



CEAC Newsletter

December
2020

Editor: Pat DeChellis

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All Materials Submitted are Subject to the "3 R's":

- Review**
- Revision**
- Rejection**

President's Message

by **Jim Porter**,
Director of Public Works
San Mateo County



First, let me begin by expressing my gratitude to the CEAC membership and the CLODS for the opportunity to serve as President. I've participated in several professional organizations, but CEAC has been the most beneficial to me both professionally and personally in the 13 years I've been a member. I've learned a lot and forged great friendships that will last a lifetime. I'll do my best to ensure that CEAC continues to be a leader in California and provide value to our members.

Speaking of members, I'd like to congratulate our **2020 Engineer of the Year award** winners **Mark Pestrella**, LA County and **Patty Romo**, Riverside County and **2020 Surveyor of the Year** winner **Russ Marks**, Mariposa County! You are truly leaders in our field. Well deserved!

2020 – What a year! I never dreamed that our lives would be turned upside down in so short a period. We all learned to adapt in providing services to our constituents during the COVID pandemic while keeping our staff safe and healthy. And when we crossed that hurdle, many of us were faced with wildfires, extreme heat, and Public Safety Power Shut-downs. And if that wasn't enough, we're now entering the debris flow season. I've always believed that we're only given as much as we can handle, but enough is enough! Let's just hope the Murder Hornets stay in Washington state. I've dubbed 2021 the Year of the Vaccine, and the news has been promising. Fingers crossed on an early distribution.

Over the past few years, CEAC leadership has been working to make sure that the organization continues to provide value to our members. This year was a great example of how it's working. Past President Rick Tippett took the lead when COVID hit and set up regular check-in meetings that allowed members to share best practices in providing services under COVID restrictions. I personally benefitted from hearing the best practices being implemented by other county leaders to keep employees safe, and how they dealt with exposures when they occurred. I hope you did as well. Thank you, Rick, for your leadership



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

during a truly difficult year. This strange period also solidified my belief that our members are our greatest asset. When faced with a challenge, county engineers find a way to conquer it. During the upcoming year, I'd like to continue the information sharing that worked so well during the pandemic. There is an amazing amount of knowledge held by our members on a variety of topics. Moving forward, I will be asking our Policy Committee Chairs and Regional Directors to lead webinars on topics of interest that they feel will benefit us all. If you don't hold one of those positions and have a topic you'd like to highlight, please let me know and we'll facilitate a CEAC learning session. There's a lot of great work being done in California and I am looking forward to learning from you all. I also want to highlight the ingenuity and leadership skills of you and your colleagues, both at the state and national level.

Thank you for your participation in CEAC. It's the strength of the membership that makes it special. Again, if you have any topics of interest or ideas that you feel will benefit the organization, please reach out to me personally. I'll do my best to make it happen.

Happy Holidays to you and your loved ones!

**THANK YOU to our SPONSORS
for SUPPORTING CEAC
even during
VIRTUAL CONFERENCES**



2020-21 Board of Directors

2020-21 CEAC Officers

- President** - Jim Porter, San Mateo County
Vice President - Howard Dashiell, Mendocino County
Secretary - Brian Balbas, Contra Costa County
Immediate Past President - Rick Tippett, Trinity County
- Treasurer** - Mike Crump, Butte County (retired)
Treasurer -Emeritus - Mehdi Sadjadi, Marin County (retired)
Parliamentarian - Mike Penrose, Sacramento County (retired)
Historian - Dave Gravenkamp, Siskiyou County (retired)
NACE Representative - Matt Machado, Santa Cruz County
Newsletter Editor - Patrick DeChellis, Los Angeles County (retired)

CEAC REGIONAL DIRECTORS

Effective January, 2021, **Matt Randall**, Placer County replace Joshua Pack as the Sacramento Motherlode Regional Director. Matt is also the CEAC Northern California representative on the Caltrans Highway Bridge Committee, and responsible for the bridge program for Placer County.

The Sac-Motherlode Region includes: Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, El Dorado, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, Sutter, Tuolumne, Yolo, and Yuba counties.

There have been several changes to the Regionals Directors since 2019. The current Directors are:

Northern California	Bob Bronkall	Humboldt County - serving Butte, Colusa, Del Norte, Glenn, Lake, Lassen, Mendocino, Modoc, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Tehama, Trinity
Bay Area	Steven Lederer	Napa County - serving Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Sonoma, Solano
San Joaquin Valley	Steve White	Fresno County - serving Kern, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare
Central Coast	Kent Edler	Santa Cruz County - serving Monterey, San Benito, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara,
Southern California	Nardy Khan	Orange County - serving Imperial, Inyo, Los Angeles, Mono, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Ventura

These 16 individuals comprise the CEAC Board of Directors for 2020-21

FUN FACTS

Jim Porter was previously CEAC President in 2018-19. But, he is not the first President to serve more than one year. **Howard L. Way**, San Bernardino County, served as CEAC President 1930-31, 1931-32. Maybe for the same reason??

Brian Balbas is the only Officer who was nominated and voted as CEAC Secretary while he was on his Honeymoon.

Rick Tippett was the first Immediate Past President not immediately made a CLOD. At least as far back as the Editor can recall. (P.S. His membership into the CLODS will was continued to the Spring/NACE Conference when Rick can be roasted in-person.

Dave Gravenkamp, after all of these years, finally retired from the clock business.

Message from the CEAC Immediate Past President

2020 wasn't the presidential year I expected, but what a year it was. This was the year where we were all called on to "show our mettle," whether it was dealing with the COVID pandemic or dealing with the epic (at least for this year) fire season. Nothing about this year was easy. However, through this hardship, there was a lot to learn, and changes to make; changes that I hope to be lasting for our respective organizations in years to come. With COVID, we had to find new ways to reach out, and that we did. Starting with COVID calls in mid-March, and then peer exchange webinars and virtual conferences, reaching out in ways that we haven't in the past, but will continue to do so in the future.



While all CEAC events were virtual this year, there was a push to share more information within our public works departments. Moving forward, our task is to build on what we learned in 2020, and to outreach more effectively and influentially to both our membership and stakeholders. As a reminder, this will only be successful if you - our members - continue to remain involved, and more importantly, allow your staff to partake, which in turn will encourage participation in CEAC. The hope is that younger staff sees the value of participation in CEAC and continue to remain involved.

