From Your Leadership …

**What Have We Done For You Lately?**

I don’t think it’s a secret that all of us have had to produce more with fewer resources. This concept has become the hallmark of our members’ efforts and by natural extension of the Western Council itself.

Everyone knows that the combined pressures of reduced economic activity, terrorist threatening environment, and the California State deficit have conspired to reduce the best-laid plans of men to dust…

*Or have they?*

Rather than whine about factors beyond our control, your Western Council Board of Directors has seized the initiative and dealt with the foreseeable realities of Design, Construction and Maintenance activities in the Western United States today.

As many of you have noticed, the Council has greatly reduced expenses in order to keep your costs down. At the same time our programs have been a huge success thanks to the efforts of our strong program committee headed by Peter Watts and Jeff Baize and our new Programs Director Valerie Largin. As a result of the cost-cutting efforts, dues will not need to be increased this year. Pro-

Continued on page 2

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**A “Member - Only” Benefit To Try:**

Western Council gives you a number of “Member Only” benefits. One is the opportunity to place Advertorials in the Newsletter — you can even include a picture!

Advertorials allow you to spotlight achievements, activities, changes, news and more about your company or agency and staff.

**There are four sections:**

**Success!** - contract awards, project or individual honors, distinctions, and other brag topics.

**On the Move** - promotions, new hires and offices, certifications, location or contact info changes, etc.

**Happenings** - ground breaking, completion, open house firm/agency events (non-compete with WCCC)

**Community Involvement** - let people know how you "give back" and participate.

Advertorials are published on a space-available, first-come, first-served basis.

**Rates:**

$50 per issue for up to 100 words. Additional words may be added at 50 cents each, if space is available.

Add a Photo for $25 (jpeg up to 250 KB).

**For more info:** check the website or call Valerie: (916) 599-8020
Vanir Construction Management, Inc. received an Exceptional Award for this project:

**SANTA MONICA PALISADES BLUFFS STABILIZATION**

This project installed a new drainage system horizontally in the Palisades Bluffs in Santa Monica, to provide relief for water collecting in the layered formation of the Bluffs. There was also a Demonstration Area designed to explore a new application for existing technology as a stabilization system alternative to the conventional lath and shotcrete method.

The horizontal drilling of 79 angled drains, and application of polyurethane grout to the face of the Bluffs, served to stabilize, and prevent further erosion of, the historically significant Palisades Bluffs, located along one of the busiest traffic corridors in Los Angeles. A system utilizing a combination of smaller drains, soil nails and clear PU grout solidified the face of the Bluffs to stem deterioration due to erosion and wildlife activity.

The Pacific Coast Highway (PCH) is a major artery serving coastal communities North of Santa Monica. With approximately 25,000 automobiles daily using the road for both commuting and as a scenic resource, the challenge was completing the work in a restricted time frame and not impacting the safety of the traveling public. Because of the value to the tourist industry the operating hours were originally severely restricted by the California Department of Transportation. However, Caltrans realized that given the working hours and the moratorium for the summer season, this project would be extremely difficult and consequently expensive to complete. The City of Santa Monica was allowed to apply for an expanded permit that, although still limited, was achievable.

With the exception of the grout demonstration area, the five work sites were directly adjacent to the travel lanes. The traffic controls allowed for closure of the lane nearest the work. This

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**Award-Winning Project Story # 1**

**From Your Leadership … (cont.)**

- Vanir Construction Management, Inc. received an Exceptional Award for this project: **SANTA MONICA PALISADES BLUFFS STABILIZATION**

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**From Your Leadership … (cont.)**

program attendance, conference, and exhibitor fees will remain the same for members. Thus the costs of participating in your chosen professional organization will be kept constant, and in some cases, go down. We are proving that we are sensitive to your needs and will continue to respond accordingly to do our part in these complicated economic times.

**What are the direct benefits to you?** We are determined to provide you the tactical information and strategic direction to insure your success in our industry. And, we welcome your input for topics and resources.

Additionally, we are expanding program, professional development, and training offerings, and adding convenience and savings to you by offering them in more regions. We are taking a new approach, by creating “Program Teams” to create unique programs addressing your needs, industry issues, new technology and project approaches, and much more. As a member, you and your staff have an opportunity to be a Program “Champion” or Team Member. You also have the opportunity to Host Roundtables or Courses at your offices or a site you secure, in addition to traditional event sponsorship opportunities.

