



October 25, 2023

“CONSTRUCTING A WAY FOR A BETTER FUTURE”

# ECA NEWSLETTER

## JOHNS SOAPBOX



Remember-this is an op-ed piece and I do not speak for the ECA or any of its members in this “Soapbox”. These are just my ramblings that hopefully you find thought provoking. Remember-these are my opinions, not those of the ECA or any of its member firms.



### *ECA Recognizes and Honors*

One of the signature practices of the ECA is to carefully consider and choose honorees that have demonstrated excellence in their respective areas each year. Each year, the ECA has a Nominating Committee that is made up of the immediate Past President, the current Officers of the ECA and one invited guest who has served as President of the ECA at some point. The Nominating Committee met in July of 2023 and reviewed candidates for all the awards to be considered as well as for the next year’s Officers and Directors. The Nominating Committee in July tries to get the candidate list for awards down to three or less for each award. In August, the Nominating Committee meets again in the attempt to get award candidates further reduced in “possibles” and to refine our list of candidates for Officers and Directors for the next year. Finally, the Nominating Committee presents their final choices to the full Board of Directors in September, and the Board of Directors has the final decision after vetting the choices recommended by the Nominating Committee. Final announcements are made public in October after one month of review by the Board of Directors and the Nominating Committee, and the ECA is pleased to announce the 2024 Officers, Directors, and Award winners to all of you.

I included all the above narrative to demonstrate to you that it is with great thought and consideration who is finally nominated and announced for the ECA Awards each year. I know from personal experience that it is quite impactful to be considered for one of these awards, and even more humbling to be honored with recognition from your peers in receiving one of the awards. Our 2023 Nominating Committee consisted of Chair Walt Turner of North Bay Petroleum, Antonio Mencarini of Ghilotti Construction Company, Mike Guley of North-West General Engineering Company, Dan Giordani of Argonaut Constructors, Kimber Carpenter Lenning of Kadon Trucking, and invited guest Dave Weller of RCX Construction.

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**2023  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**PRESIDENT:**  
ANTONIO MENCARINI  
Ghilotti Construction Co

**VICE PRESIDENT:**  
MIKE GULLEY  
Northwest General Engineering

**TREASURER**  
DAN GIORDANI  
Argonaut Constructors

**SECRETARY**  
KIMBER CARPENTER LENNING  
Kadon Trucking

**PAST PRESIDENT**  
WALT TURNER  
North Bay Petroleum

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KRISTI PRUITT  
RCX, Inc

MIKE WOLFF  
Wolf Contracting

CASEY WOOD  
Ghilotti Bros. Inc

**AFFILIATES**

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JEFF CONNER  
Aaction Rents

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JEFF OKREPKE  
George Petersen Insurance

RYAN WILD SICH  
Cal-West Rentals

GLENN SMITH  
Smith Dollar PC

MARK SOILAND  
Soiland Company

TROY SOILAND & SPENCER REID  
Northgate Ready Mix

JONATHAN TRAPPE & JAMES TRAPPE  
Canyon Rock Co.

BILL WIGGINS  
Trans Tech Consultants

**EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT**

JOHN BLY

**MEMBER SERVICES DIRECTOR**

MARY KENNEDY CABRERA

Continued from page 1

**Presenting Your 2024 Officers for the ECA:**

President -Mike Gulley of NorthWest General Engineering  
Vice President-Dan Giordani of Argonaut Constructors  
Treasurer-Kimber Carpenter Lenning of Kadon Trucking  
Secretary-Matt Storm of Granite Construction  
Past President-Antonino Mencarini of Ghilotti Construction Company

