

ACEC California Sierra Chapter

March 2015



President's Message

By: Tom Holdrege, President



March is upon us already! The Sierra Chapter is fresh off of a very well attended dinner meeting where we were entertained by Mr. Ken Grehm, the Director of Public Works for Placer County. At the end of the meeting, I made a plea to all of those who attended to bring along a “less

seasoned” colleague to the March meeting. I may have put it less eloquently at the meeting, something like “bring young people” to the next meeting. In doing so, I may have offended those of you (us) who are showing some grey, but the point of my message still rings true. We need to start

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Meetings are at the Sacramento Hilton unless otherwise noted.

5:00 - 6:00pm Board Meeting / 6:00 - 6:30pm Networking
6:30pm General Membership Dinner Meeting
Member Cost: \$35 - Non-Member \$50

You are responsible for your RSVP and will be invoiced unless you cancel reservations 24 hours in advance.

Tuesday, March 10, 2015

Mobility-21 Sacramento Legislative Reception
5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

The Citizen Hotel, 926 J Street, Sacramento, CA

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2015-mobility-21-sacramento-legislative-reception-tickets-15658045636>

Wednesday, March 18, 2015

General Dinner Meeting

Speaker: Jennifer Thompson, Pacific Legal Foundation

<https://eventbrite.com/event/15970079939/>

Wednesday, March 25, 2015

Legislative Visit Day, State Capitol and
Board of Directors Meeting

www.regonline.com/lvd-bod

Friday, April 17, 2015

Chapter Luncheon Meeting followed by Golf
Details coming soon!

Monday—Tuesday, May 11-13, 2015

ACEC CA Annual Conference

The Lodge at Sonoma Renaissance Resort & Spa

www.regonline.com/aceccaconference

Jennifer Thompson, Staff Attorney, Pacific Legal Foundation—March Meeting Speaker

By: Landon Blake, Director



Jennifer Thompson is a staff attorney at the Pacific Legal Foundation. The foundation was established in 1973 and fights in our legal system for limited government, private property rights, individual rights, and a balanced approach to environmental protection.

Jennifer will speak about recent trends in land use planning and private property rights, and will discuss important land use cases her organization has recently argued before the US courts.

Coming Soon: 1st Annual Sierra Chapter Excellence Awards

The Sierra Chapter will recognize stellar local projects completed by member firms in conjunction with the Chapter meeting on September 16, 2015.

Public and private projects will be considered upon completion of every phase – planning, design, and/or construction as applicable.

Elements of projects completed by member firms, such as surveying, structural design, or construction management, will also be eligible.

Application materials will be available later this spring.

Start thinking now about recent projects you are especially proud of.

Event sponsorship opportunities will be available.

If you are interested in joining the committee (Jane Rozga, Landon Blake, Harvey Oslick, and Steve Greenfield) to recognize the cool work of Chapter members and plan an exciting event, contact Jane at Jane.Rozga@ch2m.com.

ACEC-CA State Updates and Events

REGISTER NOW! Legislative Visit Day - Wednesday, March 25, 2015— www.regonline.com/lvd-bod

Legislative Visit Day provides ACEC California members with a great opportunity to talk directly with their state legislators. We will kick-off the day with an issues breakfast at 7:30 AM, followed by legislative office visits, a policy luncheon and more Capitol visits after lunch. We will end the evening with a reception honoring legislators, state officials and staff from 5:00 to 7:00 PM.

ACEC California's Annual Conference is May 11- 13, 2015— www.regonline.com/aceccaconference

Join us in Sonoma this spring for the 2015 Annual Conference. The conference is a great opportunity to discuss important issues facing our industry, learn about economic trends, develop business skills, and network in the beautiful Sonoma wine country.

The 2016 Engineering Excellence Awards Competition

The 2016 Engineering Excellence Awards competition will begin in June. To be notified of the competition, please email Sarah Sanders at ssanders@acec-ca.org and ask to be added to the notification list.