When you participate in Council programs and committees, you will continue to receive the same first-rate exposure to the best and brightest practitioners and professional trainers in the Western United States. Don’t believe me? Check out our newly revised and improved website regularly to see what is available to you and your staff: www.wccc.org

In conclusion, your Council has not succumbed to the temptation to cower in fear of changing economic conditions and wait for better times. We are not afraid to ask what more can we do for you. **Share your ideas** - Call me or Valerie at (916) 599-8020. Or, e-mail us at: vann@wccc.org andy@wccc.org
Plan Your 2012 Project Submissions Now

The Western Council of Construction Consumers Distinguished Project Awards Program for 2012 will begin accepting submissions in March, 2012. Projects submitted must be substantially completed before January first, 2012. Start planning which projects you want to submit. For Award Requirements and Criteria, consult the Western Council website: www.wccc.org

continued on page 4
Meet The Newest Board Member...

STEVE DURHAM began service on the Western Council of Construction Consumers Board in October, 2011. Steve is currently Chief of the Construction Services Branch, Real Estate Services Division, Department of General Services (DGS), where he oversees the Construction Management Unit, which supplies construction management and inspection services; and the Direct Construction Unit which supplies construction services to other state agencies. Steve has over 35 years of experience in the construction industry including 15 years experience in the private sector, work in two state agencies and the Legislature. This broad combination of private sector experience coupled with work at DGS, the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, and the Legislative Analyst’s Office, gives him a global perspective of both internal and external issues facing the public sector construction industry today. While with the state he has held multiple technical, supervisory, and management positions and has been active in policy and procedure development, training, alternative delivery method legislation, public works bill analysis, IT development, and the Build California Initiative.

In addition to his current Department of General Services assignment, Steve served as Branch Chief for the Department of General Services Project Management Branch, where he was responsible for design and construction of over $2 billion in state facilities, and as acting Director of Project and Construction Management for the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. As a Principal Fiscal and Policy Analyst at the Legislative Analyst’s Office, Steve was responsible for providing analysis and recommendations to the Legislative Analyst’s Office, the Joint Legislative Budget Committee, legislative members and consultants, regarding project specific, local and statewide legislation related to public works.

In each of these positions he has worked with management, customers, stakeholders, private industry, the Department of Finance, and the Legislature to solve complex issues and improve service and delivery methods. Since 2004, Steve has been an involved with the University of California, Davis Extension’s Construction Management Certificate Program as an instructor, and recently as an advisor to their newly established Construction Estimating Certificate Program. Prior to his career in State Service, Steve worked as a tradesmen, estimator, scheduler, and project manager for private contractors involved in the defense and general construction industry.

Award-Winning Project Story # 1 (cont.)

Continued from page 3

sions the assumptions that the contractor made appeared reasonable. Primary among these reasons was the fact the contractor selected had previous experience working in the same area and specialized in this type of horizontal drilling. Several other factors lowered the cost of the project to $1,431M. The largest savings resulted from a reclassification of aerially deposited lead (ADL). Construction excavations adjacent to major thoroughfares typically test positive for lead from auto emissions, which is required to be cleaned up as hazardous material. A $400,000 allowance was made as part of the bid items for the mitigation of the ADL. Once the material was excavated, tested levels were far enough below the standards that it was classified as non-hazardous, which reduced the disposal fee by approximately 88%. There was no value engineering clause in the contract, however the contractor facilitated changes in methods and materials which resulted in an additional 5% savings to the overall contract, for a total of 19% below the original contract price.

This project had all the characteristics of an emerging trend of total collaboration, and a trust between all the parties involved. The adversarial relations of the past are being recognized as counterproductive and ultimately expensive. Construction managers, owners and contractors are evolving into cohesive teams to accomplish common goals which benefit all involved and result in a highly successful project.
Court of Appeals Draws Questionable Line for P3s

By Jeff Baize, CEO Brookhurst Development

Numerous studies and reports evidence significant cost savings that result when Public-Private Partnerships ("P3s") are used to finance and complete community projects and social infrastructure. It is generally accepted that the greatest savings result from placing the private partner at-risk for both construction and lifecycle costs as well as project schedule, which, in turn, introduces a more heightened focus on maintaining schedule and cost accountability than when compared to traditional public delivery. Savings also result from the removal of the bureaucratic yoke that creates burdensome governmental procurement requirements, onerous bidding demands, subcontractor listing requirements, bonding requirements, and additional layers of processing that often include multiple agency involvement.

