

# COMPANY NEWS

Fall 2007



**Aerial view of the Granite-Myers-Rados Joint Venture SR-22 design Build Project, which won several awards for the Orange County Transportation Authority (see page 5).**

## GMR-22 Joint Venture a collaborative success

**T**he award-winning Granite-Myers-Rados Joint Venture for the SR-22 Design Build project is nearly 100 percent completed; all that remains is the project acceptance phase, which includes punch-list work, landscaping, ITS testing, and other administrative items.

It was a joint venture among Steve P. Rados (Santa Ana), C.C. Myers

(Sacramento), and Granite Construction (Watsonville).

"In general, all three companies are heavy-highway contractors," said Project Manager Jay Ochs.

"Rados and Myers are more specialized in bridges and walls, and structures work; earthwork, roadway and grading work, and quarries and paving are more Granite's specialty. This was a good fit for all of them."

The \$400-million

design/build project involved a widening of 12 miles of the freeway (State Route 22 in Orange County) to add HOV lanes. Ramps were widened, and some existing bottlenecks where other freeways have come together with 22 were replaced.

This was accomplished by adding new bridges and ramps. To do this, new retaining walls were built, utilities were relocated,

new signs, lighting and signals were installed, and a substantial amount of roadway grading and earthwork fills were done.

The job, which had some 600 craft workers at its peak, was built and managed by OCTA (Orange County Transportation Authority), with funding from CalTrans and the Federal Highway Administration.

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As we launch the first edition of the company's new newsletter, we want to express our gratitude to all of our employees, suppliers, subcontractors, and clients, who through the years have enabled us to stay successful and to continue the legacy of our founder, Steve P. Rados.

We feel that it is important to share with our employees and associates through this and subsequent newsletters our successes, our goals, and to recognize members of our team and their contributions.

The future is bright and we are confident that with our talented team we will remain in the forefront of our industry. Our company, as it has been for the past 85 years, is energized to take on new challenges.

Our goal is to continue to prosper while maintaining our values:

- A safety culture above all else
- Stand by the Company's legacy of integrity, honesty and fairness in a family environment
- Loyalty shared as a mutual bond
- A rewarding work environment through individual initiative, hard work and discipline
- Be responsible partners while building quality construction projects
- Respect and encourage the ideas and contributions of others
- Maintain our reputation for excellence.

Additionally, we encourage any of you who may have suggestions to enhance or improve the company to share your ideas with us.

Again, we would like to extend our thanks to all of those who have been a part of our success.



A section of GMR SR-22 at the beginning of work (top) and the finished product (bottom).

## GMR-22 Joint Venture

Continued from front page

The last four miles of the freeway were opened at the end of April. The first eight miles opened in early December 2006.

Work is continuing on the project completion phase — including completing contract work, signs, signalization, retrofit of bridges, Intelligent Traffic System (ITS) installation, project punch lists, and landscaping. The latter will extend until early 2008, as will work on city streets, signals, etc.

According to Ochs, a Granite employee who joined the project in November 2004, the job went very smoothly, with crews from all three principals working together seamlessly.

"From early on we stressed that no one here is Granite, Myers, or Rados," said Ochs. "We were GMR. We discouraged guys from

wearing company shirts and hats, unless it was the joint venture stuff.

"We split up the project where the Rados guys did the bridges and walls on half the project (segment 1) and Myers did the other half, so even though it was fully integrated, we were able to keep a core group together to use their own methods and means, and work with people they were familiar with and complemented each other.

"This was a huge job. We made incredible progress and we hit the major milestones for opening the freeway. It went great."



# RADOS IN THE FIELD



USING A HYDRAULIC CRANE TO LAY 108-INCH PIPE ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE GARFIELD INTERSECTION OF BUSHARD.

