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The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has awarded CalPortland Company the National ENERGY STAR® Award for Sustained Excellence in recognition of its continued leadership in protecting our environment through energy efficiency. CalPortland’s accomplishment over seven consecutive years (2005 - 2011) is a feat that has never been matched by any other U.S. building materials company.
And the “Oscar” Goes to...

“One of the best if not the best awards program I have been to”...

I hear those words frequently from attendees of the annual AGC Awards program. Considered the “Oscars” for the construction industry, the 24th Annual Awards Banquet is one of the most anticipated events of the year. It is always with a great deal of pleasure that we recognize our members for their outstanding contributions and extraordinary projects. This year’s awards banquet was no exception, with presentations that rival any I have seen on television.

Over 300 people attended the sold-out event held on April 9 at the Fairmont Hotel in Newport Beach. Seven outstanding projects built by AGC members were chosen as winners, and these projects, along with all of the finalists named in the year’s competition, were recognized as the “best of the best” in California construction. AGC also presented three companies with 2011 Excellence in Partnering Awards. Further details of each winning category and information on the winning projects are provided throughout this month’s issue. I believe you will find each project demonstrative of the AGC motto of “Skill, Integrity, and Responsibility,” while providing motivation to all of us to rise to the challenge of our respective projects and jobs to achieve the highest standard of excellence for our customers and our organizations.

The Awards also honored individuals for their industry achievements and efforts in education and partnering. The Contractor Achievement Award went to Gary Jancio of C.C. Myers, Inc. for his many years of service and dedication to the construction industry, and William M. Lyles received the AGC Construction Education Friend Award for his long-time support of education and community service, locally and nationally.

Congratulations to all the finalists and winners who participated and took home a coveted solid bronze sculpture. Your project, along with the many other projects showcased during this year’s Awards program, truly exemplifies the skill, integrity, and responsibility of our industry and highlights the challenges faced by contractors today. Special thanks to the following companies who sponsored this year’s Awards banquet: Clark Construction Group - California, LP, Caterpillar Inc. and Caterpillar Financial Services, McGraw-Hill Construction and SeaBright Insurance Company.

Following the great event we all returned to our respective jobs. For AGC staff and members one area we immediately focused on was the state and national legislative scene. At the national level we continued the fight for infrastructure funding and strongly opposed the 3% withhold on government contracts – a huge financial hit for contractors. At the state level, in spite of the ongoing budget battles our elected officials strongly opposed the 3% withhold on government contracts – a huge financial hit for contractors.

AGC is working with several coalitions in an attempt to bring reason and streamline the new SWPPP regulations in California.

One of the most effective ways to learn about what’s going on in the industry or how to comply with some of these regulations is to attend an AGC event in your District or one of the many education seminars offered. Our next statewide event is AGC’s Spring Conference as we head to beautiful Monterey for “Pirates for Monterey Bay”. This year’s conference promises to be a lot of fun and is a perfect chance to meet with some of the industry’s top leaders to discuss critical issues and challenges your company faces. See you all in Monterey!

Thomas T. Holsman

Publisher: Seth Hornowitz — McGraw-Hill Construction, (212) 904-2334
Editor: Carol A. Eaton — Eaton Communications, (707) 789-9520
Production Manager: Jeff Kruger — McGraw-Hill Construction, (626) 932-6193
Graphic Designer/Production: Chuck Muela — McGraw-Hill Construction, (626) 932-6147
Advertising/Sales: Dawn Hicks — McGraw-Hill Construction, (626) 932-6142
Debbie Shumway — McGraw-Hill Construction, (877) 847-6768
Advertising Coordinator: Joan Spivak — McGraw-Hill Construction, (212) 904-2350

Correspondence: Address editorial correspondence to: Journal of the Associated General Contractors of California, 3095 Beacon Blvd., West Sacramento, CA 95691, 916/371-2422 or call Carol Eaton at 707/789-9520 or eaton@comcast.net.
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You would think this year it would be all about the budget and resolving California’s woeful financial picture. The day after Election Day, Governor Jerry Brown began lobbying the Legislature to resolve the chronic budget deficits. Today as of this writing – six months later – we seem to be no closer to a budget compromise than when the Governor began his effort. But to the contrary, the Legislature has swung back into action in regular fashion, introducing thousands of bills covering every subject imaginable. The AGC Legislative Committee met in March and reviewed over 150 bills that had been identified as impacting the construction industry. A listing of some of those bills, including legislation that AGC is sponsoring or co-sponsoring, is below.

AGC Sponsored/Co-Sponsored Bills include:

**AB 780 (Calderon, Charles)** – Sales Tax on Fixed Price Contracts – would require public agencies to reimburse contractors who entered into fixed price contracts prior to enactment of an increase in the state sales tax.

