



“CONSTRUCTING A WAY FOR A BETTER FUTURE”

ECA NEWSLETTER

JOHNS SOAPBOX

Another Special Holiday Soapbox

Walt Turner

A year as ECA President went fast!



*I just wanted to say a few words about the year just concluded. I was honored to have been able to serve the membership, lead this great organization, and do my best to follow the lead of those that have gone and served before me. My Executive Team of Josh Cleaver (Past President), Antonio Mencarini (2023 President), Mike Gulley (2023 Vice President), and Dan Giordano (2023 Treasurer) were a pleasure to work with. One of the best things about being President is the opportunity to listen to, and exchange ideas with such great leaders as my 2022 Exec Team. I also want to thank my 2022 Board of Directors. They show up, they participate, and they do not just say “yes” but rather they offer suggestions and ideas based upon their vast experiences and knowledge of the area and of the industry. I learned a lot from our Board in 2022. Thank you!

A few things I am very proud of:

1. A great Community Relations project in Cotati led by Dave Weller of RCX and our CR Chair Lacey Torkelson Smith. In an area that needs inventive ideas on how to build affordable housing for residents, this project used an innovative shared equity concept in ownership that keeps costs down and allows homeowners to share in equity increases that allow them to move on to another home ownership opportunity in the future. The ribbon cutting ceremony was inspiring and very satisfying for our ability to participate.
2. Having such a close relationship with Transportation and Public Works staff that they incorporated an “escalator clause” for smoothing out high oil and asphalt pricing for millions of dollars of County projects. Adopting an escalator clause demonstrates that County staff listen to and respect the ECA and its membership. The clause protects the County, the contractors, and the suppliers from pricing spikes that were taking place.

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HAPPY NEW YEAR

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3. The Father's Day Show and Shine Car Show. In the middle of economic uncertainty, and post pandemic issues, people participated, brought their families to Julliard Park in Santa Rosa, and enjoyed a day of appreciation for all our fathers, and the classic cars that take so much effort to restore. I am proud to host this event, and love to see all the volunteers help in setting up, parking cars, serving beer and water, and selling t- shirts and hats. The smiles on everyone's faces speak for themselves-people love this event! **I would also like to take this moment to send out a huge I LOVE YOU to my wife Mary, my daughters Megan, Robin and lastly my grand daughter Mia for supporting their husband, father and Papa on this day which is a labor of Love.**
4. Working all year to keep our directors and members informed as to the financial health of the ECA and offering safety trainings and other meaningful seminars like "Planes, Trains and Automobiles" that informed us of what is happening to our local transportation infrastructure.
5. I learned to be a better leader, I got more informed on the issues that affect our industry, and I fostered better relationships with my co-workers as well as new business associates.
6. I am proud of vetting candidates for local offices and supporting those that would serve our membership to the best advantage. Government Affairs Committee Chair Art Deicke did a great job leading our committee and we stuck to our principles, and we won more races than we lost in an election year. I am proud of the process where we expressed our perspective to candidates in a way that they will remember how vital our industry is and how it pays off to hire local suppliers

I had a great time and was honored to have had the chance to lead this group! I feel that the ECA is in at least as good a condition as it was when I took it over, and I am proud to have accomplished so much, and gained so much for myself from the experience. Thanks to all of you for your support!

I can not say this enough to everyone involved, thank you very much from the bottom of my heart for all your time given to support this Wonderful ECA!

Finally, I would like to thank John Bly, Mary Kennedy Cabrera and Cheryl Long for all their hard work during the year.

Walt Turner
2022 ECA President



COMMITTEE NEWS

1. **Car Show Committee**-led by Walt Turner, the Car Show committee has its first meeting of the year to plan for the Father's Day Car Show at Julliard Park in Santa Rosa. The 1st meeting will be held at NCBE on 1-12-23 at 4pm.
2. The **Government Affairs Committee**-led by Art Deicke will have its first meeting of the year on 1-18-23 at 3pm, location is NCBE. Special guest will be Victoria Fleming (newly elected City of Santa Rosa Council Member).
3. The **ECA Specification Committee**-led by Casey Wood of GBI and Dale Smith of RCX, will hold its 1st meeting of 2023 at the NCBE on 1-18-23 at 4pm. Issues to be discussed will be public works spec issues including contract closeout, pay estimates, and clear submittal requirements and whether submittals are just for information or need to be reviewed and approved.
4. ECA Community Relations Committee has no meeting scheduled.
5. ECA Golf Committee has no meeting scheduled.
6. ECA Auction Committee has no meeting scheduled, but will soon. If you would like to join the Auction Committee please email mary@nceca.org
7. **Nominating Committee** See you February 4th at the Installation and Awards Dinner!! The video interviews with our Award Winners and their chosen speakers are being scheduled as you read this by Don Mills and his great crew. The evening and the video will honor Robert Lee (Hermsmeyer Hall of Fame), Ed Winters (Posthumous Hermsmeyer Hall of Fame), Ghilotti Construction Company (Contractor of the Year), and Valdivia Trucking (Affiliate of the Year) on February 4. For more information on the event itself, making your reservation and sponsorship opportunities. Click [here](#) to sponsor and [here](#) to register!



