

# QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

## SEPTEMBER 2015

Edition 13



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## The Conference Issue

2015 CESA ANNUAL TRAINING & CONFERENCE

SEPT 28– OCT 1, 2015

### Letter from the Vice President

I hope all of you are having a wonderful summer, but I also know that many of you are keeping very busy between the drought and the aggravated wild fires across the state.

Your CESA Executive Board just held its 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter planning and strategy meeting in San Luis Obispo at CSTI. We had very productive meetings with Dave Fukutomi and Mike Brady from CSTI on EOC Credentialing, training and several other topics. CSTI is currently adding and updating some of their classroom spaces that should really enhance future courses as well as increasing outreach courses and pursuing distance learning.

The Executive Board approved the Emergency Management Competency Framework for Emergency Managers and we are working on endorsements from some of our partners. If you haven't yet reviewed this document, it should be helpful in defining EM positions, knowledge, skills and abilities.. (Admin's Note: the document is on

cesa.net under the Resources tab.) Your Training and Education Committee has been busy with webinars and in working with the Conference Committee to develop the Pre-Conference and Breakout Sessions for this year's Conference.

And speaking of the Conference, we have received a lot of registrations, but there is still room for more. We have a great group of Breakouts and Keynote Speakers in addition to the Pre-Conference line-up. The Conference is a great opportunity to catch up with your fellow emergency managers, meet new friends, and to share success stories and lessons learned.

Something new this year: CESA is hosting a CSWAC (California Statewide WebEOC Advisory Committee) meeting on the Pre-Conference day. This application has clearly become important to our operations in California and many of our OAs, and this is a great opportunity to compare notes, questions and solutions.

We also had some great award nominations that we will be presenting at the Conference. My thanks to those of you that took the time to recognize your fellow emergency managers for their efforts.

Also, during this year's Conference, we will be announcing the location and theme for our 2016 Conference. Stay tuned for more information.

Lastly, I hope you have had time to explore the new CESA website ([www.cesa.net](http://www.cesa.net)) and the resources it provides. If you haven't, please log in and take a look around and encourage those who are not yet members to explore the public side of the website and then join us in supporting this great profession.

I hope to see you at the Conference.

**Dave Jeffries**



## Conference News!

### 2015 Conference in Nearly Here!

This edition of the newsletter will focus on our 2015 Annual Training and Conference.

On our "Trail to Professionalism," the theme for this year, the Committee has put together a full schedule of speakers and great training and learning opportunities. Come join us in beautiful South Lake Tahoe. Register at [CESAStateConference.com](http://CESAStateConference.com).

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### Dinner Cruise Cancelled

The Conference Committee regrets to inform our attendees that we did not meet our required threshold to hold an exclusive on-board event for the Wednesday Dinner Cruise. Those that already have purchased tickets will be contacted to arrange for a reimbursement. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

We encourage everyone to repurchase Dinner Cruise tickets individually on the cruise operator's website at <http://www.zephyrcove.com/mobile/cruises/ms-dixie-ii.aspx#.dpuf> for September 30. Or contact the reservations desk at 800-238-2463.

We will contact the operator to see if we can arrange a separate area for our group. Contact Dave Jeffries ([dave@jeffriespsc.com](mailto:dave@jeffriespsc.com)) before September 15 with the number in your party and whether or not you will need a ride to the dock.

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### Silent Auction: Feature Your Area

As we have mentioned before, we will be auctioning off gifts donated by members during the 2015 CESA Conference. Members from each business, jurisdiction, facility, and or Operational Area are highly encouraged to participate in order to generate needed funds for the Conference.

To encourage friendly competition, the jurisdiction or agency that generates the most revenue will be awarded the coveted 2015 CESA Cup during the Conference. Check out your competition at <http://tinyurl.com/CESA2015Auction>.

To get you started, silent auction solicitation resources can be found at [preview.tinyurl.com/2015-CESA-Silent-Auction-Docs](http://preview.tinyurl.com/2015-CESA-Silent-Auction-Docs). If you have questions about the auction, please contact Brentt Blaser at [Brentt.Blaser@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Brentt.Blaser@sonoma-county.org).

Don't miss this chance to feature your area, bring in a bit of tourist's dollars, and get your hands on the CESA Cup!