One area of cost savings that sometimes receives more credit than is probably justified is the wages paid the laborers.

California’s prevailing wage law (Labor Code § 1720 et seq.) requires wage rates to be set by the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) for all workers employed on public works projects. However, the gap in wages paid by the public sector versus the private sector is narrowing, and with a recent California Court of Appeals decision, may have been closed for good.

This Court decision pertained to a hotel project developed on land owned by the San Diego Unified Port District. The project involved the District entering into a 66-year site lease with a private developer/owner with the developer being required to finance and construct a full-service, four star convention center hotel subject to specifications set forth by the District. The lease required the developer to pay the District ground rent based upon a percentage of gross income generated by the hotel operations, and the developer would also be responsible for maintaining construction schedule and paying for all construction costs inclusive of overruns. The developer would also be responsible for all post-construction hotel operations and assume all market risks associated with the hotel’s performance. As an incentive, the District would provide the developer ground rent credits up to 60% of lease payments for the first 11 years of the term.

A labor organization brought suit against the developer and District asserting that because of the District’s involvement, the development was a “public works” project and therefore subject to the Labor Code and prevailing wage rates. Their primary argument was based upon the ground rent credit, claiming it constituted a contribution of public funds, something which establishes when a project is public works. The lower court had to determine whether the credit was indeed a contribution of public funds, or alternatively, a negotiation concession necessary to make the project financially feasible, thereby being just part of calculations for fair market rent. It ruled the latter, and the labor organization appealed.

In a published decision, the Court of Appeals reversed the lower court’s ruling deeming the development was indeed a public works project and thus subject to compliance with prevailing wage laws. The decision has become controversial, and concern has arisen as to whether the California courts are now becoming more politically aligned with the detractors of P3 delivery, which are primarily the public employee unions.

Regardless, cost of labor should not be viewed as the primary area of potential cost savings in P3 projects.

Indeed, all P3 projects in which I have been involved not only adhered to prevailing wage rates, but in many instances Project Labor Agreements (PLAs) were in place with resulting wage rates higher than that set by the DIR. And yet, these projects have all been delivered ahead of schedule with significant cost savings when compared to traditional public works delivery.

If a public owner gives ground rent credit to a developer, does that make the project public works?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jeff D. Baize is CEO of Brookhurst Development Corp, a national firm that specializes in public-private partnerships. He is considered a foremost authority on P3s. You can learn more at:

www.brookhurstcorp.com
Alternative Project Delivery SUMMIT

170+ Professionals came from across the country to participate in Western Council’s Third Annual Alternative Project Delivery SUMMIT on September 14, 2011.

The all-day program, held in the Ziggurat Auditorium at CA Department of General Services, in West Sacramento, CA, included 17 presenters representing a wide variety of expertise and case studies. The program included three panels, a presentation and a keynote. This yearly event is Championed by Western Council member Jeff Baize, of Brookhurst Development. He again assembled a quality Program Team. The three Panel Leaders included Jeff, for Public Private Partnerships, Tim Murchison of URS, for Design-Build, and Ken Harms of Gilbane, for CM At Risk: Dick Cowan, now with XL Construction, presented on Integrated Project Delivery, and Senator Roderick Wright’s insightful keynote on P3 Legislation sparked enthusiastic discussion.

SUMMIT Attendees came from throughout California and as far as Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Iowa, Pennsylvania, Arizona & Washington ...

Attendees are already looking forward to next fall’s Alternative Project Delivery Summit. Thank you to our Sponsors who helped make this event a resounding success!

If you are interested in participating in planning for future Alternative Project Delivery Summits, contact Jeff Baize: 949-706-2628.

If you wish to Sponsor, Host, or attend, contact Valerie Largin: 916-599-8020.

Be Part of the Action!

Just as Jeff Champions the APD Summit, the Council needs other Program Champions, and Program Teams to build more varied and quality programs.

You can be part of the action and help create Programs you want to experience, that address topics and issues with strong interest, that spark discussion, increase our knowledge, provide solutions and improve our industry.

As a Program Champion or Team Member, you can attract presenters who challenge, engage, enlighten and energize us.

You can help discover and share new, technology and techniques, or unique variations on the tried and true, and develop valuable training opportunities.

