



March 18, 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.



What Happened to Presidential Humor?

Trump and Biden are not funny. I long for the old days when a President showed a sense of humor. I watched the State of the Union last week and got tired of seeing stern looks and shouting rather than the humor that we used to see in our Presidents. In the interest of fairness, when I watch Trump, it is not funny to see him bully and demean everyone from John McCain to Ron DeSantis. Past presidents disparaged people, but they did it with some actually funny comments rather than just mean cuts. I miss the old days where presidents could be funny!

Clinton, Reagan, George Bush, and Obama were all very funny. Very real. Those were the days---some examples:

Clinton and Bush-

<https://youtu.be/eI2HIwZT3FI>

Reagan-

<https://youtu.be/PUu2HKZGxJ4>

Obama-

<https://youtu.be/X2ATVUS23KM>

Fast forward to the two most recent Presidents and you see the demise of humor in politics:

Biden-

[The Funniest Moments from President Joe Biden's 2023 White House Correspondents' Dinner Speech \(yahoo.com\)](https://www.yahoo.com/news/funniest-moments-president-joe-biden-2023-white-house-correspondents-dinner-speech-123456789.html)

Trump-

[Donald Trump Funny Moments - Ultimate Compilation \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=123456789)

I think these clips show how far we have dropped in the humor department. If we could only find someone who can be President that actually can laugh and find humor in things these days, I think we all would rejoice.

Continue on page 2

Inside this issue

John's Soapbox.....	1
Board of Directors.....	2
Committee News.....	3
Upcoming Events.....	4
Public Officials Night.....	5
Workers Comp.....	6
Emergency Response manual.....	6
Fire Clean up List.....	6
From the Desk of Jim Persons.....	7
Workplace Violence Program.....	7
Safety Classes.....	8
Sustaining Members.....	9
News you can Use.....	10



**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 OKREPKIE
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

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

Continued from page 1

In the meantime, while we are waiting for a humorous President to come along, we can always pull up some truly funny comedic segments on our Presidents, and I am not including Jimmy Kimmel in that group. He is, in my opinion, decidedly not funny.

Here are some funny bits on Presidents:

Johnny Carson on Biden-

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XGXRvDT2k8I>

Alec Baldwin on Trump-

[15 Best Alec Baldwin Impressions of Donald Trump \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XGXRvDT2k8I)

And finally, my personal favorite of all time, a warm moment between Bush senior and Bush Jr.-Dana Carvey and Will Farrell on Bush and Bush-
[George H. W. Bush and George W. Bush Go Hunting - SNL \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XGXRvDT2k8I)

Now that is funny!!!!

That's All Folks,

John

Save the Dates for 2024!!!

Public Officials Night— Wednesday, April 10, The Backdrop
Father's Day "Show & Shine" Car Show—Sunday, June 16th, Juilliard Park
ECA's Golf Tournament, Windsor Golf Club—July 12, 2024 *NEW DATE*
Wine & Dozers Dinner and Auction—September 28, 2024, Graton Resort & Casino



COMMITTEE NEWS

ECA Executive Committee Meeting-next meeting is on Tuesday March 26, 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.

ECA Board of Director Meeting-next meeting will be held on Tuesday, Feb 27, 2024, from 12-1:30 pm. The Board of Directors meets in the NCBE main board room.

ECA Community Relations Committee-Chaired by Lacey Torkelson Smith, meets when there is a specific project to consider. Our current plan is to present the Children's Museum project to be considered on April 23, 2024, by our full Board of Directors.

ECA Specification Committee-chaired by Casey Wood of GBI and Dale Smith of RCX. We will next meet on Wednesday, March 27 from 4-5:30 pm in the conference room at NCBE.

ECA Public Officials Night on April 10, 2024, is our next ECA event. The new location will be **The Backdrop**, 1455 Corporate Center Parkway, Santa Rosa on April 10.



Kevin Ghilotti, Team Ghilotti &
Paul Stathatos, Top Volunteer

A Law Firm
BUILT
For Contractors

- Contracts & Collections
- Business Formation & Licensing
- Litigation & Disputes
- Mechanics Lien & Bond Claims
- Employment & Workplace Safety

\$ SmithDollar | (707) 522-1100

Father's Day "Show & Shine" Car Show

Sunday, June 16, 2024
Juilliard Park, Santa Rosa

Registration Flyer click [HERE!](#) To register online click [HERE!](#)
Sponsor opportunities click [HERE!](#)



PLATINUM
CHEVROLET
Santa Rosa

Showcase Sponsor

ECA's Annual Golf Tournament

Friday, July 12, 2024
Windsor Golf Club



To Register Click [HERE!](#)
To Sponsor Click [HERE!](#)



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



Public Officials Night!

Wednesday, April 10

5:30pm - 9:00pm

No Host Cocktails 5:30 p.m. - Dinner 7 p.m.

Place

The Backdrop

1455 Corporate Center Parkway, Santa Rosa

THE
BACKDROP

Jimmy's Catering Company



Premiere Sponsor

Click [HERE](#) to register!

Click [HERE](#) to sponsor!

Thank you to:

[Team Ghilotti](#) – Premier Sponsor!

[Ghilotti Construction](#)—Showcase Sponsor

[Ghilotti Bros Inc.](#) – Public Officials Sponsor

[Aaction Rents](#)—Raffle Sponsor

[Engelke Construction](#) – Raffle Sponsor

[Exchange Bank](#) – Bridge Award

[North Bay Petroleum](#)—Bridge Award

[Sound Ideas Media](#) – Video Sponsor

[Stevenson Supply & Tractor Co.](#) – Raffle Sponsor



Showcase 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

Distractions Near Machinery

Have you ever seen someone walking down the street using their cell phone? They always appear to be in their own little world, not paying attention to anything around them. They bump into other people, trip over things they should have seen, and have been known to get hit by cars.

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



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

Upcoming CPR/First Aid Classes

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

9 am—11 am

May 21—[Flyer](#)

June 18—[Flyer](#)

1 pm—3 pm

April 16 - [Flyer](#)

Contact mary@nceca.org for more information.



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



BUSINESS MEMBER SPONSORS



NEWS YOU CAN USE

Officials break ground on \$44 million Santa Rosa overpass upgrade 3 decades in the making.

Construction of a wider, safer Hearn Avenue overcrossing in south Santa Rosa is set to begin April 15 and last a little over two years. [READ MORE](#)

Smart announces temporary station closures. Here's where and why. Click [HERE](#) to read more.

California recommends huge cut to Solano County water allocation. Click [HERE](#) to read more.

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!





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