



# RGW Construction, Inc.



North bridge – 2,100 cy bottom deck and stem pour.

## Jumping Alamo Creek in the San Ramon Valley

**R**eal estate developer Shapell Homes is a prominent influence in the design and growth of the East Bay's verdant San Ramon Valley.

Its Gale Ranch is a four-phase master-planned community, still under development, of 5,800+ homes on land east of

Interstate 680 and just north of Interstate 580. To facilitate Phase Four, Shapell needed to improve and extend existing Dougherty Road, running north and south off Bollinger Canyon Road, into the community.

To do that, Shapell put up for bid a job to construct two concrete box girder bridges, 3.5 miles

apart along the Dougherty Road extension, to jump Alamo Creek, a perennial tributary of Arroyo de la Laguna that ultimately flows to South San Francisco Bay.

In early spring 2006, Shapell awarded the \$14.2 million contract to RGW Construction, Inc. The south bridge, the first to be built, broke ground in April 2006, and was completed

over the first construction season. Construction on the north bridge began in earnest in July 2007, with an expected completion date of September 2008.

Joining Project Manager Mike Betti on the Gale Ranch North and South Dougherty Bridges job are Dave Kennedy, operations manager, and Pete Caputo,

**CONTINUED INSIDE**

**INSIDE**

RGW TOP CONTRACTOR  
NEW EMPLOYEES

ANNIVERSARIES  
PROMOTIONS

EMPLOYEE PROFILES  
SAFETY

# Jumping Alamo Creek

**CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE** structures supervisor. During the high construction season, the crew numbers about 30, including carpenters, laborers, and operating engineers.

"The contract is a pure bridge contract," says Project Manager Mike Betti. The south bridge, which spans the lower main branch of Alamo Creek, is 295 feet long and 123 feet wide, and the north bridge is 310 feet long by 130 feet wide.

Both bridges are box girder bridges; the south bridge has two column bent rows to make the jump, whereas the north bridge has only one center column bent. The founda-



**South bridge – 1,800 cy bottom deck and stem pour.**

tions are CIDH pile; Malcolm Drilling is the sub. The abutments are driven pile; Stroer and Graf is the sub.

The south bridge calls for 3170 cubic yards of bridge structure concrete, and 175 cubic yards of structure concrete for footings, columns, and abutments. The north bridge calls for 3,801 cubic yards of bridge structure concrete, and 242 cubic yards of structure concrete for footings, columns, and abutments.

Each bridge provides three lanes northbound and three lanes southbound, an eight-foot bike lane northbound and southbound, a five- to eight-foot sidewalk northbound and southbound, and a 16-foot low, decorative median.

#### **A RACE AGAINST TIME**

To perform foundation work in the creek, the RGW team had to divert the creek during the summer months.

"We have from April 15 to October 15 of every

season to get in and get out; that's all that Fish and Game allows us," says Mike. "So, we're in a race with time each season to do the work we need to do to build a nice big flat level pad for our foundation, then build the columns that get us up into the air before we have to fill the creek back in."

The actual bridge work is performed during the winter.

RGW plumbed a diversion pipeline, dammed up Alamo Creek, then pumped the water through eight-inch buried PVC from the uphill dam site to a downhill dam site roughly 700 feet downstream, where it flowed back into the creek.

"We were pumping 6,000 gallons per minute at the south bridge, and 8,000 gallons per minute at the north bridge," says Mike.

**CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE**

## YOUR WORD IS EVERYTHING

**By Bill Stewart  
President**

**Y**ou are born with your reputation and integrity intact. It takes but a second to compromise your integrity and to tarnish your reputation.

Trust that is lost can never be regained. RGW prides itself on an unwavering commitment to integrity at all levels of the organization. Your word is your bond.

Our partners in construction should view RGW's commitment as "money in the bank." When you give your word, honor it. When you make an agreement, abide by it. When faced with adversity, persevere. Do not be afraid to ask for help.

Enhance the trust we have given you. You are a part of RGW.



# RGW named Contractor of the Month

**F**amily orientation, partnership with local unions, flexibility, commitment to quality work and timeliness of that work — all of these were reasons The Operating Engineers Union Local 3 chose RGW as District 3 Contractor of the Month for February.

*Engineer News*, the union's publication, wrote a short story highlighting our Highway 99/Grant Line Road project and interviewed RGW Mechanic Seth Bolyard, who described RGW as "a great company to work for, real family oriented."