Other ways to participate:
Host or co-host a program at your facility or a site you secure.
Encourage your firm to Sponsor programs, presenters, and/or locations.
Develop and Host Round Tables and onsite training.
Solicit and involve your in-house talent to participate in program development.

Propose topics, speakers and affordable locations.
Share the news about programs with your colleagues and contacts.
The possibilities are endless to create appealing and valuable programs!

Let’s get started — Act NOW!
Call or e-mail:
(916) 599-8020
vann@wccc.org
2011 Awards Gala

October 13, 2011 Professionals came from throughout the west to honor this year’s award winning projects, and the teams that brought them to life.

The gala event was held at The Promenade by Turnip Rose, in Costa Mesa, CA. A lively hour of cocktails and networking in view of the Rose Garden, was followed by an elegant gourmet dinner and program.

With the help of Executive Director, Andrew Wiktorowicz and Program Chair, Peter Watts (Vanir), Awards Chair, Tom Broz (Willdan), orchestrated an informative and visually appealing presentation ceremony, highlighting the unique qualities of each project. Some recurring themes included creative planning and design, collaborative teams, green building, and attention to client and community needs.

Attendees representing many stakeholders enjoyed the opportunity to honor and interact with each other.

Also, that evening the 2011 Appreciation Awards were presented to the following members in recognition of their outstanding service: Jeff Baize, Mark Stapke, Peter Watts, and Tom Broz.


Thank you to Pat Tobin of Willdan for photographing the Award presentations.

DISTINGUISHED PROJECT WARD RECIPIENTS:

CHAIRMAN’S AWARD—Building

DISTINGUISHED AWARD—Building
- Folsom Lake College - Three Stages Performing Arts Center  ▶ Kitchell
- The Richard E. Arnason Justice Center  ▶ Sundt

EXCEPTIONAL AWARD—Building
- California State University Chico Sutter Hall  ▶ Sundt
- Palm Desert Sheriff Station  ▶ Kitchell

EXCEPTIONAL AWARD—Utilities
- DGS Central Utility Plant  ▶ Skanska

EXCEPTIONAL AWARD—Infrastructure
- Santa Monica Palisades Bluffs Stabilization Project  ▶ Vanir Construction Management, Inc.

OUTSTANDING AWARD—Building
- Diamond Children’s Medical Center  ▶ Kitchell
- La Mesa New Police Facility  ▶ Vanir Construction Management, Inc.
- Sacred Heart Parish School, Sacramento  ▶ Roebbelen
- Seismic Retrofit and Renovation of the County of San Bernardino Historic Central Courthouse & Annex Building  ▶ ABS Consulting, Inc.
- General Instruction Building VI - Presidio of Monterey  ▶ Roebbelen

NOTABLE AWARD—Building
- B.F. Sisk Courthouse  ▶ Turner Construction Company
- California State Department of Social Services Headquarters and Training Center  ▶ Kitchell
- California State University, East Bay Recreation and Wellness Center  ▶ Sundt
- Carpenter Family Theatre at Westlake High School  ▶ Vanir Construction Management, Inc.
- OVMC Emergency Services Expansion and Acute Care Unit  ▶ Los Angeles County Dept. of Public Works
SKANSKA received an Exceptional Award for this project:

**DGS Central Utility Plant**

A Platinum CUP: Skanska team leads the way for efficient plant

When the State of California Department of General Services needed to upgrade its Central Plant, it looked at retrofitting its existing plant, built in the 1960s. While conventional wisdom would say that a retrofit was the best option, Skanska’s design-build team showed construction of an entirely new plant could be done within the planned budget and result in a facility with much lower long-term operational costs.

The resulting building not only looks great and performs well, but also serves as a model for public entities seeking to make the best use of public funds at a time when spending is under scrutiny. Located in downtown Sacramento, the plant provides cooling, heating and control air to 23 State-owned buildings in the Capitol Area.

Before a shovel hit the ground...

In response to the original RFQ/RFP lump sum best-value selection process, the Skanska team participated in an intensive and collaborative design and cost proposal phase. Performance and design criteria were established by the DGS’s consultants, and each team had to evaluate the project, suggest changes, design the systems and price the project. By focusing on sustainability, holistic energy efficiency, and continuous operation, the Skanska design-build team proposed a new facility that was less expensive than the State’s option of renovating the existing plant.

