

CELSOC *Update*

ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER

FEBRUARY 2005



CONSULTING
ENGINEERS and
LAND SURVEYORS
of CALIFORNIA

Orange County Chapter

Upcoming Meetings & Events

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2005

'AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE'

Irvine Ranch Water District

SAN JOAQUIN RESERVOIR

Rancho Mission Viejo

ARROYO TRABUCO GOLF COURSE

11:30 am to 1:30 pm

The Clubhouse

South Coast Plaza

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2005

MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP LUNCH

Speaker: Charlie Ware

Rancho Mission Viejo

"The Ranch Plan"

11:30 am to 1:30 pm

The Clubhouse

South Coast Plaza

For further information
about either of these events
call (949) 672-9030

President
RICHARD BARDIN

Projects of the Year

San Joaquin Reservoir Arroyo Trabuco Golf Course

By LYNN GILBERT, Editor, CELSOC Update

The CELSOC Orange County Chapter has chosen to honor two projects with Awards of Excellence for 2004. This year's winners are the Irvine Ranch Water District for their San Joaquin Reservoir, and Rancho Mission Viejo for their Arroyo Trabuco Golf Course.

Serving Irvine's Growing Water Needs

Improvements to the reclaimed water system in Irvine included the conversion of the San Joaquin Reservoir to reclaimed water storage, revisions to the reservoir's flow control facilities, and modifications to the Shady Canyon and Coastal Booster Pump Stations. Teams of engineers, surveyors and specialist consultants were assembled by the Irvine Ranch Water District to address the design challenges and implement the improvements necessary to make this project a success. Construction costs for the project totaled \$12.2 million; the project was completed earlier this year.

Park-like Golf Course Setting

Arroyo Trabuco Golf Course, which covers 240 acres along Trabuco Creek in Orange County, was designed by PGA Tour Professional Tom Lehman, golf course architect Casey O'Callaghan, and a well qualified team of engineers, surveyors and specialist consultants for Rancho Mission Viejo. Challenges concerning flood control, water quality and endangered species were



mitigated to make this project a success and a "fun and exciting place to play golf." The course was recently named among the "Ten Best New Public/Resort Courses" for 2004 by *Travel and Leisure Golf Magazine* in their January/February issue.

Be sure to join CELSOC Orange County on Wednesday, February 23, when we will recognize the Irvine Ranch Water District and Rancho Mission Viejo for their achievements and learn more about these outstanding projects.



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President's Letter

Highlights from Sacramento and Beyond...

By RICHARD BARDIN

For each of us in consulting, the majority of our time is devoted to our firm and our clients, as it should be. There are varying degrees of involvement in professional activities, whether it is with CELSOC or other organizations. I personally believe in CELSOC and have been active at the Board level in both the Orange County and Channel Coast Chapters since the late 1980s. I enjoy the activism of our organization and the fact that our issues are so closely aligned with those of the citizens of California – providing needed infrastructure and improving both our residential and commercial/industrial areas. I thank our members who share this view.

Highlights of State Legislative Visit Day and the State Board Meeting

Sixteen members of the OC Chapter (EXCELLENT!) joined with members of the other State Chapters to visit our State Legislators. Visits were typically one half-hour long and we carried key messages from our local perspective as well as from the State Organization perspective. The following day was the State Board Meeting. I believe it is most important that our legislators know who CELSOC is and our key issues. We all understand that many of our issues are not “front-page”; however, some, such as transportation infrastructure, are prevalent in discussions within the legislature. The point is that we had the opportunity to discuss both types and that, while we were there for one day, our State Organization is there 365 days of the year and we have opportunities locally to keep in touch. Some highlights:

Key Orange County Issues

- ♦ *Proposition 42 Funds Diverted.* The State has for a couple of years diverted funds intended for transportation projects to the General Fund with a promise to repay them over 15 years. We wanted to push for a reversal, but softened the position to expressing concern after a pre-visit briefing by our State personnel. Many other programs, including schools, have had substantial cuts and the State has few options.
- ♦ *DSA and Caltrans ADA Compliance.* DSA is, according to statute, responsible for

ADA compliance in the State. By past agreement, Caltrans has done their own checking and that agreement has expired. DSA attorneys have insisted that it not be renewed and that DSA take over the checking program. CELSOC

opposes this as an extra layer of review adding to the length of the review process.

- ♦ *CEQA.* Expect the Governor's office, through the CPR (California Performance Review), to seek changes in CEQA. There are recommendations for streamlining and for more uniform mitigation measures. Currently, the mitigation measures for the same impact vary tremendously from area to area and agency to agency. Also, it has been suggested that CEQA could be relaxed for “in-fill” projects in conformance with General Plans and other planning documents. We support this.