**Presenting Your 2024 Board of Directors for the ECA:**

**Plus---Contractors** – John Serres, Jr., (Serres Corporation) Kristi Pruitt (RCX, Inc.) Michael Wolff (Wolff Construction) Casey Wood, (Ghilotti Bros. Inc)  
**Affiliates** – Paul Bartholow (Brelje & Race Engineers) Jeff Conner (Aaction Rents) Art Deicke (Environmental Pollution Solutions) Corinna Fernandez (PACE Supply) Trisha McComas (Moss Adams) Victor McKnight (InterWest Insurance) Kevin Noonan (Toby's Trucking) Jeff Okrepkie (George Petersen Insurance) Ryan Wild Sichi (Cal-West Rentals) Glenn Smith (Smith Dollar PC) Troy Soiland/Spencer Reid (Northgate Ready Mix) Mark Soiland (Soiland Company) James Trappe (Canyon Rock) Walt Turner (North Bay Petroleum) Bill Wiggins (Trans Tech Consultants)

**And Now for Your 2024 ECA Award Winners:**

**Presenting Your 2024 Contractor of the Year for the ECA:**  
**RCX Construction**

**Presenting Your 2024 Affiliate of the Year for the ECA:**  
**Aaction Rents**

**Presenting Your 2024 Volunteer of the Year Award Winner:**  
**The "Turner Girls"-Mary, Megan, Robin Turner**

**Presenting the 2024 Ambassador of the Year Award Winner:**  
**Sound Ideas**

**Presenting the 2024 Posthumous Hermsmeyer Hall of Fame Award Winner:**  
**John Ramatici**

**Presenting the 2024 Hermsmeyer Hall of Fame Award Winner:**  
**Richard Ghilotti**

The Officers and Directors take office on January 1, 2024. All the above award winners, Officers and Directors will be honored and Installed at the 2024 ECA Installation Award Dinner to be held at the Hyatt Regency on February 24<sup>th</sup>.

Congratulations to all those honored and those that have been chosen and agreed to lead our Association in 2024!!

That's All Folks

John

Providing creative solutions for complex environmental issues.



(Formerly Edd Clark & Associates)

The ECA Group is an integrity-driven group of environmental professionals. We put our clients first to help resolve their environmental issues. We are geologists, environmental engineers and scientists with the expertise to effectively manage complex environmental sites. We have been providing Clients professional service and problem-solving for over 30 years.

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EXPERIENCE. EXPERTISE. INTEGRITY.

## JOBS OPENING

### Construction Technician I/II

Brelje & Race Consulting Engineers has an immediate opening for a Construction Technician. Experience should include underground utility, asphalt paving and/or water/wastewater treatment plant projects. The individual will be responsible for field engineering and construction monitoring at sites in Sonoma, Lake and Mendocino Counties. This on-call position is seasonal, with nearly full-time hours when active.

Responsibilities include contract compliance monitoring; observation and reporting of construction activities; coordination of quality control testing; tracking and coordinating project schedule; and maintaining client goals and expectations. Office duties may include assisting with contract administration services such as reviewing submittals, responding to requests for information, and maintaining construction contract logs and files.

Compensation: \$55 to \$75 per hour depending on experience, education, and licensure/certifications

See full job details at [www.brce.com/careers](http://www.brce.com/careers)  
Apply by emailing your resume to [careers@brce.com](mailto:careers@brce.com)

### The City of Santa Rosa is now hiring for a Quality Control Associate- Materials Engineering Lab

#### **ABOUT THE POSITION:**

This is a lead worker classification for the Civil Engineering Technician series. Quality Control Associates (QCA) operate with a high degree of independence and exercise independent judgement in the performance of their duties. QCAs provide specialized expertise in a defined area and have a higher level of lead, administrative, technical, and paraprofessional responsibility for that area of expertise. In collaboration with other engineering staff, QCAs update and improve the accuracy and efficiency of interrelated engineering systems, processes, and procedures. Positions in this class establish work priorities for the specialized area to which they are assigned and assure that their assigned area stays current with industry standards and trends.

Click [HERE](#) for more details.

## **Cabrera and Associates**

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# ECA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING



## Sponsors



Northern California Engineering Contractors Association

### Where is our Dam Water General Membership Meeting

"Where is our Dam Water?" as we wrestle with environmentalists who want to remove dams and even stop diverting water from the eel river to lake Mendocino, Sonoma county businesses, farmers, and residents are at a crossroads. Do we put the interests of fish ahead of people? Find out at the annual GMM!

