



WESTERN CHAPTER

International Erosion Control Association

Serving Erosion Control Professionals in Arizona, California, Nevada and Hawaii

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

With 2017 fast approaching, it's time to look back on 2016, not only to assess how the Western Chapter did in 2016, but to see if 2016 provides a compass bearing for the Chapter's direction in 2017.

WCIECA had a very busy 2016, with lots of participation by Chapter members.

Budgeting

The "**back into the black**" 2016 budget adopted by your Chapter's Board has been a success in the quest for financially sustainable chapter finances. Across the board in every major budget category, the fourth quarter preliminary financials indicate revenues are up and the expense to revenue ratio is down. Does this mean we've reached long-term sustainability? No, but it does mean we've successfully taken the first major step, and with a sustainable, "in-the-black" budgeting and operations philosophy in place, we should be well on the road to long-term sustainable operations.

Workshops and Networking

WCIECA was the lead or a significant partner in several key networking and training events in 2016.

The first major networking and workshop event for the year was **Environmental Connection 2016** in San Antonio in February 2016. EC-16 was an amazing conference, and the WCIECA's meeting and networking event was a huge success. After a short business meeting, over 50 chapter members had the opportunity to network with the support of San Antonio style food and beverages. The crowd grew as the evening progressed as members of other chapters came over to WCIECA's event and joined in the networking. These networking opportunities are a major benefit of IECA membership.

Next up for WCIECA was **The Erosion Control BMP Summit** in Redding May 3-4, 2016. Working closely with the Sacramento Watersheds Action Group and Shasta College (an IECA University Partner), the chapter took responsibility for event advertising and securing and coordinating exhibitors and event sponsors. This two-day event, with one day in the classroom and one day in the field, was a huge success, with participants earning valuable Professional Development Hours (PDHs) needed for renewal and maintenance of professional certifications.



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VISIT OUR WEBSITE!

Get the latest Chapter news online - Check it out today at:
www.wcieca.org

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Be All You Can Be – many hands do make light work!

An organization is only as strong and active as its members-will you become an active member?

Please see the [Committees](#) list on the Western Chapter's [website](#) to see how your talents and interests may benefit your peers and email the chairperson of that committee today!



CALL FOR ARTICLES

Do you have a technical article, regulatory update, or event announcement you'd like to share with your fellow members?

Please forward articles to Cyndi at westernchapter@gmail.com and we'll publish them in the next issue of Western Chapter News! Thank you!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - CONTINUED

On October 26, WCIECA moved to San Marcos for the full day workshop, **Construction Site Erosion and Sediment Control for CIP/PIP/LUP Projects**. The success of this event is measured not only in having over 125 attendees, but also in the positive feedback received from attendees via a post-workshop poll. The event, well attended by chapter members, also provided an opportunity to showcase WCIECA and IECA to non-members and for all attendees to earn PDHs.

I am proud to report that every WCIECA event in 2016 included a substantial discount for members, and we plan to continue this into 2017 and beyond.

Board of Directors

The WCIECA Board has been active this last year. Board member **Pablo A. Garcia-Chevesich** has resigned his position due to him moving out of the chapter area. Pablo is now working with the Ibero-America Chapter. The WCIECA extends its thanks to Pablo for his service on the Board. Board Member **Greg Naffz** has stepped down due to an increase in his territory at work and the need for more travel. The WCIECA extends its thanks to Greg for his years of service to the organization.

In fall 2016, WCIECA elections partially refilled the Board. **Ron Dietz, with Dietz Hydroseeding Co.**, was newly elected to the Board, and we look forward to Ron's insights, ideas, and leadership. **Chris Marr, with ESI Resource Services LLC**, and **Jeff Endicott, with CASC Engineering and Consulting**, were re-elected. Chris is already taking the lead on planning a Dust Control workshop for February. Jeff continues to serve as WCIECA President, and is busy writing this President's Message (and looking ahead to 2017). The remaining vacancy on the Board will be filled via board appointment at our next meeting.

