



“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.

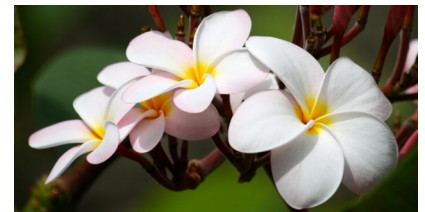
When I first attended a North Coast Builders Exchange Board retreat (it was at Bass Lake around 2002 or so), Bob Blanchard (City Council Person for the City of Santa Rosa) was the guest speaker. His speech motivated me to get involved in the local political arena as an influencer of some sort. Bob got up and spoke to the Directors at that meeting, and he described a special interest group that was present at City Hall at nearly every Council meeting. When this special interest group showed up, they were easy to recognize, and the Council members knew exactly what their public message was going to be at that week’s Council meeting. Their constant presence was effective.



Bob’s message to us 23 years ago, was that the building and engineering industry needed to show up and be heard at those meetings where our work is being voted on. **Bob’s metaphor was “show up for dinner or be eaten”.**

Our industry has never been great at showing up and being heard. We always seem to have some reason to not be there and be heard. I go back to when the City Council of Santa Rosa was deciding on their Project Labor Agreement back in October of 2022, and **nobody** showed up for the building industry to say the local workers would be negatively impacted should material suppliers and trucking be included under the City of Santa Rosa PLA. Instead, the Council heard a multitude of support from special interest groups who advocated for local quarries, local ready-mix concrete suppliers, and local asphalt plants as well as trucking, all be included under the PLA. When the Council members looked around the room for any dissenting opinions, there were none. Not surprisingly, the Council voted for a PLA that included local suppliers and local trucking to be under their PLA policy which effectively excludes many of our local workers who drive trucks, make rock, make asphalt, and make ready-mix concrete.

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At Here we are again. The County of Sonoma is hearing public discussion tomorrow 5-21-24, on whether to include local trucking under their new PLA/Community Workforce Agreement (CWA). Although the staff for the County have had seven meetings with the labor unions to negotiate terms for the new PLA/CWA, they have not been able to reach agreement with the unions on several key areas-in particular, **local trucking**.

In this newsletter, and in previous newsletters, I have promoted the idea of ECA members being heard at this May 21, 2024, Supervisor meeting. It is important for the Supervisors to hear from local workers who could be impacted by their decisions on who can and who cannot work on Sonoma County Public Works projects. We are not a group that makes public statements regarding labor issues, but I see this Sonoma County PLA/CWA as a "local worker issue", not a labor issue. It is appropriate that the Supervisors hear from company owners and workers who want to protect the rights of their local workers.

I do not know how the five supervisors will vote on this issue. I believe we have three Supervisors who believe local workers should be allowed to drive trucks and deliver materials to the project sites on future County projects. The email addresses of the Supervisors can be found [HERE](#) and here is the agenda item and staff report on the issue to be discussed tomorrow, 5-21-24.

***Item 49 of the Sonoma County Supervisor Meeting Agenda-[SONOMA COUNTY - Calendar \(legistar.com\)](#) Click on agenda**

***Staff Report on PLA Discussion-[SONOMA COUNTY - File #: 2024-0273 \(legistar.com\)](#)**

Don't let "later become never". Protect our local workers on 5-21-24 by showing up at the afternoon (1:30pm) session or sending in an email letting the Supes know how you feel. As the late great Bob Blanchard said, "show up for the meal, or be eaten". Don't be eaten.

That's All Folks

John



ON DEMAND TRAINING

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—\$45 per person ~ 2 hrs for Supervisors \$60 per person





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!](#)

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ECA's Annual Golf Tournament

Friday, July 12, 2024
Windsor Golf Club



To Register Click [HERE!](#)

To Sponsor Click [HERE!](#)

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SAFETY CORNER

Safety Classes - Please be sure to use ECA for your safety classes to keep up to date with all the requirements.

Contact Mary to set up any classes you may need. mary@nceca.org.

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

June 18—[Flyer](#)

Upcoming Active Violence Emergency Response Training

Go Beyond Active Shooter Response Training. While other programs focus solely on active shooter or stop the bleed, AVERT goes beyond by combining both of these important topics in one training program.

When active violence occurs, seconds count, and you can't always wait for EMS to arrive. AVERT enables you and your team to become immediate responders.

No later than July 1, 2024, covered California employers must implement extensive workplace violence prevention plans. Click [HERE](#) to read more.

Wednesday, May 29th—[Flyer](#)

1 pm—2:30 pm

Friday, June 28—[Flyer](#)

9 am—11:30 am



From the Desk of Jim Persons

How To Avoid Electrocution from Overhead Power Lines

The best way to avoid someone getting electrocuted from a power line is to not go near them whatsoever. However, depending on the task and jobsite, which may not always be possible. When you are working on a jobsite and not able to completely stay clear of power lines, here are some safety precautions that should be taken.