**SB 293 (Padilla)** Payment bonds claims – will be amended to reflect legislation sought by AGC during previous legislative sessions to prevent late filing of payment bond claims.

**AB 720 (Hall)** will limit the use of “force account” authority by county road commission .

**SB 438 (Cannella)** would provide that workers working off the site of construction shall only be deemed to be employed upon a public works project if that site is specifically established for that public work project.

**Other legislation of interest includes:**

**AB 356 (Hill)** would limit the ability of local agencies to establish local hire ordinances.

**SB 475 (Wright)** would clarify the procedures for local agencies to enter into public private partnership projects (P3) and allow the P3 agreements to be for a term of up to 50 years.

**SB 867 (Padilla)** would provide for the issuance of Build California Bonds, the proceeds of which would be used for transportation capital improvements. Bondholders would be entitled to nonrefundable tax credits against their personal income tax or corporate tax liability.

**SB 907 (Evans)** would create the Master Plan for Infrastructure Financing and Development Commission, the mission of which would be to develop and recommend a plan to be presented to the Governor and Legislature that provides for financing, building, and maintaining the infrastructure necessary to meet the needs of Californians to the year 2050.

**AB 294 (Portantino)** would reenact provisions authorizing Caltrans to let design-sequencing contracts for the design and construction of not more than 5 transportation projects, to be effective until January 1, 2015.

**AB 296 (Skinner)** would enact legislation that would regulate the reactivity (albedo) of pavement to reduce the urban heat island effect.

**AB 892 (Carter)** would delete the sunset date for a surface transportation project delivery pilot program, under which California assumed responsibilities for environmental review and clearance of transportation projects that would otherwise have been the responsibility of the federal government.

**AB 1308 (Miller)** would in any year in which the Budget Act has not been enacted by July 1, provide that all moneys in the Highway Users Tax Account in the Transportation Tax Fund are continuously appropriated and may be encumbered until the Budget Act is enacted. This would ensure that highway contractors will be paid for current work in the event of a budget impasse.

**AB 468 (Kehoe)** would impose requirements on Caltrans to insure that there is adequate public transit available prior to proceeding with proposed capacity-increasing state highway projects in the coastal zone.

**SB 469 (Vargas)** would require an applicant to a local government for a permit to develop a big-box superstore to submit an economic and community impact analysis report prior to the review of the permit application.

**AB 605 (Dickinson)** would require guidelines to establish a percentage reduction in the projected trip generation and vehicle miles traveled for any new development project to meet the greenhouse gas emission reduction targets established by the State Air Resources Board.

**SB 623 (Kehoe)** would make it unlawful to manufacture, sell, or distribute marine antifouling paints that contain copper.

**SB 424 (Rubio)** would authorize a design professional to convert a recorded design professional lien to a mechanics lien.

**SB 474 (Evans)** would prohibit the use of “type I” indemnity clause in construction contracts.

**AB 1286 (Fuentes)** would provide that when a dispute exists between an employer and an employee over earned wages that is the subject of a pending class action or representative action, a waiver, release, or settlement is not valid unless all parties are represented by counsel, a superior court approves the release as a reasonable and good faith resolution of the dispute, as defined, or the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement has negotiated a settlement between the parties.

**SB 111 (Yee)** would make it a violation of law to adopt or enforce a policy that requires, limits, or prohibits the use of any language in a business establishment.

**SB 129 (Leno)** would authorize a person who has suffered discrimination from the legal use of medical marijuana to institute a representative action, a waiver, release, or settlement is not valid unless all parties are represented by counsel, a superior court approves the release as a reasonable and good faith resolution of the dispute, as defined, or the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement has negotiated a settlement between the parties.

**AB 1330 (Furutani)** would with the 2012-13 school year add completion of a course in career technical education as an alternative to the requirement that a pupil complete a course in visual or performing arts or foreign language.

**SB 56 (Corbett)** would provide that no two employee representatives on the California Apprenticeship Council may be from the same national or international labor organization.
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Seven outstanding projects built by AGC of California contractors were chosen as winners in the Twenty-fourth Annual AGC of California's Constructor Awards program. The winning projects, along with all of the Constructor Awards finalists named in this year's competition, were honored as the “best of the best” in California construction during the 2011 Awards Banquet and presentation at The Fairmont, Newport Beach on April 9. The prestigious black tie event, the “Oscars” evening for the construction industry, was attended by nearly 300 people from top construction firms throughout the state.

The Constructor Award winners spanned a diverse array of project types from throughout California. Each of the winners received the specially commissioned award – a solid bronze sculpture weighing nearly six pounds and depicting a surveyor with hardhat and transit. The seven winners were chosen from a field of 17 previously announced finalists, all of whom were spotlighted during the awards evening with each team receiving a finalist plaque recognizing their outstanding efforts in construction. Constructor winners and finalists are all AGC members.

