



November 11, 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.

If you are a Newsom fan, you probably should not read this soapbox. This Soapbox is critical to Newsom. You have been warned!

Armistice Day/Veterans Day

Veterans Day is a U.S. legal holiday dedicated to American veterans of all wars, and Veterans Day 2024 will occur on Monday, November 11. In 1918, on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, was declared between the Allied nations and Germany in World War I, then known as “the Great War.”

Commemorated in many countries as Armistice Day the following year, November 11th became a federal holiday in the United States in 1938. In the aftermath of World War II and the Korean War, Armistice Day became known as Veterans Day.

The [Treaty of Versailles](#) was signed on June 28, 1919, marking the official end of [World War I](#). Nonetheless, the armistice date of November 11, 1918, remained in the public imagination as the date that marked the end of the conflict.

One year later, in November 1919, U.S. President [Woodrow Wilson](#) proclaimed November 11 as the first commemoration of Armistice Day. The day’s observation included parades and public gatherings, as well as a brief pause in business and school activities at 11 a.m.

On November 11, 1921, an unidentified American soldier killed in the war was buried at [Arlington National Cemetery](#) near Washington, D.C. On the same day the previous year, unidentified soldiers were laid to rest at [Westminster Abbey](#) in London and at the Arc de Triomphe in Paris.

In 1954, after lobbying efforts by veterans’ service organizations, the 83rd U.S. Congress amended the 1938 act that had made Armistice Day a holiday, striking the word “Armistice” in favor of “Veterans.” President [Dwight D. Eisenhower](#) signed the legislation on June 1, 1954. From then on, November 11 became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.

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Great Britain, France, Australia and Canada also commemorate the veterans of World War I and II on or near November 11th: Canada has Remembrance Day, while Britain has Remembrance Sunday (the second Sunday of November). In Europe, Great Britain and the Commonwealth countries it is common to observe two minutes of silence at 11 a.m. every November 11.

[14 Quotes Honoring US Veterans | HISTORY](#)

Thank you to all of those that served our country to make us free and safe.

That's All Folks!

John

NEWS YOU CAN USE

1. **What does Trump's victory mean for Construction?** [What Trump's victory could mean for US construction - Construction Briefing](#)
2. **The elections are over!!! Thank Goodness. ECA endorsements resulted in a few "victories" and a few "losses". It is with great regret that we will say goodbye to Petaluma Council member Mike Healy. He did a lot of good for Petaluma but was on the wrong side of the building height issue which separated him from Barnacle (who beat him).**
3. **SMART Gets Funding to Extend to Healdsburg-**[SMART gets \\$81 million grant for expansion to Healdsburg - The North Bay Business Journal](#)
4. **Farmers Lane Extension-not dead yet, but is the Vehicle Miles Travelled Climate Change issue going to kill it?** [Farmers Lane extension remains in Santa Rosa's long-range plans despite little progress - The North Bay Business Journal](#)
5. **60 acres of Development begins the environmental review process for Hannah Ranch-**[Construction, North Bay Business Journal, Bay Area Newspaper, CA news](#)
6. **Excellence in Construction Awards list-**[NBBJ Excellence in Construction Awards - The North Bay Business Journal](#)
7. **School Bond Measures still in favor for North Bay voters-**[Seven of 10 Sonoma County school bonds appear headed for approval - The North Bay Business Journal](#)
8. **The reasons behind SMART getting their funding to go to Healdsburg with rail service-**[SMART's Healdsburg extension gets Plan Bay Area boost - The North Bay Business Journal](#)
9. Join SMART for their Grand Opening of the SMART pathway from McInnis Parkway to Smith Ranch Road on **Friday, November 22, 2024, at 12:00 p.m., at McInnis Parkway in San Rafael.** [Please RSVP for the Grand Opening of the SMART Pathway at McInnis Parkway](#) [SMART Pathway from McInnis Parkway to Smith Ranch Road](#) | [Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit](#)

COMMITTEE NEWS

1. The next ECA Executive Meeting will be held at 11:00 AM to 12:00pm on **Tuesday, January 28, 2025**, in the NCBE small conference room followed by the Strategic Planning Retreat by the ECA Board of Directors
2. The ECA Golf Committee-no meeting scheduled yet. The 2025 Tournament will be held at Windsor on Friday, June 11, 2025
3. The ECA Auction Committee has no meeting scheduled yet. Chair for 2025 is Corinna Fernandez of Pace Supplies! The Annual Days of Wine and Dozers Dinner and Auction will be held on November 1, 2025, at the Graton Event Center in Rohnert Park.
4. The ECA Public Officials Night will be held at the Becoming Independent event center on Wednesday, April 23, 2025
5. The ECA Installation and Awards Dinner will be held at Hyatt Regency Sonoma County Wine Country, on Feb 1, 2025. Award winners to be honored are: **Volunteers of the Year**, Stephen Knuttel, The ECA Group; **Contractor of the Year**, NorthWest General Engineering; **Affiliate of the Year**, Canyon Rock; **Ambassador Award**, Mark Soiland, Soiland Company; The **Hermesmeyer Hall of Fame Award** will be awarded to Troy Soiland, Northgate Ready Mix and Posthumous – Randy Parker, North Bay Petroleum
6. The ECA Father’s Day Show and Shine Car Show will be held at Julliard Park in Santa Rosa on Father’s Day, June 15, 2025.
7. **ECA Annual General Membership Meeting** to be held at Sally Tomatoes in Rohnert Park on Tuesday, November 26, 12-2pm. Sponsored by Northgate ReadyMix, BoDean, and TransTech Consultants, as well as all of our sustaining members RCX, Inc., NorthWest General Engineering, Soiland Co., Team Ghilotti, Broderick General Engineering, Ghilotti Bros., Sonoma Media Group, Ghilotti Construction, Herc Rentals, United Rentals Trench Safety, the discussion by speakers David Rabbitt, James Cameron, Eddy Cummins and Grant Davis should be very informative! Sign up now!
8. Check out our updated website! [Northern California Engineering Contractors Association | NCE Northern California](#)

Save the Dates!