Website and E-Commerce

The WCIECA website was revamped and modernized with the goals of providing increased security and enhanced self-maintenance capabilities. Soon after the modernization of the web-site, an e-commerce capability was added to the site and used to register participants for the workshop in San Marcos. Overall, the website and e-commerce capabilities are a huge success, with a little fine tuning and a few upgrades expected in 2017. The e-commerce capabilities of the web site significantly reduce the cost to WCIECA for registering workshop attendees, thereby contributing to the chapter's goal of sustainable budgeting and providing affordable training opportunities for our members.

(Continued on Page 3)

MEET YOUR NEW BOARD MEMBER



Ron Dietz
rd@dietzhydroseeding.com
(818) 400-8705

Mr. Dietz was a founding partner of Environmental Seeding Co. in May of 1979, which became Dietz Hydroseeding Co. in 1984.

Dietz Hydroseeding Co. performs private, commercial, and public works projects throughout California. His company has extensive experience with revegetation, habitat restoration, fire remediation, erosion control and native plant establishment projects throughout California. Mr. Dietz is also the owner of Spec Check, providing consultation, project analysis and inspection protocols for the erosion control industry. Mr. Dietz is a member of the International Erosion Control Association and is a life member of the California Landscape Contractors Association. He was the CLCA San Fernando Valley Chapter President in 1984 and was CLCA State President in 1989. He is a Director of Golden Oak Co-op Corporation in Chatsworth, CA, a position he has held since 1986. Mr. Dietz was also a founding member and the first president of the Green Industry Council in 1989.



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - CONTINUED

Website and E-Commerce Continued

All things considered, 2016 was a great year for the WCIECA, and I believe provides the momentum, operational model, and directional bearing for a great year in 2017. So what's in store for 2017? Here are a few highlights.

A **Dust Control for Arid Climates** workshop is in the works for Tuesday February 2, 2017. The workshop will be held at the ADOT Human Resource Center, 1130 N. 22nd Avenue, Phoenix, AZ. The featured presenter is shaping up to be **Pablo A. Garcia-Chevesich, Ph.D.** with support from others still to be announced.

Environmental Connection 2017 and the WCIECA's Annual Member Meeting are slated for February 21-24, 2017 in Atlanta, Georgia. EC-17 is the premier national educational event for the erosion control, sediment control, and stormwater industry. EC-17 is expected to draw 2,000 industry professionals representing over 25 different countries, and despite the distance, WCIECA members will no doubt turn out in great numbers. If you make it to EC-17, please stop by the WCIECA meeting; the time and location will be shown in the conference brochure.

WCIECA is looking forward to other events as well, including another **Erosion Control BMP Summit** in Redding in the Spring and topical workshops in the north-central part of the state (or is that the south-northern part of the state?), meaning somewhere between Gilroy and San Mateo or between Richmond and Fairfield or between Stockton and Sacramento or other location. Are you now wondering how WCIECA finds locations for workshops? Well it usually starts with a loci of interest and demand from a WCIECA member. If you know of such a loci, please contact me or any of your Chapter's Board members.

It's now time to really look ahead. This look ahead is to February 2018 when **Environmental Connection 2018** is coming to Long Beach, California! EC-18 will be an event for significant participation by WCIECA members. The chapter has already stepped up to plan the EC-18 Field Tours and we are in talks with Region 1 about bringing back the **HydroRodeo!** If you have ideas or access to sites for the **Field Tours**, please contact me or another Board member. We need unique and interesting sites not too far from downtown Long Beach. The Field Tour usually has a focus on erosion control, sediment control, and now stormwater, so there are many possible options for a half day in the field.

In closing, the Western Chapter has a lot going on, but can do even more with member support. Please encourage your colleagues to join IECA and the Western Chapter. If you have ideas for Western Chapter events and/or if you are interested in volunteering, please drop me an email or give me a call.

