



November 24, 2025

"CONSTRUCTING A WAY FOR A BETTER FUTURE"

ECA Newsletter

John's 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.

In This Edition:

Soapbox-It is time to give thanks.

Don't Be a Turkey, Have a Thanksgiving Attitude Every Day of the Year



The spirit of Thanksgiving initially was to gather family and friends and give thanks to the bountiful harvest that sustained the early pilgrims. I do not believe much has changed in the last 250 years.



Enjoy your family and friends and the bountiful freedoms you have.

Have a Thanksgiving attitude with you every day of the year!!

That's All Folks!
John



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JOB LISTING

Receptionist/Administrative Assistant

Santa Rosa, CA

Part-time M-F 1pm—5pm

Small engineering office looking for a dependable, self-motivated, organized person with attention to detail. Ability to work independently and collaboratively with direction from executive staff.

Some tasks include answering phones, emails, copying, scanning, emailing documents, data entry, filing, electronic filing, general administrative duties along with special projects as needed to support the staff.

Computer skills with Outlook, Excel, MS Word

Send resumes to admin@jmteng.com



TOGETHER WE CAN!

Join Redwood Credit Union, A Simple Gesture and North Coast Builders Exchange as we collect food for families in need. Together, we can make a meaningful difference — right from your doorstep. Scan to QR Code to register and leave non-perishable food items on your doorstep on A Simple Gesture's food pick-up dates.

For each donor who enrolls, the North Bay Construction Corps will receive a \$10 donation.

PANTRY LIST:

- Natural Peanut Butter
- Canned Proteins like Tuna
- Pasta, Rice & Beans
- Healthy Cereal, Oatmeal & Breakfast Bars
- Shelf Stable Milk
- Canned Soup
- Canned Vegetables and Fruits
- Energy Bars, Nuts & Raisins
- Cooking Oil, Cornstarch & Sugar
- Ziplock & Garbage Bags

Use the above flyer. For every person who uses the QR Code on the flyer, RCU and A Simple Gesture will donate \$10 to the North Bay Construction Corps.

There is also a bin at NCBE, 1030 Apollo Way, Santa Rosa for food donations.

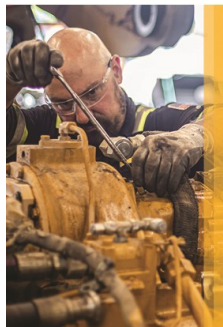
COMMITTEE NEWS

- A. **ECA Executive Committee** Recurring Meeting (Dan Giordani President, Kimber Lenning Carpenter Vice-President, Matt Storm Treasurer, Casey Wood Secretary, Mike Gulley Past President) **Every Last Tuesday** (this is a change!!) of the month from 11:00am-12:00pm from January through October, Place NCBE small conference room 1030 Apollo Way, Santa Rosa, CA - next meeting Tuesday February 23, 2026 from 11:00am to 12:00pm
- B. **ECA Board of Directors** Recurring Meeting – **Every Last Tuesday** (this is a change!) of the month from 12:00pm -1:30pm from January through October, Place – NCBE Main Board Room 1030 Apollo Way, Santa Rosa, CA – next meeting Tuesday January 27, 2026, from 12:00pm to 1:30pm. This is our first meeting of the year, and we will do strategic planning for the year so Directors, please don't miss this meeting!
- C. **ECA Government Affairs Committee** recurring meetings will be every last Tuesday starting in January 2026, from 1:45 pm to 3:30 pm- (Chair John Bly, Members Ross Liscum, Keith Woods, Joanne Webster, Dale Mahoney, Mark Soiland, Mike Wolff, John Reid, and Aimi Dutra).
- D. **ECA Spec Meeting**-Recurring Meetings will be every last Wednesday of the month from January 2026 through October 2026 from 3:00pm to 5:00pm, Place-NCBE Main Board Room, 1030 Apollo Way, Santa Rosa, CA – Next meeting will be Wednesday, January 28, 2026, from 3-5:00pm.
- E. **ECA Nominating Committee** will meet after the 1st of the year to nominate the Bridge Award and the Golden Hardhat Awards for 2026.
- F. **ECA 50 Year Anniversary Committee will meet as needed.**
- G. **ECA Community Relations Committee will meet as needed.**

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Save the Date!

48th Annual ECA Installation & Awards Dinner

Saturday, January 31, 2026
Santa Rosa Golf & Country Club

To Sponsor click [HERE](#)

We are honoring the following at the Awards Dinner

Contractor of the Year—Western Waters
Affiliate of the Year—Toby's Trucking
Hermsmeyer Hall of Fame – Louie Gobbi, Heavy Equipment Rentals
Hermsmeyer Hall of Fame, Posthumous – Frank Palagi, Ghilotti Bros Inc.