NEWS THAT YOU CAN USE:

John Stewart Cannery Project in SR gets underway-[Planned for two decades, construction begins on Cannery housing project in Santa Rosa \(northbaybusinessjournal.com\)](#)

Homeowner Insurance issues for wildfire-[Is your home at higher risk for wildfires? California updates map for first time in 15 years \(northbaybusinessjournal.com\)](#)

Napa Development-[Napa parking lot to become Oxbow South: Hotel, housing, retail proposed for downtown \(northbaybusinessjournal.com\)](#)



The Northern California Engineering Contractors Association cordially invites you to attend our 44th Annual Installation & Awards Dinner

*DoubleTree by Hilton Sonoma Wine Country
One Doubtree Dr., Rohnert Park
Saturday, February 4, 2023*

Sustaining Member Sponsors



Premier Sponsor &
President's Reception



*President's Champagne Reception 6:00 pm
Dinner & Awards 7:00 pm
Coffee, Dessert, Port & Cigars 9:00 pm*

Welcome incoming President:
Antonio Mencarini, Ghilotti Construction &
The 2023 ECA Board of Directors

We will be also honoring
Volunteer of the Year
Jeannine Clary, Argonaut Constructors
Contractor of the Year
Dick Ghilotti, Ghilotti Construction
Affiliate of the Year
Raul Valdivia, Valdivia Trucking
The Hermsmeyer Hall of Fame Award
will be awarded to Robert Lee, Team Ghilotti
Posthumous – Ed Winters, Argonaut Constructors

To sponsor click [HERE](#). To register click [HERE](#)

Thank you to:

[Ghilotti Construction](#)—Premier Sponsor & President's Reception

[Team Ghilotti](#)— Hermsmeyer Hall of Fame Sponsor

[Engelke Construction, Inc.](#)—Bar Sponsor

Emergency Response Manual for 2023—2024

Now is the time to assure your ad is included!

There is still time to get your information in!!!

Every two years ECA gathers information we believe will be valuable to city officials, our associates, business partners, and the general public.

In the event of an emergency, we would like you to have information available that will help those that need it in the fastest way possible.

Should you be in need of assistance in the following areas, our members can help you! This manual will include in alphabetical order, who to contact for: • Counties Served • Services • Equipment • Materials

Obviously, we hope that an emergency situation will not be the reason you need to contact our members, but at least this will help you if the circumstance does arise.

No cost to be included in the manual

To be included in the Emergency Response Manual click [here](#)

To have an ad in the Emergency Response Manual click [here](#)

The application for the North Bay Construction Corps are now open! The North Bay Construction Corps (NBCC) is an after-school, 3-month basic construction training program for seniors in their last semester of high school. Classes are held on Saturdays in April and May and are taught by local contractors and construction managers. Participants are introduced to a variety of trades and earn certifications in Personal Protective Equipment and CPR/First Aid. Every year, nearly all Corps members who want to work in construction are offered a job at the graduation ceremony and interview event on the last day of Boot Camp. For more information or to apply for the 2023 North Bay Construction Corps program, visit www.ncbeonline.com/nbcc

For more information about the 2023 North Bay Construction Corps program or to request a presentation to staff or students, contact Nicollette Weinzveg, Director of Workforce Development and Education at (707) 542-9502 or workforce@ncbeonline.com click [here](#) to apply online



Cabrera and Associates

Anthony A. Cabrera, P.E., P.L.S.

Project Consultant

tacabrera@yahoo.com / 707-321-9951

www.cabreraassoc.com

Have you got a project in mind?
Let Cabrera & Associates provide solutions
Land Use Planning
Real Estate Development
And Governmental Relations

IMPORTANT INFO:

Get Prepared Now! Here are some very useful tips from CalFire to get your own house/property “in shape” for fire season. [link](#)

Pocket Guide for CALOSHA For Contractors: Click [here](#) for the pocket guide you all need!

Roadwork in Sonoma County - Check out the County website for road info [here](#)

WORKER’S COMPENSATION

Worker’s Compensation Endorsement By ECA-

HELLO!!! HAVE YOU ASKED YOUR HUMAN RESOURCES PERSON TO CHECK OUT THE WORKERS COMP PROGRAM ECA HAS ENDORSED? Everybody likes to save money, don’t they? Doesn’t cost you a thing to consider this as an option! Jeff Okrepkie at 707-360-4338.

[Flyer](#)



George Petersen Insurance Agency

FIRE CLEAN UP LIST:

The Sonoma County Environmental Health Department, Transportation and Public Works, and James Gore’s office are utilizing the ECA as a resource for debris testing, and debris cleanup for fire victims from the Kincade Fire. Please review the list that has been provided to the fire victims and the County, of ECA Firms that are interested and listed in various categories as being helpful in the fire aftermath. This is another benefit for ECA members and if you want to be included on the list, and are not, please contact mary@nceda.org. There is no charge for this. You can access the list by clicking [here](#):

EMERGENCY RESPONSE MANUAL

Emergency Response Manual is now available online!