## **BUSHARD TRUNK SEWER REHABILITATION**

**HUNTINGTON BEACH AND FOUNTAIN VALLEY**

**General Contractor:** Steve P. Rados, Inc.

**Project Manager:** Derek Rados

**Superintendent:** Craig Colich

**Foremen:** Gerald Brownlee, Chile Alvarez, Chris Boyer, Ramon Ortega

**Job Began:** Project restarted in April of 2006

**Job Ended:** July 2007

**Crew:** 35.

This job involved the installation of 108-inch trunk sewer with appurtenances from Orange County Sanitation District Treatment Plant No. 2 in Huntington Beach to Ellis Avenue in Fountain Valley. The new Bushard Trunk Sewer Line included installation in areas of 60-inch triple barrel siphons, and various structures. Additional work included the removal of a 54-inch existing RCP trunk sewer in reaches and abandonment in other reaches, street overlay, pavement reconstruction, and construction of various sewer lines to accommodate the new trunk sewer.

## **ROUTE 405 "GAP CLOSURE" PROJECT**

**SHERMAN OAKS**

**General Contractor:** Steve P. Rados

**Project Manager:** Steve Mueller

**Project Engineer:** Doug Molder

**Superintendent:** John Metzger

**Foremen:** Gonzalo Ceja, Mike Haag, Jamie Martinez

**Mechanic:** Rudy Ampudia

**Job Began:** April 2005

**Job Ended:** September 2007

Rados crews were responsible for retaining walls, highway paving, removing/replacing the Ventura Boulevard off-ramp, r/r 101 on-ramp, r/r Ventura Boulevard bridge, building the new Greenleaf Street bridge and a new 405 on-ramp, widening Sepulveda Boulevard between Sutton Street and Dickens Street, and extending Dickens Street to create a bypass from Ventura to Sepulveda.

**CONCRETE PLACEMENT FOR CIDH (CAST-IN-DRILLED HOLE) RETAINING WALL LOCATED BETWEEN THE NORTH-BOUND 405 AND THE NEW ON-RAMP THAT GOES UNDER THE CONNECTOR TO THE 101 FREEWAY.**



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## **COMPANY NEWS**

is published twice a year for the enjoyment of our employees and customers.

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# RADOS IN THE FIELD



**BIG STAN IS THE BIGGEST DRILL RIG IN THE NATION. WE ARE USING IT IN CITRUS HEIGHTS TO DRILL 41 VERTICAL SHAFTS, 15-21 FEET IN DIAMETER, FROM 34-70-FEET DEEP, RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE STREET. THESE SHAFTS WILL BE CONNECTED BY MICRO-TUNNELING TECHNIQUES.**

## **BRUSHY CREEK PIPELINE #3**

**BYRON**

**General Contractor:** Steve P. Rados, Inc.

**Project Sponsor:** Jeff Peel

**Project Manager:** Tony Ferencik

**General Foreman:** John Damiano

**Foremen:** Chris Boyer, Matt Sporleder,  
Clayton Proctor, Arturo Regalado, Robert Acosta,  
Mike Sporleder

**Job Began:** January 2007

**Job Scheduled to Finish:** March 3, 2008

**Crew:** 42

Our work includes:

- Installing 3,500 LF of welded steel pipe
- Installing 15,000 LF of reinforced concrete cylinder pipe (RCCP)
- Installing 10 blow-off and 10 C.A.V. manholes
- Installing 1 surge tank
- Installing crossover piping that connects Brushy Creek Pipeline 1 with Brushy Creek Pipeline 2.