Best regards,

Jeff Endicott, PE, BCEE, CPESC

President, Western Chapter International Erosion Control Association

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909.835.7537 (Cell)

See all the photos from the San Marcos Construction Site Management Workshop [here!](#)



'Like' our Facebook page, comment and / or start a conversation at www.facebook.com/WCIECA.



The 2017 IECA Annual Conference Environmental Connection

LEARN. COLLABORATE. INNOVATE.

February 21-24, 2017

ATLANTA, GA

The 2017 IECA Annual Conference Environmental Connection is the premier educational event for the erosion & sediment control, and stormwater industry. The industry's brightest and most innovative minds will come together for an unparalleled opportunity to learn and experience the latest knowledge and advancements in the field.

Conference attendees will connect with thousands of colleagues from more than 25 different countries, internationally renowned instructors, and industry experts for four invaluable days of cutting-edge learning, professional collaboration, and innovation.

6 Reasons Why You Should Attend 2017 Environmental Connection

ONE: Can't-Miss Keynote Speakers: Join us as Jim Cantore from The Weather Channel kicks off the Conference discussing changes in weather patterns, predictions for the future, and how these changes will affect our industry. Our first-ever closing keynote speaker Craig Zeller, PE, from the EPA, will share his first-hand experience from the TVA Kingston Ash Recovery Project.

TWO: Cutting-Edge Learning: Learn from more than 110 presentations of the latest case studies and topic-focused technical sessions, and keep up-to-date in today's newest technologies in erosion and sediment control products and services at our two-day expo.

THREE: Collaborate with the Best and Brightest: Attending the conference provides an unparalleled opportunity to connect and network with the industry's brightest and most innovative minds. Collaborate with thousands of colleagues from more than 25 different countries, internationally renowned instructors, and industry experts.

FOUR: IECA Awards Luncheon: Join us as we gather at the conference to honor our award winners for 2016 in Environmental Excellence, Sustained Contributor, Outstanding Professional, 2017 Technical Paper of the Year, and 2016 Presenter of the Year. We will also recognize our Outstanding Chapters for 2016.

FIVE: Stay Credible: Earn IACET credited IECA CEUs by attending full day and half day pre-conference classes on February 21st. Earn Professional Development Hours (PDHs) at technical sessions throughout the conference.

SIX: Support a Cause: Attending the conference helps to show your support for IECA, a non-profit organization that provides education, resource information, and business opportunities for professionals in the erosion and sediment control industry.

Learn more and register at: IECA.org/AnnualConference

IECA's Revamped Magazine Coming Soon!

You might notice something a bit different when you open the January/February issue of Environmental Connection - the official publication of IECA. We've redesigned, refined, and reinvigorated our print publication to better serve you, our members. Our readers value the Environmental Connection as a source of quality information, ideas and as a resource to keep and reference. You'll find the new design cleaner and more consistent and you will have a more enjoyable reading experience.

[View Current and Past Issues](#)



FREE & exclusively to IECA members. Join leaders in the industry who addressed today's economy, current weather events, updates to EPA regulations & global industry trends. After the presentations there is a question/answer session moderated by IECA's Board of Directors Education Vice President, Jerry Sanders.

[View Now](#)



Michael Alberson
CPESC, CPSWQ, CMS4S,
CESSWI, CISEC, QSP, QSD,
QISP, VEE.



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[JOBS](#)

IN MEMORY OF MIKE ALBERSON

BY DOUG DOWDEN

Many of us knew Mike as a long time Western Chapter member, Board President, Board member, trainer of record for all certifications stormwater, a colleague, an entrepreneur, father and much more, but many of us will simply remember him as a friend. One could say that Mike played an instrumental role in training thousands of qualified professionals within the stormwater field. For those who knew Mike, he was passionate about his work and his family. Unfortunately, Mike recently lost his battle to cancer on Friday, November 11, 2016. I will choose not to remember my friend in those last months of his life, but how he lived and how I met him.

