



Table of Contents

President's Message P-1
Calendar of Events P-1
March 2023 Calmentor/ACEC Joint Meeting Promo P-2
Feb. 2023 Past Pres./Tim Fleming Meeting Recap P-2
Feb. 2023 Past Pres./Tim Fleming Meeting Recap Cont. P-3
2023 Leg. Visit Day P-4
Feb. 2023 Annual Conference P-5
S.J.E.C. Scholarship Awards P-6
F/Y 23/24 ACEC-CA Committee Re-Sign ups P-6
Sierra Chapter Firm Profile P-7
2022-2023 Board of Directors P-8
March 15 Meeting Invite P-9
ACEC-CA Upcoming Event P-10
Rob Salaber Life Celebration/Memorial P-11

President's Message
By Tom Sell

Hello, Sierra Chapter. A big thank you to the Past Presidents who attended the February dinner. It was great to hear their stories, how they got involved in ACEC, and the positive impact it made. Most of them expressed well-deserved appreciation to the admin supporting their presidency. Tom Holdrege had other thoughts, suggesting we might be over-inflating Debbie's ego. 😊 Tom Blackburn reminded us that ACEC assists member firms in navigating many business challenges of our industry, in contrast to other associations that focus on enhancing technical knowledge or client relationships. This message was reinforced by our speaker, ACEC-CA President, Raul Laborin.

At the quarterly ACEC California State Board meeting we discussed challenges in engaging newer professionals. In 2015, Tom H. proclaimed March as "Bring an ACEC Newbie to an Event" month. I echo his challenge for each of you to bring someone from your firm that has never attended an ACEC meeting before to the March 15 dinner meeting and/or to our April 19 Young Professional Forum luncheon.

See you at the next meeting.



Tom Sell
 Sierra Chapter President
 2022-2023

Calendar of Events

Meetings are held at the Hilton Sacramento Arden West unless otherwise noted.

Member Cost: \$50 - Non-Member \$60

ACEC Sierra Chapter

Wednesday, March 15, 2023

Joint Calmentor North Region & ACEC Sierra Chapter Sponsored Event

Speaker:
Eric Souza, Acting NR Chief Deputy NR Capital | Outlay Dept. of Transportation

[Register Here](#)

Wednesday, April 19, 2023

4th Annual Young Professional Luncheon Forum

[\(Registration Details Coming Soon\)](#)

Wednesday, May 17, 2023

General Membership and BOD Dinner Meeting

Speaker:
Sean McGuire, State Water Resources Control Board

[\(Registration Details Coming Soon\)](#)

ACEC California

See attached flyers

Please visit www.acec-ca.org for a complete list of upcoming webinars and on-line classes.

Wednesday March 15th, 2023 Joint Calmentor North Region & ACEC-CA-Sierra Chapter Meeting Promo

By Erik Fanselau, Vice President

Please join us on March 15 as we welcome Eric Souza, Caltrans North Region Acting Director as our guest speaker. He will provide updates on the Middle-Mile Broadband Network program, Active Transportation and Infrastructure Delivery, Complete Streets Policy, SB1, and upcoming opportunities. We will also

welcome other Caltrans staff and members of the Calmentor program. Calmentor is a great opportunity for new firms to gain experience in working with Caltrans by pairing up with other experienced consultants. This will be a great way to learn more about the program.

Past Presidents and Tim Fleming Memorial Scholarship Award Ceremony – February Dinner Meeting Recap

By Marco Palilla, Director and Past President

Our 12th Annual Past President's Dinner Meeting and Tim Fleming Memorial Scholarship Award Ceremony was another excellent event celebrating the Sierra Chapter. On February 8th, your legendary Past Presidents were joined by an assortment of members and guests including our Guest Speaker, ACEC-CA State President, Raul Laborin Jr., who is a Vice President with WSP in the Bay Area.

I always enjoy introducing the winners of the Tim Fleming Memorial Scholarship. This year it was Raven Cochrane and Judy Magaña, both from Sac State. Each winner received a \$5,000 check from the scholarship fund which is administered by the California Transportation Foundation (CTF). They were joined by their proud fathers

Judy (on the right) is currently an undergraduate civil engineering major and just started her senior year in January. She will be graduating in December 2023 with her BS in Civil Engineering. She is currently a student assistant for Caltrans in the Office of Earthquake Engineering and Research (OEEAR) since May 2021. After graduation she hopes to work full time for Caltrans. She has a specific interest in highway design.

Raven (on the left) is in her 2nd year of Graduate studies. She plans to graduate in May 2023 and already has her BS in Civil Engineering. She is currently working as a Student Researcher at Sac State evaluating work zone intrusion alarm systems in active work zones for Caltrans. Raven plans to work as a transportation engineer in the public sector, preferably at Caltrans.