Within CEAC, things have continued to grow and change to meet the demands of the association and our respective county public works departments. The Oversight Committee continued to meet monthly during 2020, and I want to recognize and extend a big thank you to *Jim Porter*, *Howard Dashiell*, and *Panos Kokkas* who were always willing to help out whenever they could. We also rebranded the Land Use Committee to the *Infrastructure and Development Committee*. While it started as a name change, the committee now has a deeper meaning, and has assisted our members in dealing with Infrastructure and Development issues that are a regular part of our everyday work lives as public works servants. Finally, kudos to *Brian Balbas*, for his leadership on expanding the breadth and involvement in the new Administrative Committee.

Despite COVID, we worked on our stakeholder relationships in both California and Washington D.C. Early in the year, we met with the head of FHWA and leadership within the Federal Lands, Highway Division. We also met with staff from both California Senator's offices, and numerous congressmen. We also spent time with our national association, the National Association of County Engineers (NACE), firming up an already strong relationship with *Kevan Stone*, NACE Executive Director, and *Staci Morgan*, NACE Conference and Membership Manager. In California, we continued our participation in the Transportation Cooperative Committee, and recently met with *Toks Omishakin*, the Director of Caltrans. This investment in time to meet is critical, as it helps the decision makers understand what CEAC contributes to transportation legislative and policy decisions.

I want to thank the CLODS for the assistance they provided me throughout my CEAC presidency. There are times when they like to give the CEAC President a "learning experience," but when times were tough, they stepped up to provide support and assistance. Tough decisions had to be made this year; some that could cost the association thousands of dollars, but the CLODS were there to provide support and insight, and ensure that the right thing was done. Lastly, I would like to thank the 2019 CEAC Buddy Award recipient, my wife Sue, for helping me get through this year.

Thank you all for supporting CEAC during this very challenging year. Not everything came up roses this year, and I was really looking forward to meeting with you in your regions and at conferences. At the end of the day, I reflect back and am very happy with what we were able to achieve, despite living in this new virtual world called "2020." Please remember to save the date for NACE 2021 in Palm Springs (April 19-23, 2021). I look forward to seeing you all in April. All the best and stay health - Rick

Photo (right) **2018 Big French Gulch Slide in Trinity County just outside of Del Loma on SR-299**

A contractor working on the side of a mountain to repair the slide. SR-299 can be seen in the bottom right of the picture.



Message from the Incoming CEAC Secretary

Brian Balbas began his career with the Contra Costa County Public Works Department in July 1989 as an Entry Level Engineer. He has spent over 31 years serving the residents of the County in various capacities. In addition to working in all aspects of the full service Public Works Department, Brian had the opportunity to serve one year as the first City Engineer for the City of Oakley when it incorporated in 1999. He promoted within the Department to a Deputy Public Works Director in 2007, Chief Deputy in 2016 and then Director in 2018.

Brian was born and raised in San Jose California and left just as Silicon Valley was making a name for itself to attend Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. He received a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Civil Engineering in 1989 before returning to the Bay Area to begin his career.

Brian has been active in various professional organizations over the years, including American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), American Public Works Association (APWA), County Engineers Association of California (CEAC) and the regional City/County Engineers Advisory Committee (CCEAC). Brian is currently active in CEAC, serving as the Chair of the Administrative Committee of CEAC and has served as the Chair or Vice Chair of Land Use Policy and Flood Control Policy Committees during the last 9 years. He is also active in APWA and was the Northern California Chapter President in 2016. He believes that continuing education is important. He has taken many courses to expand his background and professional growth at local colleges and on-line courses. He completed the CSAC Institute Credentialed California County Senior Executive Program in 2016.

Brian is an avid Bay Area sports fan, having cheered for the 49ers and Giants for as long as he can remember. Brian loves the outdoors and his hobbies include hunting, fishing, diving, hiking and camping. The last several years he has enjoyed fishing in the Sea of Cortez in Baja and various points in Alaska, among more local trips as well.

Brian has two adult sons who make him very proud every day. He recently married his lovely wife and partner, Nicole. She has two daughters who are finishing college this year as well. Brian and Nicole enjoy traveling together and take weekend getaways whenever possible. Camping and hiking, with their yellow lab, Lucky, are two of their favorite things.



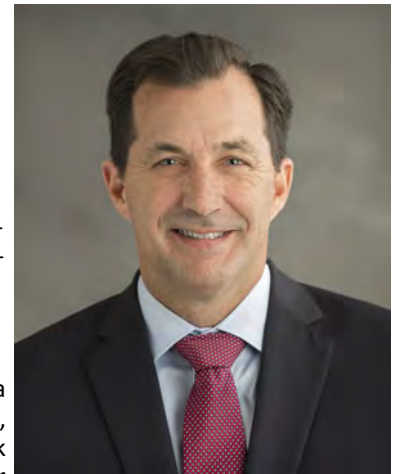
Brian and his wife, Nicole, and their dog, Lucky



The annual event is large enough to allow you to compare competing technologies and services, yet small enough to spend quality time with the solutions providers and public works directors and staff from around the country

CEAC Engineer of the Year

In 2017, Mark Pestrella, was appointed the sixth Director of Los Angeles County Public Works. Mark oversees the largest municipal public works agency in the United States, providing public infrastructure and municipal services to more than 10 million people across a 4,000-square-mile service area. In his role as Director, Mark serves as the County's Engineer, Road Commissioner, and Chief Engineer of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, among other titles. Public Works is comprised of nearly 4,000 employees working in diverse operations within six Core Service Areas – Water Resources, Transportation, Environmental Services, Construction Management, Development Services and Emergency Management. Throughout his tenure as a public servant, Mark has demonstrated continued dedication to improving the quality of life for LA County residents and has served as a regional leader through many challenging circumstances to fulfill his vision for LA County Public Works to be the most trusted agency in the region.



