

# CELSOC *Update*

ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER

SEPTEMBER 2006



CONSULTING  
ENGINEERS and  
LAND SURVEYORS  
of CALIFORNIA

Orange County Chapter

## Upcoming Meetings & Events

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2006

### MONTHLY LUNCHEON

Speaker:

Scott Hunter, Motivational Speaker

### Creating an Outrageously Successful Organization

11:30 am to 1:30 pm

Wyndham O.C. Airport Hotel  
3350 Avenue of the Arts • Costa Mesa

For further information about this  
or any other CELSOC events  
call (949) 672-9030

President  
JEFF WALKER

## President's Letter

# Reflections on Our Mission

By JEFF WALKER

The topic of my first "President's Message" came to mind when I was recently asked to author a letter on behalf of the Orange County Chapter in support of OCTA staff's recommendation to divide the upcoming SR-22 Phase II project for preliminary engineering into two roughly equal size contracts. The request prompted me to question whether issuing such a letter was consistent with CELSOC's mission. In addition to talking to a few wise colleagues, I referred to the CELSOC Orange County Chapter website ([www.celsococ.org](http://www.celsococ.org)), which contains our Mission Statement and Core Values. By reviewing these statements, I realized that not only was it appropriate to write the letter, but not writing it would be to miss an opportunity to remind our government and our members what CELSOC represents.

*CELSOC's Mission is to enhance the environment for the practice of all members by initiating legislation, conducting public awareness programs, improving business and professional practices, and providing effective member services for all members through strong Chapter Academy organizations.*

CELSOC's Core Values include:

- A safe built environment;
- A healthy business climate;
- Ethical professional conduct;
- Legal accountability tied to responsibility;

- *Qualifications-Based Selection of professional services;*
- *Unencumbered public/private partnerships; and*
- *Recognition of the accomplishments of the profession.*

Your Orange County Chapter chose to issue the referenced letter, because OCTA staff's recommendation is consistent with CELSOC's Core Values. Splitting the project provides for a more competitive environment; likely will allow more Orange County firms an opportunity to work on the project;

and allows flexibility in the selection of a project delivery method at the completion of preliminary engineering. Additionally, the selection process will contain provisions to allow award of both

contracts to a single firm, if that firm is the most qualified to complete both projects;

Your Orange County Chapter has been actively involved in advancing CELSOC's mission and promoting its Core Values. In the last year under the leadership of your past-president Byron Tobey, your Orange County Chapter organized a golf tournament that raised more than \$10,000 in scholarships for needy college students studying engineer



Jeff Walker

*We will continue to push for legislation that protects our industry and to look for opportunities to raise awareness of the engineering and land surveying professions.*

Continued on Page 3

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Orange County Chapter

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# CELSOC Awards of Excellence Banquet Wrap-Up

CELSOC Orange County held its inaugural Award Banquet and Installation of Officers at The Center Club on the evening of May 25. The event was a huge success with more than 150 people in attendance. Honorees included **Robert Bein** of RBF for *Lifetime Achievement*, and the **Orange County Water District** as *Client of the Year*. Both Mr. Bein and OCWD were presented with proclamations from Assemblyman **Todd Spitzer** and Assemblywoman **Lynn Daucher** attesting to their respective accomplishments, along with award plaques from CELSOC Orange County. ☰



Bob Bein delivers some remarks after receiving the CELSOC OC Lifetime Achievement Award.



Bob Bein poses with CELSOC State Representative Bart Patton.



Jason Vasquez presents Bob Bein with the Assembly Proclamation.



Mr. and Mrs. Bob Bein enjoyed the event honoring his lifetime of service.



Bart Patton poses with Wes Bannister of the Orange County Water District.



Orange County Water District Board and staff members enjoy the Awards event. From left: OCWD General Manager Virginia Grebbien, Director Wes Bannister, Director Jose Solorio, Director Roger Yoh and Director Denis Bilodeau.



OCWD Board and staff members accept the Assembly Proclamation. From left, Mike Markus, Assistant General Manager; Shivaji Deshmukh, Director of Local Resources & Finance; Virginia Grebbien, General Manager; Craig Miller, Assistant General Manager; and Roy Herndon, Chief Hydrogeologist.

## June Luncheon Wrap-Up

Christina Lo, Manager of Engineering Services for the Orange County Great Park Corporation, was the speaker at the June membership luncheon. Ms. Lo detailed some of the exciting plans in the works for development of the Great Park site in Irvine.

A registered civil engineer with over 15 years of experience in the planning, design, and construction of municipal facilities throughout Southern California, Ms. Lo has been with the City of Irvine for five years and served previously as the City's Construction Administrator for Facilities and Park Projects.

Also included in the proceedings was the awarding of CELSOC Scholarships to deserving local university students.



*CELSOC OC President Tobey shakes hands with Christina Lo following her presentation on Irvine's Great Park at the June luncheon.*



*This year's OC CELSOC scholarship recipients join Yazdan Emrani, CELSOC Scholarship Chair, for a photograph.*

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:** *A Continuing Search for Opportunities*

*Continued from Page 1*

ing or surveying. Your chapter has organized an awards banquet honoring Orange County Water District as Client of the Year and Robert Bein with a Lifetime Achievement Award. Your chapter has visited members of our State Legislature in January and our Federal Legislature in May to raise awareness on issues that directly affect your businesses and to promote CELSOC-sponsored legislation. Your chapter has organized monthly lunches to provide networking opportunities and updates from potential clients on upcoming work. In addition to these many activities, most of your Board of Directors serve on federal, state and local committees, and provide a vital link to news and events that directly impact our businesses.

Your Orange County Chapter represents

3,250 full-time equivalent employees in nearly 100 engineering and land surveying firms. The success of this organization is dependent on the enthusiasm and drive of its members and their willingness to get involved amidst the many demands of their career and families. In a time when engineering graduates are so hard to find, it is imperative that we continue to push forth legislation that protects our businesses and continue to look for opportunities to raise awareness of the engineering and land surveying professions.

I look forward to serving as your president this year, and invite anyone who is interested in getting involved to jump right in. I can be reached at Kleinfelder's Irvine office at (949) 727-4466 or through our executive management company, Seabreeze Management at (949) 672-9030. ☒

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# People on the Move...

Compiled by Dina Gartland

**Leighton** is pleased to announce the recent appointment of **Carl Kim**, GE to the position of Senior Project Manager in their downtown Los Angeles office. Carl's impressive background in geotechnical engineering includes degrees from Berkeley and MIT. He has extensive experience in the transportation and rail arenas and further strengthens the firm's portfolio in these and many other markets.



**Jack Baylis** has recently joined **AECOM** as the West Region Group Chief Executive Officer.

He now leads the global design and management company's practice in California, and several other western states.



**RBF** recently welcomed **Karen Underhill** to the firms' Geographic Information Systems department as a Project Manager and Associate. Karen's experience in GIS is broadly based, encompassing many applications.



**Robert Reid**, a 17-year veteran in the Southern California engineering community, has joined **Tetra Tech**. He has assumed the role of

Senior Manager for Water and Wastewater Services. He will focus on facilities planning and design, water recycling and reuse, and groundwater supply investigations.



**Shohreh DuPuis**, recently with Parsons Brinckerhoff, has joined the **City of Anaheim** as their Transit Manager.



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

**Dina Gartland**,  
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## CELSOC

### Orange County Chapter

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