

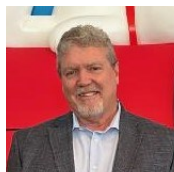


January 15, 2024

"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.

CH-Ch-Ch-Changes

I really only liked one song by the late David Bowie, and it was "Changes". It seemed like the lyrics kind of fit every "New Year" I went into for many years:

"I still don't know what I was looking for
And my time was running wild
A million dead end streets
Every time I thought I'd got it made
It seemed the taste was not so sweet
So I turned myself to face me
But I've never caught a glimpse
Of how the others must see the faker
I'm much too fast to take that test"

OK-It might be a stretch to look at how you present yourself to your co-workers and peers via David Bowie's lyrics, but the point I want to make is this:

Live true to your core values, manage your working relationships by being aware of how your attitude and actions are perceived by others, and try to have your firm's core values mirror your own values so success is very sweet.

I lost sight of that when I owned my own company as I was driven by the bottom line-making profit. When I look around at the really successful people in our industry, I see a common trait amongst them-they live and work by the same value system. And it is not purely driven by the bottom line.

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Continued from page 1

As we head into the new year of 2024, perhaps it is time for some self-reflection on how you run your portion of work, or your firm. Lord knows there are lots of outside influence changes taking place, and you must be aware of the bottom line, but what will appeal to your young co-workers trying to make a career in your company, is not always purely about money. People want to make a difference, feel their opinion is valued, listened to, and when appropriate, acted upon. I keep hearing how tough it is to find qualified people (particularly in the mid management levels) and sometimes you will need to "coach them up" from within your own workforce.

I hope you are all better at enjoying your success better than I was when I was an owner. I always wanted something different/better/more than what I had and it made my successes taste less sweet. Know what is important and share that often with your people and enjoy that sweet taste of success with them!

Never too late to ch-ch-ch-Change!

That's All Folks

John

ECA Installation Dinner on 2-24-24 is shaping up to be memorable. The Nominating Committee and 2023 Board of Directors did the ECA and industry proud by selecting the late John Ramatici and the icon Dick Ghilotti as our Hall of Fame inductees. Please get your sponsorships in and get your table attendees together for this wonderful occasion.

Thank you to:

[Ghilotti Construction](#)—Premier Sponsor
[Advanced Stormwater Protection](#)—Awards & Gifts Sponsor
[Argonaut Constructors](#)—Presidents Reception
[NorthWest General Engineering](#)—Presidents' Reception
[Soiland Company](#)—Presidents Reception
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[Engelke Construction](#)—Bar Sponsor
[North Bay Petroleum](#)—Bar Sponsor
[United Rentals Trench Safety](#)—Dessert & Coffee Bar Sponsor

Save the Dates for 2024!!!

Public Officials Night— Wednesday, April 10, 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
Wine & Dozers Dinner and Auction—September 28, 2024, Graton Resort & Casino

COMMITTEE NEWS

ECA Executive Committee Meeting-next meeting is on Tuesday January 23, 2024, at 11:00 am. The Exec Committee meets every 4th Tuesday of the month in 2024 at 11:00-12:00 in the small NCBE conference room. Our new Officers for 2024 are:

President Mike Gulley of Northwest General Engineering

Vice President Dan Giordano of Argonaut Constructors

Treasurer Kimber Lenning Carpenter of Kadon Trucking

Secretary Matt Storm of Granite Construction

Past President Antonio Mencarini of Ghilotti Construction Company

Thanks to Antonio for leading us in 2023 to a very successful year! Thanks to all of our Exec Committee for agreeing to lead us in 2024!

ECA Board of Director Meeting-next meeting will be held January 23, 2024, from 12-2:00pm. The Board of Directors meets every 4th Tuesday of the month from 12-1:30 pm in the NCBE main board room.

ECA Community Relations Committee-Chaired by Lacey Torkelson Smith, meets when there is a specific project to consider. The CR Committee will next meet and present two projects at our February Board meeting (Feb 27, 2024, from 12:00 to 1:30pm). Potential projects include the Children's Museum and the Boys and Girls Club of Healdsburg.

ECA Specification Committee-chaired by Casey Wood of GBI and Dale Smith of RCX, will next meet on January 24 from 4-5:30 pm and every other month on the 4th Wednesday of the month from then on.

