

# CONNECTIONS

News and Information for All DGS Employees



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## Happiness is ... a state budget

The Office of State Publishing – after an 85-day wait – pulls together to produce California's state budget bill ...



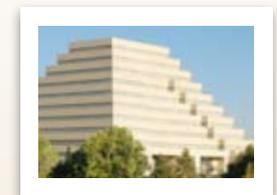
## Staff responds to fire siege

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## The 'Zig': Unique landmark hits 10

Imagine having the opportunity to choose your office location based on its view ... that you selected from the top of a scissor lift ...



## The 'Zig': Unique landmark hits 10

By Laurel Goddard, information officer

Imagine having the opportunity to choose your office location based on its view... that you selected from the top of a scissor lift.

That's just what Marc Turtletaub, president and chief executive officer of The Money Store, for which West Sacramento's ziggurat-shaped office structure was built, did. It's one of the many anecdotes shared by Ed Kado of Sacramento, the architect for the unusual building—now a decade old—that is today the headquarters of DGS.

Kado and his firm, E.M. Kado and Associates, made their mark with The Money Store years earlier, when he was tasked with renovating an old midtown complex that once housed the American Can Co. The Money Store, then a fledging firm of only 30 people, was one of that building's first tenants. He did some design work there for Turtletaub's company, and the rest is history.

Eight years later, when the burgeoning Money Store was looking for a new headquarters to house its 3,000 employees, it again turned to Kado... AFTER conducting a national search for a big-name architect to take on the project, and rejecting the selected firm's designs. Kado attributes this to the good rapport he developed



PHOTOS BY KEN HUNT

earlier with Turtletaub, who he describes as “very down to earth,” artistic and having aesthetic sensitivity.

Turtletaub subscribed to the ancient principles of feng shui, a Chinese geomantic practice in which a structure or site is chosen or configured to harmonize with the spiritual forces that inhabit it. Many modern enthusiasts claim that feng shui is the practice of arranging objects (such as



With its backdrop of the downtown Sacramento skyline, the Tower Bridge and the river, the Ziggurat building is a favorite spot for photo opportunities. Here, **Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger** delivers a bill-signing press conference.

furniture) to help people achieve their goals, and that it has an effect on health, wealth and personal relationships.

The words “feng shui” literally translate into “wind” and “water.” Architectural designs that follow feng shui practices often incorporate features that direct the flow of various energies. This includes money flow, which is drawn toward water, in feng shui theory. This is why walls were constructed in certain odd places in the building – to symbolically keep the money from flowing straight through to the river behind it. For example, one of these little barricades is erected right outside the Ziggurat’s back door, forcing those wanting to access the river walk to go all

the way around it. Another is erected behind the main lobby security desk. Kado also incorporated additional natural elements to complement the feng shui features: a two-story high fountain with cascading water falls at the front lobby; a wide-open atrium (rumored to echo sounds nearly 45 times) that floods the building’s lower interior with daylight; and walls dressed with Minnesota limestone.

When DGS moved into the building in 2001, it did so to consolidate its various offices that were scattered throughout Sacramento’s downtown. At the time, the Ziggurat was the only available leased space that would fit the department needs and house its more than 1,500 employees. 🌿



PHOTO BY LAUREL GODDARD

### What might have been:

The model (above) for the Ziggurat building’s original design depicts 12 stories, each one jutting out another 10 feet from the one below. The final story meets the river’s edge. It was rejected in favor of a symmetrical design. The architect suggested a pyramid-type shape which represents stability. It was agreed, according to architect Ed Kado, that “something between stubby and pointy” would work best, and the Ziggurat was born.

VIDEO BY LIZ GRANSEE



**Video:** Visit the “secret” room.

### Inner sanctum no more:

Affectionately known as “The Secret Room,” it no longer is, as Ziggurat guests are often treated to quick tours of this hideaway, which starts at a bookshelf with a wall panel that’s actually a hidden door. It leads to an Antoni Gaudi-inspired room made of metal lathe and plaster walls to resemble the flowing, sculpted stonework often used in the Spanish Catalan architect’s structures. It also has a spiral staircase topped with hand-carved cherrywood pieces designed to resemble dinosaur vertebrae, which also emulates the visceral, skeletal, organic quality of Gaudi’s works. Ziggurat architect Ed Kado (right) holds a single piece to show what they looked like in raw form – he found a local artist to sculpt all of them. Although empty now except for some stored items, it also sports a dining deck with river views, a full-size bathroom with shower, a loft and a cave-like nap room.

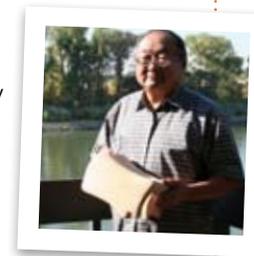


PHOTO BY LAUREL GODDARD

# Kudos

To “hero of the day” **Chris Robles**, Los Angeles regional manager of the Real Estate Services Division’s Building and Property Management (BPM) staff, whose behind-the-scenes efforts on a recent weekend resulted in a happy ending for the San Francisco Civic Center electrical project. He canceled his Saturday plans to drive more than 100 miles to pick up parts from a supplier in the City of Commerce, then hopped a plane to deliver them in person. Thank you also to BPM, Professional Services Branch and Direct Construction Unit staff including **Greg Simmons**, **Brian Silva**, **Terry Counts**, **Annette Turner**, **Lee Ratcliff**, **Loretta Magnani-Williams**, **Annette Turner**, **Pui Cheung**, **Monica Wilson-Pough** and **Jeff Carosone**.