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### So You Think You Can App?

The Conference Committee is again using the Attendify app again this year after its successful roll out last year. Stay up to date with everything about the conference! Download the "2015 CESA State Conference" app for your mobile phone on the Google Play or Apple App Store today for the latest info.

Make notes, schedule your day, and more with the Conference App. In addition, this app will allow the committee to make real-time updates as needed and send out notifications if you allow the app to send them.

## Conference News

### California Statewide WebEOC Collaborative

The CESA Conference is facilitating the California State WebEOC Advisory Committee (CSWAC) as a part of the Pre-Conference Training on September 28, 2015, from 8am to 5pm. There is no cost involved with this session. All agencies and jurisdictions who use are interested in WebEOC are invited!

Come hear about the many users out there with great implementations of WebEOC who want to share what they've learned.

Sharing and discussion topics:

- Statewide Committee Overview
- Statewide WebEOC Survey
- Google "Sharehouse" Collaboration Tool
- Regional Breakouts
- Critical Info / Board Discussion
- Sharing / Best Practices
- And much more!



Register at [CESAStateConference.com](http://CESAStateConference.com) and choose only California WebEOC Collaborative activity for \$0.00.

Attendees are invited and encouraged to register for the full Conference to take advantage of the professional development and net-working opportunities.

### New Advertising Opportunity on the CESA Conference App

CESA is proud to present a new Conference advertising opportunity. As CESA transitions the Annual Training and Conference into the digital world, we are offering an exciting and budget-friendly opportunity to advertise your business on the CESA Conference mobile app. Our Conference mobile app has increased functionality and will be used by all Conference attendees to:

- Follow the Conference program
- Read about exhibitors and sponsors
- Take notes
- Update social media.

All of these activities make the mobile app a Conference focal point that provides an opportunity to promote your business capabilities and market to many attendees with the touch of a button.

Advertisement on the CESA Conference mobile app is \$250 which includes space for your logo and a short write up. Don't miss out on this affordable advertisement that will be putting your business into the hands of Conference attendees.

Contact Loni Eazell ([leazell@dpw.lacounty.gov](mailto:leazell@dpw.lacounty.gov)) or Holly Powers ([hpowers@co.yuba.ca.us](mailto:hpowers@co.yuba.ca.us)) for more information.

### Check out [CESAStateConference.com](http://CESAStateConference.com)

Have you registered yet? Need a print out of the agenda? Need the phone number for the hotel? Find all that and more at [CESAStateConference.com](http://CESAStateConference.com).

# Conference News

## Abbreviated Conference Agenda

### Sunday, 9/27/15

4:00-7:30 Registration

### Monday, 9/28/15

7:30-5:30 Registration

8:00-5:00 Pre-Conference Training (Lunch on own)

Two Intensive ½ Day Workshops: Damage Assessment For Cost Recovery and Disaster Purchasing For Cost Recovery

Mike Martinet, MS, CEM, The Martinet Group, LLC

Local Hazard Mitigation Planning Workshop

Victoria LaMar-Haas, Senior Emergency Services Coordinator, Hazard Mitigation Planning Division, CalOES

G-775 EOC Operations and G-191 Field/EOC Interface Emergency Management Train-the-Trainer Course

Kurt Johnson and Karen Jackson, CSTI Instructors

California Statewide WebEOC Collaborative

California State WebEOC Advisory Committee (CSWAC)

### Tuesday, 9/29/15

7:30-5:30 Registration

8:00-8:30 Welcome Opening Ceremonies

8:30-8:45 Sponsor Address

8:45-10:15 Keynote - Kathleen Koch, "Katrina + 10 Lives Changed, Lessons Learned"

10:45-11:45 Plenary - "Climate Change Panel" Sponsored by CalOES Mitigation

11:45-12:45 Lunch Buffet

1:15-2:25 Breakout Session #1

Champions Are Made In The Offseason: Drafting Private PODs Into Your Planning Strategy

Michelle Constant, CEO, Constant & Associates, Inc.

How to Bankrupt your Agency in Three Easy Steps after a Disaster!