The 2011 Constructor Awards winners and their projects are highlighted here.

### Contribution to the Community

**Constructor Winner: Marina Landscape, Inc., for The Los Angeles Boys & Girls Club, Los Angeles**

The Los Angeles Boys & Girls Club was in dire need of renovation, and the City of Los Angeles, through a grant, allowed the club to renovate the property. The project that included the renovation of the Club’s athletic field and the facility itself was very important to the owner, the City of Los Angeles, as well as the local underprivileged community.

When this project bid initially, Marina Landscape was the apparent low bidder at approximately $610,000. However this was well over the owner’s budget of $500,000.

Through lengthy negotiations with the owner and the architect, Marina value engineered the irrigation and plant materials with a commitment to complete this project according to the design intent. To expedite the process and to continue the company’s commitment to provide support and assistance to those community organizations and schools in need, Marina provided the labor and equipment pro-bono for portions of the scope of work. The company also donated $50,000 to the Los Angeles Boys & Girls Club to make up the shortfall in funding, and reduced the project cost by over $100,000 – some 20%.

Marina Landscaping overcame numerous challenges to complete this project on time and to the satisfaction of the owner – leaving Los Angeles with a project that would serve the community needs for many future years.

Continued on page 8
Excellence in Project Management for Projects $10 Million or Below

Constructor Winner: Reyes Construction, Inc., for Seismic Retrofit and Painting of First Avenue Bridge Over Maple Canyon in San Diego

Reyes Construction, Inc. faced stringent architectural, environmental and constructability challenges in its successful completion of the seismic retrofit and painting of First Avenue Bridge over Maple Canyon in San Diego. The project required the contractor to construct various improvements to restore the original architectural beauty of the bridge while also satisfying the “no collapse” criteria set-forth by the State of California during a seismic event.

The project scope included the removal of existing lead paint, repainting the entire bridge structure to its original color, restoration of the original cast iron hand railing, seismic retrofit of the concrete foundation, seismic retrofit of the substructure and steel truss arch, rehabilitation of the concrete bridge deck, installation of light fixtures to match the design and placement of the original fixtures, and utility relocation where necessary.

Through innovative construction techniques and by working cooperatively with the City of San Diego, the project’s architect, regulatory agencies and subcontractors, Reyes Construction was able to overcome the various environmental challenges and stringent architectural requirements that were in place due to the project’s location and historic designation. Additionally, Reyes was able to leverage its award winning safety and quality control programs to ensure the project was completed with no lost time injuries, within budget and ahead of schedule. The project was also the recipient of the American Public Works Association (APWA) 2010 “Project of Year Award” in the Historical Restoration/Preservation category.

Excellence in Project Management for Projects Over $10 Million

Constructor Winner: Hensel Phelps Construction Company for Norman Y. Mineta San Jose International Airport Terminal Area Improvement Program in San Jose

The ability to overcome project challenges, devise unique solutions, surpass client expectations and truly collaborate were all demonstrated on the San Jose International Airport Terminal Area Improvement Program in San Jose. The team led by Hensel Phelps Construction Co. delivered the $675 million modernization project under budget and ahead of schedule without interruptions to the traveling public.

2011 Constructor Awards Finalists All Noteworthy

The seven 2011 Constructor Award winners were chosen from a field of 17 finalists, all noteworthy projects deserving of special recognition. Each finalist project was highlighted during the 2011 Awards banquet presentation.

Following is a listing of those finalists and their projects. (Those in italic are the winners in each category.)

Excellence In Project Management – Projects $10 Million Or Below

Herzog Contracting Corp.: “SCRRA Metrolink JO112-09” – Los Angeles

Reyes Construction, Inc.: “Seismic Retrofit and Painting of First Avenue Bridge over Maple Canyon” – San Diego

Shimmick Construction Co., Inc.: “Muni Misc. Rail Replacement” – San Francisco

Excellence In Project Management – Projects Over $10 Million

Barnhart Balfour Beatty: “William B. McLean Laboratory” – China Lake


Hensel Phelps Construction Co.: “Norman Y. Mineta San Jose International Airport Terminal Area Improvement Program” – San Jose

Innovation In Construction Techniques Or Materials

Ausonio Incorporated: “Monterey College of Law” – Seaside

Barnhart Balfour Beatty: “Wounded Warrior Bachelor Enlisted Quarters (BEQ)” – Camp Pendleton

Valley Slurry Seal Co.: “Santa Monica Airport” – Santa Monica

Continued on page 9
The design-build project included the complete transformation of Mineta San Jose International Airport including new and renovated terminal buildings, a one-of-a-kind consolidated rental car facility, a simplified roadway system, state-of-the-art security checkpoints and baggage systems, and many sustainable features.