Ken Grehm, Director of Public Works for Placer County—February Meeting Recap

By: Harvey Oslick, Vice President



Ken Grehm, the Director of Public Works for Placer County provided a presentation at the February dinner meeting that included an informative overview of the Department of Public Works. The Department has a 2014/2015 budget of \$92 million, mostly

for transportation, including maintenance of 1,055 miles of roadways with 125 bridges. Ken discussed recently completed, ongoing and future projects; from the famous Forresthill Bridge to the 1930 vintage Yankee Jims Road Bridge that few have ever heard of. With the complexities of funding

projects using a multitude of sources and the politically diverse challenges Ken faces every day, the audience was left with an appreciation for why he deserved the 2014 APWA Top 10 Public Leaders Award.

Upcoming procurement opportunities include Project Approval/Environmental Documentation for Watt Avenue at Dry Creek Bridge and Yankee Jims Road Bridge, design of Walerga Road at Dry Creek Bridge, plus construction management projects and RFQs for various consulting services.

President's Message continued

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exposing the younger professionals in our organizations to ACEC so that when us old geezers start to retire, the younger generation of engineers and surveyors can carry the torch for us.

Traditionally, ACEC (and CELSOC before ACEC) has been attended by the senior staff of our member firms. Frankly, I'm not sure if this was intentional or just the way things evolved, but I can't find anywhere in our bylaws where participation by project or staff level professionals is discouraged. Many other organizations in which I participate are promoting participation of young members, so why not ACEC? When I was "promoted" to the presidency of the Sierra Chapter, one of my (unwritten) goals was to figure out a way to coerce our member firms to encourage their younger professionals to get involved in ACEC. Now, you company principals, presidents and CEOs, don't take this the wrong way. I enjoy rubbing elbows with the regular attendees of our meetings each and every month! But, we owe it to this organization (and our

firms) to expose the up-and-coming folks in our profession to the challenges that our industry faces. They need to know that ACEC is fighting battles that will help our firms prosper in the future. Don't you agree?

Okay, enough said. By the powers vested in me by being your Sierra Chapter president, I hereby proclaim March as "Bring an ACEC Newbie to an Event" month. I challenge each of you to bring at least one of your promising young talents to the next dinner meeting and/or to our April luncheon golf event. Heck, they don't even need to be promising or young, but at least bring someone from your firm that has never attended an ACEC meeting before. Deal? Good! We will see you and your Newbie at the next meeting.

Cheers,

Tom



Alta Vista

An ACEC-CA Company Profile



East Bypass Project in Sonora, CA

Alta Vista Solutions (Alta Vista) is a client-based engineering firm that focuses on solving problems to keep projects moving forward.

Over the past decade, Alta Vista has been redefining success for clients responsible for delivering next-generation infrastructure. Our client-focused philosophy— supported by uniquely qualified expertise and experience—delivers appropriate solutions around the globe. Alta Vista has the solutions to service our client’s needs on projects worldwide, including infrastructure transit systems, highways, tunnels, bridges and high-speed rail systems. Alta Vista has worked with public and private organizations to complete large and small scale infrastructure engineering projects that better serve their regions.

Our skilled and experienced professionals consist of engineers, researchers, scientists, construction managers and technical experts with specialties in steel, precast and prestressed concrete design, inspection, nondestructive testing and materials engineering. Our multi-disciplined engineering firm excels in:

- Engineering
- Quality Management
- Program Management
- Surveying
- Inspection and Testing
- Structural and Instrumentation Monitoring

We have worked on high-profile projects for clients that include: California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), California High Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA), Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART), City of Sacramento, and Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA), and other various agencies throughout the nation.

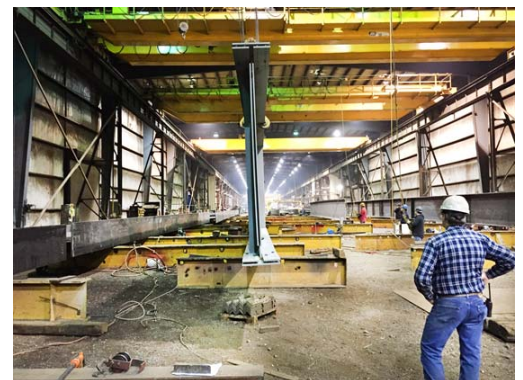
Alta Vista has earned an extraordinary reputation of offering solutions to some of the world’s largest infrastructure projects. We are known for ‘doing right’ by our clients, team members, and all project stakeholders.



Antlers Bridge Project, Lakehead, CA

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DGS State Central Utility Plant
 Sacramento, CA.



2014 - 15 Board of Directors

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