Click [HERE](#) to read more. [HERE](#)



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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CALIFORNIA’S NEW WORKPLACE VIOLENCE PREVENTION REQUIREMENTS

No later than July 1, 2024, covered California employers must implement extensive workplace violence prevention plans (WVPP) and deliver specified training to employees under new legislation signed by Governor Gavin Newsom on September 30, 2023. In order to comply on time – including preparing plans that are “*specific to the hazards and corrective measures for each work area*” as required – employers will need to prepare early.

Senate Bill 533 adds section 6401.9 to the California Labor Code. The legislation is intended to help employers prevent and respond effectively to workplace violence.

Covered employers must deliver the training to all employees no later than July 1, 2024, and annually thereafter.

Click [HERE](#) to read more.



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NEWS YOU CAN USE

1. **County of Sonoma PLA Negotiations Are at an Impasse Regarding Local Trucking**-on May 21, 2024, the Board of Supervisors will have a public hearing on whether to include local trucking under their new PLA policy. As many of you know, if you want to write a letter to the Supes, or better yet, show up on May 21, your voice can be heard regarding this potential huge impact on our local workforce.

Click on this [HERE](#) to see a possible sample letter to write to the Supervisors asking them to protect the local workforce!

2. Sonoma County awards Ghilotti Construction Company sitework contract for their Tiera De Rosas development in Roseland-[Sonoma County awards Ghilotti Construction Co. \\$14.8 million contract for Roseland development infrastructure work - The North Bay Business Journal](#)
3. Sonoma County Roads Projects-[Sonoma County announces 2024 paving and construction season, encourages road users to plan ahead, follow detours and go slow \(ca.gov\)](#)
4. Sonoma County Water Agency projects bid results and projects out to bid-[Sonoma Water - Projects Out to Bid](#)

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Larry Richmond, Mill Creek Safety

All classes are taught by Larry Richmond. Larry is an OSHA Outreach Instructor, and is up to date with the latest requirements in the safety world. He is a Construction and Health Safety Technician (CHST) and a member of the Board of Certified Safety Professionals® (BCSP®). His career includes 23 years as owner and Safety Manager for Richmond Construction, CA State Credentialed Instructor for Career Technical Education in Construction Technology, and he is an Adult Education Instructor for Sonoma County Office of Education.



Mill Creek Safety

- * Save the lives of friends, family, and co-workers
- * Maintain a safe and healthy environment for your employees.
- * Avoid costly OSHA fines and penalties.
- * Reduce your liability costs.
- * See page 6 for upcoming classes.

[Mill Creek Safety](#)

Save the Dates for 2024!!!

Father's Day "Show & Shine" Car Show—Sunday, June 16th, Juilliard Park
ECA's Golf Tournament, Windsor Golf Club—July 12, 2024
Wine & Dozers Dinner and Auction—September 28, 2024, Graton Resort & Casino

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

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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COMMITTEE NEWS

1. **Government Affairs Committee**-Chair Art Deicke and John are reviewing and tracking several possible State bills that could make the ballot in November. More to come as these bills work through committees in Sacramento.
2. **Community Relations Committee**-Chaired by Lacey Torkalson Smith, met and presented a possible new Community Relations Project for the Board to consider on Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at the Children's Museum. The ECA conditioned their support on the Children's Museum getting proper permits before we fully commit. We are waiting to see their results on this. The latest news we hear from the Children's Museum team is that they are going to have to get a grading permit and that process has not started quite yet.
3. **Father's Day Show and Shine Car Show Committee**-chaired by Walt Turner went into Sonoma Media two weeks ago and recorded a promo for the 2024 Father's Day Car Show on June 16, 2024, at Julliard Park in Santa Rosa.
4. **Days of Wine and Dozers Auction Committee**-The committee is meeting this week at Graton to start planning the event. We welcome anyone that would like to join the committee or help on the day of. Any volunteers? This is our biggest fundraiser of the year folks! Whether you want to participate on the committee or not, can you make sure you invite some of your friends who would enjoy the evening and have the ability to bid on some of the great items that are always available?
5. **ECA Specifications Committee**-chaired by Dale Smith and Casey Wood, will be meeting soon to discuss new site water drainage requirements to be imposed by the North Coast Regional Water Control Board. After reaching out to both Nick Sudano from the City of Santa Rosa and the North Coast Regional Water Board, the ECA has heard that the new rules are not yet in place, and it would be too early to meet regarding those new rules for water drainage on project sites. We will wait until July to discuss further.
6. **ECA Golf Committee**-no new news but the tournament is getting signups and sponsors and will undoubtedly be a big success as it has been for many years because of you ECA members!





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