

# Scott Smith Named 2020 CEA President

**S**cott Smith, president and chief executive officer of James E. Roberts-Obayashi Corp. was elected as the 2020 President of the Construction Employers' Association (CEA) on January 14, presiding over the group's 33rd Annual General Membership Dinner Meeting held in Concord, CA. Over 300 Northern California building industry executives were in attendance at the event which featured keynote speaker Bruce Bochy, former manager of the San Francisco Giants.

CEA's other newly-elected officers were also introduced at the event: CEA First Vice President Colby Powell, vice president of C. Overaa & Co.; CEA Vice President Blair Allison, president of Cahill Contractors; and CEA Past President/Treasurer Mark Bley, president and CEO, Dome Construction Corporation.

Michael Walton serves as secretary of the association of over 100 union-affiliated building contractors. CEA's membership list includes most of the leading building contractors in Northern California who construct a broad spectrum of prominent projects, including: K-12 schools, community colleges and universities, commercial and government buildings, health care facilities, multi-family housing, water infrastructure, energy and power facilities, bio-life science labs, technology and data centers, sports stadiums and parking structures.

Scott Smith has 41 years in the construction industry having devoted his career to James E. Roberts-Obayashi Corp. As a youth, he spent summers working as a laborer. He joined the Carpenters Union when he graduated high school and worked summers as a framer during his college years. He earned a degree in construction management from CSU Chico and has held various positions at the company, including project manager, estimator, chief estimator, vice president and since 2007, president and CEO.

CEA's Annual Meeting also included presentations to fourteen firms who received the prestigious CEA President's Safety Award.



**CONSTRUCTION  
EMPLOYERS'  
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These firms include: Bradley Concrete; Build Group, Inc.; Clark Construction Group –California, LP; Dome Construction Corporation; DPR Construction; Herrero Builders, Inc.; James R. Griffin, Inc.; Level 10 Construction, LP; McCarthy Building Companies, Inc.; Novo Construction, Inc.; Rudolph and Sletten, Inc.; The Core Group; TRUEBECK Construction, Inc.; and XL Construction Corporation.

The Most Improved Safety Program Award was presented to Pacific Structures, Inc. The Leadership in Safety Award was presented to Mark Scherschel of Hathaway Dinwiddie Construction Co. for his 20 years of dedicated service to the CEA Safety Committee. In addition, it was announced that CEA granted another

\$200,000 in 2019 to the construction management programs of CSU Chico; CSU Fresno; Cal Poly San Luis Obispo; CSU Sacramento; Stanford University; CSU East Bay; and UC Berkeley, bringing CEA's total university grant funding to \$3 million over the last twenty-two years.

CEA negotiates and administers union agreements, provides professional labor relations representation, legislative representation, safety education and advocacy, labor compliance assistance, labor-management partnering, builder networking opportunities, an annual confidential compensation survey, and many other services and benefits. CEA maintains offices in Walnut Creek and Sacramento. For more information about CEA, visit [www.cea-ca.org](http://www.cea-ca.org)