The Hensel Phelps led team worked hand in hand with all project stakeholders to develop many unique design and construction solutions including concepts that avoided the construction of costly temporary and permanent facilities. Just two of these concepts saved the airport more than $23 million. In addition, the team creatively reprogrammed other elements to provide operational efficiencies and create revenue generating space for the airport.

Logistically, the program’s greatest challenge was performing the work in an operating airport environment. Maintaining the 24/7 operational needs of the airport while supporting the critical construction milestones of the program led to challenging phasing, shift work, and the ability to adapt construction operations to yield to the needs of the Airport, TSA, and the public.

### Innovation in Construction Techniques or Materials

**Constructor Winner: Ausonio Incorporated, for Monterey College of Law in Seaside**

Ausonio Incorporated demonstrated multiple innovations in its work on the Community Justice Center for Monterey College of Law. The goal was to create a fresh new courtroom and mediation facility on a site with a dilapidated military concrete masonry building; to do it sustainably, by reusing much of the existing building; and to achieve a Platinum LEED certification – all within a limited fixed budget.

Success depended on many innovations working together. The project reused 94% of the original building envelope and recycled 97% of the construction waste. A platform for the new mechanical system, supported by independent columns, eliminated the cost of reinforcing the entire roof. Low-flow and waterless fixtures made for a 63% savings on indoor water use. Native and drought-resistant plants, combined with weather-sensing irrigation and a percolation system that re-captures all surface water, achieve a 75% savings on outdoor water use.

Many other innovative, green solutions included a photovoltaic solar system that produces over 20% of the projected energy requirements of the building, extensive recycling of construction materials, and huge energy savings through careful planning of the building envelope, among other things.

Ausonio succeeded in achieving all of the project goals by integrating numerous innovations. The Community Justice Center now stands as the first LEED Platinum certified law school building in the nation and serves as an excellent example for the reuse of a decommissioned military facility.

*Continued on page 11*
Liebherr LR1300
John Muir Hospital

Bigge would like to congratulate Clark Construction Group for winning AGC’s prestigious award!

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Meeting the Challenge of the Difficult Job – Builder

Constructor Winner: Clark Construction Group – California, LP, for John Muir Medical Center – Walnut Creek Campus Phase IV Expansion and Remodel Project in Walnut Creek

The $315 million, 415,000-sq.-ft. John Muir Medical Center (JMMC) - Walnut Creek Campus Phase IV Expansion and Remodel Project added a five-story, 242-bed tower, underground loading dock and central utility plant to JMMC’s existing facility.

As the general contractor, Clark Construction Group – California, LP faced myriad challenges guiding the complex and intricate project to its ultimately successful completion. The project was complicated by its proximity to existing operational hospital facilities, the many regulations and regulating bodies involved in overseeing it as well as more than 13,000 required inspections, among other things.

Tying the new construction in with the existing hospital proved challenging on a variety of levels, particularly from a logistical standpoint. In some areas, new construction took place within six inches of the existing facility. In order to create a seamless transition between old and new spaces the ceiling height of the new tower had to be set to match the lower ceiling height of the existing facility, requiring significant coordination of the mechanical, electrical and system installation above the ceilings. Building Information Modeling was essential to resolve conflicts and complete the successful tie-in.

Careful preplanning and collaboration with John Muir Heath helped keep JMMC’s existing facilities fully operational through the project and ensured the project was ultimately successful.

Meeting the Challenge of the Difficult Job – Heavy Engineering

Constructor Winner: Granite Construction Company for Truckee River Canyon project from I-80 Truckee River Bridge to Nevada State Line

Granite Construction Company (Granite) was awarded the $43 million Truckee River Canyon project in Sep-
Continued from page 11

tember 2008 from the California Department of Transportation. Stretching five and a half miles from the Truckee River Bridge near Floriston, CA to the Nevada State line, the project was designed to completely reconstruct the worn and battered roadway section, replace the existing concrete median barrier, replace the existing metal beam guardrail, improve drainage, and increase roadway widths where space allowed.

Although originally scheduled to complete in the fall of 2011, Caltrans accepted a Cost Reduction Incentive Proposal (CRIP) submitted by Granite that reduced the inconvenience on the traveling public from three years to two years. With that, construction began in May of 2009. The management team negotiated through 73 changes and nearly $2 million in additional work. Through aggressive scheduling and relentless execution of the work, Granite was able to complete the project as promised in the fall of 2010.