4:30—6:30 pm

Thursday, November 16  
Charlies at  
Windsor Golf Club  
Windsor, CA

#### Speakers:

Supervisor James Gore via video,  
Grant Davis, General Manager Sonoma Water  
Janet Pauli, Redwood Valley Water and Ag expert  
Pamela Jeane, Assistant GM Sonoma Water,



Supervisor James Gore



Grant Davis,  
GM Sonoma Water



Janet Pauli, Chair,  
Mendocino County  
Inland Water and Power  
Commission



Pamela Jeane, Assistant  
GM Sonoma Water

Thursday, November 16th  
4:30—6:30 pm  
Charlies, Windsor Golf Club  
Click [HERE](#) for Registration Flyer.

Thursday, November 16, Charlies at Windsor Golf Club  
\$35 for ECA members~ \$60 non-members  
RSVP: [mary@nceca.org](mailto:mary@nceca.org) or call 707-546-5500

Company Name _____		Attendee _____	
Address _____			
Phone _____	Method of Payment:		
_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Bill Me		
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_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Visa		
_____	<input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard		
email _____	CVV _____		
Credit Card # _____	Exp. date _____	Signature _____	



ECA | 1030 Apollo Way | Santa Rosa, CA 95404 | 707.546.5500 ph | [www.nceca.org](http://www.nceca.org) | [mary@nceca.org](mailto:mary@nceca.org)

## Challenges and Tactics to Succeeding in These Hyper Regulated Times

With David Noren, Former Chair of the North Coast Regional Water Control Board

Tuesday, November 7th.

8—9:30 am

NCBE Training Room,

Juice, coffee, pastries and fruit

\$20 for ECA members \$30 for non-members

Email [mary@nceca.org](mailto:mary@nceca.org) to register

## Save the Dates for 2024!!!

Installation & Awards Dinner—Saturday, February 24th at Hyatt Regency

ECA Public Officials Night— Thursday, April 11, Sonoma Marin Fairgrounds

Father's Day "Show & Shine" Car Show—Sunday, June 16th, Juilliard Park

ECA's Golf Tournament—Friday, July 19th, Windsor Golf Club

## 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.



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](mailto:mary@nceda.org). There is no charge for this. You can access the list by clicking [HERE](#)

## EMERGENCY RESPONSE MANUAL

The updated 2023-2024 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.

**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](#)



## From the Desk of Jim Persons

### Carbon Monoxide –

“The Silent Killer” All fuels, even diesel and “cleaner” fuels such as propane, create carbon monoxide. This gas is a common byproduct of any combustion process.

Click [HERE](#) for 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](mailto:jimpersons@safetypride.com) or phone: 707-889-0881



### Fire Debris Cleanup Management Services

- County Application and Work Plan Preparation
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## The Miracle League—North Bay ~ It's Soccer Time!

We are hosting our first ever soccer event on Saturday November 25th from 11:00am to 1:00pm. Come ready to smile, laugh, and of course learn new soccer skills!

Our soccer registration is open and we are thrilled to add another sport to our lineup. Don't miss out on the fun, sign up now and secure your spot! Hurry, spots are filling up fast and the event is right around the corner.

Buddies, you are an integral part of this event, show up loud and proud to support our athletes in a new sport! Register [HERE!](#)

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**On Demand Training** service provides relevant and targeted training, certification, or education when you **NEED IT NOW!**

Classes can be organized quickly so you can quickly get your employees back to work. In addition, business demands require flexibility. This service provides greater flexibility and added value. Classes can be set up at your facility or at the training room in Santa Rosa

Part of this **on-demand service** is a viable alternative to **in-house training** because it is designed for situations where only **one, two, three or four** people that need training. Importantly, this training can be very cost effective. We can combine the classes with other companies that need the training or you can have your own company class.

Whether you're in search of workplace safety training to meet OSHA compliance requirements, Competent Person, Trench Safety, Confined Space, CPR/First Aid initial or update training or implementing a Safety Program ECA can help!