In the event of an emergency, we have put together this manual to help our community receive quick service from our members.

Thank you to our sponsors for helping to get this manual completed. It is sent to city and county agencies in case of an emergency so they will know who to call for services, equipment and materials.

Click [here](#) for the manual.



From the Desk of Jim Persons

Accident Investigations

An accident investigation is required whenever a serious incident happens on the job.

The less time intervening between the accident and the investigation, the more accurate the information that can be obtained. Facts are more accurate because people have not had time to become biased by the opinions of others, memories are clearer, and more details are remembered.

Why do we investigate an accident? The reason is to obtain accurate information about what happened. What events led up to the accident; who was involved with the work; did anyone fail to follow procedures or did a piece of material or equipment fail?

Click [HERE](#) to read more



Expert COVID-19 Safety info Available at a Discount

The Shelter in Place Orders issued by County Health Officers in Sonoma, Napa, and Mendocino - as well as the Governor, have highlighted for the building industry the need for all contractors to have an up-to-date written COVID-19 Exposure Control Plan.

This should be an addendum to your IIPP and safety meetings for COVID-19

Jim Persons, SafetyPride, an ECA member who serves as a consultant and safety instructor for ECA, is offering his services to our members and they will receive a 40% discount on his regular rates if you are a current member of ECA.

Contact Jim if you are interested in getting his help on COVID-19 related issues or other health and safety programs. email: jimpersons@safetypride.com or phone: 707-889-0881



Fire Debris Cleanup Management Services

- County Application and Work Plan Preparation
- Coordination of Asbestos Survey and Fire Debris Disposal
- Air Monitoring, Erosion Control and Confirmation Sampling
- Cleanup Certification Report by Civil Engineer

info@TransTechConsultants.com

Office (707) 837-8408 or after hours (707) 478-2097

ECA SAFETY TRAINING CLASSES

CPR / First Aid

Wednesday, February 1

9 am – 11 am

Instructor Larry Richmond Jr., Mill Creek Safety

Training includes bleeding control, strokes, seizures, broken bones and other life-threatening emergencies. Adult/child/infant CPR & airway obstruction management covered. This course is designed as both a course for first-timers and as a refresher.

Click [HERE](#) for flyer...

Competent Person / Trenching & Excavation

Wednesday, February 1

1 pm—3 pm

Instructor Larry Richmond Jr., Mill Creek Safety

The course will cover soil analysis, sloping, shoring and shielding, hazardous situations, excavation standards and more...

Click [HERE](#) for flyer

Application for appointment to the Citizens Oversight Committee

Residents of Marin and Sonoma counties are invited to [apply for appointment](#) to the SMART Citizens Oversight Committee (COC). The nine-member COC is an advisory committee established by the SMART Board of Directors and is comprised of private citizens who collectively represent the diversity of Sonoma and Marin County.

Click [here](#) to apply

Completed applications and supporting documents **are due by Friday, January 13, 2023**, and may be submitted by email to Leticia Rosas, Clerk of the Board, at COC@sonomamarintrain.org or submitted either in-person or mailed to:

Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit District
Attn: Clerk of the Board
5401 Old Redwood Highway, Suite 200, Petaluma, CA 94954

If you have questions or require additional information, please email Leticia Rosas, Clerk of the Board, at COC@sonomamarintrain.org or call (707) 794-3072. A printed hard copy of the application may be requested by calling SMART Customer Service at 707-794-3330 or by visiting the SMART offices at 5401 Old Redwood Highway, Suite 200, Petaluma, CA 94954.

CORPORATE MEMBER SPONSORS



BUSINESS MEMBER SPONSORS



We want to highlight a member each week. What we need from you is a short paragraph on what is happening at your company. New employees, new logo, a new move, exciting new equipment! What ever you want to share about your company with our members.

Email mary@nceca.org with your spotlight information and send in photos if you have them!

Northern California Engineering Contractors Association

The ECA, and its Board of Directors, has been the voice of the engineering construction industry for over 40 years.

The foundation of the ECA has been to address local needs and issues.

The purpose and goal of ECA and its staff are to provide services to the members that help them run their businesses safely, efficiently, and in compliance with the many rules and regulations and mandates of government.

The working committees are the heart and soul of the ECA. The committees are comprised of ECA members.

The committees promote events that enable the ECA to fund community projects that include: Fathers Day "Show & Shine" Car Show, Public Officials Night, the Golf Tournament, and, the "Days of Wine & Dozers" Auction Dinner.

If you would like to join a committee, please email mary@nceca.org ~ We would love to have you!



Northern California Engineering Contractors Association

John Bly, Executive Vice President
email: john@nceca.org

Mary Kennedy Cabrera, Member Services Director
email: mary@nceca.org

Cheryl Long, Bookkeeper
email: cheryl@nceca.org

Postal Address: P.O. Box 8249 Santa Rosa, CA 95407 ~Phone: 707.546.5500