Mike Martinet, MS, CEM, The Martinet Group, LLC

Addressing the Needs of Children in Disasters: Disaster Preparedness and Education Programs Focused on Children

Raquel Vernola, Emergency Services Manager, Norwalk Office of Emergency Management

Emergency Manager Contest

Christopher Godley, CEM, Tetra Tech

2:35-3:45 Breakout Session #2

Demystifying Pre-Disaster Recovery Planning

Carolyn J. Harshman, CEM, President, Emergency Planning Consultants

Incorporating Social Media into Exercise Design

Mary Jo Flynn, MS, CEM, Emergency Operations Coordinator, Sac OES

Creating Order in the Chaos of EOC Situational Awareness Tools

Craig Dziedzic, General Manager, Bay Area UASI; John Valencia, Executive Director of the City of San Diego's Office of Homeland Security; and Vinny Mata, Emergency Manager, City of Sunnyvale

From Israel to Boston - Communication in a War Zone

Karen Terrill, President and Lead Trainer, Media Survival Group

3:55-4:30 Chapter Meetings

4:30-5:00 Committee Meetings

*For more information and descriptions, go to [CESAStateConference.com](http://CESAStateConference.com).*

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# Conference News

## Abbreviated Conference Agenda, continued

### Wednesday, 9/30/15

7:30-5:30 Registration

8:00-9:10 Breakout Session #3

46 Days to Successful Disaster Recovery

Gerard "Jerry" Quinn, Principal; Gerard J Quinn & Associates

City of Chino "Disaster Academy: A One-Stop-Shop for Preparing Your Agency's Employees

Chris Wolff, Administrative Services Manager, Chino Police Department

What the Health? Building Bridges with Public Health Emergency Managers

Brandon Dean, Whole Community Planning Mgr., Los Angeles County Dept of Public Health

Trevor Rhodes, Whole Community Planning Coord., Los Angeles County Dept of Public Health

Michael Noone, Region 1 Disaster Medical Health Specialist

PG&E Emergency Preparedness, Planning and Response during a Major/Catastrophic Incident: Meeting the Needs to "Whole Community" Resiliency

Cecile Pinto, ICS and Emergency Management and Michael Velasquez, Partnerships and Outreach; Pacific Gas and Electric Company

9:20-10:30 Breakout Session #4

Marketing Emergency Management Principals and Projects

Michelle Constant, CEO and Scott MacKay, Partner; Constant & Associates

Recovery Planning Tools and Templates

Corinne Bartshire and Janell Myhre; Regional Project Managers, Bay Area UASI

ICP/EOC Interface Workshop

Chief John M. Reid (retired), CSU Channel Islands

CalOES Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Position Credentialing Type II & Type III Program

Mike Brady, CSTI, California Governor's Office of Emergency Services

10:40-11:50 Breakout Session #5

Catastrophic Preparedness/Response Planning

Patrick Hammond, Lynne Olsen, and Nick Ortiz; CalOES

Emergency Management Competency Framework and the Emergency Manager Role Map

Breanna L. Medina, MSLM, CEM®, Emergency Management Coordinator, City of Rancho Cucamonga

Doing More With Less: Practical Emergency Planning

George Whitney, Complete-EM, Principal

Get to Know Your NWS and How They Support You and Your Community

Ryan Sandler, WCM Medford, Alex Tardy, WCM San Diego, and Eric Boldt, WCM Los Angeles/Oxnard

12:30-1:45 Luncheon/Awards Banquet

2:00-3:30 Keynote - Jill Morgenthauer, "Leadership Amidst Chaos and Catastrophe: Essentials to Lead the Survival of a Catastrophe"

3:45-5:00 Keynote - Ken Jenkins "Brand Recovery After a Disaster"

### Thursday, 10/1/15

7:30-5:30 Registration

8:00-8:20 CESA Business Meeting

8:20-9:30 Plenary - Nancy Ward, Chief Deputy Director, CalOES, "State of the State"

9:40-11:00 Keynote - Robert Fenton, FEMA Region IX Regional Administrator

11:00-11:30 All Chapter Meeting & Closing Ceremonies

*For more information and descriptions, go to [CESAStateConference.com](http://CESAStateConference.com).*

## Committee News

### 2015 Awards Recipients

The CESA Board is proud to announce this year's recipients of CESA's Award to be presented at the Awards Luncheon for their extraordinary efforts in emergency management. Please join the Board in congratulating them all.

