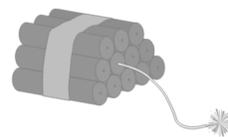


The Primer



Newsletter of the Golden West Chapter, International Society of Explosives Engineers
Alpha Explosives, P.O. Box 310, Lincoln, CA 95648

Volume 28

Fall 2017

Issue 4

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www.iseegoldenwest.org

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P O Box 2540
Napa, CA 94558

or

mburneson@syar.com

President's Message...

Hey Members, Guests & Supporters,

I would like to thank everyone for making 2017 another great year for the Golden West Chapter. I hope we can all work to make 2018 an even better year for the chapter that has had 30 great years of support by dozens of the industry's best.

To celebrate the Golden West Chapter's 30th Anniversary, we the board and officers invite you to join us for our annual dinner meeting at the Mt Pleasant Hall in Lincoln, CA. On February 24th, 2018 to acknowledge those members who volunteered and dedicated their time to keep this chapter going. All past and present members, officers and board members are asked to attend to share their stories and memories over the years. The chapter will try and contact all past officer and board members to attend and we will pay for you and your significant other to attend. In the mean time, enjoy the newsletter and website!

See you on the 24th of February!

On behalf of the officers and board members we would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Be Safe !

Your President,

Mike Chiurato

The Primer

Editor's Notes...

On September 30, 2017 we published the Fall Issue of the Primer. On October 8, 2017 all hell broke loose in Santa Rosa. My wife and I received a call around 2am that everyone was being evacuated in the neighborhood just blocks away from where we live. Our family was one of the lucky ones that did not lose a home. My Mom's house had no power for over a week but it was still standing just six blocks away from total destruction. I had two families stay with us for a week. The one family lost everything and the other family was not allowed to return to their home for over a week. The whole town of Santa Rosa was pretty much shut down for a whole week as a result of the fire. It was a miracle that more people did not die in the fire. The fire storm burned through neighborhoods faster than you could drive a car. We had the fire close our main office in Napa for a week and the fire burned right down into the quarry property. The fire is a real reminder that you don't mess with mother nature. The high winds and the intense fire burned so fast it was just hard to imagine. I just had a hard time believing the fire actually jumped highway 101 from the east side of the freeway to the west side.

On another note I hope when they open up Crab season in Oregon that its better than our crab season down here. The price is sky high because the guys down here are not catching enough crab to make wages. Our Treasurer is probably going to require my AED unit or CPR unit when he sees what we will have to pay for 200 pounds of crab if it stays at the current price of \$ 10.00 per pound. If you are reading this issue and if you know anyone that has been a member, past officer or board member please ask them to put this night on the calendar. This is a must attend event. I promise this will be the best one to date. I have a couple of photos on the next page of past Presidents. I hope you plan on attending. The Prizes this year are going to be off the hook.

The Primer



Workshop must have been along time ago these people still look pretty young

Wes Bender—right



Gordon Coleman—left
Al Colflesh (RIP) right



Dick Love

**The Golden West Chapter
of the
International Society of Explosives Engineers**

Annual Business Meeting

When: Saturday, February 24, 2018
Social Hour 4pm – Dinner 5pm – 6:30pm
Business Meeting & Elections - 7:00pm
7:30pm Guest Speakers –
8:00pm Super Raffle

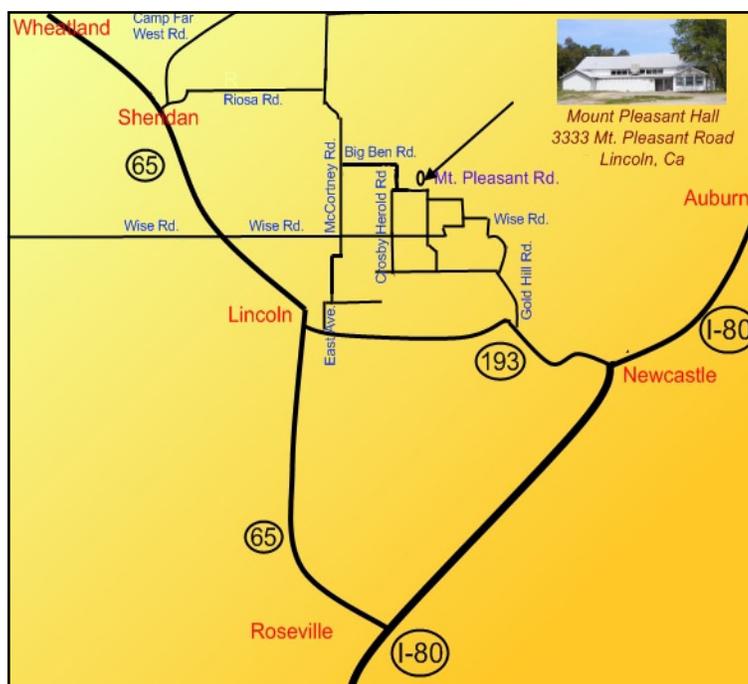
Where: Mt. Pleasant Hall
3333 Mt. Pleasant Rd.
Lincoln, CA 95648

Menu: Crab Feed
Tri-Tip
Pasta
Salad
Wine, Beer and Sodas
served with dinner

Cost: All past officers and Board
Members with a guest or significant
other **NO CHARGE**

All Members: \$ 25.00
Guests: \$30.00

Free to New Members
(\$25.00 dues are payable on
joining.)



Registration: Please make your reservations with Mike Chiurato at (916) 645-3377
or by e-mail to: mchiurato@alphaexplosives.com
on or before Friday, February 16, 2017
Please make checks payable to Golden West Chapter

And mail to:

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Current board members and officers are:

President Mike Chiurato

Treasurer Gerald “Jerry” Fulghum

Secretary Danniell Edwards

Board member Ladd Stephenson

Board member/ Newsletter Editor Mike Burneson

Website Master Wes Bender

Chapter Activities 2018

Annual Winter Business Meeting

Mt Pleasant Hall Lincoln February 24, 2018

Fire in the Hole...

Your Egnog's Too Strong

If you see a fat man...
Who's jolly and cute,
wearing a beard
and a red flannel suit,
and if he is chuckling
and laughing away,
while flying around
in a miniature sleigh
with eight tiny reindeer
to pull him along,
then lets face it...
Your eggnog's too strong!!!

Immediate Downsizing Measures Employed

The recent announcement that Donner and Blitzen have elected to take the early reindeer retirement package has triggered a good deal of concern about whether they will be replaced, and about other restructuring decisions at the North Pole.

Streamlining is due to the North Pole's loss of dominance of this season's gift distribution business. Home shopping channels, the Internet, and mail order catalogs have diminished Santa's market share. He could not sit idly by and permit further erosion of the profit picture.

The reindeer downsizing was made possible through the purchase of a late model Japanese sled for the CEO's annual trip. Improved productivity from Dasher and Dancer—who will retrain at the Harvard Business School—is anticipated. Reduction in reindeer will also lessen airborne environmental emissions for which the North Pole has received unfavorable press. I am pleased to inform you that Rudolph's role will not be disturbed. Tradition still counts for something at the North Pole.