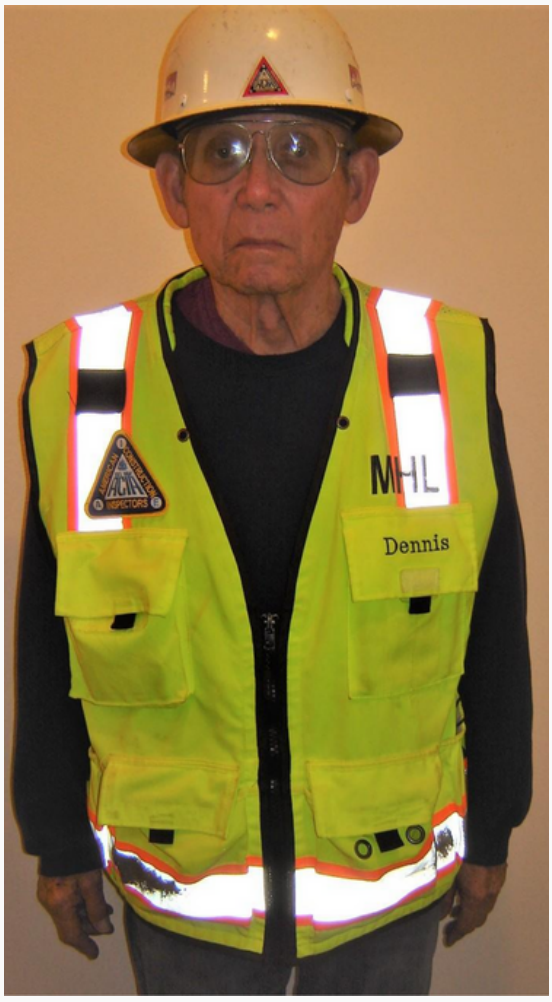
ACIA UPDATE

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Dennis Dooley started out at “Testing Engineers Inc”, in Santa Clara CA in 1981 as an Apprentice Technician, and after 3 years, made Senior Engineer. As a special Inspector for structural steel erection and welding per the UBC, AWS, AISC, ANSI, etc. He also performed ultrasonic testing on weldments on steel frame moment resisting buildings, experimental aircraft for NASA, and concrete walls & columns. During his time at Testing Engineers Inc., Dennis was also a Special Inspector for concrete and masonry work, inspecting placement of both concrete and reinforcing steel, as well as for soils placement and use of nuclear density moisture gauge. Dennis developed a wealth of knowledge during his 8-year tenure, which led to his becoming certified as an OSA (the precursor to the now DSA) Inspector for schools, and OSHPD Inspector for hospitals in 1989.

As a DSA Inspector Dennis performed inspections for several school districts (over 90 in all), including Sierra Joint Community College District at the Nevada County Campus and the Rocklin Campus, Elk Grove Unified School District, Grant Joint Union High School District, Twin Rivers Unified School District, Nevada City School District, Los Rios Community College District, and many others in addition to over a dozen hospital projects as an OSHPD inspector. Dennis is a Division II – Building ACIA Registered Construction Inspector (RCI), and is also a CALEMA (CAL OES) SAP/Trainer.

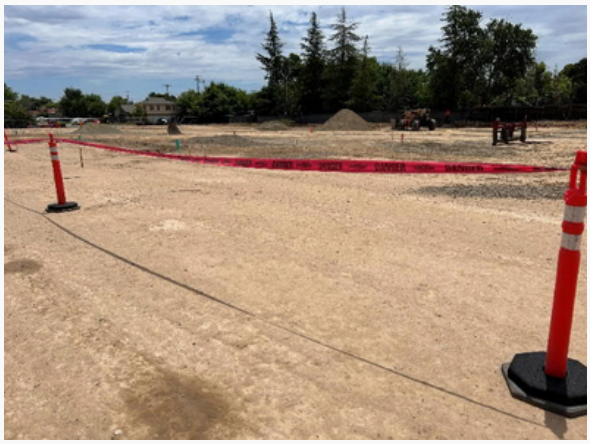
Dennis became a member of the CIA (Construction Inspectors Association) which ultimately became the current American Construction Inspectors Association (ACIA) Dennis is our ACIA Sac-Sierra chapter President, past National President (several times) head of the ACIA Education Committee and RCI Committee. Because of his legendary dedication and service to ACIA, in 2021 Dennis was awarded the “Dennis K. Dooley Meritorious Service Award”. Dennis has trained countless DSA Inspectors, who have gone out and become very successful and respected Inspectors on their own.

