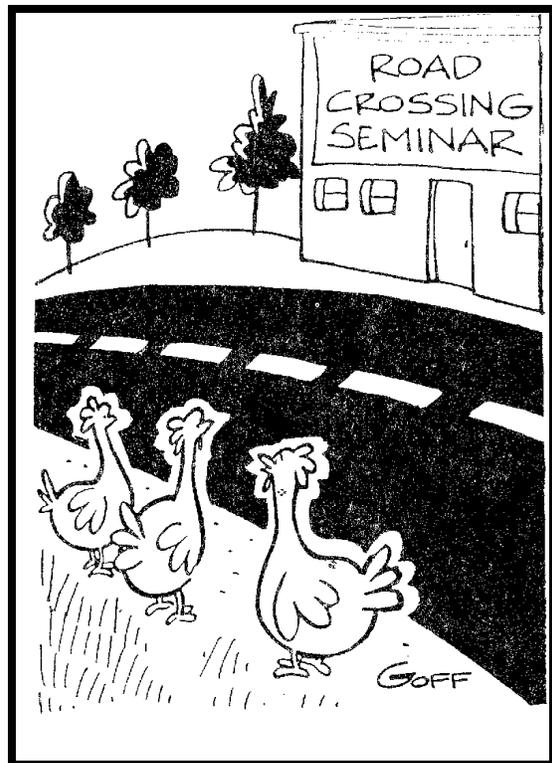
~ Malcolm S. Forbes (1981)

**THE CHP OFFICER** stopped a motorist for a traffic violation. Standing outside his expensive foreign car, the red-faced driver frantically waved his hands and jumped up and down. "I'll have your job for this!" he shouted at the top of his lungs.

"Sir, you wouldn't want my job," replied the unruffled officer as he wrote out the citation. "The hours are long, the pay is low, and you meet some of the nastiest people."

"In human relationships, kindness and lies are worth a thousand truths." ~ Graham Greene

"Burt Reynolds once asked me out. Unfortunately I was in his room at the time." ~



"How are we supposed to get there?"

**WHILE ON A CAR TRIP**, an old couple stopped at a roadside restaurant for lunch. The old woman left her glasses on the table but didn't miss them until they were back on the highway. The old man fussed and complained as he drove all the way back to the restaurant. When they finally arrived, and the old woman got out of the car to retrieve her glasses, he said, "While you're in there, you may as well get my hat, too."

"I am a part of all that I have read" ~ John Kieran