Key State Issues

- ♦ *Indemnification and third party liability* – Several years ago, CELSOC sponsored a bill to basically restrict public indemnification clauses whereby a public agency requires the consultant to insure for more than its negligence. That bill was not pursued because it came at the same time as our Proposition 35, which was generally supported by local public agencies. CELSOC has now drafted a bill that would address two issues: (1) the indemnification clauses for both public and private contracts and (2) third-party liability. These are, in our opinion, “common-sense” bills.
- ♦ *LLPs* – Attorneys, architects, etc., can form limited liability partnerships in California. Engineers can not. A bill has been drafted by CELSOC to change the law to allow engineers to form LLPs. It has been through the legislative-counsel process and has an author in the legislature. This bill is ABA 180.
- ♦ *Opposed to AB 57.* This proposed bill would require that, to take credit for jobs subject to prevailing wages, the benefits must

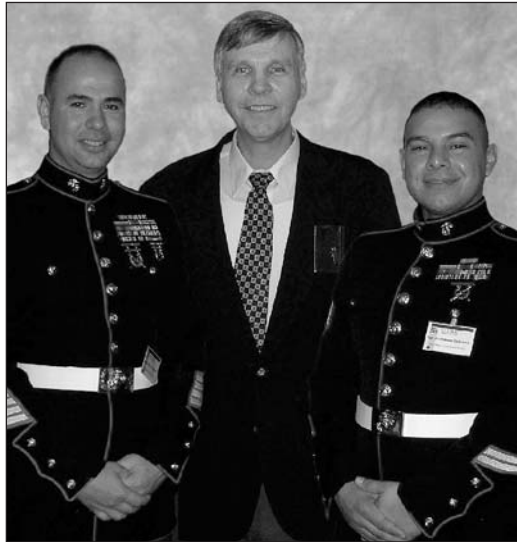


Richard Bardin

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December Luncheon Wrap-Up

The Annual CELSOC Orange County Chapter Charity Event in December featured the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society. In keeping with our tradition of giving at the holidays, CELSOC donated all the proceeds of the luncheon to this worthy cause. The guest speaker was SSgt Jeffrey L. Murrill, USMC - Camp Pendleton, who made a presentation entitled "Providing Potable Water to the Troops in Iraq". He described how the Marines were able to transport, install and operate desalination units capable of supplying potable water for 150,000 troops in a war zone.



Dick Bardin, CELSOC Orange County Chapter President, poses for a photo with Ssgt Jeffrey L. Murrill (l) and Sgt. Francisco Quintero (r).

President's Message: Report from Sacramento

Continued from Page 2

be paid at least quarterly as is required for union companies. The problem is that, for most firms, benefits such as profit sharing are paid annually. CELSOC will vigorously oppose this bill as an attempt to unionize more consulting firms.

Other Observations

- ♦ **Governor's Four Primary Issues.** The Governor has identified four primary issues: (1) changing the budget process to prevent the State from overspending its budget; (2) implementing merit pay for teachers in lieu of the current tenure system; (3) changing the State pension system to more closely match that offered in the private sector; and (4) changing the re-districting process so that the legislators are not in charge of establishing their own districts to create "safe" districts; this tends to polarize the Legislature as certain members do not have to take more central positions to get elected. Expect State ballot measures if the Governor and Legislature can not agree – which is less than likely. Also, expect measures on both sides of each issue.
- ♦ **State Assets.** The CELSOC legislator of the year, Senator Jeff Denham, is leading efforts to find out what the State owns and to sell or lease where possible. The thrust is to identify funds to help with the State's budget problem. Most Departments do not sufficiently know what they own.

- ♦ **CELSOC Local Agency Committee.** This committee is becoming very active in combating adverse contract language. They are seeking information on agencies with adverse clauses and will be assisting with the education process. They also have published "talking points" for a few of the most problematic clauses. Information is available on the CELSOC website
- ♦ **Upcoming Events – The Beyond**
- ♦ **February Awards of Excellence.** Please support our awardees and your fellow consultants at the February 23rd luncheon. Remember, we have a new site for this and future meetings – The "Clubhouse" on the east side of South Coast Plaza.
- ♦ **April Consulting Congress Day and ACEC Conference.** Similar to the State CELSOC visits, only on a national scale. Having attended for several years, I can say that it is a worthwhile experience. If you are interested, visit the ACEC website or e-mail to our local organization at staff@celsoc.org.



And for those who look to the long term and like warmth, once every seven years the Annual Conference is in Hawaii. This is truly a great opportunity to network with other consultants, absorb the educational sessions, and enjoy the atmosphere. In 2007, the site is on the Kona Coast of the Big Island. Aloha! 🇺🇸

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People on the Move...

Compiled by *Dina Gartland*

- ◆ **Jeff Fromhertz**, a veteran in the transportation industry, has recently joined **RBF Consulting**. He's a Senior Associate and will be working closely with the transportation group on highway projects throughout the region.
- ◆ **Catherine Tyrrell** has joined **Psomas** as Director of Water Quality Management in the firm's West Los Angeles office. Prior to joining Psomas, Catherine was the director of coastal and environmental affairs for Playa Vista, specializing in environmental and water quality management.
- ◆ **Van Dell and Associates** has expanded into the Inland Empire with a division in the City of Corona. **Tom Bogard** has joined the firm as their Director of Transportation. Tom has more than 30 years of experience in the industry, though he doesn't look a day over 30 years old. Also, **Bill Young** has joined the firm as a senior project manager in the land development department. Van Dell has announced several promotions, including **John Wolter** to Vice President

and Manager of the Inland Empire Division, and **Richard Nadelson** to Vice President of Land Development.

- ◆ **Bob Ohlund** has been appointed President of **The Keith Companies'** (TKC) Public Works/Infrastructure segment. Bob earned his engineering degree from USC and has been in the industry over 20 years (apparently, he's not as old as Tom). Bob will oversee the delivery of projects and will expand the company's public works services across the nation.
- ◆ **Leighton Consulting** has hired **John Haertle** as a senior project manager in their Irvine office. John will work with **Djan Chandra**, the office's director of engineering, on transportation, water, land development, and other types of projects.



Please send your *People on the Move* announcements to:

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