A frontline procurement strategy for the early release of equipment was followed up with diligent processing of submittals. This strategy allowed the team to plan ahead for construction while finishing the design. The team also planned just-in-time deliveries and assembly to compensate for limited laydown space. With tight restrictions onsite and an operating central plant next door, Skanska used longer working hours, weekends and swing shifts to complete the work without any impacts to existing services. There were “zero impacts” to State services during all shutdowns.

Building Information Modeling (BIM) allowed for coordination of the trades in a very efficient manner and resolved clashes ahead of the physical work in the field. This was a benefit to the owner, as all aspects of the field installation were included in the BIM process.

Community Focus

One challenge that affected both design and construction was the site’s proximity to both residences and businesses. The diverse neighborhood included 17-story office buildings, low-rise condominiums and an evolving, urban-industrial, community.

Continued on page 9

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**Western Council now has ALLIED Members!**

At their October meeting, the Western Council Board voted to add an Allied Membership category. Citing that these vendors and suppliers are active participants on committees and planning of activities in a number of other associations, it was felt that they could contribute knowledge, in-house talent, and energy to Western Council activities, committees and programs, as well.

We are currently planning some exciting programs for which they could be valued contributors, plus their knowledge can keep our entire membership abreast of the latest in construction technology and materials.

Spread the news, and suggest that your valued suppliers consider joining the Council.

A Membership Application is available to download on the Membership page of the Council website:

www.wccc.org
“to keep neighbors
and the public aware
of construction
events, a public
information program
was implemented
during design and
construction.”

In an effort to keep neighbors and the public aware of construction events, a public information program was implemented during design and construction. The program included a project website, managed by the DGS, to communicate project progress and provide neighborhood updates. These updates included notices of major road closures, utility work that would impact parking, street improvements and more. Skanska also mailed monthly project status reports to neighbors in a four-block radius of the project. Signs were posted around the site with contact telephone numbers.

While keeping the community informed was a goal, putting it to work was where a true impact was made. The construction workforce varied in size from 75 to 600 full-time construction employees, and the majority of the team was from the Sacramento area. During the peak project workforce period between November 2008 and July 2009, the project paid approximately $3.5 million dollars in monthly payroll into the local economy. Local materials were also prioritized and locally manufactured or quarried - products included the stone veneers, masonry products, concrete and aggregates, interior finishes, gypsum wall products, and reinforcing and light gauge steel materials.

A defined plan was established to contract with Small Business and Disabled Veterans Enterprises – and Skanska achieved 28 percent SBE/DVBE participation. Small and disadvantaged businesses employed on the project included companies that supplied the structural concrete, interior casework, landscaping, testing, and some design services.

A project to take pride in

The completed LEED Platinum, 78,000-SF utility plant serves over 5.5 million-SF of office space. It contains state-of-the-art equipment to enhance its efficiency, reliability, and heating and cooling capacity. The new plant is more water efficient and generates a portion of its own energy needs with an 11KWh/year solar array, which powers the office area. A roof-based solar system provides primary domestic water heating and is connected to the house heating system as back-up for periods of limited sun exposure. The solar hot water system is capable of meeting 100 percent of the Central Plant’s domestic hot water needs.

The DGS Central Plant’s new systems have reduced energy costs and greenhouse gas emissions. The chiller plant incorporates a fully automated control scheme that matches the electrical demand to the campus load. This innovation was achieved by using variable frequency drives on all equipment and making equipment run in the higher efficiency range rather than running more equipment. This scheme supersedes the conventional thinking of running less equipment at a higher RPM, which actually incurs higher energy costs.

The reduced energy consumption of the plant saves over 4,300 tons of CO2 annually. The new plant also uses 90 percent less water than the old plant. Water from the cooling tower is reclaimed for toilet flushing and landscape irrigation. Water-efficient fixtures in the building have reduced water consumption by over 30 percent when compared with baseline figures for the building. Gardens and landscaping on the site reduce

Continued from page 8

business/residential area called the “R Street Corridor.”

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Continued on page 10
Winning Project Story 2 (cont.)

Continued from page 9

During construction, the team met exceptionally high standards of occupational health and safety. The contracting of efficient offsite recycling services minimized project waste. In total, 89 percent of all project waste was recycled and diverted from landfills. The old plant was demolished, and 91 percent of demolition waste was diverted from landfills.

Not only was the new plant delivered within budget, but the new, energy-efficient central plant will prove much more cost-effective to operate long-term.

DGS CUP Boiler Room

More Stories To Come ...