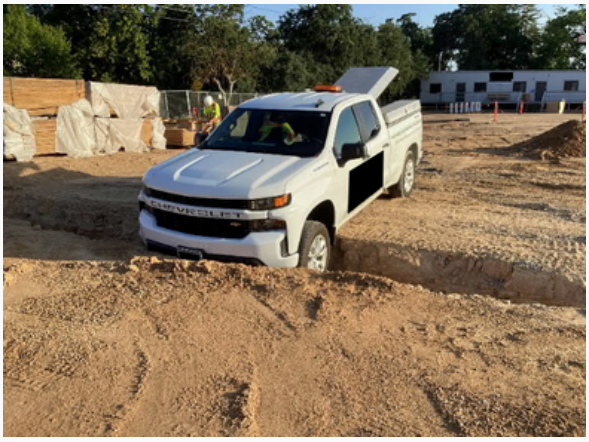
JUNE 2023

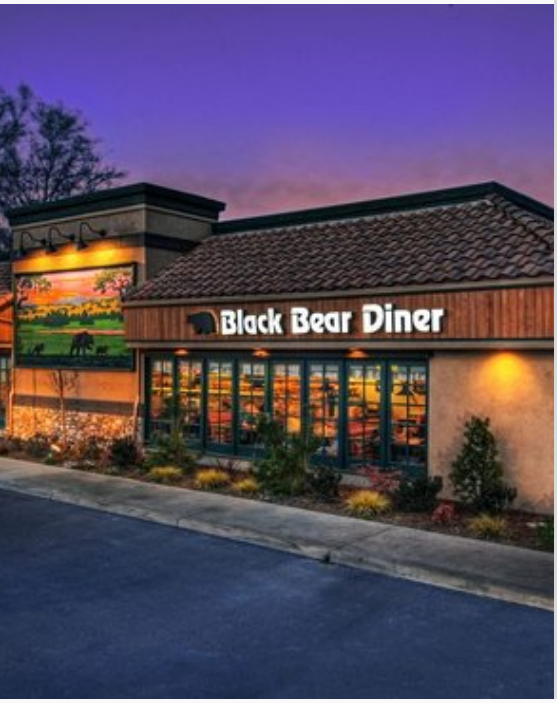
ACIA UPDATE

CONSTRUCTION FAILS & TIPS

The first thing you do, or look for, on a construction site is where to and not to go. This simple gesture of checking where it is safe to venture, or perform inspections around, could be the difference between the day you get to go home safely, or end up in the hospital. The General Contractor did a great job at putting proper safety tape and barriers in place to protect the public; however, one individual that visited the site did not abide by the safety measures. This individual instead, moved the safety barriers in order to park closer and ended up driving their truck into the open trench. Be safe, respect safety barriers, and get home safe at the end of the day. Stay safe inspectors!







CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS

The Northern California chapter meets on the fourth Thursday of every month at a new restaurant now - Black Bear Diner in Auburn, CA. We had a very successful meeting last month and cannot wait to see you all next week! Our meetings also count for one unit of the 36 CEU's required to renew every three years, so they are easy units to receive! If you attended last month's meeting where we discussed part 1 of fire stopping, and plan to attend this month, you'll receive two CEU's total. Our next meeting will be held on 6/22 at 5:30 pm!

Address:
13365 Lincoln Way, Auburn, CA 95603

ACIA UPDATE

AS HARRY SEES IT

Day 2

I spent Day 2 inspecting medical facilities, private schools and churches. Most of these facilities did very well. However, some sections required limited access to protect the children from damaged masonry veneer and concrete block fencing.

Day 3

More private schools, a large medical building, and a bank that had to be posted red (uninhabitable) due to obvious structural weakness and large heavy sections of loose rock veneer in danger of collapse. Every one of the exterior shear panels were badly damaged and beam connections supporting the second floor were distressed to the point of protruding through the exterior stucco.

Day 4 (Saturday)

Was spent inspecting 1/2 million to 2 million dollar (+-) dwellings. These were large, open center, cathedral type structures with 2 story, stucco exteriors, tile roofed, and dry wall interiors. Most had one or two large, tall, masonry fireplaces. Structural wood elements and their heavy steel connectors all performed well with no apparent connection failures; but due to the flexibility of these large frames, the dry wall damage was awesome inside, and every exterior opening had stucco damage. Due to what appeared the different chords of vibration between these flexible frames and large, high, stiff brick fireplace sections, over 90% of the fireplaces failed and will have to be removed. Many crushed at the ash pit area, some fractured at the shoulder connection at the first floor area, and almost all were broken at the roof and second floor connections. Many plywood floors on the second story level, oil canned and popped loose from the floor joists. (Remember the Plywood Association Bulletin a year or so ago about 1/8" separation between all sides of plywood for all floor diaphragms and shear walls?) Some of the damage to these beautiful dwellings was slightly less, depending on the orientation to the fault movement. This was also apparent in perimeter fencing made of cc blocks 4' to 6' in height. When the fault movement was perpendicular to the wall, they looked good. But if you gently pushed and pulled at the top, it was obvious the mortar bed between the foundation and starting course was broken and the block fence was sitting on a bed of crushed mortar sand and would have to be rebuilt. When the fault movement was parallel, the wall broke in various places but was sound sideways. Many of these walls showed very poor quality construction with little or no rebar and no grout in vertical cells. Some had #3 rebar verticals at 4' to 6' with what appeared to be watered down mortar for grout. None of the rebar I saw went to the top of the wall. A classic case of unreinforced masonry at its worst.