



BUILDING SAFETY ALONG MULHOLLAND HIGHWAY

Rasmussen crews and city officials broke ground in June for Phase 3 of the Mulholland Scenic Corridor Improvements Project, which will extend safety and beautification efforts to match the rest of the stretch of highway as it crosses between the cities of Los Angeles and Calabasas.

As part of the project, Mulholland Highway will be widened to make way for an enhanced bike lane and landscaped sidewalks. This widening will require the construction of a double retaining wall next to adjacent properties located up on a slope above the

road. There will be an estimated 6,200 yards of dirt removal.

Landscaped medians will be added

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After 20 Years, MacDonald Retires from Company

The hallways of Rasmussen's corporate office are a little quieter these days.

After more than 20 years with the company, and months of slowly cutting back on his days spent at the office, Tim MacDonald officially retired.

He started with Rasmussen as manager of the Orange/Inland Valley Division in April 1997. His first project was the San Joaquin Marsh in Irvine. "We were the second place bidder and talked the first place bidder into withdrawing his bid," Tim said. "Great job."

After that, he moved on to lead the company as Vice President of Operations for the Los Angeles, Ventura and Antelope Valley divisions. In April 2000, he became the company's general manager and corporate vice president.

During his career in the construction industry, Tim served as president of the Southern California Contractors



Tim MacDonald

at Rasmussen was being able to work alongside two of his best friends, Dean and Charlie Rasmussen, for 17 years. "All the highs and lows we participated in together ... I will always cherish that period of time in my life," he said.

His best memories include the relationships he built with co-workers early on during his tenure at Rasmussen, among them Mike Aparicio, Jim

Association in 1983. He was given the SCCA's Lifetime Service Award in 2010, and the Al Atwood Safety Achievement Award in 2014.

Tim said the highlight of his career

Mede, Dave Hall and Mike Cherry.

Now, in his retirement, he says he doesn't have enough time to have any free time. He is keeping busy with five grandchildren, tending his vineyard, toying around with hot rods, some limited hunting, and visiting Balboa Island, Lake Arrowhead and Maui.

Even after six months away from the office, Tim said he still wakes up at 5 a.m. "I will always wake up when it rains and pace the floor worrying about projects," he said.

To the new and future employees just starting out at Rasmussen, Tim encourages them to enjoy the challenges and rigors of the construction industry.

"Be fair and honest with your fellow employees and treat them with respect," he said. "Be forever safe and put all you can into your 401K. Life is a long time. Be thankful that you work for such a fine firm."

President's Message

Safety, QUALITY, and Service



For decades, these three words have been the mantra of each employee at C. A. Rasmussen, Inc. Whether you're running a piece of equipment or refilling a paper tray in the copy room, you've probably heard the phrase so many times you could say it in your sleep.

But how often do each of us really stop and consider what it means, and why we say it?

Safety is first, as always. It is the top priority of every position at every jobsite in the company. I

know for me, personally, I sleep better at night knowing we do everything in our power to ensure that each of our employees leaves work at the end of the day with the same number of fingers and toes that they arrived with. No matter the cost, we take every precaution to make sure we are providing the safest working environment possible.

Let's jump to service. It seems easy enough. We show up to work every day, with an assigned job or list of tasks to accomplish. We do our jobs, and we do them with a customer in mind. Whether it's a homebuilder or a city's public works inspector, we have someone we answer to.

One of the best things I hear about our company is how easy we are to work with. From our superintendents to our contract administrators, we excel in providing the highest level of service in the industry. Sub-contractors look forward to working with us. Public officials are relieved when they hear that we are the low bidder. It's something that always gives me a great sense of pride.

While safety and service are easy to put into action, sometimes the concept of quality can be left behind. Too often, we let outside factors get in the way of doing the best quality work we can. We've all been there. Our lives are hectic. We have families we want to get home to, kids' games to coach, bills to worry about, and appointments to keep. When we get to work in the morning, and do the same job day-in and day-out, sometimes it's easy to switch on auto-pilot and go through the motions. We slip into the habit of just showing up and getting the job done, without pausing to consider whether we're really giving our best effort.

The fact of the matter is, once the quality of our work starts to suffer, the level of service we pledge to provide and the high safety standards we strive to maintain will each begin to slip and slide. Without quality, accidents will happen. Without quality, our service will decline.

I'd like to challenge each of us – no matter your position in this company, and myself included – to begin every day by asking yourself how you are going to do the best quality work you can that day. And at the end of each day, when you get into your truck or car to head home, take just a minute to think about whether you delivered on that.