Photos from the Annual General Membership Meeting PACE Supply—Premier Sponsor



Steve Lederer, Napa County Director of Public Works



James Cameron, Executive Director
SCTCA



Dan Hennessey, Director, Transportation & Public
Works Dept, City of Santa Rosa



Johannes J. Hoevertsz, Director, Sonoma County
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Janice Thompson, Retired, Deputy Director
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NEWS YOU CAN USE

- A. If you missed the annual general membership meeting, you missed a great meeting about upcoming projects that with proper planning, could really help your business for the next 2 years. Here is the presentations from SCTA. Click [HERE](#).
Click [HERE](#) for the interview with John Bly in Between the Ditches with Paul Foley, Bulk Exchange
- A. Your annual dues billing will be coming in December 2025. Please tell your Accounts department to let you know when it arrives so you can get it paid right away, please!
- B. How contractors can benefit from new tax law:
The One Big Beautiful Bill Act provides long-term tax stability for construction firms by making permanent policies such as 100% bonus depreciation and the 20% Qualified Business Income deduction. Contractors should leverage these changes before year-end to improve cash flow and capitalize on disappearing incentives, writes Chris Coleman, partner-in-charge of RubinBrown's Construction Services Group.
- D. DOTs put off DBE goals to recertify firms under new rule
State departments of transportation have paused Disadvantaged Business Enterprise goals as they recertify about 41,000 firms under a new rule that no longer allows automatic qualification based on sex or race. Women- and minority-owned businesses must now provide a personal narrative and financial disclosure to demonstrate disadvantage, but cannot cite sex or race as a reason. "The DBE certification is the only way for many of them to compete against the larger, private-equity backed firms," says Danielle Dietrich, a partner at Potomac Law Group. "It's absolutely worth the time and effort for them to put together the personal narrative and new personal net worth statement if it means more of a chance of keeping their business alive."
- E. The Environmental Protection Agency and the Army Corps of Engineers have issued a proposed rule to clarify which wetlands and bodies of water qualify as Waters of the United States and thus require federal permits for construction projects that could affect them. The rule seeks to codify the Supreme Court's 2023 decision in Sackett v. EPA, which limited federal protections to bodies of water with a continuous surface connection to navigable waters. The rule has support from industry groups such as the American Road and Transportation Builders Association and Associated Builders and Contractors, but environmental groups argue it could harm water quality by excluding many wetlands and streams from federal oversight.
- F. I hope you worked your way into doing the site work and infrastructure work for Rohnert Park's new downtown center, because it is moving forward! [A new downtown in four years? Rohnert Park approves plan to add 'missing heart' to city](#)
- G. 15 Local Projects Win Awards! [Profiles of the 15 winners of North Bay Business Journal's Excellence in Construction Awards of 2025](#)

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!

From the Desk of Jim Persons

HEAVY EQUIPMENT SAFETY

Operation of heavy equipment such as excavators, loaders, graders, rollers, and bulldozers, should always be done by qualified operators who have demonstrated the ability and necessary skills to operate safely.

To continue reading

Click [HERE](#)



2025 Annual Low-Impact Development Training

for the Russian River Watershed

Intended for Private Design Community and Public Agency Staff responsible for the design, compliance, or review of LID measures.

Training Topics Include:

- LID Requirements
- Stormwater Calculator
- Plan Review
- Final SWLID Submittals
- Common Construction Issues
- Q&A (including RWQCB staff)

QR Code: 

RSVP Required:
<https://tinyurl.com/mtrmdr88>

Date: Thursday, December 4th, 2025

Time: 8a.m. – 12p.m.

Location: Healdsburg City Council Chamber
401 Grove Street
Healdsburg, CA 95448

Virtual on-line option available upon request

In Partnership with:



ECA & NCBE SAFETY & EDUCATION TRAINING

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December:

12/2/25

Fall Protection "Competent Person" - English & Spanish

<https://members.ncbeonline.com/events/Fall-Protection-Competent-Person-English-Spanish-2257/details>

12/9/25

CPR + First Aid December - English and Spanish

<https://members.ncbeonline.com/events/CPR-First-Aid-December-English-and-Spanish-2227/details>

12/12/25

Confined Space "Competent Person" - English & Spanish

<https://members.ncbeonline.com/events/Confined-Space-Competent-Person-English-Spanish-2261/details>



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USEFUL LINKS TO SUPPORT YOUR BUSINESS

- A. Resilient 37 Policy Committee Meetings (open to the public) – Next meeting March 6, 9:30-11:30 am-link [State Route 37 Policy Committee - Sonoma County Transportation Authority](#)
- B. Metropolitan Transportation Commission website-link [Meetings & Events | Metropolitan Transportation Commission](#)
- C. Sonoma County Transportation Authority-link [Sonoma County Transportation Authority | SCTA](#)
- D. Transportation Authority of Marin Website-link [Transportation Authority of Marin](#)
- E. Marin Builders Exchange website-link [Home - Marin Builders Association, CA](#)
- F. North Coast Builders Exchange website-link [North Coast Builders Exchange – NCBE Online](#)



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info@edclarkandassociates.com

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 ~ 2025—2026

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 2025-2026 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!





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NORTH BAY CONSTRUCTION CORPS

Training The Next Generation of Construction Workers

The North Bay Construction Corps (NBCC) is an after-school, 3-month basic construction training program for seniors in their last semester of high school. Classes are taught by local contractors and construction managers. Participants are introduced to a variety of trades and earn certifications in Personal Protective Equipment and CPR/First Aid.

Each meeting is led by a contractor or tradesperson who presents information about his/her particular trade and then leads students through a hands-on skill-building activity. There is a strong focus on safety awareness at each meeting.

2025 NBCC Schedule: Click [HERE](#)

For additional information, contact: NBCC Sonoma: Mackenzie Smith
(707) 542-9502 / mackenzie@ncbeonline.com



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Northern California Engineering Contractors Association

The ECA, and its Board of Directors, has been the voice of the engineering construction industry for almost 50 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.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA ENGINEERING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION

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Mary Kennedy Cabrera, Member Services Director
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Cheryl Long, Bookkeeper
email: cheryl@nceca.org

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