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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 six consecutive years is a feat that has never been matched by any other U.S. building materials company.
Honoring Excellence in California Construction

AGC of California’s Awards Banquet that was recently held at the Fairmont Hotel in San Francisco was a tremendous success in terms of attendance and the quality of the projects that were presented. Thirty-three firms submitted entries, and the room was filled to capacity with over 300 enthusiastic contractors in attendance. This prestigious event is the equivalent of the Academy Awards and honors the “Best of the Best” projects and the individuals that contributed to their success. These projects are a testament to the skill, creativity and professionalism of all our members who build the roads, bridges, infrastructure, and buildings that contribute to quality of life for the people of California.

The coveted bronze Constructor Awards were presented in six categories: “Excellence in Project Management – Projects Under $5 Million,” “Excellence in Project Management – Projects Over $5 Million,” “Innovation in Construction Techniques or Materials,” “Contribution to the Community” and “Meeting the Challenge of the Difficult Job” in both Builder and Heavy Engineering categories. The Contractor Achievement Award was presented to Dave Higgins, Sr. of HMH Builders for his long history of supporting AGC and the construction industry. More information on the projects and companies is presented throughout this month’s magazine.

In addition to the Constructor awards, the AGC Education Foundation also recognized several individuals who have contributed to training and education in our industry. Jack Filanc of J.R. Filanc Construction Company was honored for the establishment of a $3 million endowment at the San Diego State University’s Construction Engineering and Management Program. Jeff Wright of Lincoln High School in Stockton was recognized for his efforts in establishing the construction career academy. After 10 years of continual effort and obtaining millions of dollars in grants and matching funds, it represents a significant benchmark for other schools to aspire to and is an example of what industry and the education profession can accomplish. We will certainly be hearing more about this unique program.

This event reminded me that we not only need to recognize the effort involved in overcoming the challenges in delivering difficult projects, but also the individuals who have continually and tirelessly championed our industry and our association over the years. Without these personal contributions and unwavering dedication to the ideals of skill, integrity and responsibility that we espouse, AGC would not enjoy the success and respect that we have attained.

The Awards Banquet always leaves me inspired and proud to be part of AGC and our industry. Thank you to every one that participated in this year’s competition, to the members of the Awards Committee, and to the staff and the judges that took so much time to evaluate the entries and to stage the event. I look forward to next year’s banquet, which is certain to be even more successful.

Bob Christenson
Term Limits Brings Leadership Change

By Dave Ackerman

Legislative term limits has another impact – a constant turnover of legislative leaders in the Senate and Assembly. This year three new leaders have been elected to lead their respective caucuses: John Pérez has taken Karen Bass’ position as Speaker of the Assembly; Martin Garrick was elected Republican Leader of the Assembly, replacing Sam Blakeslee; and Senator Bob Dutton has been selected by Senate Republicans to replace Republican Leader Dennis Hollingsworth. Senator Darrell Steinberg is now the “senior” leader, having served as President Pro Tem of the Senate for the last year and a half.

As leaders change, so do the legislative priorities of each caucus. Who are the new leaders and what is their background?

Speaker of the Assembly
John Pérez

Pérez was elected in 2008 to represent the 46th Assembly District, comprising the cities of Maywood, Vernon, Huntington Park as well as the communities of Boyle Heights, Downtown Los Angeles, unincorporated East Los Angeles and parts of South Los Angeles. In January 2010, he was elected Speaker of the California Assembly and was sworn in as the 68th Speaker on March 1, 2010.

After attending the University of California at Berkeley, he became active in the labor movement, where he spent over 15 years working to create jobs, expand healthcare and protect workers’ rights. Prior to his election to the State Assembly, Pérez served as political director for the United Food & Commercial Workers Local 324, and previously served in a similar position for the California Labor Federation.

As a member of the Legislature, Pérez has been a longtime advocate on behalf of the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Community. He has been especially active in the fight against HIV/AIDS. He has been a leader with AIDS Project Los Angeles, the Latino Coalition against AIDS, and the California Center for Regional Leadership.

As Speaker, Pérez is using his experience to focus on solving California’s budget crisis, promote policies that create high-paying, quality jobs in California and implementing real reforms to state government.

