



June 2012 Newsletter 2nd edition

Presented by the 2011-2012 Section of the Year, San Diego Section Officers

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Secretary	John Williamson	(619) 718-7822	Caltrans
Treasurer	Azar Habibafshar	(619) 688-3192	Caltrans

San Diego Member Roy Flores runs for Corporate President Elect



Roy Flores

A healthy, productive civilization is based on a good, sound government. It is the primary factor in ensuring domestic tranquility, promoting well being and developing economic success. Our professions are meant to sustain and improve the quality of life for the California public. Most of us work on projects that affect thousands, even millions of lives. Whether you work on the State's infrastructure, ensure the safety of our hospitals, schools & workers or protect the quality of the air we breathe, your job is to improve the standard of living. This setup is so important that it was decided years ago to give this responsibility to the people because it could not be trusted in the hands of private industry. The public is responsible and they hold their representatives accountable for the good stewardship of public resources. We are the experts and we have the knowledge base.

But we are under attack. Various organizations want to take our jobs and propagate misinformation. They are trying to convince the public that our salaries and pensions are bankrupting the state. The 2010 election showed that one person can outspend thousands. Now we have the "Paycheck Deception" proposition that wants to limit our voice, a 5% reduction in employee's compensation and upcoming changes to our retirement system. We need to show that our work brings value to California. I will support our staff of professionals who know how to handle legal and political issues but I would also like for you to be more involved. Talk to your Section Officers about issues that affect us. This will improve communication within each Section. Give them your input and try to get

involved. I encourage you to become a mentor, work with students, participate in workplace activities, take part in your local elections and have discussions with your friends and neighbors about what you do. I will not ask you to do anything that I myself have not done or will continue to do. Be proud of your work and always try to do a good job. Show the public that we are a vital force in state government.

**Thank you for reading my statement and I would appreciate your vote for President Elect.
Roy Flores**

2012/2013 Nominees for the San Diego Section Office

Mehrdad (Mo) Maher for President Elect

District Structural Engineer, Division of the State Architect

PECG Member since 1996

PECG Experience: Current Section Vice President At Large; Committees: Political Action Liaison; Bring Your Child To Work Day (Chair)

Professional Committees: Emergency Preparedness, Seismic Safety, Structural Code, Masonry Special Inspection Exam, Structural Steel and Welding Inspection, Reinforce Concrete Exam

Professional Organizations: SEAC, ICC, CABO, EERI and ASCE.



We have one of the lowest ratios of state employees per capita in the nation yet we have produced the best & safest infrastructure amongst all of the states.

Officers can best represent us if they're free from personal disputes with the State.

We'll unite all political parties to achieve results and secure our fair pay and pensions. We should support all parties supportive of our needs

and not just throw our support blindly.

I won't rest until supervisor pay parity is restored and the Rank & File get normal pay with raises per our MOU!

Thanks for your support!

Abu-Bakr Al-Jafri for Vice President Supervisory

Senior Transportation Engineer, Caltrans Design

PECG Member since 1993



PECG Experience: Current Section Vice President Supervisory; Committees: Political Action Liaison; MESA (Chair); Legislative Day; Statewide Meet and

Confer

State workers, responsible for maintaining and improving the public quality of life, are now being demonized by politicians and the media.

The State's budget deficit is being balanced on our backs.

We are forced to take another 5% cut raising the pay parity to 15%. The meet and confer political process has not gotten us the results we deserve. The need for an independent commission that sets adequate compensation is here and now.

I will work hard with the other PECG officers to correct this using your suggestions and solutions.

I need and appreciate your vote to get this done.

Lilia G. Bowman for Vice President At Large

Associate Safety Engineer, Department of Industrial Relations
Occupational

Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA)

PECG Member since 2005

PECG Experience: Committees: By-Laws Review and Revision

Professional Organizations: Past President, Legislative Liaison and Newsletter Editor for the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE); Newsletter Editor for the Association of Threat Assessment Professionals (SD ATAP).

My pledge to you is to be the best VP At Large representative.

We thought we had gotten rid of the Furlough Program, but it looks like we are being forced into this again. As VP At Large I will do whatever it takes so that our membership does not go through this once more.

I've been involved with the Committee to review and make changes to our By-Laws and know there is still a lot of work to be done in this area.

A vote for me as your VP At Large is NOT a wasted vote.

Thank you.



Azar Habibafshar for Treasurer

Transportation Engineer (Civil), Caltrans Environmental Engineering Branch

PECG Member since 1991

PECG Experience: Current Section Treasurer; Past 3 term Section Treasurer (2002, 2003 and 2004);
Committees: Science Fair (Judge); Scholarship

Caltrans District 11: Diversity and Mentoring Programs



I have been working at Caltrans 21 years ago and have been a PECG member for 21 years.

