

CALIFORNIA ASPHALT INSIDER

The latest news and views from the California Asphalt Pavement Association
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www.calapa.net

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(Always on-line [HERE](#))

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SIGN-UP NOW!
'Asphalt Pavement 101'
training class
Tuesday, Dec. 18, 9:00
a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
University of Phoenix, 755
Breakthrough Way, First
Floor Room 120/123, Las
Vegas, Nev.
Lunch included!
Register [HERE](#).
Contact: Sophie You (916)
791-5044

Greetings!

This weekly bulletin contains the latest news and information of interest to the asphalt pavement industry in California. Please feel free to distribute this newsletter to others who may be interested in asphalt pavements.

→ An appreciation: Remembering George H.W. Bush: statesman, transportation champion

As the tributes poured in for former President George H.W. Bush, who died Nov. 30 in Houston at the age of 94, the common thread was that of a kind and decent man, committed to family and service to his country. The words honor, integrity, devotion and humility were used often by those who knew him, and those words never for a moment seemed out of place.

Perhaps lesser known, however, was that the nation's 41st president was also a champion of transportation. Ironically, current U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine L. Chao worked in the Bush Administration during his term of office from 1988-92. She released the following statement as Bush's body was flown to Washington, D.C. to lie in state at the U.S. Capitol:

"With the passing of President George H.W. Bush, our country has lost a heroic patriot, distinguished statesman and loving patriarch of an eminent American family, who dedicated his life to serving others. I was honored to serve as Deputy Secretary of Transportation and Director of the Peace Corps during his Presidency, becoming one of the many young people who benefited from his expansive vision to move our country forward. America celebrates the legacy and achievements of this extraordinary leader as he is laid to rest."

It's often said that leaders can say anything, but they show what is important to them by devoting time and attention to it. In 1991 President Bush flew to California to visit a Caltrans freeway construction site and lobby for the passage of a major transportation funding bill, which ultimately was passed and became known by its acronym, ISTEA.

"We want a bill that works," the president said at the time, "that spends our money effectively and truly addresses national needs."

As he toured the sprawling construction site in El Segundo, which blended two major freeway interchanges and a light rail line, Bush listened attentively to engineers as they described the complexity of the multi-billion, multi-modal undertaking. He chose to have a brown-bag lunch with the builders, all clad in hard hats. Curiously, some photos from the event appear to show Bush grimacing. However, those in attendance later explained that a piece of the



President Bush presents the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award to Graniterock CEO Bruce W. Woolpert (right) in 1992. Photo courtesy of Graniterock.

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REGISTRATION OPEN!

CalAPA Annual Dinner
Thursday, Jan. 10, 2019
5:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Jonathan Club, 545 S.
Figueroa St., Los Angeles
Details [HERE](#).
Contact: Sophie You (916)
791-5044

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SAVE THE DATES!

Spring Asphalt Pavement
Conference & Equipment
Expo

Wednesday & Thursday,
March 20-21, 2019
DoubleTree Hotel, 222 N.
Vineyard Ave., Ontario
Details soon!

For exhibitor and sponsorship
information, contact Sophie
You at (916) 791-5044

SOCIALIZE



CHOOSE ASPHALT

Asphalt is used on about 93 percent of paved roads in California and across the U.S. Why? Because it's smooth, quiet, safe, durable and 100 percent recyclable. Visit the [Asphalt Pavement Alliance](#) website learn more about why asphalt is the right choice now more than ever.

president's bag-lunch apple became wedged in his teeth and he was simply trying to dislodge it with his tongue. No one thought to bring toothpicks.

I was working for the Caltrans regional office in Los Angeles at the time and did advance work for the visit. Although I never got to meet the president, I received a nice thank-you card on White House stationary afterward. Expressing thanks to the army of volunteers and others who attend to the countless details surrounding a presidential visit was standard in the Bush White House. The note remains a treasured keepsake.



President Bush (in the blue hard hat) enjoys lunch with road builders in Los Angeles. His table was a wire spool, and the backdrop was a shipping container. Photo courtesy of Caltrans District 7 Graphic Services.

Performance excellence was another theme that would connect Bush and the

California road construction business. In 1992, President Bush presented the prestigious Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award to then-Graniterock CEO Bruce W. Woolpert. He was also a guest of honor at the company's 100th year celebration in San Francisco in 2000. The award, named after the former Commerce Secretary, sits in the lobby of the company headquarters in Watsonville to this day. A profile of Woolpert, who died in 2012, includes a discussion the significance of the award. It was the cover story of CalAPA's magazine, *California Asphalt*. You can read an electronic version [HERE](#).

A final note. When I worked for United Press International I once filled in for our regular White House reporters for another Bush presidential trip to Los Angeles. As part of the "presidential pool" of radio, TV and print journalists, it was our job to follow the president everywhere he goes. I was to pick up the pool in time to attend a celebrity-studded fundraiser in Malibu just up Pacific Coast Highway from my alma mater, Pepperdine University.

