



Editor: Pat DeChellis

President's Message

by **Jeff Pratt**, Director of Public Works Ventura County

Although many of you have been affected by this season's record-breaking fires (and storm season is approaching), you con-

tinue to make time for CEAC and contribute to its critical mission. Thank you! And <u>Page</u> thanks for taking the time to read this message.

Previously, I reported that the Oversight Policy Committee (OPC) had been reorganized. It was hoped that the reorganization would create a permanent body that would further the purposes of CEAC as stated in its Bylaws and Officer's Manual. Two initial and related strategic goals were developed by the OPC: increase active participation, and update messaging and outreach. Each of these goals were then broken into tactical objectives and tasks. In general, these tactical objectives and tasks can be lumped into two categories - improving communications AND demonstrating relevance.

Under the category of improving communications, OPC developed charters for the policy committees, the regional committees, and the affiliate committee. These charters laid out duties and responsibilities as well as expectations for committee chairs. Once the charters were developed, committee chair candidates were interviewed. Chairs were then selected based upon experience and commitment. The hope is that the charter formality and the interview process will create a defined purpose/expectation and an institutional continuity on each of the committees.

Although not yet permanently established, OPC has held some leadership (Board, OPC, Committee Chairs) gatherings during the conferences. It is hoped that these gatherings, along with a couple of e-meetings a year, will establish a drumbeat and focus for current and future year's work efforts. And in line with this thinking is an OPC developed draft annual work plan to be presented to the Board of Directors at the annual meeting.

The OPC, as well as some of the committees, have demonstrated the effectiveness of several new communication tools. Numerous e-meetings have been held using webbased tools such as GoTo Meeting and Join Me eliminating the need for time consuming travel and improving upon the efficiency and effectiveness of standard conference calls. Documents have been shared and edited using Google Drive, SharePoint, and OneNote - relegating to the past the relatively inefficient use of group e-mails and mark-ups AND creating a permanent and easily stored/retrieved record and institutional knowledge for the future leaders and staff of CEAC.

It seems clear that an immediate need is the creation of an easily accessed record of CEAC's purpose and practices. Once created, this record would serve as a "road map"

Inside this Issue:

President's Message	1
News from around the State	2
Member News	3
Upcoming CEAC Events	4
Droppings - all about Condors	5
Nor Cal Regional Report	6
Bedroll Conference	8
NACE Report - Summer 2018	10
13th Annual CEAC Policy Conf	11
Going-to-the-Sun Road	13
In Memoriam - Paul Keener	14
In Memoriam - Mario Balestrieri	15
NACE Western Region Conf	16

All Materials Submitted are Subject to the "3 R's":

Review Revision Rejection

October 2018



President's Message (continued)

for all members/staff of CEAC (past, present, and future) and function as "institutional" memory. What does this mean in practice? At the very least it means the establishment of an electronic historical archive, clear communication of mission and purpose, and a clear plan of all annual work/expectations – not limited to the legislative work of CSAC/ CEAC staff members. This is work that is underway - and, hopefully, will continue in the future OPCs – this assumes of course that you (CEAC members) agree to its importance.

Underway is the analysis of the member survey results – thanks to the 80 of you who responded. It is intended that the results of the survey be used to improve the relevance of CEAC to its members – and perhaps to increase active participation and membership in CEAC. Of the 80 respondents, 16 were retired and 64 were still working. Of those still working, 42 were executive management and 18 were in administration, surveying, or engineering.

Survey analysis indicates that CEAC vies for the attention of its membership with several other prestigious State and National associations. The survey makes it clear, that to be competitive in this environment of associations, CEAC needs to expand upon its communication approach and its messaging. Not only are there other media to explore, the messaging on relevance needs review and update. It is also likely the case that CEAC needs to expand its outreach and broadcast to reach a larger audience – e.g., those members of our agencies that are not in executive management.

The work on relevance has only just begun and there is much to be done. Of course, it is almost time for a new OPC - I think that the current OPC has about two months to wrap up the work it is doing and hand it off to the next OPC. So, we will move this work down the road a bit and then discuss next steps with you at the annual meeting. Hope to see you there. Until then be safe.