In 2008 the Western Chapter Board met at a private retreat just outside of Santa Rosa California. I had reached a point in my environmental career, specifically stormwater, where I was at a crossroads. Do I continue in a profession that is viewed as the proverbial redheaded stepchild or pursue other interests? I joined the Western Chapter and shortly thereafter the Board of Directors for a host of reasons, but a self-serving one was to meet and collaborate with others in the field. On that retreat I met Mike and his lovely bride Sue, Peter McRae and his wife Nancy, Jane Ledford, Cyndi Brinkhurst, and of course our then illustrious guitar playing leader Craig Benson. During the retreat, we worked on Association business, but at night we talked, laughed, listened to Craig's amazing guitar playing, and of course indulged in some good wine. I spoke a lot with Mike and Peter at the retreat and a friendship followed. Mike's passion about the environmental field was inspiring. We had all experienced in our careers the negativity that often is given to our profession; however, Mike remained upbeat and positive about the field. I feel that the reason that Mike was able to maintain such an upbeat attitude about our field, even when the economy tanked, is the simple fact that he excelled at it. In fact, if it wasn't for meeting Mike, Peter, Craig and the rest of the group I would have likely moved on to other interests.



Western Chapter IECA Board Retreat 2008 Santa Rosa, California
 (Left to right: Doug Dowden, Craig Benson, Jane Ledford, Cyndi Brinkhurst, Mike Alberson, and Peter McRae)



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IN MEMORY OF MIKE ALBERSON - CONTINUED

Mike was a member of the historic Flight of Discovery (FOD) Expedition that followed the westbound and eastbound journey of Lewis and Clark, participating in 2004 (westbound) and again in 2006 (eastbound). Michael worked with other FOD crew members to help educate kids along the trail about the environment in which they lived. "He was a very passionate educator," says Mike Harding, FOD Expedition Leader. "He really connected with the kids."



Michael Alberson (left) and Michael Harding (right) talking with Hidatsa/Mandan/Arikara elementary school kids in New Town, North Dakota on the 2004 FOD Expedition

Mike truly represented what is best about the Western Chapter, a comradery of colleagues that transcends not only a career, but also life.

Mike touched the lives of so many in the stormwater field, as a trainer of record, collaborator, mentor, and again as a friend. For me I will remember my friend enjoying his work, his friends, good wine, and most of all his family. He will be missed by those of us who were so fortunate to call him a colleague and more importantly a dear friend.

A memorial and celebration of our dear friend's life will be held after the holidays in February 2017. If you are inclined to make the journey to north San Diego, feel free to contact me (Doug Dowden at stormwaterca@att.net) or Peter McRae at pmcrae@quattroenvironmental.com and we will keep you posted as more details come out.

With all of this said I will leave all of you with a quote that seems so fitting.

At the rising of the sun and at its going down,
We remember him.
At the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter,
We remember him.
At the opening of buds and in the rebirth of spring,
We remember him.
At the blueness of the skies and in the warmth of summer,
We remember him.
At the rustling of leaves and the beauty of autumn,
We remember him.
At the beginning of the year and when it ends,
We remember him.
As long as we live, he too will live;
For he is now a part of us, as we remember him.
When we are weary and in need of strength,
We remember him. - *Sylvan Kamens & Rabbi Jack Riemer*

CONTRACTOR HIGHLIGHT

Stormwater Specialists has over 35 years in the stormwater and construction compliance industry.

Their "roll-up-your-sleeves" approach is the foundation of their construction and industrial stormwater compliance team. They are always managing budgets, schedules, eliminating risks, site constraints, resources and watching the bottom line for their customers. They are your eyes and ears in the field and have their pulse on the construction and industrial stormwater compliance industries. With their cutting-edge technology, they continue to build more efficient, cost-effective ways to collect accurate data from the field and provide immediate untethered access to the data and reports for their customers.

In July 2010, Mary became one of the first 30 Trainers of Record (TOR) for the CA Construction General Permit (CGP). Mary has trained over 2,500 QSP/QSDs and provides diverse national and state storm water training to thousands of contractors, builders, developers, trades, agencies, districts, associations, schools, and the general public.