**STATION 81+00 AT BRUSHY CREEK. WE STARTED BACK BY THE TWO SURGE TOWERS IN THE BACKGROUND AT STATION 41+30. WE CONTINUE TO DIG, LAY, AND BURY THE 78-INCH RCCP WATER LINE.**

## **UPPER NORTHWEST INTERCEPTOR SECTION 9 AND ASSOCIATED NEA PROJECTS**

**CITRUS HEIGHTS**

**General Contractor:** Steve P. Rados

**Project Sponsor:** Jim Pelletier

**Project Manager:** Tim Carter

**Superintendent:** Doug Bradshaw

**General Foreman:** Pat Falk

**Foreman:** Brian Amacher

**Job Began:** June 2007

**Job Scheduled to Finish:** July 2010

**Crew:** 20

As the general contractor, our goal is to provide our sub-contractors with all necessary labor, materials, and equipment for UNWI 9 & Associated NEA Projects. The work consists of installing approximately 14,818 lineal feet of 36-inch diameter interceptor for a sanitary sewer line, referred to as Upper Northwest Interceptor 9 (UNWI 9); approximately 13,531 lineal feet of 36-inch diameter interceptor for a sanitary sewer line, referred to as Northeast Area Relief Section 1 (NEA-1); and approximately 4,324 lineal feet of 24-inch diameter interceptor for a sanitary sewer line, referred to as Northeast Area Relief Section 2 (NEA-2). The work also includes construction of manholes, and connection of existing sewer services (local main lines or trunks, not home services).

Our two main sub-contractors are Anderson Drilling and Vadnais Corp. Anderson is providing "Big Stan" to drill all 41 vertical shafts, ranging in diameter from 15 feet to 21 feet, from 34 feet to 70 feet deep. Vadnais is providing all the horizontal micro-tunneling.



# THE SAFETY ZONE

## Be careful — and safe — during the holidays

In order to enjoy your holiday season with family and friends, it is important to be fire safe and think about these fire safety tips when planning your holiday schedule.

- Check all electrical cords, light strings and extension cords. Be sure they are not frayed, broken or cut. Check to see the plug is intact and prongs are straight.

- Do not use multiple plug adapters for lights and appliances. Remember to limit the number of lights you use to a safe minimum. This will not only be safer, but energy efficient as well.

- Do not use heat producing appliances near decorations and Christmas trees.

- Check all electrically operated

toys and appliances you give or get as gifts to be sure they are properly tagged with an Underwriters Lab (U.L. Approved) label.

- Check all outside lights and cords and be sure they are not frayed or broken. Do not use lights that are not approved for exterior/outside use when stringing outside lighting.

- Never use candles or an open flame in and around decorations or within 10 feet of your Christmas tree.

- Always utilize non-flammable

decorations when decorating your home. Many are available at local stores and should be marked "non-flammable" or "non-combustible."

- Homemade decorations are often the decorations of choice. This offers you the opportunity to ensure use of fire-safe materials when you purchase the items to make them.

- Keep all decorations away from candles or open flames, including the fireplace. Do not let decorations on your mantle hang over the fireplace opening.

## SR-22 DESIGN BUILD LEADS TO NATIONAL AWARD

We were proud to receive a letter from Rick Grebner, P.E., OCTA Program Manager, informing us that the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) was selected as a winner of the Design Build Institute of America's (DBIA) Owner of the Year award.

OCTA also received the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Orange County Engineering Council Project of the Year awards, in large part because of the success of the Granite-Myers-Rados Joint Venture SR-22 Design Build Project.

The Owner of the Year award is a prestigious national award and is a testament to the project's success. Though OCTA received the award, the success of this project lies with each individual, company and agency that teamed together to deliver this project.

## Meet Chile Alvarez

With 43 years in the construction industry, Rados General Foreman Matias "Chile" Alvarez is one of our most experienced and valued employees.

Starting in 1972 as a laborer, Chile has worked with all of the Rados brothers as he progressed to foreman, general foreman, and labor superintendent.

"I have enjoyed that," Chile says. "I've worked with Steve S., Wally, Steve A., and right now with Derek, who is Wally's son. It's too bad Chase, Steve S.'s son, is too young for me to work with. I don't think I'll make it that long. It's been nice to work with the entire family."