Genera!! Membership Meeting - Tuesday, November 26
Installation & Awards Dinner - Saturday, February 1, 2025
Public Officials Night - Wednesday, April 23, 2025
Father's Day Car Show - Sunday, June 15, 2025
ECA Golf Tournament - Friday, July11, 2025
Wine & Dozers Auction—Saturday, November 1, 2025

The Sonoma County Field of Honor opened Sunday with a ceremony at Wing & Barrel Ranch, where rows of flags waved in tribute to veterans, active-duty military and first responders.

Visitors there can view a display of 1,000 American flags, each dedicated to someone who has served the country.

The display remains open Veterans Day, Monday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and again Saturday, with a closing ceremony from 11 a.m. to noon.

Team Ghilotti wants to thank those that participated in this very important tribute to our Veterans.



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Noon—2 pm

Tuesday, November 26

Sally Tomatoes

1100 Valley House Dr, Rohnert Park.

Our speakers will include:

Supervisor David Rabbitt and James Cameron, SCTA on all the auto roadway improvements being planned for, **Eddy Cumins, SMART** on the SMART train track and station projects extending to Healdsburg, Sonoma County Water agency's **Grant Davis, Sonoma Water** and senior staff official on the latest news from the Potter Valley/Eel River water diversions affecting our water supply as well as a proposed new reservoir and electrical generating facility at Warm Springs Dam.

To Register click [HERE](#)



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Photos from the ECA's Wine & Dozers Auction

Thank you again irenececilia.com!

Click [HERE](#) to see the photos on our Facebook page!



From the Desk of Jim Persons

Keep Your Hands on Safety

Like your eyes, your hands are one of the most important parts of your body. They are involved in almost everything you do. Yet many things you do with your hands are done without thought. Your hands have no fear. They will go anyplace they are sent, and they only act as wisely as you. So, before you use your hands, think of their safekeeping.

Click [HERE](#) to read more.



Workplace Violence Program

Implemented – 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 or sign up for an upcoming class!



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We want to highlight a member each week in our MEMBER SPOTLIGHT. What we need from you is a short paragraph on what is happening at your company. New employees, new logo, a new move, exciting news, an update on your company or 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!



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A background image for the law firm advertisement showing a construction site with a yellow level, blueprints, and a ruler.

The logo for SmithDollar, featuring a stylized 'S' and 'D' inside a circle.

SmithDollar | (707) 522-1100

SAFETY CORNER

Competent Person Trenching & Excavation

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

This class is with NCBE

Tuesday, November 12 / 1 pm–3 pm

Click [HERE](#) for flyer

CPR / First Aid

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.

Wednesday, January 8 / 1– 3 pm

Click [HERE](#) for January flyer

Confined Space

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.

Wednesday, December 4 / 1 pm–3 pm

Wednesday, January 15 / 1– 3– pm

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

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

Competent Person Trenching & Excavation

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

Wednesday, December 11 / 1 pm–3:30 pm

Thursday, January 16 / 1–3:30 pm

Click [HERE](#) for December flyer.

Click [HERE](#) for January flyer.

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

EMERGENCY RESPONSE MANUAL

In the event of an emergency, we have put together the Emergency Response Manual to help our community receive quick service from our members. The manual 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 2023-2024 manual.

It is time to update the Emergency Response Manual. Help us gather this important information so that we can best serve our community in the case of an emergency.

Please fill out your contact information to the attached form, and email to mary@nceca.org.

If you have any questions, call Mary at 707.546.5500 or mary@nceca.org. Thanks!

Click [HERE](#) for the emergency contact form

Click [HERE](#) to sponsor in the Emergency Response 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](#)

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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

Come connect, collaborate, learn, and communicate with us in Healdsburg this December!

The Co-Permittees of the Russian River Watershed are excited to announce that registration for our free Annual Low Impact Development training is now open.

Title: 2024 Annual Low-Impact Development Training for the Russian River Watershed

Date: Thursday, December 5, 2024

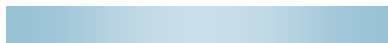
Time: 8:00a.m. – 12:00p.m. PST

Register Here: <https://stormwaterlidtraining2024.bpt.me/>

Intended for Private Design & Development Community and Public Agency Staff responsible for the design, compliance, or review of LID measures. This year's training will include case studies, discussions, and presentations including private industry civil engineers, municipal staff, and representatives from the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board. Topics will include:

- Stormwater Calculator: A Design Engineer's Perspective
- Final SWLID Submittals
- FAQs
- Design/Installation Challenges
- Future of LID Manual and Calculator Updates

All participants are encouraged to attend in person; however, a virtual on-line option will be available (read instructions carefully). Space is limited and an RSVP is required.



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!