## Jumping Alamo Creek in the San Ramon Valley

### CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Though crews wouldn't begin work on the north bridge columns or box girder until the second season, "Once we diverted the creek and began work on the south bridge in April 2006, we put in foundations for both bridges because it was the most efficient way to build," says Mike.

By October 15, 2006, when the creek was reconfigured for the winter, both foundations had been poured, and work began on the south bridge. Work on the north bridge began nine months later in July 2007.

### THE BIG POUR

The Big Pour was two weeks in the planning, and quite an accomplishment, demonstrating both efficiency and teamwork. Crews completed a 2,100-cubic yard pour of the north bridge's bottom deck in one 10-hour day.

"We have great relationships with our vendors, and particularly our concrete supplier, Central Concrete, who basically shut down and supplied us with that volume and one of their plants for the entire day," Mike says.

"We used three pumps on site constantly pouring



**Welded steel pipeline installed by RGW underground crews.**

with three place-in crews, one for each pump. One was a 61-meter pump, and we had close to 40 people working that day. It was quite an achievement for all of us, and a great example of our abilities and how well we're all working together."

**Center span falsework over creek.**



# RGW On Location

## Easterly Waste Water Treatment Plant

### Elmira

**Owner:** City of Vacaville

**Area Manager:** Steve Haslam

**Project Manager:** Philip Bertsch

**Superintendent:** Robert Nelson

**Office Manager:** Karen Cesar

**Job Cost Manager:** Jody Vegas

**Start Date:** August 2006

**Contract Duration:** 365 working days

**End Date:** March 2008

This job involved mass grading of 44 acres, construction of new sludge-drying beds, modifications to existing bypass storage ponds, and installation of a lined biosolid storage lagoon.

It also included general site underground, parking lot grading and paving, and relocation of owner equipment, including hypochlorite storage tanks and a belt sludge press.

Process underground and piping included a 48-inch raw sewage line and a 36-inch primary effluent line, and the installation of a new potable water well and rehabilitation of the existing well.

Also included was the construction of an effluent diversion box with automated gate controls for plant effluent permit compliance. Work at the influent area included new concrete, PVC lining, and aluminum odor covers, while allowing the continuous flow of sewage.

Working on and around the operational facilities required special coordination efforts and planning to make certain that plant flow would not be interrupted at any time. This required multiple night shifts for work at the inlet and effluent connections. The 48-inch RS line required solid shoring for the 23-foot excavation,

de-watering, and dozens of utilities that had to be kept in service.

The last major contractor working at this plant was terminated prior to completion of their \$50 million contract. The remaining uncompleted work items and "punch list" items, along with several new work items, were incorporated into our contract.

## Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory Outer Loop Road Reconfiguration

### Livermore

**Owner:** Lawrence Livermore National Security, LLC

**Area Manager:** Bill Moody

**Project Manager:** Glenn Holsopple

**Foreman:** Sam Parsa

**Office Manager:** Michele Martinez

**Job Cost Manager:** Joanne Lim

**Start Date:** September 2007

**Contract Duration:** 120 working days

**End Date:** April 2008

This job involves demolition, grading, drainage, concrete, paving, and landscaping work surrounding the new National Ignition Facility.

All aspects of the work are performed under the strict security and safety guidelines of the National Ignition Facility. Each activity requires extensive planning and notification due to the NIF work permit process.

In addition, the National Ignition Facility is under construction and construction activities are ongoing 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, requiring RGW's project team to plan, coordinate and execute the work in a highly efficient manner. Excellent communication with the owner and other trades on the project contributed to the success of this project.

## Employee News

### Anniversaries

#### 20 YEARS

**Bill Stewart**, January 18, 1988

#### 15 YEARS

**Billy Edwards**, February 3, 1993

### Promotions

**Jeff Miller**, from Mechanic to Shop Foreman.

### New employees

**Kristopher Varanelli**, Project Engineer; **Ric Basubas**, Project Engineer; **Jay Hover**, South Bay Salesman.

## Randy Wulbern retires

**R**andy Wulbern, retired March 4 as a Shop Mechanic. He joined us in 1994.

"RGW was the best place I ever worked," Randy said from his home in El Cerrito. "The way they treat their people; they have a lot of respect

for people. They always have a caring heart."

Randy, 59, spent 40 years as a mechanic.

Randy's retirement plans include restoring a 1970 Plymouth Barracuda. He'll also have more time for two other passions — trout fishing and riding his motorcycle.