#### President's Award Winner - Marsha Hovey

As a longtime CESA member, (Marsha Hovey continues as an active participant in CESA and has offered many progressive ideas to empower, train, and inform emergency managers.

Over the years, Ms. Hovey has served as the Past Coastal Chapter and State President, and currently as Chair of the CESA Training and Education Committee, as well as participated on several committees and contributed several CESA Conferences

In addition to her contributions on the Training Committee Marsha is also heavily engaged in the program and speaker organization for the 2015 Annual Training and Conference.

This year she actively assisted the webinar organization and presenter coordination. Marsha contributed to the two CESA interest surveys to identify the training needs of our members and used that information to drive content for webinars and Conference presenters. Marsha contributed many hours to organizing and conducting CESA's monthly webinars, using the survey results to drive the webinar topics sought.

Marsha is a team player. Her has true passion for emergency management and a burning desire to create a forum where emergency managers can share ideas and ask questions.

#### President's Award Winner - George Whitney

George Whitney is an active participant in CESA and has offered many progressive ideas to empower and inform emergency managers. Over the years, George sat on several committees. This year he actively assisted the website committee to ensure needed features were included in our new, improved CESA website and is again helping to coordinate Conference speakers with the Training and Education Committee.

George suggested the idea of webinars over a year ago and offered to spearhead the project. George orchestrated two CESA interest surveys to identify the training needs of our members and used that information to drive content for webinars and Conference presenters. George's contributions include:

- Creating a CESA "branded" PPT template and format to be used on all webinars to standardize them.
- Providing insight and excellent project management skills to keep the project on track.
- Motivating all of us for continued product improvement.
- Supporting the project by using his own business website to house our webinars and documents while CESA was developing a new site.
- Putting in countless hours editing 13 webinar videos and uploading content to the webinar site.

George is a team player for whom emergency management is a vocation.

#### Gold Award Winner - Debbi McFall

For over 20 years, Debbi McFall has been the Emergency Services Coordinator for Cal Poly Pomona and was the first full-time emergency manager hired by the State University system. Ms. McFall quickly realized that more needed to be done for the California State University (CSU) system to implement programs, standards and best practices for the campuses. Ms. McFall was instrumental in developing an executive order that outlined what an emergency planning a campus of higher education, then adopted by the CSU Chancellor's Office, leading to required emergency management standards.

Ms. McFall began informally meeting with individuals with the responsibility of emergency planning from the other CSU campuses, which led to other community and private colleges and universities asking to join. Thus the Southern California Emergency Managements Networking Group (SoCal EM Networking Group) was created but includes members from beyond California to other states even other countries. The SoCal EM Networking Group has established an on-line resource library for higher education institutions and acts as a conduit for requests for information related to higher education issues.

## Committee News

### 2015 Awards Recipients, continued

#### Gold Award Winner - The Bay Area Regional Catastrophic Planning Team (RCPT)

In the last 10 years, the San Francisco Bay Area has invested millions in funding and thousands of hours to develop a family of regional catastrophic disaster coordination plans and tools. Although, the plans and tools are well prepared and presented, the dozens of titles and the breadth of subjects can be overwhelming.

The Regional Catastrophic Planning Team (RCPT) looked at how modern distance-learning techniques and acknowledged that video is processed much more quickly than text; Additionally, the ability to provide on-demand training addressed the unique challenges faced by emergency managers and EOC staff who may or may not have had training on the regional plans prior to an event.

In a two-year project, the Bay Area RCPT project developed training sessions for Operational Area and city EOC staff based on the eight RCPGP regional response plans: Volunteer Management, Donations Management, Mass Care and Shelter, Mass Transportation/Evacuation, Interim Housing, Debris Removal/Management, Mass Fatality, and Logistics.

The videos use adult education and training techniques to create effective Just-In-Time sessions, reinforce learning and include the use of interviews with subject matter experts and interactive quizzes. The training introduces the audience to each subject and familiarizes them with how regional operations will be executed.

The intended audience includes untrained personnel reporting as EOC staff in a catastrophic incident and/or trained EOC staff. A key element was the use of contractors in combination with the RCPT members who established a very high quality production standard and conducted an extensive outreach to the entire Bay Area region to develop focused content, obtain significant feedback and make use of SMEs from the entire area.