Watch for more Award-Winning Project stories like the two in this issue in upcoming Newsletters.

It’s always interesting, even exciting, to hear about the creative and innovative ways a team addresses the needs and challenges of a project. We hope that these stories will give you ideas and inspiration for your future projects — Enjoy!

Plan now to participate in the 2012 Western Council Distinguished Project Awards Program, by determining which of your projects you wish to submit. Details at: www.wccc.org
The Council is expanding programs to meet our members’ needs and interests, especially in the area of Professional Development and Training. We are adding courses of various lengths, with a variety of topics and locations, in addition to some more Summits. You’ll see more Round Tables, as well as webinars, audio conferences, and more.

We welcome your topic, format and presenter, suggestions, and hope you’ll take advantage of opportunities to host, sponsor, and serve on planning teams.

We have also affiliated with some training entities that are willing to offer our members special pricing — including: Lorman and American Trainco for now.

Check the Professional Development section of the website regularly for the latest course updates, and affiliate links or voucher instructions to take advantage of course discounts.

Professional Development

Who Do You Know?

Who do you know who has expertise from which Council members and others in our industry could benefit?

Whether in-house talent in your organization, or a team you’ve been part of, or in other professional capacities, you’ve likely encountered some talented people who could participate in programs, offer courses, etc.

Introduce them to us. This introduction could result in some excellent programs from which we would all benefit.

Introduce us to them. They might be interested in being a member of Western Council and enjoying the benefits of membership and interaction with fellow members.

Invite them to an event. The Council offers some programs that may be of great interest and benefit to them, and you would be the “hero” for clueing them in!

Find out who they know, and extend the cycle farther to meet, learn from, and include those people in your professional and Western Council circle of influence.

We all benefit when you think about who you know, who you’ve met, and who you’d like to know, and take that step to reach out and connect.

Continued on page 14
CAL-EMA
SAFETY ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (SAP) TRAINING
Thursday, January 12, 2012  8 AM — 3:30 PM
Diablo Room, Brown and Caldwell, 201 N. Civic Drive Suite 300, Walnut Creek, CA

California Emergency Management Agency (Cal-EMA) Safety Assessment Program (SAP) utilizes volunteers and mutual aid resources to provide trained personnel to assist local governments in safety evaluation of their built environment following disasters. The program is managed by Cal-EMA with cooperation from professional partner organizations. SAP Evaluators survey damaged facilities to determine any safety hazards to occupants or the general public, and provide recommended posting of placards denoting condition of each structure evaluated. Upon completion of this one-day course, qualified attendees may be called upon to volunteer their time to assist local government in rapid safety assessment of their community after an earthquake or other disaster.

THIS FULL-DAY TRAINING IS OPEN TO ANYONE. It includes the most currently updated Cal-EMA curriculum, practical examples of post-disaster field conditions impacting structural safety, assessing degree of severity, posting, and barricading procedures, etc. PLUS, thanks to Mr. Karina, an exclusive Power Point presentation of response activities following the April 4, 2010, 7.2 Baja Earthquake along the California/Mexico border.

- Certification as a SAP Evaluator is granted to civil engineers, architects, and building inspectors, and a Worker Emergency Response Team Card is issued (required to participate in emergency CALBO call-out operations). ID card photos are taken at registration, and cards are mailed later.
- Certificate of Completion is granted to other attendees. Their skills and knowledge are valuable to assist Certified Evaluators at disaster scenes.

The following materials are provided at training:
- SAP Student Manual
- ATC-20 Field Manual
- ATC-45 Field Manual

Instructor: DAVID KARINA, Assoc. AIA, Dynamic Engineering & Inspection, Inc.

Mr. Karina is two time past president of the American Construction Inspectors Association (ACIA), one of the five professional partnering organizations with Cal-EMA. He currently serves on the Advisory Board of DSA and the Steering Committee for Cal-EMA. David’s company, Dynamic Engineering and Inspection, is an associate member of Western Council of Construction Consumers. David was the field coordinator Cal-EMA SAP Evaluators following the 7.2 Baja Earthquake that affected Imperial County communities along the California/Mexico border on April 4, 2010. David Karina has conducted Cal-EMA SAP training classes for numerous communities, including, but not limited to, the cities of Huntington Beach, Redondo Beach, San Diego, and Oceanside, as well as school districts, including San Diego Unified, Oceanside Unified, and 700+ evaluators at LAUSD.