## Staff responds to fire siege

The hands of DGS employees touch many government activities, and this summer, a variety of individuals played an important role in California’s 2008 fire siege, which charred more than 1.2 million acres and destroyed 364 homes.

On July 9, the Office of Emergency Services requested that DGS participate in the Wildfire Emergency Response. DGS deployed a team of procurement engineers to purchase fully contained air conditioning units for several gymnasiums which were being set up to house potentially 60,000 potential evacuees in the affected areas of the Butte Fire Complex in Northern California.

It started with an 11 p.m. phone call from DGS Emergency Coordinator **Kristine French** to Real Estate Services Division Professional Services Branch Assistant Chief **Ted Park**. Kristine, along with Associate Construction Analyst **Bill Hoffman**, worked throughout the fire siege to arrange all DGS activity with OES. The fear that strong winds through the Feather River Canyon would jump the fire across the river and up a ridge in east Paradise prompted the evacuation. OES requested that DGS assist them in assessing the air conditioning needs of these facilities and help procure temporary cooling and power if needed. Later phone calls brought the following people into

the fold: **Tim Bennett**, chief of the Professional Services Branch’s Direct Construction Unit (DCU), DCU Assistant Chief **Jim Gibbons** and Supervisor **Viren Panikke**. This assessment team joined French at the OES State Operations Center by 6 a.m. The group foresaw a possible need for electrical and mechanical engineering skills, so **Dennis Corelis**, chief of RESD’s Design Service Section, put Supervising Mechanical Engineer **Paul Wilburn** and Electrical Mechanical Engineer **Dean Hunt** on call to provide support.



PHOTO BY ROBERT EPLETT, OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

The assessment team, which also enlisted RESD Procurement Engineer *Bill Minton*, Direct Construction Supervisor *Franklin Tilley* as well as mechanical engineering support from *Charles Nelson*, traveled to Butte County, where its members coordinated with local government to evaluate the gymnasiums capability and capacity requirements and provide the chillers.

In addition to the chillers provision, helping hands were at work elsewhere in DGS.

- *Gary Sills* of RESD’s Construction Services Section, along with *Nancy Vierra* and *Lynette Raulien* from RESD’s Professional Services Branch, assisted in the coordination of the DCU field staff.
- The Procurement Division’s Food Acquisitions Unit, including Manager Dion Campos, Dave Henning and Ashley Lockwood worked with the Department of Developmental Services to provide food and serving supplies to evacuees in the Yuba and Butte areas.
- The Internal Services Division of the Office of Fleet and Asset Management provided a large passenger van to OES for its field operations team.
- DGS also processed emergency requests for vehicles and radios and expedited orders for seven large trailers for mobile hospitals. 🌿



PHOTO BY ROBERT EPLETT, OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

## On the fire lines:

Over the summer, the Telecommunications Division had 37 technicians (listed below) assigned to fire camps, where the first task is to set up the command post communications and program the handheld radios used on the fire. This ensures reliable communications between the firefighters and the incident commander. As the fire progresses, technicians may be asked to set up portable communications sites around the fire for continuity of communications. They’ll also repair any devices that fail. When the incident ends, technicians retrieve all portable communications equipment and ensure it’s in working order and ready for the next fire.

- |                |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Alan Judd      | Mike Baldwin      |
| Art Gunderson  | Ned Forsyth       |
| Art Ortiz      | Neil Eaton        |
| Ben Vickers    | Norm Perkins      |
| Bill Norton    | Paul Clay         |
| Carl Petty     | Perry Studabaker  |
| Dale Kiper     | Pete Jesson       |
| Dan Young      | Phil Lopez        |
| Dave Carlson   | Ricardo Hernandez |
| Dave Mari      | Rich Compton      |
| Dave Nino      | Russ Lindauer     |
| Dave Tello     | Sam Blum          |
| Eddie Rijo     | Sandy Samuels     |
| Jack Bishop    | Steve Schultze    |
| James Bailey   | Tim Wilcox        |
| James Jones    | Travis Richardson |
| Jesse Martinez |                   |
| Jim Gaddy      |                   |
| Ken Parker     |                   |
| Lupe Reyes     |                   |
| Mike Ames      |                   |



## Fast Fact

“Existing buildings represent more than 90 percent of energy reduction possibilities.”

— Roy McBrayer,  
Deputy to the State Architect

## Overcharges found, work awarded

By Liz Gransee, information officer

Recently, seven people in the Office of Audit Services were given “Superior Accomplishment” awards as part of a program that compensates employee ideas that save money or improve the operation of state government. The Department of Personnel Administration (DPA) offers an Employee Suggestion Program (ESP) that can result in compensation up to \$50,000 for implemented suggestions.