ECA Government Affairs Committee-chaired by Art Deicke of Environmental Pollution Solutions will meet on January 22, 2024, at 5:00pm to 6:00pm to meet with Chris Rogers who is running for the vacant Jim Woods seat in the California State Assembly. We will interview Chris and make a recommendation to our Board of Directors on possible endorsement and campaign contribution on Tuesday, January 23, 2024.





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Installation & Awards Dinner

Saturday, February 24th

Hyatt Regency
170 Railroad Square
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

Welcome incoming President:
Mike Gulley, Northwest General Engineering &
The 2024 ECA Board of Directors

We will be also honoring
Volunteers of the Year
Mary, Megan & Robin Turner
Contractor of the Year
Tom Swegle, RCX, Inc.
Affiliate of the Year
Aaction Rents

The **Hermesmeyer Hall of Fame Award**
will be awarded to Dick Ghilotti, Ghilotti Construction
Posthumous – John Ramatici, Don Ramatici Insurance

To Register, click [HERE](#)! To Sponsor, click [HERE](#)!

To make reservations for an overnight stay that evening click [HERE](#)

Thank you to:

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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. 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](#)

Labor Law Posters 2024

Click [HERE!](#)



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You may be surprised to learn that every year, thousands of people go to the ER for injuries related to pressure washer use.

The force at which the water comes out of a pressure washer is very strong. In fact, some may not realize how strong it is until it has already caused damage to their property or themselves.

Click [HERE](#) to read more.



Workplace Violence Program

Implementation "Target Date" – July 1, 2024

Senate Bill 553 requires employers to create, implement and maintain a Workplace Violence Program by July 1, 2024. Employers must also train their entire workforce.

The Workplace Violence Program must include a reporting mechanism (how is the employee going to report incidents), detailing who will be responsible for receiving complaints, and who will be responsible for identifying and mitigating workplace hazards.

Jim Persons has developed a Workplace Violence Program and Active Shooter Guidelines that meet the requirements of this new regulation. He can also provide training resources for your employees.

Contact Jim if you are interested in getting his help on a Workplace Violence Program, COVID-19 related issues or other health and safety programs.

email: jimpersons@safetypride.com or phone: 707-889-0881



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SAFETY TRAINING

Confined Space

Tuesday, January 30
1-3 pm

This course covers proper procedures for making entry into Permit Required Confined Spaces. Participants are prepared to operate in the capacity of Entrant, Attendant or Entry Supervisor during confined space operations. Participants are familiarized with CFR 1910.146 and how to properly employ the permit program. This course is a combination of classroom instruction and practical application in actual permit spaces utilizing the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment, meters and ventilation. This course is required by OSHA before an employee can enter a Permit Required Confined Space. *Certification of completion is provided.*

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

CPR / First Aid

Thursday, February 8
1-3 pm

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 the flyer.

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 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



CORPORATE MEMBER SPONSORS



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NEWS YOU CAN USE

1. City of Santa Rosa makes some “ch-ch-ch-Changes:
 - a. Gabe Osborn gets Head of Planning and Economic Development Permanent Post- [Longtime Santa Rosa planning staffer to lead Planning and Economic Development Department \(pressdemocrat.com\)](https://www.pressdemocrat.com/story/news/local/2021/05/11/santa-rosa-planning-staffer-to-lead-planning-and-economic-development-department/7544440002/)
 - b. Dan Hennessey Hired as Santa Rosa’s New Head of Transportation and Public Works-[News Flash • City of Santa Rosa Hires Dan Hennessey as its D \(srcity.org\)](https://www.srcity.org/news/flash/city-of-santa-rosa-hires-dan-hennessey-as-its-d/)
2. SMART restarts work on Windsor segment-[SMART restarts work on long-awaited Windsor rail extension \(northbaybusinessjournal.com\)](https://www.northbaybusinessjournal.com/story/news/2021/05/11/smart-restarts-work-on-long-awaited-windsor-rail-extension/7544440002/)
3. Rohnert Park’s Vision for Downtown Development-[Here’s a glimpse at Rohnert Park’s proposed new downtown as project reaches milestone \(northbaybusinessjournal.com\)](https://www.northbaybusinessjournal.com/story/news/2021/05/11/rohnert-park-vision-for-downtown-development/7544440002/)

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!



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