



“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 rambblings that hopefully you find thought provoking. Remember-these are my opinions, not those of the ECA or any of its member firms.

Babylon Resolve to Mike Gulley

As I contemplate what areas of my life and habits need to be improved for the New Year, I ponder where this pondering started. You may find this interesting, or not. Regardless, your resolutions have a basis in history that have a 4,000 year “track record” and I have taken the liberty to personalize this the ECA way!

“The custom of making New Year’s resolutions has been around for thousands of years, but it hasn’t always looked the way it does today. The ancient Babylonians (and the ECA Founders) are said to have been the first people to make New Year’s resolutions, some 4,000 years ago. They were also the first to hold recorded celebrations in honor of the new year, though for them the year began not in January but in mid-March, when the crops were planted (and projects were bid for the upcoming year). During a massive 12-day religious festival known as Akitu, the Babylonians crowned a new king or reaffirmed their loyalty to the reigning king (in with Mike Gulley as King of the ECA!). They also made promises to the gods (John, Mary, and Cheryl who collect Accounts Receivable for the ECA) to pay their debts and return any objects they had borrowed. These promises could be considered the forerunners of our New Year’s resolutions. If the Babylonians kept to their word, their (pagan) gods would bestow favor on them for the coming year (better table locations at the ECA events! good luck with that!). If not, they would fall out of the gods’ favor—a place no one wanted to be (on the late list for A/R!). A similar practice occurred in ancient Rome, after the reform-minded emperor Julius Caesar tinkered with the calendar and established January 1 as the beginning of the new year circa 46 B.C. Named for Janus, the two-faced god whose spirit inhabited doorways and arches, January had special significance for the Romans. Believing that Janus symbolically looked backwards into the previous year and ahead into the future, the Romans offered sacrifices to the deity and made promises of good conduct for the coming year. For early Christians, the first day of the new year became the traditional occasion for thinking about one’s past mistakes and resolving to do and be better in the future. “

Continue on page 2



Inside this issue

John’s Soapbox.....	1
Board of Directors.....	2
Committee News.....	3
Installation & Awards Dinner.....	5
Workers Comp.....	6
Emergency Response manual.....	6
Fire Clean up List.....	6
From the Desk of Jim Persons.....	7
Safety Classes.....	8
Sustaining Members.....	9
News you can Use.....	10



Continued from page 1

**2023
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

PRESIDENT:
MIKE GULLEY
Northwest General Engineering

VICE PRESIDENT:
DAN GIORDANI
Argonaut Constructors

TREASURER
KIMBER CARPENTER LENNING
Kadon Trucking

SECRETARY
MATT STORM
Granite Construction

PAST PRESIDENT
ANTONIO MENCARINI
Ghilotti Construction Co

CONTRACTORS

KRISTI PRUITT
RCX, Inc

JOHN SERRES JR,
Serres Corporation

MIKE WOLFF
Wolff Contracting

CASEY WOOD
Ghilotti Bros. Inc

AFFILIATES

PAUL BARTHOLOW
Brelje & Race

JEFF CONNER
Aaction Rents

ART DEICKE
Environmental Pollution Solutions

CORINNA FERNANDEZ
PACE Supply

TRISHA MCCOMAS
Moss Adams LLP

VICTOR MCKNIGHT
InterWest Insurance

KEVIN NOONAN
Toby's Trucking

JEFF OKREPKE
George Petersen Insurance

RYAN WILD SICHI
Cal-West Rentals

GLENN SMITH
Smith Dollar PC

MARK SOILAND
Soiland Company

TROY SOILAND & SPENCER REID
Northgate Ready Mix

JAMES TRAPPE
Canyon Rock Co.

WALT TURNER
North Bay Petroleum

BILL WIGGINS
Trans Tech Consultants

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

JOHN BLY

MEMBER SERVICES DIRECTOR

MARY KENNEDY CABRERA

With that historical perspective in mind, I pledge to ECA President Mike Gulley I will do better in 2024 and hope he bestows favor upon me and my family!

That's All Folks

John



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. The new Board of Directors for 2024 Click [HERE](#) !

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.