The 2018, Woolsey Fire was a devastating event, impacting both Los Angeles and Ventura Counties. In all, the fire burned close to 97,000 acres, destroying 1,121 structures in its path, and claimed three lives. In the wake of the destruction caused by the Woolsey Fire, Mark immediately mobilized his team to help impacted residents of Los Angeles County recover and rebuild. He wasted no time in conducting home and business inspections to ensure that residents and business owners could return to structures deemed safe for access. He also implemented a one-stop approach for impacted residents and businesses. The Woolsey Fire destroyed two bridges, guardrails and other infrastructure along key transit and evacuation routes. Mark and his Team managed the expeditious replacement of these bridges and guardrails to restore these vital passages. Adding to the challenge was the fire's occurrence during the storm season, leaving little to no pre-storm preparation time. Public Works' post-fire debris flow mitigation actions included estimating debris flows; interactive mapping of debris flows, properties and roadways; visiting almost 3,000 fire area properties for potential debris flow impacts and providing engineering advice on interim debris mitigation measures to nearly 500 property owners; and repairing and cleaning out existing debris mitigation structures such as inlets, rail and timber structures. Public Works' engineers monitored weather forecasts and issued debris flow forecasts in anticipation of storms. Debris flow forecasts were shared with first responders and support agencies via a unified command that included Public Works and numerous emergency management entities.

Los Angeles County faces many difficult challenges with water resiliency – most of the water supply is imported, stormwater and urban runoff is heavily polluted, and water governance is fractured with over 200 independent water agencies. The County needed a leader to step up and tackle these issues with a regional approach. Mark responded by leading the 2018 effort to establish the Safe, Clean Water Program (SCW) to establish a new, sustained revenue stream to increase local water supply, improve water quality, and protect public health in Los Angeles County. Following voter approval in 2018, the SCW Program now generates approximately \$280M annually, and includes comprehensive governance, and transparent processes for the implementation of multi-benefit projects and programs that increase stormwater and urban runoff capture and reduce stormwater and urban runoff pollution in Los Angeles County, with an emphasis on Disadvantaged Communities.

In March 2020, Mark led the effort to establish Infrastructure LA, a platform for public and private collaboration on infrastructure strategies in LA County. Participants include 151 cities, unincorporated communities, businesses, and organizations. Key initiatives include COVID-19, Sustainable Waste and Management, Construction Industry, and Agency/Municipality Construction. Since April 2020, Infrastructure LA has hosted 25 teleconferences on the key initiatives and other topics and launched an online forum for the region's infrastructure leaders to discuss key topics with colleagues who share common goals and challenges related to infrastructure in the region.

The Los Angeles region is home to many people currently experiencing homelessness. This complex problem was made all the more complicated by the emergence of COVID-19. Mark has been consistently dedicated to providing assistance to people experiencing homelessness and continues to support the County's efforts to combat the issue from many angles. Mark and his team implemented the Food Donation Recovery and Outreach Program (Food DROP) to address issues of food insecurity and organic waste management. His team also continues to expedite projects to create new shelters, safe parking sites, and affordable housing throughout the County. Under his direction, Public Works teams conducted inspections and assessments of interim housing during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic as part of the County's Project RoomKey initiative. To help slow the spread of COVID-19 and Hepatitis A, his team collaborate with Public Health officials to operate public hygiene facilities near homeless encampments along the region's major waterways. Mark approaches his duty with compassion and understanding.

As the region continues to grapple with the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, Mark has taken great care in investing in the workforce. With the understanding that each member of his team faces new challenges in continuing to provide essential services to the residents of LA County, he makes it a priority to engage with all 4,000 employees under his direction by recording weekly addresses in which he highlights the valuable work being done, the importance of staying focused on our mission, and the resources available to all employees to tackle the mental stresses that are inevitable while enduring such trying times.

CONGRATLUATIONS, Mark, on being selected CEAC Engineer of the Year!

CEAC Engineer of the Year

Patty Romo began her career at Riverside County in 2008 as Deputy Director of Transportation after a very productive 24-year career at Caltrans. In 2015, she was appointed the Director of Transportation. Patty is retiring this month, December 17, 2020.

While at the County, she was responsible for the delivery of over \$1 billion of projects of varying complexity, from small chip seal projects to a \$100 million grade separation project. The large complex projects include: grade separations, bridge replacements, new major interchanges, new arterial roads, and major road widenings.

Patty directed the development of the “Drive to Survive Campaign”, to help reduce the number and severity of collisions on high speed rural roads around the county.

She managed the emergency response effort to respond to debris flow following the significant burn scars from the Holy and Cranston fires of 2018.

Patty also directed a comprehensive review of the entire 2,200 miles of maintained road within a 3 month period to develop an accurate PCI. This robust program has improved the PCI accuracy and helped to determine which roads to rehabilitate to maximize the limited effectiveness of the available funding.

Patty has been a member of the Transportation Co-op Committee since 2008 and has been the Chair of the CEAC Transportation Committee since 2019. She was the Regional Director for the Southern California Region 2016 to 2019.

Patty has also been a member of Women in Transportation Society and was the Woman of the Year in 2015 for the Inland Empire Chapter. She was a member of the Western Riverside COG Public Works Committee from 2008 to 2020 and was the Chair in 2013 and 2018. She was a member of the Riverside County Transportation Commission Transportation Advisory Committee from 2008 to 2020 and was the Chair in 2013.

CONGRATULATIONS, Patty, on being selected CEAC Engineer of the Year.



CEAC Surveyor of the Year



Russ Marks has been the Mariposa County Surveyor since 2012. He has a bachelor's degree from Fresno State, and prior to coming to Mariposa County, he worked as a surveyor in the private sector with Freeman & Seamen Land Surveyors for 25 years. Russ is a member of CLSA, and for multiple years has served as a subject matter expert on the committee in charge with the development and modification of the Statewide Surveyor Licensure Test. He has also contributed to post fire disaster and mitigation efforts assisting CalFire. Russ is one of the most active participants on the CEAC Surveyor's email discussion board, regularly contributing his thoughts and knowledge to fellow surveyors.

Over the past three years, Mariposa County has suffered three major fires in addition to three declared disasters for flooding. During reconstruction and recovery from both fires and floods, demarcation of damaged and unsettled property and the identification of public vs. private property is critical for the swift delivery of emergency repairs and reconstruction. Thanks to the efforts of Russ this process was swift, and his assistance to residents and staff both during the emergency periods and throughout recovery phases has been exemplary.