News from around the State

Feel free to contact me with any comments, questions, or concerns. **Thanks, Jeff**



California

"Professional engineers and surveyors dedicated to building a better California."



Engineering and Surveying Scholarship Applications

American Council of Engineering Companies California reports it will be awarding up to \$50,000 in scholarships for qualified engineering and land surveying students throughout California. The highest undergraduate award is \$7,000 and highest graduate award is \$5,000. The deadline to apply is January 16. Applications and eligibility requirements are online at: https://www.acec-ca.org/page/ScholarshipApp. Contact: Breanna Pineda, bpineda@acec-ca.org

New Affiliate - Granite Rock

For more than a century, Graniterock has been providing the construction industry with quality materials and products: the keys to ensuring a perfect job, every time. Graniterock People say "Yes, we will" when asked to meet your special product needs. From supplying aggregates, asphalt and emulsions to General Engineering and Transportation services, Graniterock is working together to build the future. Visit www.graniterock.com or contact Denise McElroy at (408) 639-8063 or dmcelroy@Graniterock.com

Member News from around the State

Calaveras County - New Director

The Calaveras County Board of Supervisors made it official and appointed Joshua Pack to serve as the next Director of Public Works and Transportation.

Joshua has 19 years of experience in the public sector, most recently serving the past six years as Principle Civil Engineer in Nevada County. He stated, "It is very similar to Calaveras County, rural and a lot of the same issues that you are dealing with here. I oversaw both the engineering and road maintenance divisions there, and this is a logical and exciting next step for me."

Joshua was praised by county staff for his energy and ability to deliver projects. His first day on the job was October 13th.



Joshua Pack speaking before the Calaveras County Board of Supervisors

Stanislaus County - New Director

But, not new to Stanislaus nor to CEAC.

David Leamon was notified on October 19th that he would be the new Director of Public Works for Stanislaus County replacing **Matt Machado** who left Stanislaus County earlier this year to take the position of Deputy Chief Administrator Officer and Public Works Director for Santa Cruz County.

Matt provided the following in recognition of Dave's appointment.

Congratulations, Dave Leamon! I am proud of your accomplishments. Having led multiple successful programs in Stanislaus County you are the natural and perfect fit for the role of Director. As a collaborator, you have forged many agreements with local and state jurisdictions and community groups. Some of these partnerships have languished for half a century and are now on track to implement solutions, such as the 7th Street Bridge replacement project. I have many fond memories of you shining in Stanislaus County, but one particular event stands out. During the Floods of 2017, you took point to lead a comprehensive flood fight and flood watch. Driving your "red bro dozer" all over the county day and night to insure the community was covered was exceptional work and commitment to the commu-



nity you serve. You and your teams' hands on approach to repair and protection was impressive. I can't wait to see what you will do next, North County Corridor, SR132, the Bridge program, Crows Landing Industrial Business Park, needed infrastructure in the many urban pockets the list goes on and on. Keep up the good work, but know that we are all watching closely.



Randy Ishii, Monterey County

Monterey County - New Chief of Public Works

Randy Ishii was previously with Fresno County Public Works, and was appointed as the Chief of Public Works for Monterey County in November.

Please reach out to all of these new Directors, lend them a hand and tell them about the benefits of being actively involved in CEAC.

Upcoming CEAC Events





By Dave "Road Runner" Gravenkamp CEAC Historian

All About Condors

The following article appeared in the Spring 1997 CEAC Newsletter. I'm guessing that most of you weren't around 20+ years ago. And, those that were, have no recall about what happened last week let alone 20 years ago.

Have you ever wondered about *CLODS*? Specifically, how and why was the Condor selected as their symbol? As you know, the *CLODS* was the brainchild of Ed Hanna and Bill McIntosh so it was altogether fitting and proper that they pick the symbol. Ed favored the seagull and threw in other possibilities including the Stud Turtles and Pelican. Bill had, however, already selected the Condor as the official symbol of the *CLODS*.

Not to be outdone, Ed took up the challenge as to why the Condor was the appropriate symbol. The following is a letter written by Ed to the then Newsletter Editor, Bob Glenn, which appeared in the January 1967 Newsletter.