A close partnership developed between Caltrans personnel and the Granite team throughout the project, which facilitated timely resolution to otherwise logistical nightmares. Even with a change in project staffing for the 2010 construction season, the transition was seamless, and no momentum was lost on the project schedule.

■ Meeting the Challenge of the Difficult Job – Specialty Contractor Classification

Constructor Winner: Dynalectric, for Disney’s California Adventure, World of Color in Anaheim

The latest attraction featured at Disney’s California Adventure is the animated light and water spectacular World of Color, appearing nightly in the Paradise Pier Lagoon. The World of Color production equipment comprises nearly 1,200 fountain nozzles, each with individually controlled LEDs; pumps that generate fog, creating a blanket that engulfs the lagoon; and cannons that shoot fire as if it were jumping off the water. Disney and Pixar animation is projected on a water-screen backdrop. The World of Color’s continuous water screen towers 50 feet high by 380 feet wide and covers approximately 19,000 square feet.

Dynalectric was selected for this project to contribute its extensive knowledge regarding electrical installation and to facilitate Walt Disney Imagineering and Disney Creative Entertainment in their installation of advanced electrical technologies. The project is the first instance of Disney allowing construction of this scale to be performed in view of the public. An extensive scope of work had to be performed all while the park remained in operation and without disturbing the Disneyland Resort experience that visitors expect.

The Dynalectric team employed a number of innovative solutions to deliver the unique project. They utilized laser scanning of the lagoon to facilitate the
design and installation of a complex cable tray system. Building Information Modeling facilitated the prefabrication of the cable tray system as well as coordination of multiple contractors. The team implemented a complex construction schedule, with the goal of minimizing any interference to park visitors.

Driven by its steadfast commitment to maintain the scheduled completion date and its pledge to superior quality in craftsmanship, the Dynalectric team delivered a highly successful project. Since the opening of the World of Color, the project has experienced great reviews, and Dynalectric considers itself fortunate to have been a part of such a magical experience.

Dynalectric received the Constructor Award for the new Specialty Contractor category that was added this year. On hand to receive the Constructor award were Chris Pesavento and Dan Harrigan (not pictured). At right, World of Color project.

Thanks You Sponsors!

AGC Thanks the following sponsors for the AGC Awards program:

- Caterpillar, Inc. / Caterpillar Financial Services
- McGraw-Hill Construction
- SeaBright Insurance Company
- The Clark Construction Company – California, LP (Construction Education Foundation Program and Achievement Award sponsor)

Constructor Awards Judges

Judges (both preliminary round judges and final round judges) for this year’s Constructor Awards competition included the following individuals:

- Randy Douglas, Awards Committee Chair, Tierra Contracting, Inc.
- Mike Mencarini, Awards Committee Vice Chair, Unger Construction Company
- Michael Blach, Blach Construction Company
- Suzanne Blackburn, Hilfiker Retaining Walls
- Donald E. Bradley, Esq., Musick, Peeler & Garrett
- Dave Garese, Excel Bonds & Insurance Services, Inc.
- Christopher Larsen, C.V. Larsen Co. Engineering Contractors
- Colleen McHugh, Nor Cal Leavitt Insurance Services
- Bill Wallace, Daily Construction Service / Reed Construction Data
- Clint Larison, Reyes Construction, Inc.
- Allan Wolf, HMH Builders, Inc.
- Gus Bruner, Caliagua, Inc.
- Rebekah Gladson, Associate Vice Chancellor and Campus Architect, University of California, Irvine / Outside Industry Representative Tom Henle, Jones, Henle & Schunk, CPAs served as the Official Accountant to the Awards Committee.
Some of the 2011 Constructor Award Finalists which are pictured here include:

1. SCRRA Metrolink JO112-09 (Herzog Contracting Corp.)
2. LAUSD Robert F. Kennedy Community Schools (Hensel Phelps Construction Co.)
3. Santa Monica Airport (Valley Slurry Seal Co)
4. Wounded Warrior Bachelor Enlisted Quarters (BEQ) (Barnhart Balfour Beatty)
6. DSS14 Hydrostatic Bearing Replacement (Diani Building Corp.)
7. I-15 Managed Lanes in Escondido from Ninth Ave. to Rt. 15/78 Separation (Atkinson Construction)
Projects for 2011...

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Gary Janco Wins AGC Achievement Award

AGC of California presented its annual Contractor Achievement Award to Gary Janco, Executive Vice President of C.C. Myers, Inc. The Award honored Janco’s many years of service and accomplishments in the construction industry.