During recent years, Russ has also served as our Project Manager for various Tree Mortality project efforts. Mariposa County suffered tremendously from both drought and bark beetle effects to its tree stock. During this period, Russ has managed the removal of approximately 5,600 dead trees at a cost of roughly \$3 million in Federal and State grant funds.

CHICS Golden Egg Award

**As presented by Julie Bueren,
CEAC President 2010-11**

(Julie is 2nd from the left, back row in the picture, if you didn't notice. Who else do you recognize in the picture?)

California's Honorable Intrepid County Sisters (the CHICS) came upon the CEAC scene at the CLODS Barbecue in 2006 to challenge the organization to accept and encourage participation from a more diverse membership than had been its history. Back then we were a small group of about a dozen women from counties, CSAC and affiliates.

The CHICS were created with a mission to increase diversity in CEAC membership and involvement. And to provide a forum for networking, support and camaraderie. We find time to meet at the CEAC Fall and Spring Conferences for a networking session and we promote the furthering of diversity in CEAC through our Golden Egg Award. The CHICS Golden Egg Award reflects our mission in recognizing someone who is furthering that goal in CEAC or in their own organization.

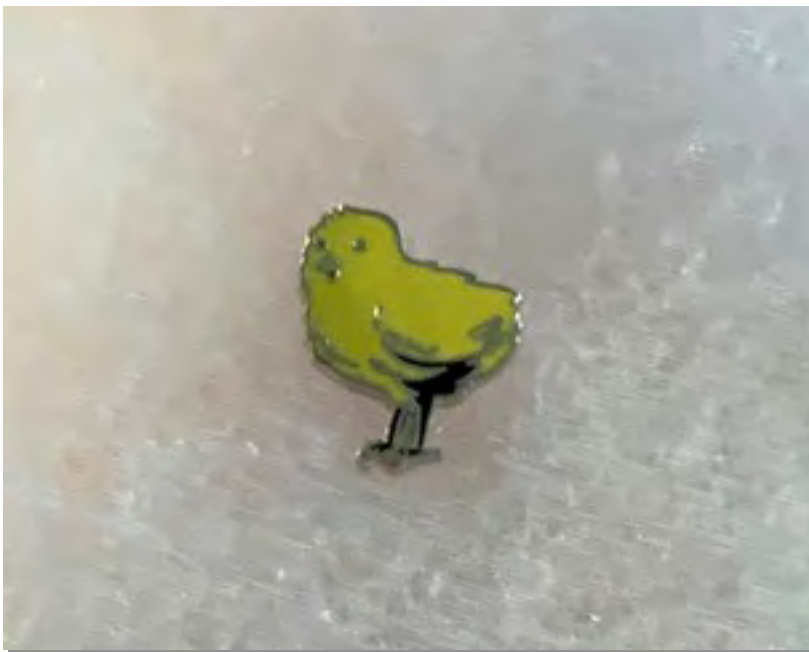


Some of the Original CHICS at the 2006 CLODS BBQ

CEAC President **Rick Tippett** has been selected for this year's Golden Egg Award. In his year as president, Rick strived to be inclusive in this committee assignments both in diversity as well as getting newer members more involved in CEAC.

In the interest of sustainability and because we all have too much stuff, the CHICS no longer present a certificate or Golden Egg to the recipient. Instead, we honor them with a CHIC lapel pin.

See a picture of the lapel pin below.



Past Recipients

- 2007 Mort August
- 2008 Mike Walford
- 2009 Peter Rei
- 2010 Phil Demery
- 2011 Pattie McNamee
- 2012 DeAnn Baker
- 2013 George Bradley and Doug Wilson
- 2014 Ken Miller
- 2015 Pat DeChellis
- 2016 Karen Keene
- 2017 No Award Given
- 2018 Melody DeLeon and Kiana Valentine
- 2019 Johannes Hovertsz

In Memoriam

William (Bill) Suitor

January 17, 1937- June 8, 2020

William Albert Suitor, 83, of Tehachapi, Calif., passed away on Monday, June 8, 2020. Bill was born on Jan. 17, 1937 in Barre City, Vt., to James and Ethel Suitor. Their family later moved to York, Maine, where he and his three sisters were raised by their mother and dad.

Bill graduated high school in 1955 and attended the University of Maine where he studied civil engineering. Also at that time he met the love of his life, Marie Boyer, whom he later married. After graduating, Bill and Marie moved to California where they started their family and Bill got his first job with Caltrans. He became a professional engineer in California and worked as a civil engineer for more than 40 years with the Division of Highways, Bridge Department (17 years), County of Sacramento, and Kern County Public Works director. Bill officially retired in October 1994.

Bill loved the outdoors, golfing, camping, hiking, hunting and fishing. His favorite sport was golf, where he was an avid and accomplished golfer, starting with his caddy work at the York Country Club in Maine. His love for the sport only grew as he got older. Bill would play four to five times a week and was crowned Club Champion several times at his home course of Horse Thief Country Club in Stallion Springs. Bill's greatest golf achievement was his seven each "Hole in One" shots, including his four aces on all 4 par threes.

Bill was a true family man and cherished his annual visit to his hometown of York Beach, Maine to see his aunts, uncles, sisters, brothers-in-law, nieces, and nephews. He was a loving father and grandfather. He was preceded in passing by his beloved wife of 55 years, Marie Suitor, and his son, Scott. Bill is survived by his son, Glenn Suitor (Katie); daughter, Elizabeth Bates (Crandall); his sisters, Linda Davis and Jane Pratt; and grandchildren, Cuentin, Colby, Bridgette, and William. A Celebration of Life was held at the family residence on Saturday, June 20, 2020 at 3 p.m. Bill was remembered with some of his favorite dishes, fun stories, and vibrant life.

Bill was a former Director of Transportation for Kern County and a CEAC Life Member



In Memoriam

Harry Mavrogenes

July 22, 1949 - September 20, 2020

Harry Mavrogenes, director of the San Benito County Resource Management Agency passed away on September 20, 2020.