Late this summer DGS employees had the chance to participate in a DPA Benefits Overview Workshop in the Ziggurat auditorium. One of the benefits discussed was the Merit Award Program. If you did not have an opportunity to participate in the workshop, visit DPA’s ESP Web site. Your great ideas can put money in your pocket; and in tight financial times for both the government and its citizens, we could all use the extra assistance. 🌱

The Audit Services staff received awards for performing an audit that revealed overcharges to the state of California resulting in a large refund. (Left to right) DGS Director **Will Bush**, **Monica De La Rosa**, Audit Services Chief **Rick Gilliam**, **Lucy Wong**, **Miriam Stevens**, **Michael Rossow**, **Christopher Harris** and **Andrew Won**.

▶ [Visit the DPA’s ESP Web site](#)



PHOTO BY LIZ GRANSEE

## Hot Wired: TD has the hookup

By Eric Lamoureux, media relations manager

In an unassuming warehouse north of downtown Sacramento, seven DGS employees spend each day tearing apart sport utility vehicles, trucks, cars and off-road vehicles, only to put them back together again with the lights, sirens and radios that state public safety officers rely on to keep them safe.

*Scott Wallace* oversees the crew of the DGS Telecommunication Division's Mobile Install unit. Since 1995, DGS has served as a one-stop-shop, doing complete Code 3 installations, including lights, sirens, radio, and decals for all state public safety and law enforcement vehicles. The California Highway Patrol fleets are the only state vehicles not equipped by the DGS technicians. On one particular day last month, his team of electronic technicians was installing satellite dishes on new mobile command units for the Office of Emergency Services; outfitting a Jeep with gun cabinets and sirens for the State Parks Department; putting a canine cage in a Dept. of Fish and Game warden's truck and installing hidden Code 3 emergency lights in two unmarked Dodge Chargers for the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Scott said his team members take pride in their work and appreciate the importance of doing their job right. "You ask any officer what the most important thing is in the car – it is not a gun – it is



PHOTOS BY ERIC LAMOUREUX

(Left) Technician **Roger Willis** works on a radio package to be installed in a car trunk. (Right) Technician **Alan Lane** works on control heads for a Parks and Recreation Department Jeep.



## Fast Fact

DGS, through its Real Estate Services Division, is responsible for 22,727 state-owned buildings and structures totaling more than 210 million square feet; 60 DGS-owned and managed buildings topping more than 24 million square feet and 2,366 state-leased spaces with more than 5.2 million square feet in storage.

the radio because he or she can call for help,” said Wallace. “These are officers trying to uphold the law. It is very important that when they roll to a call that their equipment works.”

The mobile installation technicians – Senior Technician *Troy Niemi, Robert Cervantes, Roger Willis, Alan Lane, Ron Corona, Larry Watt, Tim Garrett* and *Todd Chapman* – are as busy as ever. Their Sacramento shop along the Richards Boulevard corridor recently expanded and next year the Telecommunications Division plans to set up the first Southern California installation shop in Riverside, while also bringing on two technicians to conduct minor installations and repairs in the field.

Installation of a siren system or radio is not an easy task and Wallace will challenge anyone who thinks it is. “Installation is an art,” he said, adding that today’s vehicles contain so many existing electronics packages that his team has to be very careful to make sure that the equipment they install does not interfere with the vehicle’s controls and that vehicle noise doesn’t transmit into the radio systems.

After 11 years doing mobile installations for DGS, Robert Cervantes loves what he does and the guys he works with. “It makes me feel good ... I hope that a lot of the equipment I do here lasts a long time and officers can rely on my work.”

Scott added that Robert is a bit modest about his skills. “He can put a radio in a shoebox and make it work.”



PHOTO BY ERIC LAMOUREUX

Manager **Scott Wallace** checks the wiring in a State Parks vehicle.



PHOTO BY AREA 3 INSTALL SHOP

This is one of the more unusual projects for the Mobile Installations unit — creating a Code 3-ready all-terrain vehicle.



**Video:** Scott Wallace demonstrates the canine “hot and pop” unit.



**Video:** Jeff Howell with the Office of Emergency Services talks about working with the DGS technicians.

VIDEOS BY LIZ GRANSEE & PHILLIP KILLION

# 'Topping out' the central plant

By Eric Lamoureux, media relations manager

*Joel Griffith* was a happy man at 10 a.m., Sept. 12, when the last piece of structural steel was installed on schedule, "topping out" the new central plant. Griffith serves as DGS' project director on the \$181 million construction project in downtown Sacramento, and was on hand along with team members *Nik Karlsson*, *Anne Cavanagh*, *Wendy Roberts* and *Karen Lott* to sign the metal beam and watch as it was lifted into place.

Griffith reports that the project is on schedule and DGS is one step closer to improving heating and cooling for state workers in downtown Sacramento.

The facility is on track to be operational next May, replacing the aging 40-year-old plant that provides the steamed air and chilled water that heats and cools 5.5 million square feet of office space throughout downtown Sacramento.