Bob Glenn, Editor December 29, 1966 Engineers Association Sometimes Newsletter

Dear Bob,

Perhaps it is time to tell some of the history of the California Condor so that people may draw their own conclusions as to why the Condor is the symbol of the CLODS.

This noble bird lives in Ventura and Santa Barbara counties where it nests and rears the young, but for some reason unknown to ornithologists, they come to San Benito County to breed. These birds breed during the first warm days of April and the mating act is accompanied by a strange ritualistic dance which I will attempt to describe but it has to be seen to be believed.

First, I should state that this bird has a wing spread of from 11 to 13 feet when fully grown and is so large and cumbersome that it cannot take off except with a long run in the open flat ground or else by running down a hillside. As a consequence, the carrion which it feeds must be accessible to the bird in an area where it can take off. The Condor will starbe before it will go into the bottom of a gully for a dead carcass. In the old days when no one bothered burying anything and left bodies lying around all over the place, food was not a problem. Now, however, if a cow dies, it is off to the tallow works before it stops kicking. Even Old Road Commissioners are being buried. There is a shortage of

food for the Condor, and, what little there is, probably died from poison. This noble bird is literally being starved out of existence.

Another reason for dying out is the disgusting breeding habits of the bird. No One can tell the male from the female—even the Condors themselves have trouble except at extremely close range. Furthermore, the bird has a horrible odor problem. He stinks, and particularly so during the first warm days of Spring which happens to coincide with his mating season. It takes about 55 days to incubate the egg and another 5 months before the baby Condor can even leave the nest. During this time, it is fed regurgitated food from its Mother (how would you like regurgitated ground squirrel, probably poisoned to boot?) For another 6 to 7 months, the parents of the fledgling must seek out and direct the little monster to its food before it is capable of going off on its own.

Since Condors breed but once every two years and lay only one egg, you can see that the survival problem is terrific. Each year in April, a couple of dozen of these birds show up on San Benito County and after a couple of warm days, start getting ideas. (Sound familiar?) Two of these birds will start staring at each other from opposite ends of a long ridge and then start the dance. They hop around and move back and forth—swinging and swaying and from time to time, they move a little closer to each other. This goes on all day long—until they finally get close enough to start getting friendly.

Finally—late in the afternoon—they are really getting into range of each other. (I might add that this prolonged gyration on the ridge is not a mating dance at all, as ornithologists think, but a result of the odor problem. Both birds are merely trying to stay downwind from each other.) At last, they are close enough to begin getting down to business and cutting out all the horseplay. Now—imagine if you can—the chagrin of the Bull Condor when he finally dives in for the coup de grace and discovers to his horror another Bull Condor. By now, the mating season is over, and it is too late. He must wait another two years and hope for better luck next time. (Do you begin to get any ideas about why the Condor was selected for the symbol of the CLODS?)

Recognizing that this noble bird was doomed to extinction spite of what the do-gooders and preservationists could dream up, the Wild Ass Mining Company (proprietors of the favorite breeding grounds of the Condor) proposed a simple and unique way of saving the Condor. This was in 1964 and the Government still hasn't taken advantage of our proposal to import a few South American Condors.

The South American Condor is slightly smaller than the California counterpart—only a 9-foot wing spread—but he breeds like mad. Those hot-blooded Latin Condors don't give a dam about the smell and they don't go for this every two years' stuff. Importing a few of these foreigners to our area would certainly stimulate a population explosion among California Condors.

Yours truly, etc.

(Signed) Ed Hanna

So, now you know the "how and why" of the Condor.

Submitted by: Scott DeLeon, Regional Director, Lake County

It appears the new normal for the Counties in the Northern California Region (Region) is natural disasters. In preparation for this newsletter I reviewed the article I did in 2017 and at that time I was reporting about unprecedented rain and snowfall amounts. For this year's report, many of the counties are dealing with devastating wildfires. As a quick reminder, the Region is comprised of Butte, Colusa, Del Norte, Glenn, Humboldt, Lake, Lassen, Mendocino, Modoc, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Tehama, and Trinity Counties. Our Counties share many common attributes, such as being rural in nature, lower population numbers, large amounts of State and Federal lands, vast areas of maintenance responsibilities, and historically lower pavement condition rankings compared to our more urban counterparts. Here are some of the highlights for the Region.