Before he ever completed his carpenter apprenticeship in the San Fernando Valley, Janco says he knew he wanted to be a bridge builder. He started out with Polich-Benedict Construction Co., and by the early 1970s, he was the structures superintendent for the company’s largest project, the Highway 118/405 Interchange in Granada Hills. Janco met Clint Myers and accepted his offer to join him in starting the new company to be known as C.C. Myers, Inc. Janco has worked there since, leading the work on countless major projects including the Century Freeway and the Harbor Freeway Redesign in Southern California, the I-680 / Hwy 24 Interchange in Walnut Creek, and the American River Bridge in Folsom. He also worked on 18 emergency reconstruction projects that included the Santa Monica Freeway damaged by the 1994 Northridge Earthquake, and was a key player in C.C. Myer’s work on the San Francisco Oakland Bay Bridge “roll out/ roll in” projects in 2007 and 2009. Finishing jobs safely, within or ahead of schedule and often under budget has been his and his company’s hallmark.

Janco is active with the California and Nevada AGC chapters, several labor groups, and the Construction Industry Crime Prevention program in northern California among other industry organizations.

He said this upon receiving the AGC award: “Safety is our number one core value at C.C. Myers, Inc. Along with that, there’s another rule I’ve lived by: A man’s word is his bond. You’ve got to do what you say you’re gonna do. No matter how fancy or full of technology our world is, these two things – being safe and being reliable – will always help you move forward in life. This award makes me think of all the great people I’ve known and worked with, and all the learning we went through together.” 🏆
AGC Presents Partnering, Education Awards
Companies Demonstrate Commitment to Partnering, Innovation and Teamwork to Deliver Successful Projects

AGC of California’s Construction Education Foundation presented three Excellence in Partnering awards along with an Education Friend Award during AGC’s Awards Banquet on April 9 in Newport Beach.

Construction Education Friend Award

William Lyles is a recognized leader in the building industry, having served in top roles in many national, state, and local organizations.

He serves on the Board of Directors for the National Association of General Contractors and the California State Chamber of Commerce. Lyles has also served on the Board of the Fresno Economic Development Corporation and as a member of the Board of Governors for the California State University, Fresno Foundation.

Lyles has been very active in community service, serving as president of the Board of Directors for Valley Public Television, Fresno Regional Foundation, Fresno Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Playland, East Fresno Rotary, and the Fresno Metropolitan Museum. He has also served on the Board of Directors for the Private Industry Council, the Fresno Philharmonic Association, the Purdue Alumni Association, and the Fresno Opera Association.

He was the eighth recipient of the Leon S. Peters award in 1991, recognizing those individuals who make significant leadership contributions to the community, in the spirit of Leon S. Peters. In 1992, he was honored as the Outstanding Philanthropist by the National Society of Fund Raising Executives.

His extensive community service was recognized in 2001 when California State University, Fresno awarded him one of the highest honors, an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters. That same year, he was awarded the Civil Engineering Alumni Achievement Award from his alma mater, Purdue University.

In 1999 he received the California State University, Fresno Foundation Service Award. The award is presented to an individual who has achieved stature in his or her field of endeavor that reflects favorably on the Fresno community and the University.

He has supported many other aspects of education in the region, including the San Joaquin College of Law, community colleges, and public schools.

Lyles holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Purdue University and served in the U.S. Navy Civilian Engineering Corps where he helped supervise construction of a power plant, roads, water system and building.

Excellence In Partnering Awards

Three project teams received AGC’s Excellence in Partnering Awards for 2011. The awards recognize successful projects that overcome unforeseen challenges to come in on or ahead of schedule, under budget with high quality and excellent safety records, due to a successful commitment to partnering, innovation and teamwork. The winning projects are described below.

Projects Over $50 Million

Richard E. Arnason Justice Center, Pittsburg: Sundt Construction and Administrative Office of the Courts

This three-story, 75,000-sq.-ft. facility includes seven courtrooms, judges’ chambers, administrative space, a library, conference rooms and several prisoner building cells. The project team faced considerable coordination challenges from the onset, due to the complexity of systems and interior finishes that go into a courtroom project. A mechanical system issue that arose prior to construction required the team to go back and redesign, affecting the budget and schedule. Even with the challenges, the team sustained its commitment to partnering and teamwork. The partners in approach saved the owner more than $2 million.

Also selected as a finalist in this category were the Ortega Highway (SR-74) Widening project, by Rancho Mission Viejo and the County of Orange, and the Point Potero Wharf Repair, by Vortex Marine Construction and Honda Automotive.

Projects Under $50 Million

Robert F. Kennedy Community Schools: Hensel Phelps Construction Co. and LAUSD

This is the largest, and certainly the most expensive K-12 schools project ever undertaken in the U.S., this $324 million project is constructed at the historic site of the Ambassador Hotel and the historic Cocoanut Grove Night Club. Based on the history, it was obvious to the stakeholders on this team that this would not be “just another project” but a once in a lifetime historic project. They set out from the start
to take the partnering process to a level it had never gone.