The need for a new plant was emphasized this summer on one of the hottest days when the existing central plant had a chiller break down when a well it was pumping water from ran dry. Griffith and a team of DGS Real Estate Services Division staff quickly mobilized portable chillers to the site and were able to maintain comfortable temperatures across the 23 buildings serviced by the plant. 🌿

- ▶ [Visit the "DGS Newsroom: for more information.](#)
- ▶ [View more central plant photos.](#)

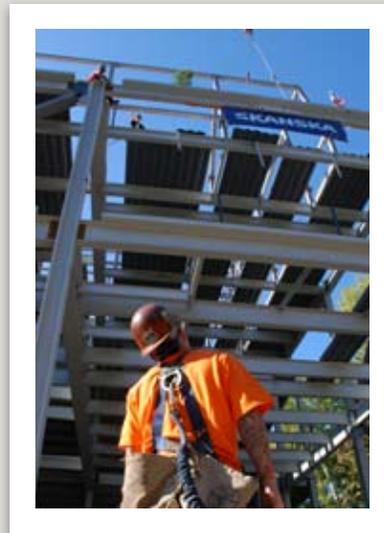


PHOTO BY KEN HUNT

A construction worker looks on as the final piece of structural steel is put in place, "topping out" the state's new central plant.



VIDEO BY LIZ GRANSEE & PHILLIP KILLION

**Video:** See the "topping out" ceremony.



PHOTO BY ERIC LAMOUREUX

(Left to right) **Kelly Smith**, vice president with building contractor Skanska, confers with DGS Project Director **Joel Griffith** at the central plant construction site.



PHOTOS BY DEAN SOTELO & DAN GARNER



## Fast Fact

DGS' Office of State Publishing recycles 12.1 million pounds of paper each year.

## Happiness is . . . a state budget.

The Office of State Publishing – after an 85-day wait – pulls together to produce California's budget bill Thursday, Sept. 25. (Above left) *Rodney Milton* makes plates. (Above right, bottom) Later, press operators *Israel Gutierrez*

(left) and *Jeff Gould* (right) make sure all is well with the print job. (Top right) Finally, *Cecil Ramirez* prepares the budget bills for distribution. 🍃

## Dapper Downtown: Revitalized city core

DGS helped the Capitol Area Development Authority recently celebrate 30 years of creating a more environmentally-sound and vibrant neighborhood in downtown Sacramento.

To celebrate its 30th anniversary, CADA presented the city of Sacramento and DGS with its 2008 Commendation Award. It also hosted a Friday night, public celebration in Sacramento's Fremont Park where free food, drinks and family entertainment were provided for the community. *Joe Mugartegui*, chief of the Real Estate Services Division's Asset Management Branch, which works closely with CADA, was invited to speak at the event, which included a feature film showing.

In 1978, CADA was formed as a joint powers authority between the state of California and the city of Sacramento so that the two public agencies could legally collaborate on revitalizing the Capitol area's state-owned land. DGS works in coordination with CADA to assist in the real estate and parking management of the newly developed Capitol Park neighborhood. The partnership is helping reduce the number of commuters on the roads and improving our state's air quality. This successful effort has also brought greener buildings, beautiful community gardens, offices closer to public transit, desirable housing, public art displays, community gardens, historic building restorations and much more. 🌿



**Top:** Fremont Building, completed 2001

**Bottom:** Fremont Community Garden, completed 2007



## Green Machines

Have you checked out California's "Drive Clean" Web site? Developed by the Air Resources Board, this online guide helps car buyers find clean technology vehicles. The site is designed to educate Californians on the large difference in pollution levels between vehicles and the variety of clean-car options available today that offer the same performance and luxury

features as traditional gasoline vehicles. It also offers useful search and comparison tools to assist car buyers in finding the cleanest vehicle that suits their lifestyle as well as smog and global warming information for all vehicles from 1996 to present. Visit its home page to find out its pick for the cleanest car on the road today!

About 2,300 pounds of carbon equivalent per person (16 percent of our individual greenhouse gas emissions) are released to the atmosphere through our use of personal transportation every year.

▶ [View California's "Drive Clean" Web site.](#)

## Green Team member lays down the beat

By Ken Hunt, DGS Green Team

When DGS Green Team member *Patrick McCoy* isn't scouting for opportunities to help state agencies plan where solar panels can be installed, you're likely to find him laying down the beat for a couple of Sacramento-area rock bands.

As program manager for the DGS' Solar Power Purchase Program, Patrick has been working closely with the DGS Office of Legal Services to craft affordable solar power service agreements for several state agencies.

"We've successfully installed eight projects totaling 4.25 megawatts of solar power generating capacity at several state agency facilities, with many more on the way," Patrick said.

Patrick's program allows departments such as Caltrans, Mental Health and Corrections to generate renewable energy for their facilities while avoiding the upfront costs of installation. Through these innovative third-party power purchase agreements, state agencies pay only for the solar power, not the solar panels.

Off duty, Patrick, an alumnus of the Graduate School of Management at University of California, Davis, generates a different kind of energy as a rock drummer, guitarist and singer for his current band, "Rock of Ages."



PHOTO BY KEN HUNT

"The energy put into drumming is figuratively similar to solar power – the energy is transformed into something that benefits everyone – good music and emission-free power."

Patrick's group, which specializes in 20th century classic rock, has played at Sacramento Kings games, the Folsom Hotel and a couple of local watering holes including the Elk Grove Sports Bar. 🌿

## New life for state clunkers

By Laurel Goddard, information officer

Looking for a used car? How about a beater pickup for those weekend dump runs? If you're not too particular about appearances, then the Office of Fleet and Asset Management might have just the deal for you.