With 30 years as a Licensed General Engineering "A" Contractor she provides site-specific SWPPPs, inspections, sampling and monitoring for agencies, districts, departments of transportation, builders, developers and private owners on public works, transportation, commercial, residential and industrial projects. Mary and her stormwater team have prepared over 4,000 national and state specific SWPPPs for some of the following types of projects including: large commercial and multi-use projects, street and highway widening, highway overpass and overlay projects, airports, levee projects, bridges, courthouses, demolition and remediation projects, military bases, sport stadiums, casinos, sewer, water and storm drain pipeline projects, prison and detention facilities, wastewater treatment plants, hospitals, elementary, high school and universities, park sites, subdivisions, churches, auto recycle facilities, railroads, quarry sites, landfills and flood protection projects.

Mary recently served on the Western Chapter of International Erosion Control Association (IECA) Board of Directors and is an active member of many stormwater associations and multiple national and regional builders exchanges.



Mary A. Larsen, TOR, QISP, QSD, CPSWQ, and CPESC
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 (916) 295-1812

GET LISTED!

Within the stormwater field we are always chanting – "reduce your exposure."

*Well, here is a chance to **get targeted exposure** – contact Cyndi Brinkhurst at (530) 272-2407 or at westernchapter@gmail.com to reserve your ad space today!*

GREAT JOB!


Is your project going great? Did someone do a good job? Do you have a technical article, regulatory update, contractor to highlight or event announcement you'd like to share with your fellow members?

Please forward articles to the westernchapter@gmail.com and we'll publish them in the next issue of Western Chapter News!

Thank you!



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UPCOMING DATES & MEETINGS

EVENTS

February 2 (Phoenix, AZ) **Dust Control for Arid Climates.** Speaker Pablo A. Garcia-Chevesich Ph. D. and others will speak about dust control alternatives. A panel discussion of professionals will focus on Maricopa County dust control measures (strictest in the state). Continental breakfast and lunch will be provided. More details soon.

February 21-24 (Atlanta, GA) [Environmental Connection 2017](#)

February 22 (Atlanta, GA) 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM **Chapter Meeting** - Join your local chapter meeting to learn more about how you can benefit from IECA at the local level.

SHORT COURSES

These events are 3 hours in length and worth 3 Professional Development Hour (PDH)/0.3 CEU (Continuing Education Unit). They are either offered as a half day or part I/II training.

January 11 & 12 - [Fluvial Geomorphology- Part One & Part Two](#)

WEBINARS

These events are one hour in length and worth 1 Professional Development Hour (PDH)/0.1 CEU (Continuing Education Unit).

January 18 - [Permeable Pavement Design and Construction](#)

March 15, 2017 - [Working in Waterways](#)

Training

IECA's New eLearning Experience

Online industry education at your fingertips

IECA's new and enhanced eLearning platform offers over 100 courses taught by industry experts for industry professionals. All IECA eLearning is self-paced and available to you anytime, anywhere. [Browse Courses](#)

EnviroCert International provides oversight and direction for the CPESC, CESSWI, CPSWQ, CMS4S certification programs. Phone: (828) 655-1600 david@envirocertintl.org www.envirocertintl.org

California Construction General Permit QSD and QSP Training Courses provided by CASQA-qualified CGP Trainers of Record (CGP-ToR). Professionals developing SWPPPs (QSDs) or professionals implementing SWPPPs (QSPs) under the CA construction general permit must complete this training. For training classes, go [here](#).

Training-Offered by CISEC - For one and one-half day construction site inspector training modules on sediment and erosion control. Visit www.cisecinc.org for various dates and locations coming up in California.

PROFESSIONAL LISTINGS

EARTHSAVERS EROSION CONTROL PRODUCTS is the home of the “Original Rice Straw Wattle”. Our certified weed free wattles have been tested for sediment retention at San Diego State University and proven in field studies by Caltrans and numerous other agencies. [Earthsavers](#) wattles are available in 3 diameters, photodegradable netting, or 100% biodegradable burlap. Additionally, Earthsavers is a master distributor for a full line of erosion & sediment control products, geosynthetics and more. Our network of distributors provide local access to premium BMP’s and Earthsaver’s experienced staff can provide superior technical support to our distributors and their customers and specifiers.