The partnership charter goals were evaluated every other month by the on-site stakeholders and twice a year in formalized of-site follow up partnering sessions during the entire contract period. Partnering is a way of doing business for this team, whether professionally facilitated or not, and the result was a highly successful project.

San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge Oakland Touchdown Project: MCM Construction and Caltrans

This project connects the side-by-side elevated ridges to the Oakland Shoreline and the toll plaza. The new bridge foundations are located in the bay mud under the waters of the San Francisco Bay. A partnership between MCM Construction, Inc., Caltrans, the Bay Area Toll Authority and the California Transportation Commission was established early on for this project.

A strong commitment to partnership and teamwork was the driving reason for success on the Oakland Touchdown project. The size and magnitude of the job and collaboration of multiple agencies and stakeholders presented challenges from the onset. The project team members worked together to minimize complaints, keep the public and all stakeholders well informed, proactively address environmental constraints, as well as maintain an aggressive schedule. The project was completed ahead of schedule and within contract budget.

Also selected as finalists in this category were the Fresno/Clovis Regional Wastewater Reclamation Facilities Organic Upgrade Project by J.R. Filanc Construction Company and the City of Fresno, and Upper Northwest Interceptor #9 by Steve P. Rados and Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District.


Calendar of Events

May 12-13
AGC 2011 Spring Conference in Monterey
CESSWI - Certified Erosion, Sediment, Stormwater, Inspector.

May 12
Project Manager Series - PM 3: How to Win the Fight! Change Orders & Claims at AGC’s Southern California Office in West Covina
LEED Green Associate in West Sacramento

May 13
Project Manager Series - PM 4: Scheduling for Management at AGC Southern California Office in West Covina

May 17
CPR/First Aid/AED Certification Training at AGC’s Headquarters Office in West Sacramento

May 18
Prevailing Wage Seminar at the Sheraton Cerritos
Conceptual Estimating in Costa Mesa
Confined Space Competent Person in West Sacramento

May 18-20
Qualified SWPPP Developer (QSD) in Costa Mesa

May 18-19
Qualified SWPPP Practitioner (QSP) in Costa Mesa

May 19
CLC Bowling Night at Capitol Bowl in West Sacramento.

May 21
Trench, Shoring and Excavation - Competent Person at Trench Shoring Company
Union job stewards can be a real asset to the signatory contractor. If a steward does his or her job well, he/she can fend off jobsite tensions before they develop into more serious issues. The job steward can be the voice that tells a disgruntled employee they don’t have a case or help the contractor see if there is some merit before battle lines get drawn.

However, sometimes theory and reality don’t converge. Sometimes, the job steward is perceived as the cause of the problem. This perception may be erroneous because the steward is actually doing his job by bringing up legitimate conflicts with the Collective Bargaining Agreement but the contractor doesn’t want to hear it. Other times, the steward is indeed the problem. They view their position as a means to gain higher office or simply a means to obtain personal job security regardless of their jobsite performance.

Whether the conflict on a jobsite is the fault of the steward or not, the Collective Bargaining Agreements all have specific provisions to make sure the steward is protected from doing what is inherently a difficult responsibility. Beyond the Collective Bargaining Agreement provisions, when an employment action is taken against a steward, precedential decisions and arbitrators want to make sure that every detail of the Agreement has been carefully followed. Additionally, the burden of proof is going to lay squarely with the contractor. The assumption is that the nature of the responsibility carries with it the likelihood of conflict that might result in reprisal by the contractor.

Frustrated contractors often complain that it is impossible to “get rid of that cancer.” It may appear that way, but if the steward is truly a cancer on the site, he/she needs to be removed. It must be done correctly by following the Collective Bargaining Agreement provisions and with careful documentation. The astute contractor would do well to carefully review the steward provisions in their Agreement and contact their local AGC Industrial Relations Department well before taking any action against a job steward.
California Contractors Score Big at National Convention

AGC of California Members Receive Top Honors

By Sophia Taft

Associated General Contractors (AGC) members across the nation gathered in Las Vegas, NV the week of March 21st for AGC of America’s 92nd Annual Convention and CONEXPO-CON/AGG trade-show at the Bellagio Hotel and Las Vegas Convention Center.

AGC of California and several of its members were recognized for their many accomplishments achieved over the last year, which was a testament of AGC’s commitment to providing excellent services and representation of some of the largest contractors in the industry.

“AGC congratulates and is pleased to recognize our members for their outstanding contributions within the industry,” said AGC of California Chief Executive Officer Tom Holsman.