Shasta County

Shasta County started the summer off with the extremely damaging and tragic Carr Fire. The fire burned 229,651 acres; was responsible for the destruction of 1,079 residences, 22 commercial structures, and 503 outbuildings; damaged 277 other structures; and most tragically



caused the fatality of 3 firefighters and 5 civilians. Two additional fires were burning in the region at the same time, with one fire closing Interstate 5 in both directions just north of Redding. (Photo of fire across Hwy 5)

The Mendocino Complex Fire

Not to be outdone, Lake County continued our fire tradition with the largest wildfire in the State – the Mendocino Complex Fire. This destructive fire burned nearly the entire north-half of the county, and during its run in August almost the entire county was under mandatory evacuation at some point. (Photo of Mendocino Complex Fire)

The Mendocino Complex Fire was a large complex of two wildfires, the River Fire and Ranch Fire which burned in Mendocino, Lake, Colusa, and Glenn Counties. Both fires burned a combined total of 459,123 acres.

The Ranch Fire alone burned 410,203 acres to surpass the Thomas Fire which had burned 281,893 acres in Ventura and Santa Barbara



Counties in December 2017 becoming at that time the largest wildfire in modern California history.

The Mendocino Complex Fire destroyed 280 structures while damaging 37 others.

Submitted by: Scott DeLeon, Regional Director, Lake County

Mendocino County

Though perhaps common in the southern end of the State, Mendocino County plans to embark in a cold-in-place (CIP) recycling project later this month. The project will perform CIP on three separate roads, with a total project length of 7.6 miles. The average PCI of the roads to be refurbished is 31, and the contractor will follow with a chip seal surfacing on the reclaimed roadway. This project is scheduled to begin later in September.

Humboldt County

Humboldt County continues to churn out projects. A quick look at their website and Facebook pages shows this small county is really getting some projects in the ground. Two projects highlighted here are the Williams Creek Bridge Replacement and the Dinner Creek Culvert Replacement. The culvert replacement project is especially noteworthy because it will help restore the original creek bed through the use of a bottomless arch culvert to help promote the return of spawning salmon to this creek. (Photos of Williams Creek Bridge and Dinner Creek projects)





Lake County continues to pursue the replacement of bridges using the HBP program. This year, the County has one bridge under construction with hopefully 3 additional bridges scheduled for next year. This will all depend on available funding. In what is turning out to be a common occurrence with our bridges, construction on this bridge was delayed due to the discovery of a nesting Pacific Slope Flycatcher on the old bridge just prior to its removal. While I appreciate environmental rules that help protect nature and the environment, issues like this and the additional expense they create seem out of balance. Hopefully with the accelerated schedule now being used by the contractor, we'll have all the work in the creek completed by October 15th! (Photo of Mockingbird bridge construction)



Submitted by: Scott DeLeon, Regional Director, Lake County

Lake County

Construction is nearing completion on a safe routes to school project in the community of Clearlake Oaks on the north shore of Clear Lake. This nearly 6 million dollar project has been an absolute nightmare due to the environmental issues, complicated funding, and an uncooperative utility agency. Fortunately, the contractor has been extremely diligent, and by the time this report is published our project should be complete! (Photo of sidewalk construction)



Bedroll Conference

Finally, the annual Bedroll Conference was held August 1-3, 2018 at Lake Almanor, Camp Conery high in the Sierras in Plumas County. Unfortunately, the Carr Fire in Shasta County and the Mendocino Complex Fire kept several of us from the Northern California Counties from attending this fun event. With the tremendous support and dedication from several individuals, the conference did happen and from all accounts it was a great success. A special shout-out to Martin McIlroy, Peter Rei, John Quincy, and Terry Abbott for all the work to make this conference happen; Tom Mattson for coordinating the salmon for the traditional salmon barbeque, and to my wife Melody for hauling all the kitchen equipment up to Lake Almanor while I was stuck in our Emergency Operations Center!



Peter Rei (foreground) talking with **Wes Zicker** Thursday morning before presentations



(I-r) John Quincy, your Newsletter Editor, and Terry Abbott



Martin McIlroy (far left) serving dinner Wednesday night

Submitted by: Scott DeLeon, Regional Director, Lake County

Bedroll Conference - Project Site Visit Replacement of Lake Almanor Spillway Bridge on SR 89, walking distance from the Camp.