Senate Republican Leader
Bob Dutton

Senator Bob Dutton represents California’s 31st State Senate District, which includes portions of San Bernardino and Riverside Counties. First elected to the State Senate in 2004, Senator Dutton won a second term in November 2008.

Born and raised in Lincoln, Nebraska, Dutton moved to California in 1969. He served in the Army Reserve, was a member of the California Air National Guard and was honorably discharged in 1974.

Using his entrepreneurial spirit, Dutton opened a real estate investment and management firm, Dutton & Associates, Inc, in Rancho Cucamonga, where he currently serves as CEO. In addition to being a member of a number of professional organizations, he has served as president or board member for numerous community and civic organizations including the YMCA, Red Cross, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Community Foundation.

Dutton won election to the Rancho Cucamonga City Council in 1998 and won re-election in 2000. As a member of the council, Dutton worked to increase the number of police officers and fire fighters without raising taxes. He also led the fight to eliminate the city’s utility tax, which was abolished in 2001. His experience as a local elected official and business owner led to his election to California’s 63rd State Assembly District in 2002. In 2004, he won election to the State Senate.

As a member of the Legislature, Sena-
tor Dutton has a strong record of fighting tax increases, believing that the best way to increase revenues is through the creation of jobs. He has said many times “the best social program is a good paying job.” Senator Dutton also worked to help revamp California’s broken workers’ compensation system.

In 2006, he carried the Governor’s transportation bond. Senator Dutton’s efforts during that negotiation resulted in billions of dollars of infrastructure projects throughout the Inland Empire.

Assembly Republican Leader
Martin Garrick

San Diego’s Martin Garrick is North County’s State Assemblyman for the 74th District. Garrick, who served in the Reagan Administration, is a small business owner and lifelong conservative advocate. He graduated with a B.S. in Business Administration from California Western /United States International University in San Diego.

In the 1980’s, Garrick joined the Reagan for President Campaign at national headquarters in Arlington, Virginia. He then moved to the White House transition team and thereafter into a number of positions in the Reagan Administration, including Deputy Senate House Liaison. After leaving the Reagan Administration, Garrick founded Admiral Industries, Inc., a telecommunications company. He also owns and manages Admiral Property Company, a real estate investment firm.

Garrick’s priorities are: improving California’s business climate and transportation infrastructure, tax and regulation reform, and immigration and public safety.

Garrick has been active for decades in both Republican organizations and campaigns. As First Vice Chairman of the San Diego Republican Party, Garrick played a major role in the building of one of the nation’s most effective local parties. For a decade, he served as a Board Member in the San Diego Lincoln Club and as a member of the Adam Smith Institute and San Diego County Republican Party Central Committee.
Six Winners Chosen for AGC’s 23rd Annual Constructor Awards

Six outstanding projects built by AGC of California contractors were chosen as winners in the Twenty-Third 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 2010 Awards Banquet and presentation at The Fairmont, San Francisco on April 10. The prestigious black tie event, the “Oscars” evening for the construction industry, was attended by more than 300 people from top construction firms throughout the state.

AGC of California presented its annual Achievement Awards during the event as well. David Higgins, Sr., a founding partner in Harbison-Mahony-Higgins (HMH), Sacramento, received AGC’s Contractor Achievement Award, honoring his longtime service and contribution to the construction industry.

The AGC Education Foundation also presented several awards honoring individuals and companies for their efforts in education and partnering. (See page 14.) The AGC Education Foundation presented two Education Friend Awards. One went to Jeff Wright, veteran teacher at Lincoln Unified School District in Stockton and the creative force behind the creation of the newly

continued on page 6
The Wishing Place is the brainchild of the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Sacramento and Northeastern California. It is a magical place where children with life-threatening illness can escape the rigors of treatments, transplants and never-ending tests to request and be granted wishes. Sacramento’s Wishing Place is one of only three in the entire country.

The Make-A-Wish Foundation had an overall budget of about $3.9 million, of which $3.6 million was allocated for construction.

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 six winners were chosen from a field of 21 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 2010 Constructor Awards winners and their projects are highlighted below.

- **Contribution to the Community**
  - Constructor Winner: Unger Construction Company, for Make A Wish – The Wishing Place in Sacramento

The Wishing Place is the brainchild of the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Sacramento and Northeastern California. It is a magical place where children with life-threatening illness can escape the rigors of treatments, transplants and never-ending tests to request and be granted wishes. Sacramento’s Wishing Place is one of only three in the entire country.