On the second Wednesday morning of every month, Auction Manager *Bob Turk* assembles a 15-person crew and welcomes hundreds of hopeful buyers to Davis for the main event – the state surplus vehicle auction.

The Office of Surplus Property Reutilization (OSPR) manages the auctions and is responsible for the proper disposition of all state-owned surplus personal property as well as the allocation of federal surplus personal property to the qualified recipients.

*Mike Benton, Cindy Carrillo, Heidi Odell and Scott Fong* register participants who will bid on several hundred as-is vehicles, some running, some not. These may include boats, motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles, snowmobiles and tractors. Once, someone was lucky enough to get an old mobile crane from the 1960s. Only major credit cards are accepted, and winners are responsible for their own towing.

It starts with viewing period, followed by a “parade of cars” as each running vehicle is driven up in front of the anxious crowd, one by one, as the auctioneer starts the bidding. Once the “runners” are sold, it’s on to the “nonrunners,” where interested parties simply follow the auctioneer from vehicle to vehicle.

Even DGS employees are customers. **Katrina Benny** from the Division of the State Architect bought her daughter’s first car there – a Ford Tempo. “It was a fine car,” she said. “It wouldn’t go over 85 miles per hour, which is fine for a 17-year-old girl.” She added that May and June seem to be the busiest times at the auction,

because people are buying cars for kids that are graduating. “Do your homework online first to see what cars you want to focus on and then check their value with Kelley Blue Book.”

Bob recommends potential bidders visit the auction Web site to learn about what will be available at the next event, but remember the list is not finalized until the week before the sale.

“Look them over carefully,” he said. “It’s like fishing, what you catch is what you get.”

The October event featured 240 vehicles, all but five of which were sold. 🍀

- ▶ [View auction Web site.](#)
- ▶ [View more photos of the auction.](#)



## Fast Fact

So far this year, the DGS Office of Fleet and Asset Management has auctioned off 2,318 vehicles, of which 573 were DGS owned.

PHOTOS BY LAUREL GODDARD



**Cindy Carrillo** finalizes paperwork while **Scott Fong** and **Heidi Odell** obtain keys for new owners.



Potential bidders inspect available lots. These babies – known as “nonrunners” — will need a little help to get them home.



OSPR Manager **Dan McDonough** brings a “classic” around for bidding.

## Mud, Sweat and Years: DGS rebuilds historic adobe

By Jeffrey Young, Office of Public Affairs deputy director



(Left to right) Chris Barraza oversees the restoration of the old Castro adobe near Watsonville. Francisco Villa works with California Conservation Corps employee Joseph Johnson to recreate adobe bricks.

PHOTOS BY JEFFREY YOUNG

Historic adobes aren't usually the type of buildings DGS' Real Estate Services Division renovates. Offices, the state Capitol, warehouses, yes — but not 180-year-old ranchos made out of mud bricks.

However, up a dirt road off Highway 1 just north of Watsonville, a unique project has been developing for the past few years. There the DGS Direct Construction Unit (DCU) has been collaborating with the Parks Service and the California Conservation Corps to seismically stabilize the Rancho San Andres Castro Adobe. What makes the project particularly unique

is that the local community has pitched in to raise money, build bricks, and support the state agencies to a degree that has doubled the budget, expanded the scope of the project, and proven that where there are enough wills, there is a way.

Built by the family of former California Gov. Jose Castro of Monterey, the original adobe stood for 150 years, but was nearly destroyed by the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake. Within days it was red-tagged and the family that was living in the house had to move. Faced with staggering seismic retrofit costs, the couple eventually gave the

historic property to the Parks Service in 2002.

But as regional State Park Superintendent Kirk Lingenfelter explained, "We were hard pressed to get the money to shore up the building and make it safe, let alone renovate it and turn it into a museum," that is until he met some of the team at DGS' Direct Construction Unit in the region. This DCU provides restoration services to the Parks Service throughout central California, and has worked on many of the historic adobes in the Monterey area. On staff are some of the state's only experts on rebuilding historic adobes. When

the project was approved, the financing only covered the seismic repair work.

That was until **Russell Wright**, a DCU supervisor, started talking with the onsite foreman, **Chris Barraza**, and some of the local members of the Friends of the Santa Cruz State Parks, a regional support group sponsored by the Parks Service. When the citizen’s group found out that the state could only afford to do the seismic reengineering work, it offered to raise money to extend the renovation and supply the labor to make replacement adobe bricks to be used throughout the project. The only commercial source of adobe bricks is in Arizona, and given the distance they would have to travel, they were prohibitively expensive. However, by working locally with Parks Service specialists in adobe composition and the local geology, the dedicated group members made more than 2,500 historically accurate and structurally sound replacement bricks. They also raised enough money to more than double the project budget. “In my thirty years experience with DGS and state service, I’ve never seen such cooperation between agencies and the private sector,” said DCU Area Manager **Doug Casteel**. “And Russ Wright won’t take no for an answer.”

That wasn’t the end of the tour de force. The DCU decided that while it could supply a basic crew of specialists, it needed a lot more labor. The answer was to offer the local chapter of the California Conservation Corps a chance to train its student workers on historical construction techniques.

Wright and Barraza, along with Lingenfelter and the local Parks Service operation, forged a relationship with the CCC that has seen dozens of young people trained on the site in the past six months.