Attendees being briefed by Caltrans reps before walking tour of construction





Group Photo on Lake Almanor Spillway two of the bridge piers can be seen in the background





The existing bridge was built in 1963 and was replaced due to:

- Severe deterioration of the deck and reinforcement caused by chloride contamination.
- Seismic design deficiencies.
- Need for standard shoulders and an updated bridge barrier rail.

The new bridge will be built on the existing bridge alignment and will be approximately the same length as the existing bridge. Double column piers will be constructed atop spread footings, and Cast in Drilled Hole piles will be constructed to support the abutments. The bridge deck will consist of fiber reinforced concrete with epoxy coated deck reinforcement. A polyester concrete overlay and new striping will complete the deck surface.

In order to construct the new bridge, it was necessary to detour traffic down onto the spillway creating need for a signal-controlled one-way detour on the spillway. Project Contacts:

Project Manager: Stacy Barnes(530) 225-3439 or Stacey.Barnes@dot.ca.gov

Resident Engineer: Ryan Johnson (530) 895-5245 or Ryan.Johnson@dot.ca.gov

NACE Report – Summer 2018

By Mike Penrose, CEAC Representative to the NACE Board of Directors, Deputy County Executive for Public Works & Infrastructure, Sacramento County



Things continue to change at NACE. Recently NACE brought onboard Staci Morgan, NACE's new Conference and Membership Manager. Staci came from SmithBucklin, the world's largest association management firm, and her sole client was the Regional Airline Association. Her conference and membership campaigns are most impressive. NACE is fortunate to have her be part of the NACE team.

NACE has doubled its social media efforts to promote the organization in policy circles as well as letting federal and private partners know the good work the organization is undertaking. Already, there have been retweeted messages by



members of the United States Congress, bringing greater visibility to NACE, the nation's county road professionals. This, however, is only half of the intent for social media efforts. Through NACE's Twitter page, NACE can promote the work being done in local communities. To have NACE promote individual County projects simply send pictures of your work with a brief description and NACE will promote it for you!

NACE membership also provides technical and policy support to NACo. At the NACo conference in July this year, NACE members provided support for the adoption of a number of new proclamations to be included in the NACo American County platform and resolutions. Those resolutions included:

Resolution in Support of Direct Funding to Local Governments for the Improvement and Maintenance of Local Roads in America within any Proposed Infrastructure Spending Bill

Resolution to Establish NACo's Legislative Position for United States Department of Transportation's Budget Appropriation for FY 2019

Resolution on FAA Reauthorization or Extension

Resolution Urging Federal Policy Makers to Include Support for Transit Options in any Upcoming Infrastructure Package and/or List of Expanded Legislative Principles

Resolution in Support of Eliminating Regulatory Impediments for Effective Delivery of Federal Aid Projects

Resolution Supporting Increased Consideration of Alternative Congestion Mitigation Measures Resolution Urging Congress to Amend the Electronic Logging Device (ELD) and Hours of Service Final Rule to Provide an Agricultural Exemption

Resolution in Support of Fully Funding Federally Mandated Local Airport Security Resolution on Indian School Bus Routes

All of these resolutions were adopted and were thereby added to the NACo platform for advocacy.

Upcoming NACE activities include:

NACo Legislative Conference, Washington DC March 2-6, 2019

NACE 2019 Annual Meeting Management and Technical Conference, Wichita, Kansas, April 14-18, 2019.





County Engineers Association of California 2018 Policy Conference

SACRAMENTO | SEPTEMBER 12-13 | 2018





County Engineers Association of California 2018 Policy Conference SACRAMENTO | SEPTEMBER 12-13 | 2018



CSAC staff **Jim Manker** and **Manuel Rivas**, **Jr.** enjoying some time with the county engineers.



L-R: Sue Tippett, John Presleigh, Rick Tippett and Tom Mattson



Scott McGolpin and **Vince Gin** Who do you think they are showing off to?