The Make-A-Wish Foundation had an overall budget of about $3.9 million, of which $3.6 million was allocated for construction.
In addition to the budget challenges, The Wishing Place project was at risk of a three-year delay due to a looming flood control building moratorium deadline in the North Natomas area of Sacramento where the construction was to be built. With Unger’s donation of $250,000, subcontractor, vendor and supplier donations of $250,000, and $240,000 in value-engineering and productivity savings, the final construction cost was $2.8 million – $740,000 under the original Make-A-Wish budget.

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The six 2010 Constructor Award winners were chosen from a field of 21 finalists, all noteworthy projects deserving of special recognition. Each finalist project was highlighted during the 2010 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 $5 Million Or Below**
- Frank Schipper Construction Co.: “California Trails at the Santa Barbara Zoo” – Santa Barbara
- Marina Landscape, Inc.: “University Housing at Poly Canyon Village” – San Luis Obispo
- Reyes Construction, Inc.: “Sector San Francisco Shoreline Stabilization” – San Francisco

**Excellence In Project Management – Projects Over $5 Million**
- Harbison-Mahony-Higgins Builders, Inc.: “California Teachers’ Retirement System (CalSTRS) Headquarters” – West Sacramento
- Hensel Phelps Construction Co.: “San Joaquin County Administration Building” – Stockton
- Shimmick Construction Co., Inc.: “City of Soledad Wastewater Treatment Plant 5.5 MGD Expansion project” – Soledad
- Turner Construction Company: “Terranea Resort” – Rancho Palos Verdes

**Techniques Or Materials**
- Syblon Reid: “Flume 51 Replacement” – Pollock Pines

**Contribution to the Community**
- Barnhart, Inc.: “Ronald McDonald House” – San Diego
- Panattoni Construction, Inc.: “Congregate Residence” – Sacramento
- Unger Construction Company: “Make A Wish – The Wishing Place” – Sacramento

**Meeting The Challenge Of The Difficult Job – Builder**
- Clark/McCarthy A Joint Venture (Clark Construction Group – California LP): “Tom Bradley International Terminal Interior Improvements and Baggage Screening” – LAX

A myriad of design, environmental and timing constraints translated into numerous project management challenges on this $2.1 million job. Just a few of the challenges that Reyes Construction faced on the project were environmental permit conditions, short lead-time and availability of special-
ized construction materials, and working within the very unforgiving timeline of Mother Nature’s cycle, among other things. The project management team worked outside normal hours within a very small period of time in the month of November, mobilizing and demobilizing the entire project site with each shift. Reyes Construction completed the project on schedule, within budget and with a perfect safety record.

* Excellence in Project Management for Projects Over $5 Million

Constructor Winner: Turner Construction Company for Terranea Resort in Rancho Palos Verdes

On June 1, 2009 Turner Construction Company achieved substantial completion of the Terranea Resort in Rancho Palos Verdes. This milestone was the culmination of eight years of planning and entitling the project, followed by 24 months of construction that transformed the remote rocky site into a unique four-star resort.

Terranea Resort represents the construction of 34 buildings and a nine-hole executive golf course on a 102 acre site. The buildings include a 360-room, four-star hotel and conference center, 10 villas, 13 casitas, five bungalows, a five-star restaurant, and a full service 50,000-sq.-ft. spa and fitness center. In total, the buildings comprise over 685,000 square feet. Turner constructed all of the buildings while simultaneously carrying out the massive site work and infrastructure package that included grading, site utilities, street improvements as well as landscape, hardscape, pools and other water features that enhance the resort.

Coordination was the driving force behind the success of this $250 million project. The decision made by management to divide the project into three manageable phases was only one of the reasons this team flourished. Another was the establishment of guiding principles that were constantly present in the construction team’s work and reinforced in collaboration with all stakeholders.

The combination of focused teams with comprehensive management oversight allowed the Terranea Resort team to execute and manage a total of 242 individual subcontracts that represented more than 2.3 million worker hours with a peak daily count of 980 workers on the jobsite.