Born in Villa Alegre, in the Chilean wine region, Chile, who will be 63 in December, grew up on a small farm with his parents and siblings. He went to school in the big cities of Santiago and Talca. Chile immigrated to the United States in 1964. He attended Pasadena City College for half a semester, and then started working steadily.

Chile is working on the Huntington Beach Sewer Project, the Orange County Sanitation District plant, where he's been on and off for 4 1/2 years.

"My main hobby is work," says Chile, who lives with his wife, Renate, in Pasadena. They have two adult daughters.

"Work is a place you go every day and you enjoy it. It's fun to do something you love. I enjoy working with this company and I've been lucky they've let me work for them so long. It's a good atmosphere here; there are good people. I feel like I'm at home working with them.

"I go to Chile every year. I am grateful they let me go for a month or longer. Not every company will let you do this. I always have a place to come back to work."



**CHILE ALVAREZ**

## Heroic Rados employees save woman's life

**Q**uick thinking and even quicker action by several Rados employees on the SR-22 project in June saved a woman's life after she was trapped in a burning car.

The events unfolded one morning when Carpenter Foreman Cesar Zubiata and co-workers Francisco Herrera and Jorge Lopez were building forms on the west side of the freeway in Garden Grove. On the east side of the freeway they saw a car on fire.

"It was a small convert-

ible and there was a woman still in the car. She was screaming, dazed, and not trying to pull herself out of the car," says Zubiata. "She was in shock.

"There were several people around the car, but they couldn't get her out because of the flames."

Zubiata, Herrera, Lopez, and a few other crew members grabbed a fire extinguisher, hopped over the freeway divider, and raced to the car. They sprayed the woman first, then sprayed the immediate area to contain the fire.

"It was just enough so that we could get to her,"



**CESAR ZUBIATE**

Zubiata said. "We pulled her out from the top of the car and moved her away from the center of the freeway, where her car was.

"An off-duty paramedic happened to be there, and he took over. About 10 minutes later the car blew up."

As with most heroes, Zubiata didn't think about his own safety.

"It was like a rush," he said. "Instinct took over."

The woman, who was badly burned, survived.

"I don't feel like a hero," said Zubiata, who lives in Riverside with his wife and five children. "But I feel proud of what we did. We did something good for someone else. It's a good feeling."

## Sexual harassment training beneficial

In March 2007, 21 Steve P. Rados managers participated in a Sexual Harassment Prevention/Discrimination Awareness Training presented by Joanna L. Blake, an attorney with Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo, at the Courtyard Marriot in Rancho Cordova.

The program set forth the rights and responsibilities of employees and employers regarding sexual harassment. This training provided employees and employers with the tools necessary to limit liability and reduce sexual harassment in the workplace.

Sexual harassment is defined as:

- Unsolicited and unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal, physical or visual conduct of a sexual nature which is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of employment.
- Making unsolicited visual contact, leering, gestures, display of sexually suggestive pictures, cartoons, etc.
- Continuing to express sexual interest after being informed that the interest is unwelcome.
- Making reprisals, threats of reprisals, or implied threats of reprisal following a negative response.

Sexual harassment in employment is unlawful. Society has changed. What was once considered harmless

joking or teasing, or was ignored because "that's just the way things are," is no longer permitted. All employees must adhere to the new standards of behavior in the workplace.

Employees and employers should be aware not only of their rights and obligations under the sexual harassment laws, but also of the employers' obligations to prevent and halt sexual harassment in the workplace. All employees are covered and protected by the various sexual harassment laws - male or female.

"The sexual harassment training appeared to introduce more challenges into the workplace, as it calls for everyone in the company, as well as those with whom we interface, to be careful as to how we talk to and treat each other in the workplace," said Steve P. Rados Vice President Jack Oiknine.

"But, after listening to the three-hour presentation, I found it wonderful to have the company sponsor an event which in essence reminds us of one of the fundamental basics of human rights, which is to treat each other with respect in our work environment, just as we do it within our families and community.

We need to look at this as a way to make us better human beings."