*The best way to beat an OSHA citation is to never get one at all.*

Email [mary@nceca.org](mailto:mary@nceca.org) to set up a class today If you don't see a class you need listed please contact me.

CPR / First Aid: 3 hrs - \$95 per person

Confined Space: 3 hrs - \$150 per person

Competent Person / Trench Safety: 3 hrs - \$125 per person

Flagger Safety Training: 2 hrs - \$125 per person

Sexual Harassment—1 hr for Employees—\$25 per person ~ 2 hrs for Supervisors \$35 per person

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## EVENT NEWS & INFORMATION

The Annual General Membership Meeting, with Premiere Sponsor Granite Construction, is our last event of 2023 and will be held November 16, 2023, at Charlies, Windsor Golf Club, from 4:30-6:00pm. The topic will be "Where's Our Dam Water?" and guest speakers will include James Gore via video, David Rabbitt, Grant Davis (head of the Sonoma County Water Agency, Janet Pauli (Redwood Valley Water and Ag expert) and Pam Jean of the Sonoma County Water Agency who put together the latest proposal to the FERC for water diversion and dam removal. This is a huge issue to all Sonoma County residents, and you should find the meeting very informative indeed! Thank you to Granite Construction and Smith Dollar PC for being our Premiere Sponsors!!





## CORPORATE MEMBER SPONSORS



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## BUSINESS MEMBER SPONSORS



## COMMITTEE NEWS

**ECA Government Affairs Committee-** led by Art Deicke met on 10-17-23 with Mike Wall from the Town of Windsor Council. Mr. Wall and the Committee had a nice exchange for 1 hour and the GAC knows a lot more about Mr. Wall now, and Mr. Wall knows a lot more about the ECA after this meeting. Mr. Wall comes from a medical administrative background and was initially added to the Windsor Town Council to replace Dominic Foppoli. Mr. Wall successfully ran for a full term and is serving that term now. Topics discussed included the Koi Casino and Event Center, development of the industrial area off Airport Blvd, budget issues for the Town of Windsor, and the infrastructure needs for Windsor including the possible take over of the wastewater treatment plant just north of the Sonoma County Airport.

**ECA Specification Committee-**the ECA Spec Committee, led by Dale Smith and Casey Wood, will reconvene on November 15, 2023, from 4-5:30 pm at the NCBE main Board room. We plan to hear about SWPP Rules and How to Handle Them as well as discussing permit issuance and retention issues.

**ECA Executive Committee Meeting-**next meeting is on Tuesday January 23, 2024, at 11:00 am. Topics will include the agenda for the Board Strategic Meeting to be held the same day at Noon.

**ECA Board of Director Meeting-**next meeting will be held January 23, 2024, from 12-2:00pm. Agenda with topics including A. Welcome and intro to new Board Members and Officers, Discussion of the Short Term and Long-Term Succession Plans presented by Mr. Keith Woods, discussion of the 2024 events and budget, and review of new President Mike Gulley's expectations and goals for the 2024 year.

**ECA Community Relations Committee-**Chaired by Lacey Torkelson Smith, the CR Committee met with Collette Michaud to take a preliminary look at a potential 2024 CR project at the Children's Museum. Also being considered, is the 2024 project for the Healdsburg Boys and Girls Club. Both projects will probably come to the full Board for review in February 2024.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

It is with great sadness that the ECA announces the passing of our friend, Randy Parker of North Bay Petroleum. See below the notice from North Bay Petroleum.

It is with a very heavy heart that I must share with you that this past weekend, our longtime co-worker and cherished friend, Randy Parker peacefully passed away at his home. This was very unexpected, and I am very shocked and saddened at this tremendous loss. Randy was a wonderful partner, co-worker, and friend.

Randy was a special person with a deep connection to this company. He loved his job dearly, which showed through the many valued relationships he's established over the years with his customers.

I ask that you respect the privacy of Randy's family through this sad time. However, please know we will share information on upcoming memorial arrangements.



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## 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](mailto:mary@nceca.org) ~ We would love to have you!



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### Northern California Engineering Contractors Association

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Mary Kennedy Cabrera, Member Services Director  
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