If we all take a little more care and give a little more effort, we can turn Safety, Quality, Service into more than just a slogan; it will be a way of doing business that sets us apart from the rest.

Did you hear!!?

- Congratulations to **Paul Biere**, who will be retiring in July after 37 years of working for Rasmussen.
- In a round of musical office chairs, **Danielle Tellez** is our new Estimating Coordinator, and **Stacey Klein** has moved into the role of Marketing Assistant and Recruitment Coordinator, as well as Charlie's assistant. **Lorna Black**, is the new receptionist.
- Welcome new hires **Jill Glover**, **Leslie Andreev**, **Maryann Francia** and **Daisie Armstrong** to the Accounting and Payroll departments. Field operations gained new project engineers **Thomas Tan**, **Mario Ortega** and **Alec Wiczorek**. **Ken Schaefer** has joined us as our new dispatcher. Last but not least, **Jeremy Francis** will be solving all of our computer and phone problems as our new I.T. Manager.
- Congratulations to **Brandon Medema**, **Alejandro Lozano**, **Armando Gonzalez** and **Roberto Alvarado**, who have been promoted to project foremen, as well as **Eric Peterson**, who is now a Project Manager. **Gregorio Alvarado** was promoted to concrete superintendent.
- **Mollie Sorenson**, daughter of **Skip Sorenson**, will be spending her summer vacation helping part-time around the office.
- **C. A. Rasmussen, Inc.** is now on Facebook! Find our page and like us to see the latest company news. While you're at it, you can also follow us on Instagram. Search for us **@ca_rasmussen**

Got news to share? E-mail it to:
sklein@carasmussen.com

Rasmussen's Big 5-0



Friends, family and employees of C. A. Rasmussen, Inc. celebrated 50 years of business with a Vegas-themed bash at the Hyatt Valencia. (Above) A surprise guest, impersonating Frank Sinatra, gave Charlie a good roasting while dinner guests enjoyed the show. (Left) Charlie, Carrie, Adam, and Taylor Rasmussen joined family and employees as they took a spin on the dance floor. (Below, left) Dick Greenberg, Skip and Carrie Sorenson, and Bryan and Rhonda Featherstone tried their hand at a game of black-jack. (Below, right) Charlie and Patti Rasmussen wait to blow out the candles on the company's 50th Anniversary cake.



Agoura Road Widening Underway

Work has been progressing for about six months on a project that will widen Agoura Road from two lanes to four lanes.

The improvements will cover two miles of roadway, and will also include new street lighting, a new 8-inch water line, stamped concrete, flagstone sidewalk, retaining walls, soil nail walls and the widening of a bridge over a creek.

Rasmussen began the project in January for the city of Agoura Hills, and although under contract the completion is scheduled for March 2016, Project Manager Jesus Garcia said with

current delays that date has been extended to May 2016.

No staging plans were

provided by the agency, so Rasmussen had to develop its own, Jesus said. Coordination of relocating 15 oak trees and working through existing utilities has been a challenge.

Additionally, utility relocation has the potential for delaying the project, he said.

The project is the first for new project engineer Alec Wiczorek, who joined Rasmussen in December 2014.

Subcontractors include Blois Construction for storm drain; R-Help Construction for water line work and relocations;

Flatiron Electric Group for the new street light system and traffic signal; and Drill Tech Drilling is installing the soil nail walls.

BY THE NUMBERS

2 MILES	Roadway Improvements
20,000 TN	Combined HMA & ARHM
46,000 SF	Sidewalk
22,000 LF	Concrete Curbs
36,000 TN	Class 2 Base

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to divide traffic on Mulholland, and will match the previous phases of improvements.

While the highway is being widening, the actual lanes of traffic will be narrowed for traffic calming measures. Project Manager Eric Peterson said this will be the first phase of the project.

During construction, traffic will be routed to one side of Mulholland while work is done on the shoulder. The median, retaining walls and south side of the street will be done first, then traffic will be switched and work will begin on the north side of the road.

The sidewalk expansion and traffic calming measures are expected to improve safety for students walking and being dropped off at a nearby middle school.

The project also includes the installation of an urban biogreen filter, which collects storm water runoff and filters it for contaminants before going into the storm drain and flowing into the ocean.