Includes Continental Breakfast and Lunch

- SAP Evaluator Certification: Member $145  Non-Member $165
- Evaluator Update or Certificate of Completion: Member $100  Non-Member $125
  (After 1/5/12 Add $20 to all registrations)

Refunds through 1/4/12 minus $18 admin. fee. No-shows, and cancellations after 1/5/12 are subject to full fee. Ask about subs.

Download full details & Registration Form at: www.wccc.org
LEAN is a process that Owners are bringing to their construction projects to drive out many types of waste that have historically plagued projects.

For public projects, which have more restrictions, or private ones, starting the LEAN process may seem daunting for Owners, as well as design, engineering and construction professionals.

These experienced LEAN users can guide you through the process, by sharing successful approaches, and lessons learned, including Owner presentations about their first LEAN projects. Whether you want to start gradually, or jump in with both feet, let them show you how it’s done.

This course includes presentations by instructors and owners, interactive exercises, and a panel discussion. Featured projects include the California Lottery Building and the Cordis West Coast Consolidation.

To prepare you for the course, you will receive some “Points to Ponder” when you submit your registration.

Who would benefit from this course: Owners, Architects/Designers, CMs, Engineers, Contractors, Subcontractors, and more...

INSTRUCTORS:

Dick Cowan has 45 years of building experience using many alternative methods. He is a Professional Engineer, a Certified Project Management Professional, a Designated Design Build Professional, an Accredited LEED Professional, and member of the Lean Construction Institute. He’s worked on projects for federal, state and local agencies throughout the US and overseas, including two federal P3 projects overseas.

Dick executed public Lean Team projects in Sacramento and Vacaville, and recent Design Builds for Catholic Healthcare West and LAUSD. Dick joined XL Construction in Nov.

George Zettel is Manager of Lean Construction, working for Turner since 2003. He is currently on the Core Team for an Integrated Project Delivery team designing and building the 140 bed UHS Temecula Valley Hospital in Temecula, CA, and also helps Turner’s project teams with improvement projects throughout the Southwest. He’s on AGC’s Lean Construction Steering Committee, and the National Board of Directors for the Lean Construction Institute. George has 28 years of industry experience including roles in building trades, construction supervision, project management, and as a facility owner.

Michael Flores is a partner with Capital Program Management, Incorporated. He has 20 years of industry experience in both the K-12 education and telecommunications markets. He has worked on projects throughout the United States and Mexico. Michael is a member of the Lean Construction Institute, and has implemented Lean on nearly two dozen projects acting as an Owner’s Representative on behalf of his clients. Michael is a Lean facilitator for project teams throughout the state of California.

Includes Continental Breakfast

Member $99   Non-Member $119   (After 1/16/12 Add $20)

No-shows, and cancellations after 1/16/12 are subject to full fee. Ask about subs.

Download full details & Registration Form at: www.wccc.org
Owners—What Keeps you Up at Night?

In these unique times, the things that may have been inconsequential in the past may now loom large, and vice versa. New, different or more issues may now be keeping you awake.

In order to meet your needs and provide quality programs, services, and benefits to you, your staff, your projects, and the industry, we need to communicate consistently.

So, let us know what challenges and headaches you currently face, and how we can help you address them, provide needed resources, or connect you with experienced and knowledgeable professionals to guide the way.

Speak up, we’re here for you. Understanding your pressing issues, helps us better serve you, offer quality programs — and hopefully get you more rest!

A New Year - As You Renew or Join, Ask Yourself:

Are you interested in being more involved in Western Council, by:

- Hosting a roundtable, course or training at your offices or at a site you secure?
- Sponsoring a program or event?
- Serving, or having your people serve, on a committee, program planning teams, etc.?
- Championing a program or event?

Do you have in-house talent who would make great presenters or program planning team leaders on particular topics?

Are there people in your organization you would like to attend or become more involved in Western Council activities?

Do you want to send people to courses and programs?

What topics would you like to see us address in programs and courses?

Do you have particular training or service needs with which you think we could assist?

Share Your Answers With Us...

Professional Development (cont.)

Continued from page 11

As mentioned, we are planning more lengthy programs, including more Summits.

Over the next few months, watch for programs on Risk Mitigation, BIM, Crises Management, Managing Public Works Projects, Sub Wisdom, Establishing Yourself as an Expert, and much more.

Watch initially for more programs and courses in the Sacramento, San Francisco Bay, and Los Angeles regions.