Today, the seismic work is done, the walls have been rebuilt, the kitchen is intact again, and the roof is about complete. According to Wright, “the project is about 185 percent of where we expected to be — can’t ask for much better than that.”

The final phase is yet to be funded. That’s when the Park Service will recreate the building as an historical living history exhibit and conduct tours. But for now, the treasured adobe is not only seismically stable, but renovated. Everyone involved has learned how far a little bit of cooperation can go. 🌱



**Video:** DGS’ **Chris Barraza** talks about the adobe project.

VIDEO BY JEFFREY YOUNG & LIZ GRANSEE

The Rancho San Andreas Castro Adobe, as it looked prior to DGS, the state Parks Service, the California Conservation Corps and Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks joining forces to repair the historic building.

PHOTO BY MELODIE MILHOAN

## Game On: Charity in full swing

The California State Employees Charitable Campaign, “Experience a State of Generosity” is in full swing and with Sacramento area Chair *Paula Rogers*, executive assistant for the Interagency Support Division, and Vice-Chair *Sarah Collins*, Senior Electronic Data Processing Specialist Supervisor of the Procurement Division, it’s definitely full of energy! The second annual bowling tournament and third annual car show carried on the tradition of great times for a great cause. The excitement of DGS Kick-Off Week, Sept. 15 – 19, spread its way across California making stops in Sacramento, Oakland, San Francisco, Los Angeles and San Diego offices (a total of 250 employees attended these sessions). DGS area Chairs *Loretta Zehringer-Mason*, *Leah Schuller*, *Mena Johnson*, *Yan Huang* (Bay Area), *Lacretia Rivers* (L.A.) and *Jeanette Hall* (San Diego) hosted volunteer organizations to give state employees a chance to meet and greet with beneficiaries of their charitable gifts.

“This DGS statewide effort was an education tool connecting our area offices which we hadn’t done in the past,” said Paula. “DGS employees were really appreciative of this collaborative effort. They now see how their donations can make a difference.”

PHOTOS BY LAUREL GODDARD



**Above:** DGS Director **Will Bush** prepares for his dunking.  
**Right:** Classics on display at the DGS Car Show.



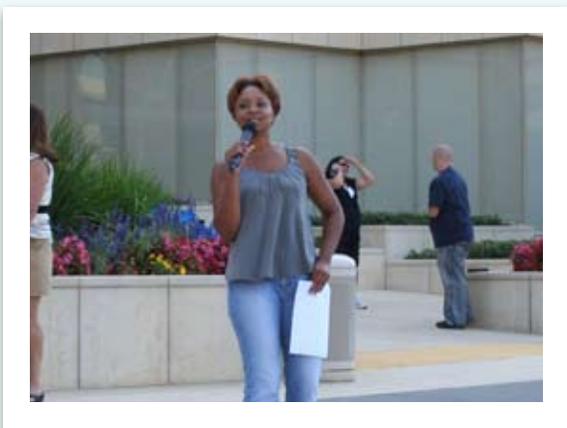


PHOTO BY LAUREL GODDARD

**Paula Rogers** announces festivities at the Car Show.

The generosity will continue through the year as the DGS strives to assist Gov. Schwarzenegger in achieving his goal of \$10 million dollars raised this year. With more than 100 DGS gift advisors, 11 division chairs, and numerous volunteers, DGS is sure to do its part to help those in need. To find out more about CSECC and other volunteer organizations, visit the [“Get Involved”](#) tab on the DGS Intranet. 🌿

▶ [Video: “Be the Change” by Bryan Yong & Liz Gransee](#)

## ▶ Tell us about similar charity events you’ve held in your offices.

▶ [View Oakland charity event photos.](#)

### Spare Time: Bowling for charity

A group of 70 DGS employees continued the celebration of the 51st anniversary of the California State Employees Charitable Campaign Sept. 10 by hosting the second annual “Strike it Rich” Bowling Tournament. Winners included:

**First place:** Representing the Office of Technology Resources — Eric Abeyta, Ryan Welch, Anthony Delapaz, Octavio Romero and Mando Basurto

**Second place:** Representing the Telecommunications Division — Justin Engle, Leslie Ford, Carrie Ford, Steven Ford and Scott Sackett

**Third place:** Terri Ashley, Heather Ashley, Karl West, Brandon Walker and Daryl Ashley

**Best dressed team:** Lori Wasson, Bahía Abdallah, Greg Sandin, Brenda Difuntorum and Kelly May

**Most outrageously dressed team:** Katrina Valentine, Juan Mireles, Matt Pietralunga, Jennifer Breese and Toni Martinez

**Low game (female):** Monica Mahon

**Low game (male):** Ken Smith

**Bowled a Dutch 200:** Ryan Welch

**Picks up the biggest split:** Baldwin Ong

**First person to bowl a strike with opposite bowling hand:** Kim Maunder

▶ [View bowling tournament photos.](#)

## DGS sons and daughters learn the ropes

Sacramento-area DGS employees brought more than their lunch to work on Aug. 6, when more than 75 children accompanied their parents to experience what it's like to work for the Department of General Services. This year's event included a career fair in the Ziggurat atrium where community organizations and DGS division and office representatives offered various activities and information sessions while promoting this year's theme, "Making Choices for a Better Tomorrow." Displays spilled into the parking lot with fire demonstrations and safety advice presented by Engine 44 of the West Sacramento Fire

Department, Sacramento-area California Highway Patrol officers with their canine companions, a Parks and Recreation canine vehicle and a Fish and Game truck displayed by Telecommunications Maintenance Supervisor **Scott Wallace**.