“Harry has been an integral part of the County team over the last year and a half,” wrote Edgar Nolasco, deputy county administrative officer. “The RMA department has made great progress on multiple projects over Harry’s tenure and we are proud of the service he provided to our County team and community. He truly embodied the very best in public service. He was known for his professionalism, warmhearted personality, and his constant search for new ways to innovate and improve. This news has deeply affected us all and as a direct member of the County family we understand this message may be difficult to process. We would like to extend our deepest condolences, please keep Harry’s friends, family and colleagues in your thoughts during this time.”



Harry was born in Chicago to Stephanos and Theodora Mavrogenes on July 22, 1949, a proud first-generation American thankful for the opportunities available to him, who in return spent a lifetime giving back to his community. He was a lifelong resident of Northern California since moving as a teenager, aside from an eight-year stint in Miami.

He attended Modesto Junior College, eventually transferring to San Francisco State earning a B.A. in Urban Studies, beginning his life of community development and public service. As the Miami Beach Assistant City Manager, he was instrumental in the revitalization of Miami Beach and Lincoln Road Mall, a world-class project highlighting transformational redevelopment in concert with historic preservation. After moving back to San Jose, Harry achieved his dream job at the San Jose Redevelopment Agency as the Executive Director. Under his oversight, the RDA oversaw the generational transformation of downtown San Jose. His vision included mixed-used communities with entertainment, recreation and cultural facilities, underserved community development, housing, restaurants, retail and major corporate offices. Major accomplishments under his tenure include over 500,000 sq. ft. of retail development, renovation of the historic California Theater, implementation of the Civic Plaza Redevelopment Plan (including the new City Hall), the award-winning Strong Neighborhoods Initiative revitalizing over 19 communities, thousands of high-rise residential units, and countless jobs through public/private partnerships and corporate relocation. His impact to – and love of – San Jose cannot be overstated, and will be felt for generations to come.

Following the disbandment of the RDA, Harry became the Chief Deputy County Administrator for San Joaquin County where he coordinated economic development activities, and Director of Stockton Metropolitan Airport where he oversaw major capital improvements, FAA grants, expanded air service, and new air cargo facilities.

Prior to coming to San Benito County, Mavrogenes was director of the Stockton Metropolitan Airport in San Joaquin County from 2013 to 2017. He also served as the chief deputy county administrator for two years.

The San Benito County hired Mavrogenes to lead the RMA on June 12, 2019.

News from around the State

Governor Newsom Announces Appointment of Rossana D'Antonio to the Board of Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors and Geologists

Governor Newsom announced on August 26, 2020 the appointment of Rosanna D'Antonio's to the California State Board of Professional Engineers, Land surveyors and Geologists. Rossana is a Deputy Director for the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works since 2016 and has been a member of the Public Works Team for 30 years. She received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from Fresno State and an MBA with emphasis in leadership and organizational development from Pepperdine University. She holds dual registrations as a Civil and Geotechnical Engineer. She is also credentialed as an Envision Sustainability Professional with the Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure.



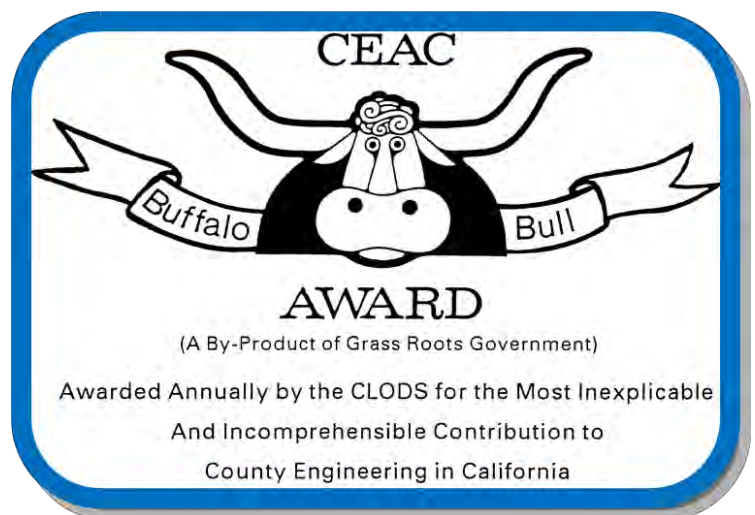
Rossana believes strongly in giving back to the profession. She is a Fellow with the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and currently serves as Governor for ASCE Region 9. She is an active member of the Society of Women Engineers and the American Public Works Association. She is also a member of the Industry Advisory Council at Cal Poly Pomona and Women's Media Center—She Source and has served on several committees for the Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors.

Rossana is passionate advocate for equal opportunity in the workplace through recruitment, mentoring, outreach and diverse advancement. Rossana is co-founder of the Department's Women Leadership Council where she continues to work on implementing Department initiatives that empower women. As an advocate of increasing representation in the Stem Fields, she also makes presentation to high and college students.

Editor's Note



Jim proudly displays the Award in his Office.



Since there was no Spring Conference (or for that matter, Policy conference and Fall conference),

Jim Porter (San Mateo) still has the **Buffalo Bull Award** and will continue to proudly display it in his office until such time as we have our next in-person conference.

Nominations remain open. So, if you don't want to be the next recipient, submit your nomination (s) to the CEAC Newsletter Editor for delivery to the Tres Pinos Committee.

News from around the State



Retirement Party

JOIN US VIA ZOOM TO CELEBRATE
GEORGE JOHNSON

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 9
2PM - 3:30PM
RSVP TO ABIMARTIN@RIVCO.ORG

GIFTS CAN BE SENT ATTN: ABI MARTIN AT
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICE, 4080
LEMON STREET, 4TH FLOOR, RIVERSIDE CA 92501

Other News from around the State

California Condor facility burns in Big Sur fire, fate of 14 endangered birds unknown

A wildfire burning through remote terrain in Big Sur destroyed pens, a research building and other facilities used to release California Condors for the past 23 years. 14 Condors remain unaccounted for; a significant setback for the decades-long effort to restore the population of the endangered birds.

The Dolan Fire began August 18, 2020 in the Los Padres National Forest south of Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park. Two days later it had destroyed the 80-acre condor sanctuary run by the Ventana Wildlife Society, a nonprofit group based in Monterey.



