



As the season changes and occasional rain storms break up our string of sunny Southern California days, the construction industry braces itself to weather the economic storm also in our midst. The global recession, compounded by the domestic credit crunch, has left many in our industry engaged in a game of “wait and see”. Capital markets pulled financing from development projects almost overnight, while the State budget impasse resulted in a bottleneck of funding from Sacramento. Despite the confluence of events that have created this perfect storm, construction in Southern California is better suited to lead the comeback than most other industries in our region. A leading indicator of this underlying strength was the passage of several bond measures in the November election. Voters approved over \$60 billion dollars in bond expenditures for construction programs including rail, road construction, schools, healthcare and correctional. Add to that the stated commitments to infrastructure and school construction from the incoming Presidential Administration, and we have the makings of a silver lining to the clouds we currently face.

As always, the CMAA Southern California Chapter is there to facilitate these opportunities for our members. Our upcoming annual Owner’s Night will provide agencies supplied with the aforementioned funding the opportunity to distribute detailed information to the consultant community, while allowing our member firms the ability to network with owners and colleagues. Our Annual Awards Banquet will be held at the Pasadena Convention Center on April 2nd, and will once again serve as a venue for us to recognize the scholastic and professional excellence that has made our industry and this organization so rewarding. Please note that applications for both the scholarship and project awards can be downloaded from the chapter’s website: www.cmaasc.org. Additionally, all details regarding programs and seminars as well as the event fliers can be found on this same website.

I would also like to congratulate the outgoing Past President, Greg Hess, CCM of Chevron and thank our membership for a successful golf tournament that yielded over \$20 thousand dollars towards our scholarship fund. Greg’s effort and your participation are going to directly affect the lives of deserving students striving to join us as construction managers. And now, you can look forward to beating your best score at our 2009 Golf Tournament on September 16, 2009 at the Industry Hills Golf Club at Pacific Palms in Industry Hills, CA. Past President, Rebecca Jones of Safework, Inc., has done a terrific job of finding another quality course for our golfers to enjoy.

Finally, congratulations to the 2007-2008 Board for winning the Excellence in CCM Development Award at the National Conference in San Francisco. I personally witnessed the effort and creativity with which our CCM Committee Chair, Brett Barnett, P.E., CCM of Harris & Associates, and his committee members approached the goal of increasing the number of CCMs in our chapter. Brett continues to chair the CCM committee this year and we can all look forward to his committee exceeding the high bar that they have set for themselves. Additional awards to the various chapters around the country are listed in the News from National section of this newsletter. Congratulations to all for serving our members with distinction. I look forward to working with our current board, National Organization and you, our members, to capture the opportunities on the horizon.

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