Western Council’s aim is to continue being a recognized source of meaningful training and professional development for members of the construction community.

Take advantage of the opportunities offered!
Tips for the Work of Work...

EFFECTIVE “GOOGLING”
Not everyone is (or will admit they’re not) a whiz at searching the Internet, so here are some tips:

- **Key Words** - In the Search box on Google (or any search engine), type one or more key words that best describe what you seek) and hit the “enter” key, or click the on screen “search” button.

- **Be Specific and Use Multiple Search Terms in order of importance to your needs** - I was looking for a watchband, so I Googled: replacement watchband leather to tightly narrow my search. Order counts.

- **Capitalization** - Google searches are NOT case-sensitive, so no need to capitalize proper names.

- **Automatic "and" queries** - Google automatically searches for pages that include all of the terms in your query, so no need to connect words with “and"

- **Exclusion of Common Words** - Google ignores common words and characters such as "where" and "how", plus certain single digits and letters, because they slow searches without improving results. If a common word is essential to your search, include it by putting a "+" sign and space in front of it.

- **Phrase Search** – To search for a particular phrase, put quotation marks around it. Results show only pages with that exact phrase, in that order.

- **Negative Terms** - If a search term has more than one meaning (bass could mean fishing or music) focus your search by putting a minus sign (-) in front of words related to meanings you want to avoid.

- **Feeling Lucky?** - After entering search terms, click the "I'm Feeling Lucky" button, and Google will take you directly to the most relevant website found, bypassing all other search results.

Happy searching! For more information, go to: [http://www.google.com/help/basics.html](http://www.google.com/help/basics.html)

**Taking a “Screen Shot”**
Want to capture what you see on your computer screen instantly? Whether you’re working with a webpage, e-mail, picture, or spreadsheet that’s not easily cut and pasted or saved, or you’re just short of time, you can grab what you see and drop it into an MSWord document:

Hit the Print Screen Key (may say “prt scr”). It’s usually near F12 or the Scroll Lock key. Then use Ctrl + V OR Shift + Insert to drop it into a Word document. Voila!

**Is Mail Merge a Mystery?**
Knowing how to mail merge can save you tons of time even if you are not using it for letters, as it was originally designed (thus the name).

You can use the same principles for creating labels, business cards, multiple contracts, name badges, project labels, you name it.

An easy way to do it and learn it is with the Avery Wizard. You can download it for free from the Avery website — www.avery.com. It creates a button on your toolbar that you can push and it will walk you through the process, step by step, quickly and easily — way cool!

**Want Help?**
Want a tip to help you with “the work of your work”?

E-mail us your challenge and we’ll see what we can discover:

info@wccc.org

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Diane West is webmaster for the Western Council site and has helped us implement changes and updates. WEST DESIGN specializes in custom website design, and re-designs, for small and medium sized businesses and non-profits; creating brand identities; and unifying a firm’s brand from web to print collateral.

[www.dianewestdesign.com](http://www.dianewestdesign.com)
This Western Council Newsletter is designed to inform and serve Council members and the construction industry. Content is gleaned and solicited from a variety of sources. Starting with this issue, it is published electronically each month. Issues are archived and indexed on the Council website.

For the latest updates on Council events and programs, consult the website, which is updated weekly.

If you, or someone on your staff or team, would like to receive Council e-mail notices, OR update your current list profile, click the “Join Our E-mail List” button below the menu on the Council home page. It will walk you through the short process.

Submit articles, photos, and information to the Newsletter Editor for consideration.

Articles and documents should be MSWord 2003 format. Photographs should be in jpg format < 350 KB.

Western Council encourages submission of industry-related white papers and non-advertorial articles of interest. We include some white papers in CONNECTION, and those, and others, are posted on the Western Council website where they are archived and indexed, so readers can refer to them ongoing. You may also add key words to optimize searching. Priority is given to Members’ papers.

Accepted white papers may be posted on the website by members for $25; non-members for $50. Contact Valerie for submission details.

Display Ads and Advertorials are accepted for the monthly CONNECTION. Current Info, Rates and Submission Requirements are available in the News/Publications section on the Council website.

Note: Advertorials and Full-page Ads are accepted from members only.

Advertorials are explained in detail on page 1 of this issue, as well as the website.

Only ONE Full Page Ad is published per issue - first come, first served.

Only ONE Full Page Ad published per organization per year – RSVP for the month you want!