JL STORM WATER CONSULTANTS, INC. is a State Certified SBE/DBE/WBE/UDBE Company. www.jlstormwater.com. Jane Ledford, Principal, jane@jlstormwater.com or (619) 922-6511. Services include: Environmental Permit Preparation, Processing and Compliance, SWPPP Preparation and Processing, SWPPP Implementation, SWPPP Inspections, SWPPP Training including the newly adopted Construction Storm Water Permit, Trainer of Record for the QSP/QSD classes, Construction Monitoring, Biological Resources Monitoring, Cultural Resources Monitoring, Coordination with Native American Monitors, English-Spanish Translation of Worker Education Materials.

KELLEY EROSION CONTROL, INC. established in 1983, recognized throughout Nevada and California as a leader in the industry. KEC has an excellent reputation known for quality, competency, solutions, innovative ideas, cutting edge technology, excellence, and client satisfaction. Services include: hydroseeding, site preparation, dust control applications, BMPs, storm water pollution inspection and monitoring, revegetation and project maintenance, site winterization, wetland mitigation, stream channel stabilization, planting and irrigation, mining reclamation, soil stabilizer applications, biotechnical applications, fire restoration/ rehabilitation, water quality, turbidity control & pH sampling for SWPPP requirements. Contact - Claudia Chambers CPESC, CISEC, QSP, claudia@kellejerosioncontrol.com, phone (775) 322-7755. Visit us at www.kellejerosioncontrol.com.

LINWOOD SUPPLY, INC. is your distributor of BMPs for Erosion Control and Storm Water Management offering Erosion Control Blankets, TRM products, Fiber Rolls, netting, HydroFiber™, Soil Polymers, dust controls, fertilizers, seed, manmade and natural chemistries, and generally providing you with the kind of service and professionalism you deserve. Linwood Supply, Inc. is a certified small Business based in California, a member of the International Association of Hydroseeders, and a proud member of the Western Chapter IECA. If Your Storm Water is as Clear as Mud™ - Please call us at (707) 678-5087 or visit us at www.linwoodsupply.com.

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NEDIA ENTERPRISES manufactures a complete line of erosion control, sediment control, and bioengineering products made primarily from natural fibers. Committed to the conservation of the environment, we are constantly striving to develop products that contribute to its enhancement and protection. Our products are subject to stringent quality control measures that meet or exceed industry standards. [Nedia](#) offers sound technical advice on product selection and installation with a thorough understanding of the benefits and limitations of the products. A large inventory of products in several distribution centers across the country facilitates cost-effective and timely delivery of our products. Contact 888-725-6999 or email info@nedia.com.

PACIFIC COAST SEED is Northern California's premier supplier of CA native grasses and wild- flowers, turf grass seed, and other erosion control materials such as fertilizers, mulches, and soil amendments. We provide seed and other materials for diverse applications including restoration, reclamation, revegetation, ornamental landscaping, and erosion control. We offer specialty seed collection from site-specific sources. For more information checkout our website www.pcseed.com or contact us at (925) 373-4417 or info@pcseed.com.

SUSTANE NATURAL FERTILIZERS - For over 30 years of continuous operation, Sustane Natural Fertilizer, Inc. has produced the highest quality Natural Based and Organic Fertilizers and Soil Amendments distributed in the U.S. and exported to 50 countries worldwide. [Sustane](#) Natural Fertilizer maintains and operates its U.S.E.P.A. permitted compost site, manufacturing facility and corporate offices from Cannon Falls, MN. Sustane Fertilizers and Soil Amendments provide readily available, balanced nutrition with beneficial microbiology to provide the basic soil components for exceptional plant establishment and long term sustainability. Call (800) 352-9245 to speak with a Sustane Regional Specialist or with our International Team Leader.