* Innovation in Construction Techniques or Materials

Constructor Winner: Syblon Reid, for Flume 51 Replacement in Pollock Pines

In 2009, Syblon Reid (SRC) successfully completed one of the riskiest projects in their history – replacing a flume section in mountainous terrain late in the year when weather conditions can bring a halt to any construction project.

The project was to replace a 650-ft.-long elevated section of existing wooden flume in Pollock Pines for the El Dorado Irrigation District. Located in a remote location with limited access and steep terrain, the project had to be completed during a scheduled flume outage between October 1 – December 11, 2009. Not meeting that deadline would result in liquidated damages of up to $22,000/per day, and there were no weather days allowed in the contract.

Besides the tight schedule and potential weather impacts, the project contained many high-risk and hazardous items. The site had limited access, staging and work areas. Steep slope work required special safety precautions and procedures.

SRC worked 65 straight days with multiple 24-hours shifts to complete the project.
on time. Multiple project segments were dependent on the timely completion of previous activities. With up to 50 workers on the site at any time, creative coordination and teamwork were used to complete work items concurrently. From constructing the replacement flume sections to stabilizing and preparing the site for the new flumes, SRC utilized creative project management and innovative methods to meet the critical schedule. Working in close cooperation with the owner, engineers, subcontractors and vendors, SRC completed the project safely, ahead of schedule, and within budget.

**Meeting the Challenge of the Difficult Job – Builder**

Constructor Winner: Clark/McCarthy A Joint Venture (Clark Construction Group – California LP), for Tom Bradley International Terminal Interior Improvements and Baggage Screening Systems Project at LAX in Los Angeles

Extensive pre-planning, intricate phasing and superior project management enabled Clark/McCarthy, A Joint Venture team to successfully complete the $575 million Tom Bradley International Terminal Interior Improvements and Baggage Screening Systems Project @ LAX (TBIT) project as scheduled, in multiple phases over three years.

The Clark/McCarthy team completed one-million square feet of renovation work on this uniquely challenging job. They replaced TBIT’s outdated baggage handling system, completely overhauled its existing MEP systems, and built a gate to accommodate the new, 800-passenger Airbus A380 aircraft. All construction occurred within a safe environment and without impeding operations at the world’s sixth-busiest airport.

Contributing factors to the project’s success included:

- The team’s voluntary adoption of a formal Partnership Program, which created a collaborative environment that helped facilitate lean construction methods and was integral to overcoming the project’s most challenging portions.
- Airport operations remained fully functional throughout construction, even as the project team replaced existing systems. The project team took measures to ensure that the construction creating minimal disruption to the airlines, airport staff, and travelers.
- After three years of construction and over two million manhours worked in an active, international terminal, the project had a recordable incident rate below the national average and a lost-time rate six times below the national average.
- The TBIT project is expected to become the first airport terminal renovation in the United States to earn LEED® Silver certification.

**Meeting the Challenge of the Difficult Job – Heavy Engineering**

Constructor Winner: C.C. Myers, Inc. for 2009 Detour Tie-In Bay Bridge Roll-Out/Roll-In in San Francisco

During four-and-a-half days that spanned Labor Day weekend in 2009, a project team led by C.C. Myers, Inc. successfully executed an unprecedented heavy engineering project involving the movement of two massive sections of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge some 150-feet in the air.

This massive retrofit project, referred to as the ‘Roll-Out/Roll-In’, was part of a continued from page 9
long-planned seismic upgrade by the California Department of Transportation. The project was performed to create a one-half mile connection between the bridge and a temporary bypass structure tying into Yerba Buena Island.

Cutting through a 300-foot double-deck section of the steel structure proved the most challenging phase of the weekend project. Once the section was successfully severed, a technologically-advanced hydraulic jack and track skidding system guided the 3,200-ton segment out of the way. A newly-constructed, 300-foot, 3,600-ton double-deck section required precise engineering to roll it into the vacated space in order to match the deck elevations of the abutting structures; the target goal was achieved to within one-half inch of its mark. The new section necessitated the placement of four nine-ton expansion joints, one each for both ends of the two decks. A series of procedural tests prior to installation trained crews and alleviated potential concerns.

After two years of planning, this challenging construction feat was completed on-time and with no safety incidents. The well-coordinated effort was successful due to an exemplary management team and constant communication between C.C. Myers, Inc., its many subcontractors and suppliers, and the owners.