The week began with AGC of California receiving the Enterprise Chapter of the Year Award for the highest volume and number of sales for the Enterprise Fleet Program. As one of the chapter’s exclusive member discount programs, the Enterprise Fleet Program saves contractors on average $1,000 per vehicle purchased.

Other featured events included the Marvin M. Black Excellence in Partnering Awards Breakfast, Willis Safety Awards Breakfast (also known as the Construction Safety Excellence Award (CSEA)), and the AON Build America Awards Dinner.

The CSEA Awards were bestowed upon several member companies that excelled at safety performance in the categories of building, heavy, highway, municipal and specialty. In the building division, Blach Construction Company received Third Place in the 250,001-450,000 work hours category, and Flintco Pacific, Inc. took First Place in the 1,250,001-4 million work hours category. Blois Construction, Inc. received First Place, and Syblon Reid took second in the 100,001-300,000 work hours for Heavy Division. In the Specialty Division Underground Construction Company, Inc. was awarded Second Place in the 100,000-300,000 work hours category, and Granite Construction Company took home Second Place in the Over 1 million work hours category for the Highway Division.

Honoring AGC members who build the nation’s most impressive construction projects, the AON Build America Award winners included C.C. Myers, Inc., who took home the Merit Award in the Highway & Transportation Renovation category for their work on the San Francisco / Oakland Bay Bridge (SFOBB) Bypass Detour project.

“These awards demonstrate how AGC contractors are building America’s quality of life and illustrates exceptional excellence,” Holsman commented.

Next year’s Annual Convention will take place March 14-17, 2012 at the Hilton Hawaiian Village in Honolulu, Hawaii. 🎉
In a typical fleet, 20 percent of the drivers will be involved in some type of loss in any given year. Whether the damage is a cracked windshield or the vehicle is a total loss, it’s important not to learn by “accident” that what initially seems like “low cost claims management” may not actually be low cost. In the long run, it could end up costing a lot more with more expensive repair bills, longer downtime while the vehicle is out of service, and lower resale value if not repaired to the highest quality standards.

Properly managing accident costs is more likely to happen when working with a fleet management company whose repair team has completed technical training courses in collision repair. Such programs are offered by the Inter-Industry Conference on Auto Collision Repair (I-CAR). A not-for-profit international training organization dedicated to improving the quality, safety and efficiency of auto collision repair, I-CAR provides training in estimating, as well as various technical aspects of collision repair.

Getting the most satisfaction when a claim is settled begins with the initial estimate. Estimators who have completed I-CAR training not only are skilled at inspecting and analyzing collision damaged vehicles, they’re well prepared to provide the most comprehensive repair plan to ensure the highest quality service at the lowest possible price.

Sometimes, when the I-CAR trained estimator is part of the customer’s professional fleet management team, a decision may be made not to fix a vehicle. With access to all information about the customer’s fleet, determining factors can include everything from how much money is still owed on the lease, to the vehicle’s resale value, as well as the length of downtime and cost of renting a temporary replacement vehicle.

When the decision is made to repair a vehicle, knowing that all of the work is necessary and will be done correctly also depends on having the best possible relationship with the collision repair center. This includes monitoring repairs on a regular basis, keeping the customer apprised of hidden damages discovered and documenting the work is being done on the vehicle, especially additional repairs that may affect the final cost and/ or length of downtime.

Working with collision repair professionals who are part of a fleet management company can also have other advantages for business owners. For example, the fleet management company may pay all repair expenses directly to the repair center and bill the customer as part of the lease agreement. This relieves the business owner from needing to track and monitor repair invoices or issuing checks to reimburse drivers for any repair expenses paid by them personally. In addition, the fleet management company can maintain any loss history reports with details of all aspects of any claims.

Managing vehicle accidents is a complicated business that requires experience and expertise to ensure timely handling of claims and quality vehicle repairs at the lowest possible cost. For businesses with medium-size fleets, the best advice is to partner with a fleet management company that can handle claims with minimal driver involvement; provide one-call service with a dedicated claims adjuster; locate repair facilities anywhere nationwide; handle all payment terms for repaired vehicles; easily arrange replacement vehicles; and dispose of totaled vehicles timely and efficiently.

The bottom line, as always, is to get drivers back on the road as quickly as possible.

Brad Tyberg is Group Sales Manager for Enterprise Fleet Management in Sacramento and can be reached at 916-787-4793. In addition to maintenance management programs, Enterprise’s services include vehicle acquisition, fuel management and insurance programs, as well as vehicle registration, reporting and remarketing. Visit the company’s web site at www.efleets.com or call toll free 1-877-23-FLEET.
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» Local area contractor forums that focus on local issues
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Congratulate

Blois Construction, Inc.

for receiving First Place

in the AGC National Construction Safety Excellence Awards.

We are proud to work with the best.