In this case the press was roped off far from the reception in a grassy area on the grounds of a seaside mansion, but the president made a point of walking over to exchange some pleasantries. NBC-TV Pentagon Reporter Jim Miklaszewski, also doing fill-in duty, jokingly needled the president about the lack of cocktail service to the parched press pool. A few minutes later a waiter arrived with a highball glass on a tray for Miklaszewski, as ordered by the president of the United States. When Miklaszewski took a sip, he immediately gagged and spit it out. "Straight vodka," he croaked.

As the president continued to work the crowd of celebrities and supporters, he paused to look back toward the press pool. With a twinkle in his eye, he held his own glass up as if to offer a toast. Miklaszewski, with a sheepish grin, returned the gesture.

Presidential historians will of course have the final say about the legacy of George Herbert Walker Bush, and they will no doubt go on at length about the fall of the Berlin Wall and the collapse of Communism, or the first Gulf War when Bush led an international coalition to expel Iraq's invading armies from Kuwait. There are certain to be references to his lyrical "thousand points of light" speech. But he was also a guy who could break bread with a bunch of road builders and play a prank on a member of the news media. It's a thousand times a thousand interactions -- a million points of light -- that will continue to illuminate and warm us during dark and confusing times.

GET TECHNICAL

Are you an engineer, designer or technical professional who makes decisions on pavement type selection? The DriveAsphalt website has technical reports and other resources may be just what you're looking for. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

DRIVABILITY
www.DriveAsphalt.org

CalAPA

California Asphalt Pavement Association (CalAPA)

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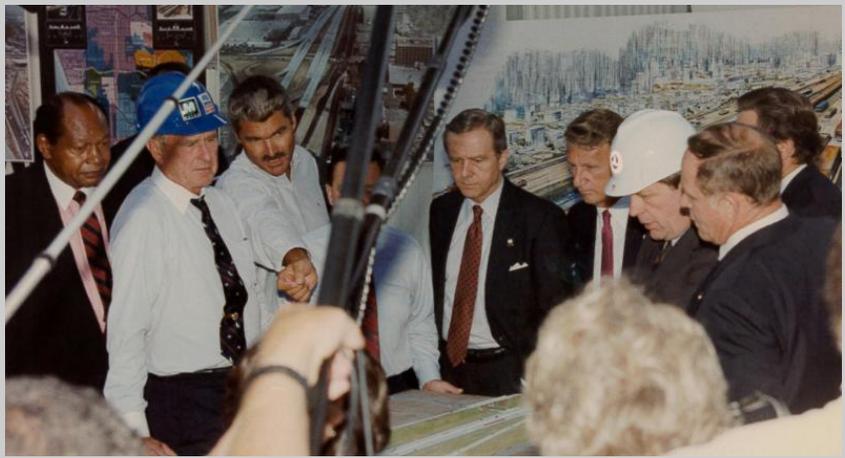
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BACK ISSUES

Did you miss an issue of the *California Asphalt Insider*? No problem! Past editions of the newsletter are available at the CalAPA newsletter [archive page](#).

MAGAZINE



President Bush (in the blue hard hat) gets a briefing about the I-105 Freeway Interchange project in 1991. To his left is Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley. Gov. Pete Wilson is second from his right, followed by state Business, Transportation & Housing Secretary Carl Covitz, U.S. Transportation Secretary Samuel Skinner and Caltrans District 7 Director Jerry B. Baxter. Photo courtesy of Caltrans District 7 Graphic Services.

→ Sign up now for CalAPA's Annual Dinner Jan. 10 at the Jonathan Club in Los Angeles

Registration is now open for the most prestigious asphalt industry event of the year -- the CalAPA Annual Dinner, which will take place on Thursday, Jan. 10 at the elegant Jonathan Club in downtown Los Angeles. This exclusive event is open only to CalAPA members and invited guests. Click [HERE](#) for details and to register on-line.

The evening's program promises to be the most memorable yet, capping an eventful 2018 that saw a number of historic firsts for the industry, including the passage at the ballot box of a transportation funding protection measure and defeat of a potentially ruinous transportation funding repeal.

The evening program will also include an installation of association officers for 2019, recognition of industry leaders, and inductions into the CalAPA "Hall of Fame" of legendary industry figures as well as honors for longtime public agency representatives.



The historic Jonathan Club in downtown Los Angeles has been frequented over the years by heads of state, business titans, Hollywood luminaries, astronauts and other notable figures.

A reception begins at 5:30 p.m., followed by the dinner. A meeting of the CalAPA Board of Directors will also be held at the Jonathan Club starting at 12:30 p.m. the day of the event.