Accepting the award for C.C. Myers, Inc. (and pictured with former Caltrans Director Randy Iwasaki) are, l-r: Linda Clifford, Bob Coupe, Dan Hobbs, Dan Baker and Bill Kidwell.

2009 Detour Tie-In Bay Bridge Roll-Out/Roll-In project.

Thank You Sponsors!

AGC of California proudly thanks the sponsors of the 2010 Constructor Awards program:

- McGraw-Hill Construction
- SeaBright Insurance Company
Some of the 2010 Constructor Award Finalists who are pictured here include:

1. Ronald McDonald House (Barnhart, Inc.)
2. San Joaquin County Administration Building (Hensel Phelps Construction Co.)
3. Congregate Residence (Panattoni Construction, Inc.)
4. California Trails at Santa Barbara Zoo (Frank Schipper Construction Co.)
5. City of Soledad Wastewater Treatment Plant 5.5 MGD Expansion Project (Shimmick Construction Co., Inc.)
6. The Frontier Project (Turner Construction Company)
7. University Housing at Poly Canyon Village (Marina Landscape, Inc.)
8. The Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation (Blach Construction Company)
9. California Teachers’ Retirement System (CalSTRS) Headquarters (Harbison-Mahony-Higgins Builders, Inc.)
10. Interstate 238 Widening (Flatiron Construction)
11. Design, Build, Construction of Monument 250 Roadway and Primary Border Barrier Fence (Granite Construction Company).
AGC of California’s Construction Education Foundation presented two Excellence in Partnering awards along with two Education Friend Awards during AGC’s Awards Banquet on April 10 in San Francisco.

Construction Education Friend Awards

Construction industry veteran Jack Filanc received a Construction Friend Award for his strong contribution to construction education in Southern California. In late 2005, the Jack R. and Jane E. Filanc Endowment pledged $3 million to create the J.R. Filanc Construction Engineering & management Program at San Diego State University’s College of Engineering. The program was created to leave a permanent legacy for the construction industry and to honor their daughter, Julia Filanc.

Jack Filanc founded the company that became J.R. Filanc Construction Company in 1952 with several partners. He served as president of the company from 1952 until 1990. He remains active in the company today as Chairman of the board, while his son Peter serves as President and son Mark as Executive Vice President.

During his career Filanc found many ways to serve the industry, including active involvement in AGC on committees such as the AGC Legislative Committee, Political Action Committee and the Labor Negotiations Committee. He served as the AGC San Diego Chapter President in 1995 and is the San Diego Board’s representative to the National Board of Directors.

He has long been active in his local community as well, serving as leader of Boy Scout Troup 777 for years and on the Board of Directors of the Encinitas Sanitary District among other things.

Jeff Wright received a Construction Friend Award for his extensive, 34-year career and service with the Lincoln Unified School District in Stockton. Wright’s vision and 10 years worth of effort to create a state of the art construction academy recently culminated with the opening of the Engineering and Construction Academy at Lincoln High School. The project began with federal and state grants totaling $8.5 million along with nearly $750,000 in private donations. The academy, which opened its doors in January 2010, has integrated English and math in the curriculum that focuses on teaching kids about the engineering and construction trades. The facility is designed and built with the plumbing, wiring and ductwork intentionally exposed so that it could be used as a teaching tool within the building trade classes. Courses are offered in architecture, drafting, woodworking, carpentry, masonry, plumbing, electrical and much more. The program is designed to give students the opportunity to pursue a career in the construction industry through an apprenticeship training center or junior college.

Over the years, Wright received numerous awards, including the New Young Educator Award from the San Joaquin County Coordinating Council and the Golden Bell Award from the California School Boards Association for outstanding high school to career curricula, among others. In 2001 he was honored as the California Teacher of the Year.

Excellence In Partnering Awards

Two project teams received AGC’s Excellence in Partnering Awards for 2010. 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 two winning projects are described below.

Projects Under $50 Million

Representing the Lenihan Dam Outlet Modifications project team from Flatiron Construction are Zeb Lemke and Richard Grabinski.