Nick Burton - Director of Public Works, Yolo County

Yolo County has appointed **Nick Burton** as the new Director of Public Works. Nick was previously a Senior Civil Engineer with Yolo County.



James (Jim) Simon - Director of Public Works, Tehama County

Tehama County appointed Jim Simon as the new Director of Public Works effective October 12, 2020.

Mark Lancaster - Incoming Director of Transportation, replacing Patty Romo who is retiring on December 17, 2020

Appointment to Active Transportation Program - Technical Advisory Committee

The CEAC Executive Committee recently selected **Ariana Lopez** from Orange County as the Urban Representative.



Delores and Mehdi Sadjadi

CEAC's Beloved Delores passed away peacefully at home on Saturday, April 4, 2020, following a long illness. She was loved by all and is sorely missed by all.



Droppings

from out of the past

By Dave "Road Runner" Gravenkamp
CEAC Historian

CLODS BBQ MENUS

Editor's Note: *The CLODS should have just completed another "successful" BBQ at the Annual Conference in Los Angeles. Since the conference was virtual, there was no CLODS BBQ. The following is provided to remind you of what you missed and provide some history of this "can't miss" event. You know you can't miss the 2021 BBQ. The CLODS will make up for what we all missed this year!!!*

This article first appeared in the November 2008 issue of the CEAC Newsletter.

What's for Lunch? How does tri tip, chicken, baked potatoes, chili beans, bread and an assortment of pre-dinner sausages and tasty unknown delights. Well, if you attended the 1st CLODS BBQ, it was quite different.

The first barbeque occurred in Squaw Valley in 1969 and the menu featured steak and beans. Our annual meeting in the following year was in San Diego with the barbeque poolside at the Hotel del Coronado. Fish stew was the main course. Ted McConville, Road Commissioner from Orange County, had taken several of us fishing in Mexican waters the day before the barbeque and the group, including me, caught a "ton" of fish. I proudly announced to all at the barbeque that I had caught the fish for the stew, only to find out after the fact that our fish had been dumped. As a result of the actions of many at that event, I'm sure the CLODS will never be allowed to have its barbeque anywhere on the hotel property again or at least until all that worked there at the time have passed on.

The 1971 barbeque was on the beach in Monterey (actually, I think it may have been Seaside) with the main course for lunch being a wild pig roasted on a spit. There was no barbeque in 1972 for reason I don't recall; however, we gathered for lunch at a restaurant atop a mountain above Palm Springs. The 1973 event took place under a bridge over the Sacramento River in Redding and featured "hobo" stew. The following year we were again on the beach, this time in Anaheim and albacore for lunch.

The barbeque in 1975 was in San Jose with steak, bens, and salad making up the lunch menu. It was back to San Diego in 1976 with lunch of an Italian flare. We were in Sacramento in 1977 with the barbeque held at a park in Elk Grove, south of Sacramento. The menu featured steak and zucchini with the

zucchini being buried and as I recall, never making it to the serving line. In 1978, we were in San Bernardino County and dined on steak and chili. The Annual meeting in 1979 was in San Mateo County and the barbeque was in Half Moon Bay with Pope Como as guest which sounds like a story in itself. Steak and chili were again the featured menu items. The 1980 event was in Orange County and the barbeque was held in a horse barn near Anaheim. Lunch featured south of the border menu.

State Senator Randolph Collier, author of the Collier Burns Act which established the County Maintained Road System, joined us for lunch in 1981 in Fresno where we again dined on steak and beans. We were on the beach again in Los Angeles in 1982 with Mexican steak the featured menu item. This was the year when grilled goat heads made their first appearance at the barbeque. Back in Redding again in 1983 we dined on venison stew. San Diego was the barbeque location in 1984 with steak and beans again the staple. Gene Knapp of Solano County, CEAC President 1979, provided surplise "entertainment". The Oakland Zoo was the site of the '85 event with steak and beans the prime meal.

Two barbeques were held in 1986. The first was in conjunction with the NACE Annual Conference in San Diego. Seems as though the beans saw a little added spice when a jock strap was pulled out during serving. The second barbeque that year was held at the famous Hollywood Bowl with the toilet making its first appearance as the serving dish for the chili.

From all records, it appears that the first time roast chicken made its way onto the menu was in Anaheim in 1990. In 1991 the barbeque settled in at an old haunt, the Laguna Seca Raceway in Monterey. This may have been the first time baked potatoes were included. This barbeque also featured 1969 CEAC President Vic Saurer's "Living Wake" as the entertainment of the day. Tri tip, chicken, beans, and baked potatoes comprised the barbeque menu in 1992 in Palm Springs and that's been the fare ever since.

I am proud to say that with the exception of the 2006 event, when my house (nearing completion of construction) burned down days before, I have attended all of the barbeques. My memory isn't all that great and I have relied almost entirely on the photo albums of the events which for the first 33 years of the barbeques were produced by Bill McIntosh, aka the Old Crow, and most recently by Max Bridges, aka Carrier Pigeon. We usually try to display these photos in the Hospitality Suite at conference so all of our newer members can get a glimpse of the past.

Budge Campbell, aka the Horny Owl, who has done an exceptionally marvelous job in performing the duties of Chief Cook and barbeque organizer for many years, has announced his retirement from these duties and will not be able to attend this year's event. Max is organizing this year's event. Come out and see what surprises the new Chef has prepared.

Budge.... Many thanks from the CLODS and the CEAC membership for your greats barbeques.

YOU DONE GOOD! AND GOOD! AND GOOD!....



NACE 2021 in Palm Springs

Staci Morgan

Conference and Membership Director

National Association of County Engineers



NACE is still currently planning to hold an in-person annual conference and trade show in Palm Springs (Riverside County) on April 19-22, 2021. As we work towards this event, we will be prepared for any and all state and local restrictions which may be in place. In the absence of any restriction, we are working towards this conference having the same look and feel of our previous conferences. If restrictions require social distancing or any other safety measures, we will be prepared, as we know how important it is for our engineers to meet together. Equally important is the opportunity for our engineers to meet with their service and product suppliers.