Congratulations again to both of this year's winners!



Left, Louis Cochrane (father) and Raven Cochrane,
Right, Judy Magana and Joel Magaña (father).

Although the parade of Past Presidents was impressive and we remembered those we lost in 2022 including Carlos Espana, Sharon Hill and Rob Salaber,

(Continued from page 2)



Supporting Raven and Judy were two special guests from Sac State, Dean of the School of Engineering and Computer Science, Kevan Shafizadeh (on my left) and Civil Department Chair, Ghazan Khan (on my right). It was great to have them at the event to net-

work with the engineering community. There were many Hornets in the audience that night!

Holding this dinner and remembering Tim Fleming's legacy with this scholarship is absolutely a win-win for our Chapter and the schools in our area. In addition, the Sierra Chapter Board approved another \$5,000 donation to the scholarship which is now an endowed scholarship!

Finally, Past Presidents joined us from as far back as 1994, Paul Enneking, up through and including our 2021-2022 Past President, Scott Lillibridge. Thanks again to all the Past Presidents, Raul Laborin, Jr., Ryan Fleming, our scholarship winners and Kevan and Ghazan for making this another great Sierra Chapter event!

ACEC/CELSOC Sierra Chapter Past Presidents in Attendance



2023 Sierra Chapter Past President's Dinner, February 8, 2023

Left to Right: Tom Holdridge, Scott Lillibridge, Tom Blackburn, Bob Lorusso, Paul Enneking, Dana Remington, Jerry Jones, Steve Sinnock and Marco Palilla (not pictured: Landon Blake)

ACEC-CA Legislative Visit Day: May 10, 2023 – Save the Date!

By Marco Palilla, Grassroots Chair



It is not too early to mark your calendars for Wednesday, May 10th for ACEC-California's 2023 Legislative Visit Day.

For those who have attended in the past, you know this is our annual opportunity to meet with state legislators (Assembly and Senate) and promote our agenda, which includes prevailing wage issues, improved indemnification, infrastructure funding, contracting out, Government Code 1090 and QBS. This will be our first in-person event since 2019, so don't miss this opportunity to get down to the Capital and have some fun! A brief schedule of events is below:

May 9th

- 5pm - 7pm Federal PAC Fundraiser

May 10th - Legislative Visit Day general timeline:

- 7:30am - 8:30am Breakfast
- 8:30am - 11:00am General programming, information, and education
- 11:00am - 12:00pm Lunch
- 12:30pm - 5pm Meetings with legislators at the swing space
- 5pm - 7pm Legislators reception at the Elks Tower

May 11th

- 8am - 3pm State Board meeting

Get this event on your calendar now and stay tuned for more updates as we get closer.

February 2023 Annual Conference in Orange County Recap

By Tom Sell, President—Kevin Gustorf, State Director—Donald Blackburn, Secretary/Treasurer

ACEC California's State Board Meeting and Annual Conference was held February 14-16 in Orange County at the Hyatt Regency in Garden Grove. For the first time the keystone event was combined with the Engineering Excellence Awards Banquet. The event included the quarterly Board of Directors Meetings, Educational Sessions, Networking events, Exhibitors Hall, a PAC social event and the Engineering Excellence Awards Banquet.

The day before the conference was an all-day Board of Directors meeting. Four Sierra Chapter representatives attended. Discussions included an encouraging update from Jennifer Horne (ACEC-CA) on recent successes in getting amendments from several agencies on RFPs that initially violated Qualifications Based Selection requirements. Each chapter gave an update on their membership engagement and shared ideas that could benefit other chapters. Sierra Chapter's President, Tom Sell, updated the board on the chapter's monthly events, speakers, and scholarship initiatives. ACEC is sponsoring Assembly Bill 334, which clarifies the state's conflict of interest statute, Government Code 1090, in order to prevent member firms from being barred from participating on later phases of a public agency's project simply for having worked on an earlier phase. There will be a big push for support to get AB 334 passed this year.

The two day conference included educational sessions on topics ranging from employee retention to de-commoditizing the industry. Attendees enjoyed keynote presentations on leveraging leadership and how resiliency speaks to the brain. This conference included ACEC CA's first ever "speed sessions" to introduce attendees to a variety of topics from industry experts

in short, 20-minute segments.

The PAC fundraiser was a highlight for many – attending an NHL hockey game, the Anaheim Ducks vs the Buffalo Sabres. It was a fun game with great seats and a lot of scoring as the Sabres came out on top 7-3. About 75 participated, generating around \$15,000 towards ACEC-CA's 2023 goal of over \$100,000 in contributions to the Federal PAC.