# Employee News

## Meet Fraser Bradford

**B**orn in Toronto, Canada, as his parents were “passing through,” Fraser Bradford, RGW Project Manager of Wastewater Treatment Projects, was raised in California, spending his early years in Southern California, and his young adult years in Orinda.

Today, away from the hustle and bustle of city life, Fraser lives with his wife, Diane, on a ranch in the hills of Byron, in what he calls “splendid isolation.”

Currently Project Manager on the Deuel Vocational Institution Waste Water Treatment Plant project in Tracy, Fraser is managing a rapidly growing team, numbering five in the office and “jumping to a couple

dozen out in the field,” he says.

He’s been around construction his whole life.

“I’ve been doing this ever since I can remember, helping my dad, who was in the business, with water and wastewater plant construction,” Fraser says. After serving in the military, Fraser attended San Jose State University, graduated with a degree in civil engineering, and registered as a professional engineer.

He worked steadily doing plant work for several companies, including a family business, before making his way to RGW Construction.

“I knew RGW as a road builder and structures company,” says Fraser. “Through the grapevine, I heard they’d opened a



**Fraser Bradford**

division doing plant work, and that’s what I do. It’s a great company and an attractive location, so I called them up and introduced myself. I was given the opportunity to work for them, and I’ve been with RGW now since January 2006.”

A good plant guy is a jack-of-all-trades, says Fras-

er, whose work involves heavy civil construction and draws on his solid knowledge of equipment and mechanisms used in the wastewater industry.

“There’s great variety and challenge with each job — I like that,” he says, adding that he enjoys being in the field more than behind a desk. “I’ve been able to see a lot of the state, a lot of towns — I’ve met a lot of people and made friends in lots of locations.”

Back on the ranch in Byron, Fraser and Diane reared three children — two daughters and one son — now in their 20s. Over the years, the ranch has also been home to a host of two- and four-legged animals including horses, sheep, pigs, and turkeys.

“Noah had nothing on us!” says Fraser.

## Meet Jose Ortiz

**J**ose Ortiz has been an RGW Labor Foreman for all but two years of his 16-year career with RGW.

Jose started with us on April 1, 1992.

“I just asked them if they needed help, they said yes, and I ended up working for them,” says Jose, who supervises our laborer force on a construction site; these crews prepare the work site, then supply our work force with the supplies and materials they need each day. It’s an essential part of our operation.

“I like that every day is different,” says Jose. “It’s a constant change. I stay active, mentally and physically, which is good.”

Jose, 47, was born in Zacatecas, Mexico, and moved to California in 1960, when he was an infant. He was reared in San Jose. He served six years in the U.S. Army, and afterward worked various jobs and ended up in the construction industry.

You can find Jose on the North Dougherty Bridge job in San Ramon, where he is supervising three laborers. He’s been on this job since June 2007; it’s scheduled to be completed this year.

“I’ve enjoyed all of the jobs,” Jose says, “but the Highway 87 job in San Jose was particularly enjoyable, partly because it was close to home.”

Jose has three grown children and lives in San Jose.



**Jose Ortiz**

# Safety Update

## Make a renewed commitment to safety

**A**s we get ready to embark on another construction season it is a good time to thank all the RGW employees for their efforts this past year for working safely.

Our business can be dangerous if one does not pay attention to detail, plan out the work, and ensure that everyone is on board with the safety program. Each of us values the commitment of our people and of our ownership to ensuring a safe project environment to work in.

For last year, all of us should be congratulated for a safety job well done! With the start-up of a new season, a lot of new faces will be coming on board to join our crews to build all the work we have in front of us. With new faces come new challenges and a renewed effort to show the new employees the RGW "safe way" to work.

Not all companies are as diligent about the rules or as concerned about the employees as RGW is. So, when you get the new people joining your crew, help them understand the importance of safety, the importance RGW places on safety, and the importance each employee should place on safety.

Making the commitment to safety and ensuring that every person on the crew is doing everything possible to work safely will guarantee another successful safety year.

Each RGW employee is responsible for not only their own safe working practices, but for those around them. RGW's

safety department stands ready to help with the expertise and knowledge of the "safe way" to work. Employees are encouraged to use this valuable resource every day they are working.



550 Greenville Road  
Livermore, CA 94550-9235  
P.O. Box 2910  
Livermore, CA 94551-2910

RGW  
CONSTRUCTION