The afternoon concluded with special kid's meals offered by Jose's River View Café, "DGS Theater" presented by Trainer Coordinator **Cecil Rowe**, and hands-on experience in the office. Children of Division of the State Architect employees were treated to a presentation titled "Welcome to DSA" by Principal Architect **Richard Conrad**,

"Why DSA is here" by Structural Engineer **Chip Smith**, and a live demonstration involving Jell-O by Senior Structural Engineer **Peter Liloyan** to show how the ground moves and vibrates during an earthquake. The Telecommunications Division unit representatives wowed their guests with a presentation, "Dial 9-1-1 for Safety." The Office of State Publishing offered a tour of its printing plant to show the kids its operations in action, and Project Manager Shelley Nishikawa from the Office of Public School Construction made personalized photo identification badges for that division's special guests.



DGS hosted the children of its employees in August with special events and demonstrations, as sons and daughters of moms and dads across all divisions learned more about what their parents do at work. (Left to right) **Monica De La Rosa** with her son, **Antonio**; **Krishma, Nikki and Sal Dutta**; **Pam Tyler** and her son, **Leyden**.

PHOTOS BY CELIL LAMOURÉUX



PHOTOS BY CEILI LAMOUREUX



Left: (Left to right) **Victoria La Tour** with her daughters, **Bianca** and **Santana**; **James Thompson** with son **James** and daughter **Hannah**.

Right: DSA's **Toni Little** teaches visiting kids how to recognize common elements on architectural plans.

PHOTO BY KATRINA BENNY



The Office of Strategic Planning, Policy and Research's (OSPPR) **Jason Tyburczy** created a survey for the children to take to share their experiences and thoughts on this year's events.

This event would not have been possible without the unity of DGS and a special thank-you goes out to all those mentioned above as well as: organizer **Liz Gransee** of the Office of Public Affairs; **Sue Durkee**, **Gilbert Labitoria** and **Natalie Morris** of the Business Services Office; **Meg Hoyle**, **Leasa Vasquez** and **Sandy Adams** of Information Technology Services Division; **Grace Koch** of OSPPR; **Valerie Castro** of OPSC; **Tavelle Matteucci**, **Carrie Willson**, **Debbie DeAnda**, **Debra Neisen**, **Maribeth Ennis-Leu**, **Amy Cooper**, **Vince Santucci**, **Peter Kalisky**, **Christopher Verdin** and **Ellie Wright** of Office of Risk and Insurance Management; **Emily Poffenberger**, **Katrina Benny**, **Peri Rogers**, **Toni Little**, **Eric France**,

**Dave Casey** and **Rod Higgins** of DSA; **Gloria Martinez**, **Yolanda Villasenor**, her son **Josh Villasenor**, **Ron Hirota**, **Kirk Roby**, and **Gary Grootveld** of TD; **Cecil Rowe**, **Anthony Martinez**, and **Somer Ratanamany** of the Office Human Resources; **Paula Rogers** and **Sarah Collins** of the California State Employees Charitable Campaign; **Sue Teranishi** of DGS' alternate transit program; **Raley's**; **River Cats**; **U.S. Army**; **Pacific Gas and Electric Co.**; **Sacramento Municipal Utilities District**; and the city of **West Sacramento's** water resources unit. 🌱

- ▶ [Read results of kids' survey.](#)
- ▶ [View more photos of the event, taken by Ceili Lamoureux \(below\), daughter of DGS' Eric Lamoureux.](#)



### Share the love . . .

Customer satisfaction is what DGS is all about. "Kudos" allows us to share what our clients are saying about us. Complimentary e-mails, words of praise or thank-you notes from external contacts are all fodder for "Kudos." Please send us your submissions!

- ▶ [Submit your Kudos.](#)

## Small biz team hits the streets

The state does more than 25 percent of its business with small enterprises, and to help keep those numbers high, the Procurement Division's Small Business Unit launched "The Summer of Small Business Tour" on Aug. 1.

With a packed schedule that rivals that of any rock band, the members of the Communication and Outreach Section (listed below) visit countless municipal and state organizations, chambers of commerce and universities, and participate in expositions and workshops across California. From the "Supplier Diversity Vendor Fair" in Emeryville to the "Paths to Partnership" conference in San Diego and plenty of points in between, this group is bringing opportunity to the masses by spreading the word about how to get certified and do business with the state.

Behind the effort are Manager *Danetta Jackson*, *Tonia Burgess*, *Judy Burnett*, *Kathy Bryant-Rock*, *Catrina Blair*, *Michael Aguilio*, *Wayne Gross*, *Mary Purvis*, *Maureen Moss* and previously, retired annuitants *Bill Rich*, *Oral Washington*, *Eileen Ochoa*, *Dave Owen* and *Elosia Stratton*. 🌱



PHOTO BY MICHAEL AGUILIO

Customer liaisons **Tonia Burgess** and **Wayne Gross** offer tips to small-business owners at October's "Collaboration Conference."