CEAC Board of Directors Meeting at the conclusion of the Policy Conference

Going-to-the-Sun Road

Submitted by Panos Kokkas, Yolo County



"Going-to-the-Sun Road" was dedicated July 15, 1933, marking the completion of one of the major engineering achievements of that era. Congress established Glacier National Park on May 11, 1910. The park's road system then included several wagon paths on the west side and a 35 mile rough road on the east. In 1917 it was suggested to construct a highway over the Continental Divide linking the two sides of the park.

The west side project involved 12.4 miles to the summit. The only tunnel on the west side was 192 feet long, 20

feet wide, and 18 feet high, Following a switch back, the road passed again over the same point 400 feet higher on the mountainside. 13.7 miles of road were constructed from the pass easterly to the entrance at St. Mary.

The American Society of Civil Engineers designates **GOING-TO-THE-SUN ROAD GLACIER NATIONAL PARK** as a National Historic Civil Engineering Landmark at a ceremony held on Friday, July 26, 1985 at 12:00pm. The dedication took place at the McDonald Lake Lodge in Glacier National Park, Montana.



In the picture to the left- Does anyone know who the gentleman is standing at the far right in the picture? What about the gentleman 2nd from the right in the picture below?



In Memoriam Paul Keener, Alameda County



Paul during the 2015 Ashland Cherryland FamFest and 5K Fun Run

Paul Keener, Senior Transportation Planner at the Alameda County Public Works Agency, passed away July 21, 2018. He was very active on the Active Transportation Program Technical Advisory Committee representing CEAC members.

He will be remembered for his role in working with many community activists in Castro Valley and the unincorporated areas of Alameda County to create a more walkable and bikeable community.

"Paul Keener was a dedicated public servant that put service above self. He was passionate about making a difference in the active transportation environment," Supervisor Nate Miley said in a statement to Castro Valley Matters. "Paul was an encouragement to so many people. He was a committed father, husband, and County employee who will truly be missed."

JoAnne Lauer, a member of Castro Valley Matters who worked closely with Paul as part of BikeWalkCV's efforts to obtain grant funding for sidewalk and biking infrastructure for Castro Valley, recalled his contributions to the community.

Paul made a huge contribution to Castro Valley's slowly blossoming infrastructure and education around pedestrian and bike safety and accessibility, including thousands of hours over the years in developing bike/ pedestrian master plans, writing grants, and attending countless meetings with school and community groups. He led our own Castro Valley Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (CV BPAC), supported and personally led Bike to School/Work Day at the CV BART station, and most recently took on a huge role with all of the Safe Routes to Schools programs in Alameda County."

"He always had a smile and a kind word," Lauer wrote in an email to BikeWalkCV. "Even if he was stuck between the bureaucracy above him and the advocates in front of him, he navigated with grace and respect. I will miss him dearly."

Mario T. Balestrieri Contra Costa/Marin Counties

Mario T. Balestrieri passed away peacefully on May 1, 2018 at age 89. He spent his entire professional career working in, and for, his community.

Starting in 1954, he worked for the Contra Costa County Public Works Department. In 1963 he moved his



family to Novato in Marin County, taking a position as Equipment Superintendent in the Marin County Public Works Department. Within three years he was appointed Acting Assistant Public Works Director, and in August 1966 he became the Director of the County Public Works Department. Mario continued in that role until his retirement in March 1989.

During that time, he led and supported many important county projects. He also continued his work as consultant to the County for critical projects, such as 1990's clean up of Richardson Bay. Mario was a volunteer for Novato Fire Protection District. In December 1980 he was appointed to an open Board position and subsequently elected for three additional terms. His service on a Novato School District committee was also important to him as a parent. He was an active member of Our Lady of Loretto Church in Novato. He also spent a number of years participating in and supporting the multi denominational Cursillo Christian Community in Marin County.

His wife Donna L. Balestrieri, of 69 years, and seven of their children - Linda, Christine, Tom, Paul, Michelle, Michael and Peter - survive Mario. His son John predeceased him in 2016.

Mario was a CEAC Life Member

NACE Western Region Conference

Laughlin, Nevada



NACE Western Region Conference

October 24-26, 2018, Laughlin, Nevada California Delegation - small, but feisty was led by CEAC Vice-President, **Jim Porter**, San Mateo County (sitting far right), not to be confused with **Scott McGolpin**, Santa Barbara County (sitting center)