**Recently, the City of Santa Rosa (led by Gabe Osborn) came to our Spec meeting and asked the ECA to review their proposed changes to their Storm Water Standard Drawings. Several Spec Committee members have provided feedback to the City and those comments will be considered in issuing the final version of the Storm Water Standards when they are adopted in June of 2024 by the City Council. Thanks to Dale of RCX, Rhet Paro of Pace, Bob Harder, and Geoff Coleman of BKF for their feedback to the City of Santa Rosa. These are the important "building blocks" of how to foster relationships and influence policies with local regulations! The proposed drawings and notes and comments from our ECA peeps are included here in this link: Click [HERE](#), [HERE](#), [HERE](#) and [HERE](#)!

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. If you have any opinion or thoughts on Chris Rogers, please share them with Art or me. Thank you! Your voice is important, and we want to hear from you!





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.

Services:

- Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA)
- Soil, Groundwater, Soil Vapor and Indoor Air Quality Investigations
- Remediation Services
- Hydrogeologic Assessments
- Watershed Management
- Project and Construction Management
- Indoor Air Compliance

Contact: (800) 474-1448 ~ (707) 792-9500
505 San Marin Drive, Suite A200, Novato, CA 94945
info@edclarkandassociates.com



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:

[Ghilotti Construction](#)—Premier Sponsor
[Advanced Stormwater Protection](#)—Awards & Gifts Sponsor
[Argonaut Constructors](#)—Presidents Reception
[NorthWest General Engineering](#)—Presidents' Reception
[Soiland Company](#)—Presidents Reception
[Trans Tech Consultants](#)—Hermesmeyer Hall of Fame Sponsor
[Aaction Rents](#)—Champagne Sponsor
[Cresco Equipment Rental](#)—Port & Cigar Bar
[Daniel O. Davis Inc.](#)—Wine Sponsor
[Engelke Construction](#)—Bar Sponsor

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!](#)



Cabrera & 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

From the Desk of Jim Persons

Hierarchy of Controls

Job sites are dangerous places and can have numerous hazards at any given moment. As employees, it is important to know how to protect yourself from these hazards by using controls.

There are typically multiple safeguards available at your disposal to control a single hazard, ranging in effectiveness.

To help evaluate these safeguards, in this toolbox talk we will discuss a safety mechanism known as “the hierarchy of controls” and provide an example of using it on the construction site to evaluate and mitigate risk.

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



TRANS TECH CONSULTANTS

Civil Engineers and Geologists

License # 697833 (A-Haz)

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

SAFETY TRAINING

CPR / First Aid

Thursday, January 4, 2024
9—11 am

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

Traffic Control / Flagger Training

Thursday, January 4, 2024
1– 3 pm

This certified course will instruct on the fundamentals of keeping workers safe on California Highways and roads, how to erect traffic control zones, handling emergency situations, and more!

Click [HERE](#) for flyer!

Competent Person Trenching & Excavation

Thursday, January 11, 2024
1– 3 pm

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

Click [HERE](#) for flyer!

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.



CORPORATE MEMBER SPONSORS



BUSINESS MEMBER SPONSORS



NEWS YOU CAN USE

CARB suspends new registration requirement-[New California Requirements for Heavy-Duty Vehicles and TRUs | California Air Resources Board](#)

SMART is coming to Windsor-expected to be the busiest terminal when completed-[SMART restarts work on long-awaited Windsor rail extension \(northbaybusinessjournal.com\)](#)

Excellence in Construction Awards-hope you were involved in these worthy projects-[Photos: 2023 North Bay Excellence in Construction Awards event \(northbaybusinessjournal.com\)](#)

Highway 37 gets big funding boost-[New State Grant Gives Big Boost to Hwy. 37 Upgrades | Metropolitan Transportation Commission \(ca.gov\)](#)

New Laws-[New California Laws, Santa Rosa Press Democrat, Bay Area Newspaper, CA news](#)

\$68 Billion Deficit-why worry???- [California becomes first state to offer health insurance to all eligible undocumented adults \(pressdemocrat.com\)](#)

Safe Schools??- [Santa Rosa students, parents and teachers are angry and traumatized over school violence. Will anything change? | PD Plus \(pressdemocrat.com\)](#)

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!



Kadon Trucking Inc.

Hauling Material to create where you drive, live, work,
and play since 1980!

Serving the counties of Sonoma, Napa, Marin,
Solano, Contra Costa, Lake,
Mendocino and more.

New location:

369 Todd Road
Santa Rosa, CA 95407
707-838-8008

Quality ~ Service ~ Experience

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