## Kudos to all DGS

DGS was recognized by several organizations over the summer:

- By the California Black Chamber of Commerce with its "2008 Diversity & Procurement Outreach Award" for commitment to providing access to state contracting opportunities to the state's small business community. Through its Procurement Division, DGS aligns with organizations like the chamber to reach out to small and disabled veteran business owners and encourage them to seek state certification. Thanks to Outreach Manager **Danetta Jackson**, **Tonia Burgess**, **Catrina Blair**, **Michael Aguilio**, **Wayne Gross**, **Maureen Moss**, **Mary Purvis**, **Kathleen Bryant-Rock** and **Judith Burnett**.
- By the Business Environmental Resource Center, with its "Sustainable Business of the Year" award for sustainability measures taken at the Franchise Tax Board's complex in Sacramento.
- By the Sacramento Municipal Utilities District, with its "Community Energy Award" for the department's overall commitment to implementing energy efficiency measures and promoting environmental protection.

## OAH reaches out to parents

The Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH), as part of its contract with the California Department of Education, is reaching out to educate parents about the special education hearing process, as there are more than 2,700 cases filed annually involving a parent and a school district. This new outreach is designed to educate and assist parents in accessing the mediation and due process services offered by the OAH. The program consists of in-person workshops throughout California, handouts and a Web site demonstration.

*Sherianne Laba*, presiding law judge of the Special Education division, has become the voice of the campaign as she travels throughout California to conduct interactive workshops for parents, educators, special interest groups and nonprofits. Deputy Director *Linda Cabatic*, *Presiding Law Judges Ann MacMurray*, *Tim Newlove* and *Richard Clark*, as well as Legal Support Staff Supervisor *Sandy Berzinas* have also been integral to the success of this outreach. 🌱



VIDEO BY LIZ GRANSEE  
& PHILLIP KILLION

**Video:** Learn more about the OAH program from Sherianne Laba's presentation.

## OPSC offers green tools for schools

Staff Services Manager *Steve Paul* and School Facilities Program Analyst *Tim Hegedus* from DGS' Office of Public School Construction were on hand at the "Greentools for Healthy Schools" conference in September to showcase OPSC's programs.

"Our main focus was to educate those who attended about the 'High Performance Incentive' grants administered by OPSC," said Steve. "Proposition 1D provides \$100 million for those high performance – or 'green' – attributes in new construction and modernization projects for K through 12 schools."

The booth complemented the overall purpose of the conference, which was to educate districts and other interested attendees about how to achieve high performance schools, and get the word out that there are funds available to assist districts in obtaining sustainable design.

The conference, which took place over two days in downtown Sacramento, included a selection of renowned speakers including DGS Green Team member *Roy McBrayer*. 🌱

## Service Milestones

Congratulations to all the DGS employees who reached service milestones between April 1, 2008 and July 31, 2008. Below are those who have logged 25 years or more. Visit the DGS intranet for additional time achievements.

Questions or comments can be directed to Human Resources at (916) 376-5400

► [View additional service achievements.](#)

### 35 Years of Service

Carlos Cervantes, RESD  
Patricia Czoberek, OHR  
Kathleen Hodson, DSA  
Jack Kehler, RESD  
Hassan Pejuhesh, RESD  
Travis Richardson, RESD  
Brian Thomas, OFS

### 30 Years of Service

Paul Bocanegra, OTR  
William Butler, RESD  
Daniel Delgadillo, TD  
Michael Escobar, RESD  
Linda Hill, RESD  
Patricia Johnson, PROC  
Lynn Kennedy, TD  
Wilson Lee, PROC  
Rosemary Lobato, RESD  
Craig Merrill, OSP  
Hossein Mojtahedi, TD  
Howard Morrow, OSP  
Francisco Rocha, OSP  
Carlos Silva, RESD  
Alvio Villanueva, RESD  
William Wells, RESD  
Manouchehr Boroumand, TD

### 25 Years of Service

Thomas Behrens, RESD  
Michael Coleman, RESD  
Colleen Hui, TD  
Gary Huss, TD  
Elizabeth Jones, OPSC  
Keith Jung, OPSC  
Elena Natividad, RESD  
Cedric Powell, RESD  
Bahram Golemohammadi, RESD

## Information

*Connections* is a new approach to an old resource—the DGS employee newsletter. Designed as a PDF, it's all digital and environmentally friendly—no waste.

### How it works?

It's just like a Web page, view it on screen and click on links to view the content. You can also save it to your computer, e-mail it to a friend or print it if you must, but we hope you don't.



**Table of contents** Headlines link to their stories—click on a headline to jump to that story.

**Navigation** Move from page to page with the navigation arrows.

**Resource tabs** Each page has five helpful tabs:

**Help:** Which brings you here and points out the newsletter functions.

**Options:** This shows the Adobe Reader options.

**Table of contents:** Takes you back to the table of contents from anywhere in the newsletter.

**Comments:** This allows you to contact us with your story ideas and opinions.

**Close:** Closes the document.

*Connections* is the employee newsletter of the Department of General Services and is published by the Office of Public Affairs.

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Rosario Marin  
Secretary  
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