In many ways, this project represents the future of emergency management – regional, multi-disciplinary, complex and technology-enabled. More importantly, this effort focused not just on content but on the audience – how to get the right information to the right people at the right time. The videos are now completed and will be available on-demand at the UASI website: <http://bayareauasi.org/>

#### Gold Award Winner - California Department of Public Health, Emergency Preparedness Office, Southern Region Public Health Exercise and Emergency Response (SRPHEER) Committee

The Southern California Regional Exercise for Anthrax Disaster Incidents (SoCal READI,) is a full scale exercise designed to test and evaluate the ability of State and Local Health Departments to distribute and dispense Medical Countermeasures (MCM) in response to an intentional release of a bioterrorism agent such as anthrax. It will take place in conjunction with the annual California Statewide Medical and Health Exercise, November 16 - 20, 2015.

In preparation for this exercise, the Southern Region Public Health Exercise and Emergency Response (SRPHEER) Committee was established. The committee includes representation from all 13 local health departments in the Southern California Region. The SRPHEER Committee convenes the first Thursday of every month. These meetings have been organized and facilitated by CDPH's Emergency Preparedness Office, Emergency Pharmaceutical Services Unit.

The planning and preparation that has gone into this full scale exercise began 23 months ago and has included federal, state, and local partners. Components of the exercise include the detection of a threat, the recognition of the need to request MCM, - local to state to federal requesting procedures for MCM, Public Information messaging, the receipt of MCM from CDC to CDPH and further distribution to each Local Health Department, allocation of scarce resources based on multi-county health officer discussions, the dispensing of MCM by Local Health Departments to their populations, as well as recovery from such an event.

Partners who have collaborated during the planning of this exercise have included the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), the California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES), the California Highway Patrol, the Federal BioWatch Program and the U.S. Marshall Service. The regional collaboration between all of these partners has been a significant achievement of this exercise development. With continued partnership and dedication to this project, SoCalREADI is expected to be the best test of MCM response and recovery California has seen to date.

## Committee News

### Membership & Public Affairs Committees to Join Forces!

The Membership Committee and Public Affairs Committee are joining forces to get the word out on CESA and the emergency management profession, and to ensure and grow member benefits. Be sure to attend the committee meeting at 4:30pm on Sept 29 at the Conference.

With CESA's new logo, comes a new era for CESA, and in order to keep up with the ever changing environment, CESA members need a resource to help them navigate. The Membership and Public Affairs committee want to help with that.

They are recruiting members to help with many different aspects of this new mission including (but not limited to):

- Social Media
- Newsletter (and maybe blogs?)
- New Member Orientation and Welcome
- Member Resource Development
- Association Partnership Development
- Chapter Liaison

These groups would be integral to the future of CESA's member interaction and engagement. Please consider assisting with this important work.

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### Emergency Management Standards Committee

The Board has moved to change the Emergency Management Competency Framework from draft to final. The document is available to members and the public at [cesa.net](http://cesa.net) under the Resources tab.

The Framework has been vetted by the California Fire Chiefs Association and California Police Chiefs Association. Now the committee is seeking Public Works associations and other non-discipline specifics position groups' buy-in. Don't miss the introduction in Breakout Session 5 on Sept. 30 at the Conference.

The committee's next step is to complete an Emergency Manager Role Map to be presented at the 2015 Conference. The Role Map will have three levels being basic, intermediate, and advanced. Once completed, the committee will work with the other CESA committees to make sure these this Role Map is implemented throughout the association. When the draft is ready, it will be available on the CESA website.

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### Training & Education Committee

The Training and Education Committee has been working hard to finalize all the Pre-Conference Trainers and the Breakout Speakers, and now they are all in place for the Conference.

To continue to provide excellent training and education opportunities through the free monthly webinars, the committee has decided to change the format. The committee will use the Emergency Management Competency Framework as a topic guide and strive to get more source training.

If you have a topic that would fit with the Framework you would like to present or suggest, please contact Marsh Hovey at [marshahovey@mac.com](mailto:marshahovey@mac.com).