Lenihan Dam Outlet Modifications: Flatiron Construction Corporation and the Santa Clara Valley Water District

At the foot of the rugged Santa Cruz Mountains stands the 50-year-old Lenihan Dam – a 1,000-ft.-long earthen barrier holding water stored at the Lexington Reservoir in Los Gatos, CA. Over the past few decades, the dam’s old outlet structure had begun to buckle and corrode. Despite repairs, the aging pipe continued to deteriorate and a new outlet structure was required. Construction included a new 200-foot horseshoe shaped tunnel, 14 feet wide and 13 feet tall, to house a 54-inch diameter outlet pipe. A 37-ft. vertical shaft was also constructed down the backside of the dam that intersects with the tunnel.

The Lenihan Dam and Outlet Structure project included a significant amount of underground and confined space work. One testament to the way this construction site was run is that there were no recordable or lost-time incidents with more than 155,000 hours worked.

The partnering process was enhanced by
an integrated construction management team that included the full-time onsite presence of owner and designer personnel during all critical construction activities. This permitted the team to solve issues as they occurred.

Also selected as a finalist in this category was the Interstate 80 Gold Run project, by Granite Construction Company and Caltrans.

Representing the Interstate 238 Widening project team from Flatiron Construction are, l-r, Richard Grabinski, AGC presenter Dave Garese, Robert Ferrouge, Tony Inocencio and Dan Sherlock.

Projects Over $50 Million
Interstate 238 Widening Project: Flatiron Construction Corporation and Caltrans

Interstate 238 serves as a major commuter route and a single east-to-west freight connector between the ports of Oakland and San Francisco and California’s agricultural heartland. This project included widening I-238 from four to six lanes, three new bridges, widening of 14 bridges and 12 new retaining walls.

Successful partnering enabled this project team to effectively and promptly resolve daily conflicts and keep potential downtime to a minimum. The result was that instead of more than a year in delays, the project was completed four months ahead of schedule and on budget.

The success of this project – to widen a heavily congested, commuter and freight artery in a tight urban area – depended on the project team developing a great mutual trust, streamlining communication and resolving issues at the field level.

Also selected as a finalist in this category was the Tom Bradley International Terminal at LAX, by Clark Construction Group and the City of Los Angeles.

Sacramento Construction Veteran
Wins Contractor Achievement Award

AGC of California presented its Contractor Achievement Award for 2010 to David Higgins, Sr., a construction industry veteran whose career spanned nearly half a century. The annual award recognizes Higgins’ extraordinary service to the association and the construction industry.

In the early 1960s Higgins joined the general building contracting firm of Harbison & Mahony as an estimator / project engineer. By 1972 the company had grown to a dozen people, and it incorporated that year as Harbison-Mahony-Higgins (HMH), now known as HMH Builders, Inc. With HMH Higgins was personally involved with the construction and community achievement of the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, one of the Sacramento area’s landmark and historic buildings, among numerous other notable projects.

Over the years, Higgins has been actively involved in the AGC of California, serving on the collective bargaining committees and working on teams that helped shape the strong trade union relationships that AGC has today. He continues to serve on the Northern California Carpenters Pension Trust Fund – Board of Trustees. In addition, Higgins led the team that built the AGC of California headquarters in West Sacramento.

Dave Higgins, Sr. is widely recognized for his local charitable endeavors and community support. He was instrumental in the reestablishment of Jesuit High School in Sacramento and later led the local chapter of Habitat for Humanity. He is past president of the Sacramento Area Commerce and Trade Organization and advocated for quality growth in the region. The Sacramento Metro Chamber named Higgins the 2009 Sacramentan of the Year honoring his service to industry and the community. Higgins retired from HMH Builders in 2003 but remains active as an advisor to the company.
### Top 10 Projects Awards