Over 250 people gathered on the last night of the conference for the 2023 EEA Banquet. The Banquet was emceed by comedian Don McMillan, an electrical engineer turned comedian and former contestant on America's Got Talent. Several projects were recognized for demonstrating an exceptional degree of innovation, complexity, achievement, and value. Twelve projects earned the prestigious Honor Award distinction, thirteen were recognized with Merit Awards, and ten Commendation Awards were granted. HNTB Corporation was announced as the winner of the 2023 Golden State Award for the Sixth Street Viaduct Replacement Project in Los Angeles, CA. The awards celebration was also a fundraiser for the ACEC California Scholarship Foundation, which provides scholarship awards to graduate and undergraduate students who are recognized for their notable and outstanding academic achievements.

Next year, ACEC CA is planning a similar event that combines the EEA awards with the conference and board meeting. ACEC CA and local chapters have a renewed sense of energy to meet federal PAC goals and continue advocating on behalf of the engineering profession.

San Joaquin Engineering Council Scholarship

By Tom Sell, President

On February 23, the San Joaquin Engineering Council held its annual scholarship awards dinner. ACEC has been a sponsor of one of the program's scholarships for the past 15 years. Since SJEC was organized 56 years ago, it has awarded \$364,500 to 289 future engineers.

The Sierra Chapter continued its tradition of donating \$2,000 toward a scholarship for a deserving high

\$2000 toward a scholarship for a deserving high school student. The 2023 recipient of the Sierra Chapter sponsored scholarship was Arin Helsby. She is a student at Aspire Benjamin Holt College Prep Academy in Stockton with plans to pursue a Bioengineering degree. She has not yet chosen a college to attend.

Time to Sign up/Re-Sign Up for ACEC California FY23-24 Committees

From ACEC California

To: All ACEC California Members

Committees are a vital component in making ACEC California a relevant and effective organization for our industry. Committee sign-ups for 2023-24 are now open. We encourage your active participation on an ACEC California committee and urge you to be engaged and sign-up for a committee today. Committee sign-ups will close Friday, April 28th. These committee appointments take effect July 1, 2023.

If you know of someone who would like to participate on a committee, please have them contact Beckie Liu at bliu@acec-ca.org. Beckie will send them a link via email to access the survey. You are also welcome to

forward the link to any interested ACEC California member.

Depending on the committee, they meet either monthly, bi-monthly, quarterly, or twice per year. Most committees meet virtually unless an in-person meeting is deemed necessary.

Please be prepared to fully participate in your chosen committee as our volunteer committee chairs may require active attendance and participation to remain on the committee.

Please visit <https://www.acec-ca.org/page/CommitteeSignUps> for more details. If you have any questions, please contact Beckie Liu at bliu@acec-ca.org or phone at (916) 441-7991.

ACEC Sierra Chapter Firm Profile



INDUSTRY LEADER



Continually ranked by ENR as one of the top engineering firms in the nation, Psomas serves public and private sector clients in the transportation, site development, energy, and water markets.

Psomas offers a wide range of services that span the life-cycle of projects creating added value to our clients and industry partners.

- **Engineering**
 - Transportation
 - Structures
 - Traffic
 - Site Development
 - Land Planning & Urban Design
 - Land Use Entitlements
 - Water
- **Environmental**
 - Cultural Resources
 - Air Quality, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, & Noise
 - Biological Resource Management
 - Regulatory Compliance
 - Habitat Restoration
- **Land Surveying**
 - Design Survey
 - Aerial Mapping
 - Right-of-Way Engineering
 - Construction Survey & Staking
 - Boundary and Cadastral
 - 3D Laser Scanning
 - Subsurface Utility Detection
- **Geospatial Services**
 - GIS
 - Business Intelligence
 - Enterprise Asset Management
- **Construction Management**
 - Construction Inspection
 - Project Management
 - Staff Augmentation

CONTACT

Dan Forgey, PLS – Survey/Geospatial | **Paul Gervacio, PE, ENV SP** – Engineering
(916) 788-8122

77

YEARS

EXPERIENCE

OFFICE LOCATIONS

- California
- Washington
- Arizona
- Utah



PSOMAS

2022-2023 Board of Directors

Officers

Tom Sell, President

(Gannett Fleming)
916.677.4775
tsell@gfnnet.com

Erik Fanselau, Vice President

(GHD)
916.256.2677
Erik.Fanselau@ghd.com

Donald Blackburn, Secretary/ Treasurer

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Howard Michael (AECOM)

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Dana Remington

(Psomas)
530.392.5617
dana.remington@psomas.com

State Directors

Tom Sell, President (2026)

(Gannett Fleming)
916.677.4775
tsell@gfnnet.com

Scott Lillibridge (2025)

(Rick Engineering)
916.638.8200
slillibridge@rickengineering.com

Jerry Jones (2024)

(Morton & Pitalo)
916.984.7621
jjones@mpen.com

Kevin Gustorf (2023)

(Wood Rodgers)
916.341.7760
kgustorf@woodrodgers.com

GET NOTICED IN THE SIERRA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER!