The Jonathan Club is located at 545 S. Figueroa St. in downtown Los Angeles. There are a limited number of sleeping rooms available at the historic venue. Contact the Jonathan Club directly at (213) 624-0881 to make a reservation and mention "CalAPA." The Jonathan Club has a strict dress code and business attire is required



CalAPA produces a highly regarded magazine, *California Asphalt*, and an annual membership directory. To view current and past issues of the magazine, click [HERE](#). For advertising sales information, click [HERE](#) or call Kerry Hoover with Construction Marketing Services at (909) 772-3121.

STAY INFORMED



Click [HERE](#) to receive *California Asphalt Insider* each week via e-mail FREE! Or visit our website at: www.calapa.net

GET CERTIFIED!



The Caltrans-industry Joint Training & Certification Program (JTCP) for materials technicians is holding classes in Northern and Southern California. Click [HERE](#) to visit our JTCP resource page to learn more.

and enforced. Click [HERE](#) for details about the dress code.

For more information and sponsorship opportunities, visit the CalAPA 2019 Annual Dinner website [HERE](#) or contact Sophie You at (916) 791-5044.



Lt. Gov. Gavin Newsom spoke at the CalAPA Annual Dinner in 2015.

→ Job opportunity: VSS/Emultech seeks senior asphalt chemist

VSS/Emultech, a CalAPA member based in West Sacramento, is advertising for the position of senior asphalt chemist. Click [HERE](#) to learn more and apply for the position on-line.

The successful candidate will conduct laboratory tests to assist in making qualitative and quantitative analyses of asphalt and paving materials for development of new products or processes, quality control, maintenance of environmental standards, and other work involving mix design and testing of asphalt pavement and material. The senior asphalt chemist will also assist in maintaining AASHTO laboratory accreditation, quality management systems and product compliance programs.



Applicants should possess at least three years of construction materials testing experience, especially as it relates to asphalt performance testing. A Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry or related field is preferred, or a technical degree with lab experience.

To learn about more job opportunities at the company, click [HERE](#).

→ Job opportunity: FHWA seeks Asset Manager / Pavement Engineer

The California FHWA Division Office is seeking a GS-12/13 candidate to serve as an Asset Manager/Pavement Engineer. The successful candidate will work under the leadership of the Infrastructure Team Leader in the Division Office. The application period is scheduled to close on Thursday, Dec. 13.

The employee supports the Division in enhancing the FHWA's stewardship, ensuring accountability of Federal funds and achieving organizational excellence in delivering the Federal-aid highway and transportation program.

The ideal candidate for the position is an experienced and highly motivated person looking to expand their knowledge and experience in asset management, materials engineering, and pavement systems.

This vacancy is currently open to both status applicants (current and former permanent Federal employees), and to All U.S. citizens.

To view the announcements and apply (government employees),



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Highway
Administration**

DESIGN!

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To visit the PAVEExpress website, click [HERE](#). To view the companion website, Pavelnstruct, click [HERE](#).

LEARN!

We can bring CalAPA's popular training classes to your facility at a date and time convenient to you! Click [HERE](#) to view our "hosted" training class flier, or contact CalAPA at (916) 791-5044 for details. This service is available to public agencies and CalAPA members only.



please click [HERE](#) to go to the USAjobs website. For all other U.S. citizens interested in the position, click [HERE](#) for more information and to apply.

→ Tech Term of the Week

Each week we highlight a word, acronym or other reference commonly used in the asphalt pavement industry in California.

BINDER: Material used to stabilize or cement together loose soil or aggregates.

→ Paving Pointer of the Week

Each week we highlight a key point or best practice of interest to asphalt paving crews, inspectors and others working in the field. We welcome suggestions. More tips can be found in our Asphalt Parking Lot Construction Checklist [HERE](#).

SITE PREPARATION: If overlaying an existing or milled surface, has the surface been cleaned/swept and given a full "tack coat" (a bonding agent between the two surfaces)? What is the specified coverage rate for the prime/tack coat? Is the application uniform? Has the material been given enough time to "break" (evaporate the water)?

→ For the record

In an article that appeared in last week's edition of *Asphalt Insider* calling for presentation topics for the 2019 Spring Asphalt Pavement Conference & Equipment Expo in Ontario, the dates for the conference were incorrect. The event will be held Wednesday and Thursday, March 20-21. The editor sincerely regrets any anxiety this error caused the event manager, Sophie You.

→ Quote of the Week

"Hatred corrodes the container it's carried in."

Alan Simpson

We hope you enjoy CalAPA's *Asphalt Insider*. We are committed to providing you with the most up-to-date information on technical issues, regulation, news, analysis, events and trends in California that may impact the asphalt pavement industry. Click [HERE](#) to contact us with any comments or suggestions.

Sincerely,

Russell W. Snyder, CAE
Executive Director
California Asphalt Pavement Association (CalAPA)