NACE plans on opening Exhibitor, Delegate registration and housing soon. Some of the many exciting things to look forward to next spring will be the NACE Golf Tournament, a Palm Springs themed outdoor social event, and, of course, the Snappy Tom reception hosted by our friends from CEAC!

For all the latest information on the NACE Conference, please visit www.naceevents.org and follow us on twitter @EngineersNace!



Northern California Regional News

submitted by: Howard Dashiell, Mendocino County

Mendocino County - pedestrian bridge over Ten Mile Creek in Laytonville



Pedestrian Bridge prior to replacement



Northern California Regional News

submitted by: Howard Dashiell, Mendocino County

Mendocino County - Mountain View Road MP 16.62, storm damage repair



Northern California Regional News

submitted by: Howard Dashiell, Mendocino County

Mendocino County—Davis Creek Bridge Replacement





CEAC Board of Directors

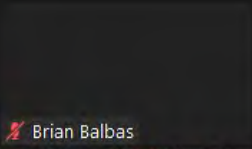


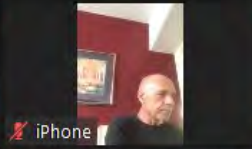


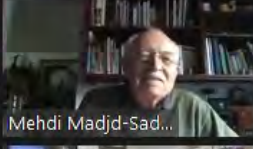







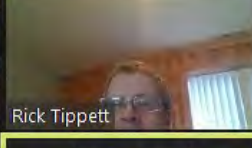

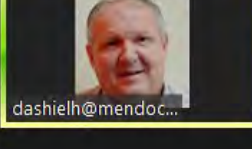
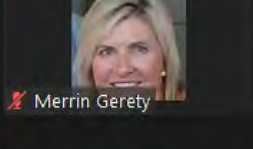
126th CSAC Annual Meeting

Wednesday, November 18, 2020 | 1:30pm – 3:30pm

Zoom Meeting and Telephone Call In

Zoom Meeting

View

 Brian Balbas	 Chris Lee	 Mike Crump	 iPhone	 Matt Machado
 Warren Lai	 Mehdi Madjd-Sad...	 Joshua Pack	 Jim Porter	 Kent Edler
 Nick Cronenwe...	 Bob Bronkall, H...	 Allison Knapp ...	 Pat DeChellis	 Rick Tippett
 Nardy Khan	Steve	tmattson	Mike K, Ventura...	 dashielh@mendoc...
 Merrin Gerety	chodge	Connecting to ...		

Unmute Stop Video Security Participants 23 Polls Chat Share Screen Record Reactions More End



CEAC Board of Directors 126th CSAC Annual Meeting

Wednesday, November 18, 2020 | 1:30pm – 3:30pm

Zoom Meeting and Telephone Call In

DRAFT MINUTES

Call to Order

(Porter)

Meeting is called to order by Chair at **1:35** p.m.

Roll call requested - Officers present: 10 of 10 - Regional Directors present: 5 of 6; **Quorum present**

1. Approval of Minutes (Porter)

Special Meeting, October 2, 2020, **Motion** to approve minutes - (DeChellis), 2nd (Khan); **approved.**

2. Correspondence (Porter)

Acknowledged letter from Rick Tippett to Caltrans

3. CLODS Report (Madjd-Sadjadi)

CLODS met with the Boar of Directors regarding the vacant Vice President position and decided to leave the position vacant until now. Past President Jim Porter agreed to be the CEAC President this year. Howard Dashiell will be Vice President and Brian Balbas, Secretary.

The NACE planning for April 2021 continues with the expectation that the NACE Annual Conference will take place as scheduled.

George Johnson will be honored upon the occasion of his retirement from Riverside County, details are still being worked out.

CLODS will plan to host the BBQ at the NACE Annual Conference, planning continues.

4. NACE Report (Machado)

This last month, met with NACo Transportation Policy Steering Committee about in-coming Biden Administration and the proposed Build Back Better initiatives, including climate change, NEPA, and funding items.

New NACE dues adopted—\$275 per vote per County proposal adopted. For California, this was the lower cost proposal.

More information will come next year regarding NACE Connect—Professional Development Program.

5. CSAC Report (CSAC Staff)

Chris Lee reported that new CSAC Officers were selected for the coming year.

This was our second virtual conference, by all indications, they have both been successful. While we miss getting together in person, these forums have worked well to communicate and coordinate CEAC business.

CSAC will be calling for legislative proposals in Spring 2021, following up as part of the policy conference around August to finalize action plans. CSAC staff will with CEAC Policy Committees on these items throughout the year.

6. Regional Directors Reports

Bay Area – **Steve Lederer**: met virtually last month, good meeting, will be meeting again virtually in December. Plan to select a new Regional Director.

Central Coast – **Kent Edler**: met November 12th, 23 attendees, good meeting. Discussed COVID pandemic issues around region.

Northern Cal – **Bob Bronkall**: met Monday. 8 of 15 counties in attendance. Discussed CT's requiring counties to apply for permits on behalf of others doing work in CT R/W.

Sacramento/Motherlode – **Josh Pack**: good meeting last month. Touched on a variety of topics effecting region. Josh will be taking a position in Butte County, leaving Calaveras County. NEW 2021 CEAC Regional Director will be Matt Randall from Placer County.

San Joaquin Valley – no report.

So Cal – **Nardy Khan**: met at the end of September. Good meeting. No meeting scheduled until January 2021, LA County to host virtual meeting.

7. Treasurer's Report (Crump)

2020 Income – local streets and roads revenue – League of Cities still have not paid. Dave Leamon and Mike Crump are following up and have been told the cost share will be sent. Mike anticipates we will receive invoicing from NCE in the amount of \$182,000 before the end of the year.

As previously identified, CEAC has a structural deficit issue that will need to be addressed soon. Mike Crump will work with President Jim Porter in putting together a plan to address this item, likely including other in discussions to identify proposals to address this issue. This will be among the first items in the new year.

Conferences – the revenue form Sponsors is helpful and makes up the revenue for these virtual conferences. Some CSAC expenditures have and will continue to trickle in related to conferences.

Mike Crump is moving reserves from CD's to Money Market accounts to increase potential interest income.