*Want to send a note to one of the Committees? Want to be a part of the future of CESA? Got idea to pass one? Want to provide content for a Webinar? Send an email to the Administrator at [cesastate@gmail.com](mailto:cesastate@gmail.com) and Jeannie will make sure it gets to the right person.*

## Committee News

### Mentoring Committee

The CESA Emergency Manager Mentoring Program (EMMP) is designed to meet the growth and development needs of emergency management professionals in all stages of their careers. The program includes three different mentoring opportunities: Emergency Management Student or New Emergency Manager Professional Development, Special Project Guidance, and an Emergency Management Student Internship Program.

We currently have several Mentee applicants who are patiently waiting to be paired with the right Mentor. Your knowledge and expertise is needed! APPLY TODAY!

For more information on the CESA Emergency Management Mentoring Program, please contact Stacy L. Barnes, CESA State Membership Committee Chair (sbarnes@comptoncity.org or (310) 605-6280).

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### Legislative Committee: Review and Recommendations

This is an excerpt from the Legislative Committee's Report to the Board.

- Only legislative action of note was AB-18; which passed both State Assembly and Senate; Governor yet to determine action on making CDAA availability beyond FEMA 75% commitment
- List of other actions related to the many fires in the state:
  1. Local action: Lake County opened a Local Assistance Center for the Rocky Fire.
  2. State action: Currently no movement of the Governor's office to help with CDAA monies. Lake County received no state assistance from the Wye Fire (FMAG 5004, 2013) either. To date there have been 30 FMAGs in California. The Governor has made CDAA contributions to 3 FMAGs (5049, 5079 & 5055), and the Sand Fire in Amador County. It is more typical that with FMAG funds, FEMA Disaster Relief Funds are not tapped. Don't be surprised to see Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) make a bigger deal of the small counties (and their other gov'ts) bearing 100% of non fire fighting response & recovery costs; especially since much of their land is under federal and state control (48% of California is federal or state lands). Request: Watch to monitor if FEMA or CDAA are tapped and allow contact with allied associations who push for movement.
  3. Federal Bills: House of Representatives 3992 and Senate 1875 appear to be 2-year bills to establish off budget firefighting funding for federal fire fighters. No recent action indicated. A quick read indicates neither proposes to tap into the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund. Several California public interest groups support such a fund. Request: Watch position and allow contact with interested groups.
- FEMA Policy on Insurance: The committee did not take this up at this time, but will add it to the regular agenda and inform the State Board of any potential impacts and recommended actions.

*Who do you follow on Social Media? Who are your Thought Leaders? Share your answers with your colleagues on CESA's Social Media sites...*

- **Twitter**: EMCESA
- **Facebook**: California Emergency Services Association (CESA)
- **LinkedIn**: [www.linkedin.com/in/cesaadministrator/en](http://www.linkedin.com/in/cesaadministrator/en)



## Interested in Joining CESA?

The California Emergency Services Association (CESA) is a non-profit professional organization dedicated to the promotion of mutual support and cooperation across disciplines in preparing for natural and human caused disasters and public emergencies.

This dynamic organization includes academic institutions, representatives from government agencies, utilities, and businesses of all types, nonprofits and faith-based organizations, as well as media and elected officials.

Together, we are the leaders and practitioners in Preparedness, Response, Recovery, Mitigation, and Protection in California. We are seasoned professionals, total novices and world class experts; and we are part-time, full-time, paid staff and volunteer—yet we share common goals.

**Our strength lies in the diversity of our emergency management education and experience.**

### Our Members enjoy the following benefits:

#### Networking

- Opportunities to network and collaborate with hundreds of emergency management professionals in multiple disciplines.
- Access to forums on best practices, lessons learned, and current issues in emergency management.

#### Advocacy

- Collaboration with Cal OES and other emergency management organizations to encourage leadership development, promote professionalism, and support strategic planning for the future of emergency management.
- Monitoring of state and federal legislation and regulations, as well as activities, trends, and other issues affecting the emergency management community.
- Provisions for the awareness of the roles and responsibilities of emergency managers through outreach to other organizations and disciplines.

#### Professional Development and Education

- Wide-ranging educational programs, Webinars, and workshops conducted by subject matter experts and key individuals in the emergency management field.

- Leadership development opportunities in serving on various CESA committees.
- Discounts and priority access to the CESA Annual Training and Conference; the premiere emergency management Conference in California.