The \$3 million contract will take eight months to complete, and is also the first job for Rasmussen's Brandon Medema as a project foreman. Subcontractors include C&W Construction Speciality, LA Steel Services, Pinnacle Land Survey, Sierra Landscape, Southwest V Ditch, Steiny and Co., and Superior Pavement Markings.



Employee Spotlight

1. How long have you worked at

C. A. Rasmussen? Two years.

2. What project are you currently working on? The "monster project" – Job 1232, Route 126/Commerce Center Dr.

3. What is your relationship status? Happily married!

4. How old were you when you had your first beer? 10 years old – I thought it was ginger ale...

5. What do you like to do on weekends? Golf, hike or catch up on my shows on Netflix.

6. Do you have any nicknames? Gracie. My husband gave me the nickname of panda-bear.

7. Do you have any tattoos? Yes, I have 3.

8. What has been your most challenging project working at Rasmussen? (laughs) The "monster project" – Job 1232, Route 126/Commerce Center Dr.

9. What is your favorite word? "Totes." That is in the hipster dictionary, I think?

10. Where were you born? Santa Clara, Calif.

11. Do you have any pets? I have a mini wiener dog named Tommy, and we informally adopted a squirrel who hangs out in my backyard. Its name is Biggie Smalls.

12. Name one thing on your bucket list. Go sand boarding at Dubai.

13. Who is going to win the Super Bowl this season? The 49ers

14. What are your favorite TV shows?

20 Questions with:

Grace Fry



"Penny Dreadful" and "True Detective"

15. What is your best memory of working at Rasmussen? The birthday parties.

16. If you didn't work in this industry, what would you do instead? Probably aerospace engineering or mechanical engineering.

17. What is your favorite food? Anything spicy!

18. Which is your favorite animal in the zoo? The panda.

19. When was the last time you rode the bus? Three years ago, when my family and I were going to Hong Kong Disneyland

20. Which Rasmussen employee would you like to see in the next spotlight?

Jesus Garcia.

SAFETY CORNER

with Joe Mack



We would like to remind our employees to take special precautions to avoid heat-related illness when working outdoors in hot weather. People suffer heat-related illness when their bodies are unable to regulate internal body temperature. In hot weather, the body normally cools itself by sweating. However, under some conditions, sweating isn't enough. Such conditions include high humidity, areas where air movement is limited, working in the direct sun, heavy physical exertion and poor physical condition. Some medical conditions and medications can also reduce the body's ability to tolerate heat. Still, heat-related illness is preventable by following these guidelines when working outdoors in hot weather:

⊗ Drink small amounts of cool water frequently, regardless of your activity level. Drink throughout the day.

⊗ Replace salt and minerals. A sports beverage can replace

the salt and minerals you lose in sweat.

⊗ Wear appropriate clothing. Choose lightweight, light-colored, loose-fitting clothing.

⊗ Your hard hat can help

protect you from the sun. (Tinted Safety Glasses and sunscreen—SPF 15 or higher—are also recommended.)

⊗ Pace yourself. Start slowly

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and pick up the pace gradually.

☼ Be aware of and monitor yourself for the signs and symptoms of heat-related illness, as listed below.

☼ Take time to cool down. If needed, rest in shady areas. A few minutes in air conditioning can help you stay cooler later in the heat.

☼ Use a buddy system. When working in the heat, monitor the condition of your coworkers and have someone do the same for you.

☼ Monitor those at high risk. Some people are at greater risk than others,

including people who are overweight, people who overexert themselves, and people with heart disease or high blood pressure, or who take certain medications.

☼ Take time to acclimate to heat and humidity. A sudden heat wave is stressful to your body. You will have a greater tolerance for heat if you ramp up physical activity until you become accustomed to it.

Signs and symptoms of heat-related illness include headache, dizziness, light-headedness, fainting, weakness, mood change,

mental confusion, upset stomach or vomiting. An employee experiencing the above symptoms should receive medical assistance as soon as possible. Contact Joe Mack if you have any questions.

Job sites need to address heat stress in their daily JHA by including Heat Illness response procedures appropriate to their location. Foremen are to provide heat stress training for these employees. For any assistance, please contact Joe Mack.

jmack@carasmussen.com

2015 COMPANY CALENDAR

Monday, September 7

Labor Day

Wednesday, November 11

**Veteran's Day – Holiday
Field & Office Closed**

Thursday, November 26

Thanksgiving Day

Friday, November 27

Day after Thanksgiving Day

Saturday, December 5

Operating Engineers Holiday

Thursday, December 24

Floating Holiday

Friday, December 25

Christmas Holiday