Motion to accept Treasurers Report – (Sadjadi), 2nd (Machado); **Approved.**

Mike Crump also discussed the 2021 CEAC Budget – the Final Budget will be approved in April, but several key items were discussed, including the NACE dues increase and the structural deficit issue. However, the framework of the proposed budget was approved.

Motion to approve tentative budget with items discussed to be incorporated in final budget, April 2021 – (Machado), 2nd (DeChellis); **Approved.**

8. Committee Reports

Administrative Committee (Brian Balbas)-

Good meeting. Discussed COVID impacts on agencies, succession planning and recruitment/retention issues and reviewing ways to provide a resource for all of us to find info we all share. Josh Pack, Brian Balbas and Merrin will review this and report back.

Flood Control (Mark Strudley)-

Good meeting. Much of the meeting was centered on the wildfires and the potential debris flow concerns that may follow this winter. The same chairs will be on the committee next year.

Infrastructure and Development (Warren Lai)-

Good meeting. Good discussion about residential development impact fees, on-going Rule 20A issues and status of PUC process/comments, VMT changes for CEQA and traffic studies/impacts.

Resource Recovery and Waste Management (Tim Goncharoff)-

Good meeting. Several presentations and discussions about: Disaster Debris and how to deal with it, CA Supreme Court case in Oakland about franchise fees classified as a tax and need to be voter approved.

Surveyor (Aleks Jevremovic)-

Good meeting. Discussed the completion of a new guide for corner records and records of survey. Also discussed the need for monument preservation in the event of disasters.

Transportation (Dave Fleisch)-

Good meeting. New CT's local assistance chief made a presentation about her thoughts on moving forward. Dave will follow-up to make sure it is more focused in up-coming meetings. The HBP issues were discussed, we need to follow-up. Dave Leamon presented on the current status of the local streets and roads effort.

Fellowship (Pattie McNamee)-

We are all disappointed that we can't meet in person. The virtual meetings seem to go well and the raffles went very well. Pattie will send out the prizes after the conference.

Oversight (Jim Porter)-

Will be looking at issues going into next year, including the budget concerns raised as part of the Treasurers Report.

Scholarship (Scott Deleon)-

Scott had to leave the meeting early for an emergency. Merrin indicated no scholarships were given this year and they will review for next year.

9. Unfinished Business

Affiliate dues and charging convenience fees for credit card payments – No report on this for this meeting.

Committee Vice Chair Eligibility, Special Districts, By Law Modification – This item is being deferred. Rick Tippett and Mike Penrose will discuss for future agenda item. NO ACTION TAKEN, No report provided.

CEAC online posting forum/website update – No report provided, Rick Tippett stated his desire for this item to move forward.

10. NACE 2021

Matt Machado reported that the planning committee is working with the expectation that the NACE 2021 conference will take place in Palm Springs as planned. However, there was some discussion about the potential for a hybrid in-person/virtual conference depending on the status of COVID. Work continues with Staci, the NACE contact for this conference.

Howard Dashiell discussed the keynote speaker work taking place. After some discussion, the committee will reach out to both the Governor’s office and the US Congress representative from Santa Barbara, Carbajal. The general consensus was the Governor is first choice, but either would be a welcome addition to the NACE Conference.

11. New Business

Mike Crump presented a proposal to increase the job posting fees charged by CEAC to post recruitments. The proposal is to match what CSAC charges: increase from \$50 to \$75 for CEAC members and from \$125 to \$150 for non-members.

Motion to increase CEAC Web page job posting fees to \$75 and \$150 (members/non-members, respectively) – (DeChellis), 2nd (Machado); **Approved.**

12. Life Membership

After some discussion about “voting rights” and life membership, it was proposed to make George Johnson a CEAC Life Member.

ACTION ITEM – George Johnson be a life member of CEAC; Motion, Pat DeChellis, Second, Mehdi Madjd-Sadjadi, Approved.

13. Announcements - none

Scheduled Conferences

NACE Annual Meeting, Palm Springs, CA, April 19-23, 2021

CSAC 127th Annual Meeting, Monterey, CA, November 30 – December 3, 2021

CEAC Board of Directors Meeting Schedule

Spring, date, TBD

CEAC Policy Conference, date, TBD

CSAC 127th Annual Meeting, Monterey, CA, December 3, 2021

Meeting Roster

Officer

Jim Porter
Howard N. Dashiell
Brian Balbas
Rick Tippett
Mike Crump
Mehdi Madjd-Sadjadi
Mike Penrose
Patrick DeChellis
Matt Machado
Dave Gravenkamp

Office

President
Vice-President
Secretary
Immediate Past President
Treasurer
Treasurer-Emeritus
Parliamentarian
Newsletter Editor
NACE Representative
Historian

County/Organization

San Mateo
Mendocino
Contra Costa
Trinity
Butte (Retired)
Marin (Retired)
Sacramento (Retired)
Los Angeles (Retired)
Santa Cruz
Siskiyou County (Retired)

Regional Directors

Steven Lederer
Kent Edler
Bob Bronkall
Joshua Pack
Steven E. White (np)
Nardy Khan

Region

Bay Area
Central Coast
Northern California,
Sacramento Mother Lode
San Joaquin Valley
Southern California

County

Napa
Santa Cruz
Humboldt
Calaveras
Fresno
Orange

Committee Chairs

Brian Balbas
Trisha Tillotson (np)
Pattie McNamee
Mark Strudley
Tim Goncharoff
Scott DeLeon (np)
Aleks Jevremovic
Patty Romo
David Fleisch

Committee

Administration
Infrastructure and Development
Fellowship
Flood Control/Water Resources
Resource Recovery & Waste Mgmt.
Scholarship
Surveyor
Transportation (out-going)
Transportation (in-coming)

County

Contra Costa
Nevada
Contra Costa (Retired)
Santa Cruz
Santa Cruz
Lake
Santa Barbara
Riverside
Ventura

CSAC/CEAC Staff

Chris Lee
Catherine Freeman
Nick Cronenwett
Marina Espinoza
Merrin Gerety

Title

Legislative Representative
Legislative Representative
Legislative Analyst
Legislative Analyst
CEAC Program Manager

Agency/County

CSAC
CSAC
CSAC
CSAC
CSAC/CEAC

Not present (np)