Following are the top 10 public project awards California last month, compliments of McGraw-Hill Construction.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Project City</th>
<th>Reported Low</th>
<th>Company</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poseidon Resources Desalination Plant</td>
<td>Carlsbad</td>
<td>$ 270,000,000</td>
<td>Tetra Tech Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Region ES #20 (Lease/Lease Back)</td>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
<td>$ 40,000,000</td>
<td>Hensel Phelps Inc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central Region ES #22 (Lease/Lease Back)</td>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
<td>$ 40,000,000</td>
<td>Hensel Phelps Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Region MS #3 (Lease/Lease Back)</td>
<td>Huntington Park</td>
<td>$ 35,136,394</td>
<td>Suffolk Construction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Valley Region Span K-8 #2 (Lease/Lease Back)</td>
<td>Porter Ranch</td>
<td>$ 33,631,000</td>
<td>Tilden-Coil Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th Street Reconstruction (RE-BID)</td>
<td>Oakland</td>
<td>$ 31,187,687</td>
<td>McGuire &amp; Hester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RM09-1392 &amp; RM09-1393 Whole Bachelors Quarters Modernization</td>
<td>Coronado</td>
<td>$ 22,185,559</td>
<td>Barnhart-Balfour Beatty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santa Rosa Junior College Culinary Arts Center</td>
<td>Santa Rosa</td>
<td>$ 18,500,000</td>
<td>Brown Construction Inc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bellingham ES (Addition) (Lease/Lease Back)</td>
<td>North Hollywood</td>
<td>$ 18,407,000</td>
<td>SJ Amaroso Construction Inc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vallejo Station Parking Structure - Phase A</td>
<td>Vallejo</td>
<td>$ 16,654,239</td>
<td>Howard S. Wright</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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On April 11, 2010, the employees of Blois Construction, Inc. reached a milestone, three years with no lost time accidents. The company staged a special event on April 14 to celebrate and recognize the hard work that all of its employees put into embracing the company safety culture and reaching this goal, with representatives from Cal/OSHA Consultation Services, SeaBright Insurance and a variety of construction leaders in attendance.

“This is a huge accomplishment in the construction industry,” said Jim Blois, President of Blois Construction. “We are pleased that our collective and collaborative efforts have resulted in a workplace with very impressive results, no matter how you measure them.”

Headquartered in Oxnard, CA, Blois Construction is a heavy underground construction company that has been serving Southern California for 45 years.

Bob Norling has joined AGC as the new Director of Industrial Relations, Southern California, effective April 15, 2010. Norling comes to AGC with over 25 years of experience in union labor relations, benefits, human resources and insurance risk management.

Before joining AGC, he was with member firm Penhall Company where he was responsible for their labor and human resource management. Norling will based in AGC’s West Covina office. He replaces Michael Rodriguez, who left AGC to pursue similar interests with an AGC member firm.
Three AGC of California member contractors recently received national recognition from AGC of America for excellence in partnering on their California based projects. McCarthy Building Companies, Flatiron Construction and Swinerton Builders were among those companies recognized as part of the 2009 Marvin M. Black Excellence in Partnering Awards program.

McCarthy Building Companies, Inc. was one of just three companies nationally to receive the Marvin M. Black Excellence in Partnering Award, for the Mission Hospital Patient Care Tower Project in Southern California. McCarthy was honored for its success building the partnerships needed to complete a new patient care tower while working at an operational medical facility. McCarthy had to find ways to connect the new tower to the existing hospital while working around an active parking lot, underground tunnel and countless utility lines.

Flatiron Construction Corp. received an Excellence in Partnering Special Recognition Award for the Lenihan Dam Outlet Modifications in Los Gatos, CA. AGC selected Flatiron for the award because of its success building partnerships with government agencies and community groups to build support for their work replacing the dam’s crumbling outlet structure.

Swinerton Builders also received a Marvin M. Black Special Recognition Award for its work building the new JPL Flights Projects Center in Pasadena, CA. The project represented NASA’s first LEED Gold Building at the Pasadena location. The new building allows engineers and scientists from across the globe to collaborate closely during critical space missions.

In addition to the partnering awards, several California-based contractors were honored for their safety programs in the AGC’s national Safety Awards of Excellence program. Both the Safety Awards and Partnering Awards were presented during AGC of America’s National Convention in Florida in March.

Among those California firms awarded for their safety programs were: J.R. Filanc Construction Company, Escondido (first place award); CDM Constructors Inc., Rancho Cucamonga, Cox Construction Co., Vista, CA, RQ Construction Inc., Carlsbad, Dynalectric, San Diego, and Flatiron Construction, San Marcos, CA (second place awards).
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Industrial Relations & Collective Bargaining ... Representing members’ interest statewide including: on-site dispute resolution, Master and Project Labor Agreements, grievance and arbitration services, dual gate information, prevailing wage information, comprehensive labor bulletins and pre-job conferences.

Serving our members from six offices throughout California, contact us to find out how you can get the AGC Advantage.

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