



November 25, 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.

### “Get Your Mind Right”

#### It is that time of year fellow ECA’ers!

I know I try to wake up every day and not worry about world affairs, local weather, how bad the 49ers season is going, or how bad my golf game is. That is a “glass half empty” way of approaching my day. Thanksgiving resets me to a certain extent, to a “glass half full” sort of approaching my day.

I am blessed to have 6 grandchildren of my own, and Debra has three of her own. Eight of nine are boys. Those energetic young people fill my life with joy, love, and purpose every day that I allow my mind and heart to embrace them. Once a year, at Thanksgiving, I try to reset my mind so I allow that daily embrace.

I am sure most of you have just as much to be thankful for. We all have setbacks, and challenges, but try to look around you and be mindful of your blessings-I think thankfulness will follow that mindfulness.

To each and every one of my ECA brothers and sisters, I am mindful of you and thankful for what you have given me for 14 years plus now. I have great friendships, tremendous knowledge, awareness, and far more compassion for those less fortunate than myself because of my ECA involvement over the years. I think my mind is right this week thanks in large part to all of you, and to my family and other friends!

Thank you all for the opportunity to serve your association interests, but more importantly, thank you all for your support and friendship over the years. I do not take it lightly, and never will.

I wish you all the very best of Thanksgiving memories this week, and hopefully, we can “get our minds right” (like Cool Hand Luke) and be mindful and thankful for all our blessings!

Peace out!

That’s All Folks!  
John



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## NEWS YOU CAN USE

2023

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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### EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

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### MEMBER SERVICES DIRECTOR

MARY KENNEDY CABRERA

1. **Don't forget to file your BOI by January 1, 2025:** [Beneficial Ownership Information Reporting | FinCEN.gov](#)
2. **Gen Z Looking For Careers-Let's Help Them Find One!**- Gen Z is seeking trade careers. Here's how to keep them  
Gen Z is increasingly opting for trades over traditional degrees, driven by job stability, competitive wages and technological integration. To retain these workers, construction companies should offer clear career development, entrepreneurial pathways, tech-forward training, competitive pay and benefits that align with Gen Z values, writes Kit Dickinson from ADP. Full Story: For Construction Pros
3. **Democrat sees good potential for builders under Trump**  
Patrick Murphy, a former Democratic congressman, current chief information officer at Coastal Construction and CEO of AI estimation company Tocal.ai, sees potential benefits of a Trump administration for builders, including regulatory streamlining, AI-driven efficiency, and pro-growth policies like tax cuts and zoning reforms. However, Murphy is concerned about proposed tariffs and immigration policies, which could drive up costs and worsen labor shortages. Full Story: Construction Dive
4. **Construction input prices remain stable in Oct.**  
Construction input and bid prices remained relatively stable in October, with material and service inputs showing minimal month-to-month changes but reflecting a 37% cumulative increase since February 2020, far outpacing general consumer inflation. November ballot measures across the US secured significant funding for infrastructure and transit, but school construction had mixed results at the polls. Full Story: Construction Citizen
5. **Who Will Prove To Be Correct?**- Fossil fuel development poised to grow under Trump  
President-elect Donald Trump has selected nominees for key cabinet positions affecting construction, including Doug Burgum for Interior Secretary, Chris Wright for Energy Secretary, and Lee Zeldin to head the Environmental Protection Agency, signaling a shift towards fossil fuel development and deregulation. Critics argue that these choices, particularly Wright and Burgum, could undermine environmental protections and accelerate climate change, while proponents emphasize their focus on streamlining regulations and boosting US energy dominance. Full Story: Engineering News-Record (tiered subscription model)
6. **\$175M San Francisco beach protection plan approved**  
The California Coastal Commission has approved San Francisco's \$175 million plan to protect subsurface wastewater infrastructure along Ocean Beach, including the Lake Merced Tunnel. The 10-year project will include building a seawall, a multi-use recreational trail and dune habitat restoration while addressing erosion and stormwater overflow concerns. Full Story: The Construction Broadsheet.
7. **Windsor Koi Nation Project Gets Closer To Reality-**  
<https://www.northbaybusinessjournal.com/article/news/koi-nation-casino-windsor/>
8. **One Developer is Bullish On Warehouse Construction-Dermody Properties optimistic despite sluggish Northern California market - The North Bay**



[Contact Aaction Rents in Windsor, Santa Rosa, Vacaville, Fulton, Healdsburg, & Ukiah CA](#)

## Save the Dates!

General 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, July 11, 2025  
Wine & Dozers Auction—Saturday, November 1, 2025

## Toys 4 Tots

United Rentals Trench Safety is collecting toys for Toys for Tots!

They have a drop off bin located at their office at **3963 Santa Rosa Ave. Santa Rosa**  
If you are unable to drop off your donations, a sales rep will come pick up!  
They are asking that it is a \$10 value toy unwrapped.



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**Rain is here! Good time to sign  
up for our safety classes.  
See page 8 for upcoming classes.**

Larry Richmond, Mill Creek Safety



# Planes, Trains & Water

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.

For the Registration Flyer click [HERE](#)



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Photos from the ECA's Wine & Dozers Auction

Thank you again [irenececilia.com](http://irenececilia.com)!

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



## From the Desk of Jim Persons

### Diesel Exhaust Dangers and Safeguards

On construction sites, mines, and other types of work sites, diesel engines are used frequently. Diesel engines power everything from water pumps to heavy equipment that allows for day-to-day activities to be completed efficiently.

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](mailto:jimpersons@safetypride.com) or phone: 707-889-0881 or sign up for an upcoming class!



### 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](mailto:info@TransTechConsultants.com)

Office (707) 837-8408 or after hours (707) 478-2097



**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](mailto:mary@nceca.org) with your spotlight information and send in photos if you have them!



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**\$ SmithDollar** | (707) 522-1100

The advertisement features a background image of architectural blueprints, a yellow level, and a ruler on a wooden surface. The text is overlaid on this image.

## SAFETY CORNER

### 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](mailto:mary@nceca.org).

If you have any questions, call Mary at 707.546.5500 or [mary@nceca.org](mailto: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](#)

**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.

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### Northern California Engineering Contractors Association

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John Bly, Executive Vice President  
email: [john@nceca.org](mailto:john@nceca.org)

Mary Kennedy Cabrera, Member Services Director  
email: [mary@nceca.org](mailto:mary@nceca.org)

Cheryl Long, Bookkeeper  
email: [cheryl@nceca.org](mailto: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

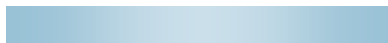
**Time:** 8:00a.m. – 12:00p.m. PST

**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](mailto:mary@nceca.org) ~ We would love to have you!