Would you like to see YOUR FIRM listed in this Newsletter?

ACEC-CA/Sierra Chapter firms in good standing are invited to submit a company profile for inclusion in this newsletter. **Firms that have not been featured in the last two years are invited to participate again.**

Point of Contact:

Erik Fanselau, Vice President

(GHD)
916.256.2677
Erik.Fanselau@ghd.com



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
California

Newsletter Editor

Debbie LoCicero
dlocicero@acec-ca-sierra.org

Calmentor NORTH REGION

A CALMENTOR and ACEC - CA- Sierra Chapter

SPONSORED EVENT

WEDNESDAY | 03.15.2023

6:00 P.M. TO 8:30 P.M.

Come join us for an evening of networking and an opportunity to hear from our new North Region Acting Chief Deputy, Eric Souza.



ERIC SOUZA

Acting NR Chief Deputy
NR Capital Outlay Support
Department of Transportation

He will provide updates on the Middle-Mile Broadband Network program, Active Transportation and Infrastructure Delivery, Complete Streets Policy, SB1, as well as speak to potential business opportunities.

LOCATION

**Hilton Sacramento
Arden West**

2200 Harvard Street
Sacramento, CA 95815

COST

\$50.00 per attendee
(Includes Dinner)

RSVP

Before March 11, 2023



SPONSORED BY:



Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/3152023-joint-calmentor-and-acec-sierra-chapter-sponsored-event-tickets-523305469747>

For questions, contact: Debbie LoCicero | dlocicero@acec-ca-sierra.org

UPCOMING EVENTS



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
California

Looking Ahead

ACEC CALIFORNIA UPCOMING EVENTS

2023

March 9, 2023	Introductory Prevailing Wage Webinar Modules 1&2
March 16, 2023	Introductory Prevailing Wage Webinar Modules 3&4
April 13, 2023	Advanced Prevailing Wage Webinar Modules 1&2
April 20, 2023	Advanced Prevailing Wage Webinar Modules 3-5
May 10 & 11, 2023	Legislative Visit Day & Board of Directors Meeting (Sacramento)
July 26 & 27, 2023	Board of Directors Meeting & Leadership Training (Walnut Creek)
October	Board of Directors Meeting (Virtual)

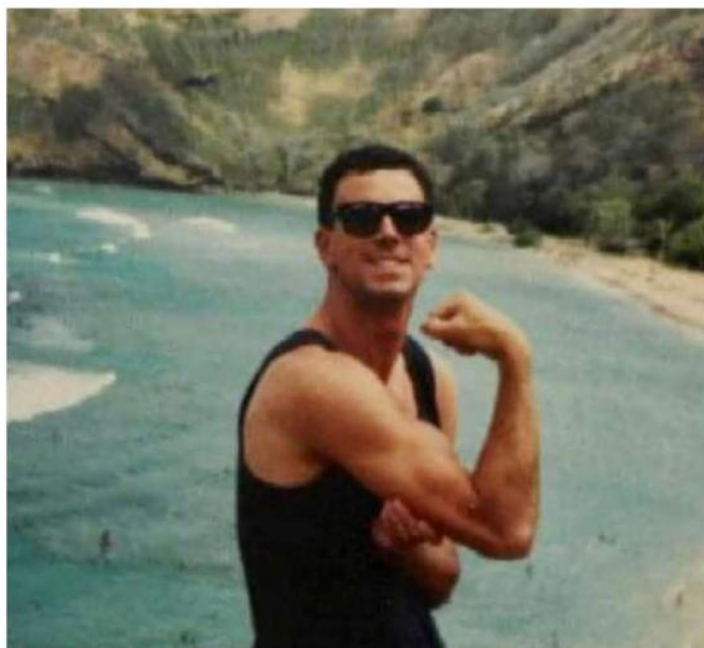
2024

February	Annual Conference & Engineering Excellence Awards (Southern California)
May	Legislative Visit Day (Sacramento)
July	Board of Directors Meeting & Leadership Training (Northern California)
October	Board of Directors Meeting (Virtual)

**VISIT WWW.ACEC-CA.ORG/EVENTS
FOR COMPLETE EVENT DETAILS**

For sponsorship opportunities, contact Christian Anger at canger@acec-ca.org

Celebrating a life well-lived



ROBERT SALABER

December 26, 1963 — December 25, 2022

Saturday, April 1, 2023

11:00am — 2:00pm

Madden Hall, Dixon Fairgrounds

655 S 1st St, Dixon, CA 95620

Please RSVP by March 1, 2023

via text to Madeleine (707)761-2003

or email msalaber22@gmail.com

Attire is dressy-casual.

This is a celebration, not a funeral!