#### Resources and Other Member Benefits

- Members-only access to an online resource library containing emergency management toolkits, grant information, and prospective employment opportunities.
- A quarterly newsletter providing timely information on current emergency management initiatives, legislative issues, and agency news at the local, regional, tribal, state, and federal levels.
- A comprehensive mentorship program designed for emergency management professionals in all career stages.
- Recognition of innovative programs and excellence in emergency management through the CESA Awards Program.

**We invite you to add your knowledge and expertise.**

CESA membership dues per calendar year are:

- Individual Membership: \$110 first year, \$75 renewal
- Organizational Membership: \$260 first year, \$225 renewal
- Benefactor Membership: \$1,000
- Student Membership: \$25

By joining CESA, you automatically become a member of the chapter covering your area.

Join us at [www.cesa.net](http://www.cesa.net)



## In The Rear View Mirror

### CESA's History Project

**A small body of determined spirits fired by an unquenchable faith in their mission can alter the course of history.**

**- Mahatma Gandhi**

CESA is made up of members who have that "unquenchable faith in their mission" and those stories should not be lost. So CESA members are digging through old files and searching their memories for great stories and important points in our history.

Look out for the Recording Project at this year's Conference and share your stories with all of us.



CESA is turning 50! Using the theory that one needs to know where they've been to know how far they've come, the CESA Newsletter Committee (a sub committee of the Public Affairs Committee) is reaching out to long-time members to find material from CESA's illustrious past. Many members from around the state have begun to uncover some of groups that would eventually join and become CESA. Like most good ideas that stem from dealing with challenges, there were many groups who began around the same time. Here's the beginning of one of those groups from a 2001 email to long time member Fan Abel from Bob Neiman.

Ben Watson was the long-time Civil Defense Director of the City of Burbank. I do not have dates, but feel sure he was there in the early 1950s. I did not get into the [Civil Defense ]/Disaster business until Apr 1964, but have located some early Association papers. It is clear that Ben founded the Association and was its first President.

The most helpful Association paper I found is a Jan 1966 ten-year "Historical Outline" in which Ben noted, "A few of us had individually discussed the need for an organization which could be a clearing house for information and exchange of ideas .... so we got together," and which includes or draws on the minutes of early meetings, e.g.:

The Association was formed in Jan 1956 with a starting membership representing 11 communities. Ten years later the Jan 1966 roster totaled over 200 political jurisdictions, industrial establishments, agencies and individuals.

The first (informal, organizational) meeting of a group of SoCal [Civil Defense] Directors and Coordinators was held at a dinner meeting at the St. Charles Grill in Pomona at 6:30 p.m. on 18 Jan 1956. Ben Watson was "chosen by unanimous vote to preside as President-Chairman of the organization." A major concern was to get the State to again participate in the Federal contributions (matching funds) program ... "many applications by cities had 'died on the vine' because they were not pushed vigorously."

At the first general meeting held 24 Feb 1956 at the Club Gardens Restaurant in Santa Ana, with 30 interested people representing 23 jurisdictions, the organization's name was confirmed as "Southern California Civil Defense and Disaster Association." It appears the Constitution and By-Laws were adopted at the 18 May 1956 meeting..

Meetings were held monthly at various locations. On 22 Jun 1956 in Burbank, with 56 present representing 31 jurisdictions, Ben was again elected President unanimously (and still was Pres[ident] in Jan 1958)...

The 10th Anniversary Meeting was scheduled 28 Jan 1966 in Burbank "to refresh the memories of many founding members who are still with the Association and to provide new members with some background information on subjects and problems which are also still with us."

Thanks to Keith Harrison and Fan Abel for sharing this with the readers.



***Do you have something to share? Email the [cesastate@gmail.com](mailto:cesastate@gmail.com).***

# THANK YOU TO OUR BENEFACTORS

The CESA Board would like to thank all of our Benefactor level members for their generous support of emergency management in California.



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If your organization is interested in becoming a Benefactor, contact the CESA State Administrator.

## CESA's Mission Statement

CESA's purpose is:

- To minimize the loss of life and property through disaster planning
- To form a statewide coalition of emergency service organizations for mutual support and common actions
- To coordinate the efforts of its members statewide
- To represent the views of its members concerning legislative matters

Get your **EMBROIDERED CESA GEAR** with the NEW LOGO!

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