I currently serve the Section as Treasurer and have served as Section Treasurer in the past for three straight years from 2002-2004.

I am fully committed to take control of our finances. I believe the Section is in need of financial transparency, so the members are fully informed of the Section finances.

I will manage our financial books, come up with ideas promoting PEGC and collectively be proactive in having our voices heard by the Legislature.

Lawrence Emerson for Secretary



Senior Transportation Engineer, Caltrans Ramp Metering/TMS Operations and Traffic Systems Support
PEGC Member since 1992

PEGC Experience: Past PEGC San Diego Section Vice President Supervisory;
Committees: Science Fair

As a former PEGC officer I know the value of having good leadership in place to serve the membership.
I'd like to help unite the Section so that we can face the challenges ahead together.

There are bound to be differences in regards to which priorities should be addressed first but by working together I know we can accomplish a lot.

We are at a cross roads at this time at which decisions made in the next year will shape our future as State employees.

I hope to help so that those decisions turn out for the best for us.

Benjamin Guerrero Jr. for VP Rank & File (Coll. Bargaining)

Transportation Engineer (Civil), Caltrans Advanced Planning
PEGC Member since 2005

PEGC Experience: Committees: Health and Wellness (Chair); Science Fair (Judge); PEGC Liaison with SEIU

Education: M.S. in Transportation Engineering & B.S in Civil Engineering – San Diego State University



I will work hard with local and corporate PEGC officers to bring unity & prosperity to our chapter.

I will diligently address Rank and File work issues and concerns.

I will serve you by providing support, clarity, and fairness in every situation.

I will update PEGC members on current issues and challenges that PEGC faces.

Unions are being unfairly attacked all over the country, it's time to stand united and be heard.

A vote for me is a vote for equality and progress.

State employees' pay and benefits are under attack once again; let's tell Sacramento we're fed up!

Frank Contreraz for VP Rank & File (Coll. Bargaining)



Transportation Engineer (Civil), Caltrans Advanced Planning
PECG Member since 2008

PECG Experience: Committees: At Work Goodwill; PECG San Diego Section Caltrans Employees Committee Representative

Caltrans District 11: Current Employee Committee Chairman

I've been a PECG member since beginning my professional career at Caltrans in 2008.

The past two years I've been active in PECG serving as the PECG Representative on the Caltrans Employees Committee, helping start the Inaugural PECG SoCal Inter-District Basketball Tournament, volunteering to distribute PECG Calendars to members and lending a hand during the Holiday Canned Food Drive.

My goals are to elevate the reputation of our profession and help out members anyway I can through strong communication and teamwork.

I look forward to addressing member issues and improving our Section.

Vote for me and you won't be disappointed!

MARTY BLOCK FOR SENATE

Section officers and members in support of Marty Block May 2012





Thanks corporate officer Roy Flores, Section VP at Large Mo Maher and Corporate Committee member Fred Abdipour for attending the support for Marty Block for Senate in May of 2012

SAN DIEGO SECTION SPONSORS DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (DAC) AND THE FISH BBQ EVENT AND DAC SCHOLARSHIP

DAC Fish BBQ

The **Caltrans District 11 Disability Advisory Committee (DAC)** held it's **8th Annual Fish BBQ** on **June 20th, 2012** in the CT Kearny Mesa Yard. Approximately 100 pounds of yellow fin and yellow tail fish were served to **130** employees and guests. The fish was donated by **Five Star Fish Processing** and by **Catalina Offshore Products**. San Diego Section members helped set up and, along with other Caltrans employees, donated the accompanying ingredients and food serving products.

Over \$1,400 were collected at the event. Able-Disabled Advocay (A-DA), one of our local interning partners, made an additional donation of \$50 towards the scholarship fund. Proceeds go to fund scholarships for disabled students. This is enough money to provide three \$500 scholarships.



Roy Flores was a big help at this event



DAC Members and friends helped B-BQ the Fish



Bruce Urquhart, Bruce April, Lorna Rice and Section President Naser Ghaderi served over 100 meals.

DAC Scholarship Recipient

This summer's scholarship recipient is **Brawley** Union High School's **Paige Boas**. She just finished high school in June and is ready to get a Business Management degree from **San Diego State University** which she will be attending in the fall. High school counselor Veronica Vega described her as "a strong, mature young lady who even through challenging times has preserved and continues to excel." Paige was presented with her scholarship check on **June 27th**. We wish her the best on the continuation of her studies.



DAC also awarded a \$500 Scholarship to students

2012 San Diego Section PECG Scholarship Program

The PECG San Diego Section Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the availability of two \$500.00 scholarships as a new benefit to the families of PECG San Diego Section members. Seven applications have been received and are being reviewed by the Scholarship Committee and the top 2 will be awarded soon.