

# BARTON SHIVELY

MATT Construction

Vice President

#### When did you decide to make your career in the construction business?

Growing up in the Midwest, where agriculture or the automotive industry were the usual career choices, I chose to follow a long-standing interest in building. I attended Purdue University in Indiana, where I intended to pursue a degree in Construction Management. At the urging of a professor, I obtained his degree in Civil Engineering, and in the process found that I gained a broadly applicable framework for analyzing problems.

#### MATT Construction has been hired to build the new Sea Lion Cove exhibit at the Chaffee Zoo. What will the finished project look like, and when do you expect it to be completed?

We are so thrilled to be building this project — it is designed by the Portico Group, who have created some amazing, true-to-life habitats around the country. The Seal and Sea Lion Exhibit's concept is that visitors are immersed in a naturalistic setting mimicking the California Central Coast. Other exhibit features that provide a sensory experience include ambient audio and display of touchable sculptures. The exhibit can be experienced in a number of ways, including a face-to-face viewing window, an above-water viewing area to overlook the entire pool, a 36-foot long underwater viewing window, a shallow water encounter area and a large demonstration area with naturalistic seating. We project that the Zoo will open Sea Lion Cove to the public in Fall 2012.

#### What prompted you to open an office in Fresno?

Well, believe it or not it wasn't a strategic business decision. It was about people. We were introduced to a few people (such as Stevan Garcia) through a mutual friend and we felt that we shared a similar mind set about how to service clients. Because our approach to construction focuses on collaboration and communication we need special people who have both great technical hands on building skills and very strong interpersonal skills.

#### MATT Construction's "has built some of the most memorable buildings in the western states." What are some of them?

We have had the privilege of working with so many fantastic architects over the years. Our founder, Paul Matt, made a name for himself by building such iconic structures as the Salk Institute by Louis Kahn in San Diego, and the Forum in Inglewood. Over the years, MATT Construction has worked with such architects as I.M. Pei, Frank Gehry, Thom Mayne, Michael Maltzan, and countless others. In recent years, some of our most notable cultural projects include restoration of the famous Hollywood Bowl; two Renzo Piano-designed buildings at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art; multiple renovations and landscaping work at the Natural History Museum; the parking structure and several other elements of the Walt Disney Concert Hall; significant work at the Museum of Tolerance and the Children's Museum of Los Angeles; Inner City Arts, an award-winning charter school project in south Los Angeles; and the Colburn School of the Performing Arts. Last year we completed the Annenberg Center at Sunnylands, a landscape-heavy historic restoration project last year in Palm Springs, and we are currently working on the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts in Beverly Hills.

#### What do you hope to accomplish during your career with MATT Construction?

MATT's successful, often innovative, execution of challenging projects was a powerful attraction for me. I have been privileged to work on an intriguing and diverse portfolio of projects with motivated owners and fantastically talented architects. I hope to continue my career with these types of projects but perhaps more importantly I hope to continue the mantra of our company founders. Specifically, there is a place, or more strongly a need, in our industry for talented builders, honorable and well rounded people and great leaders.



#### What we do:

MATT Construction is a family- and employee owned General Contractor that has built some of California's most memorable cultural institutions. Projects include non-profit and civic work, museums, signature hotels, performing arts centers, plus various types of commercial and residential buildings, including Sea Lion Cove at Fresno's Chaffee Zoo.

#### Education:

B.S., Civil Engineering, Purdue University 1983  
Masters of Business Administration, California State 1999  
J.A. Jones, Inc. Leadership Decathlon IV

Age: 52

Family: Married with three children 20, 17 and 11

#### Do you think that President Obama's "jobs bill" will have an effect on your company, or the construction industry as a whole?

Part of the bill deals with construction projects as a means of putting Americans back to work. As with any legislation dealing with the creation of jobs, some of which will be in construction, there will be mixed results. MATT Construction has been fortunate in the past year to be in a position to put Californians back to work in spite of the sluggish economy. Regardless of what happens with public funding, it appears we will be able to continue supporting our Fresno families, and in some instances have been able to offer our Fresno subcontractors additional work outside of the community.

#### What do you like to do in your spare time?

My wife and I have three active children and we spend much of our time with their school and sports activities. Family vacations normally involve outdoor activities such as water sports, camping, and snow sports. I personally enjoy golfing, hunting and fishing when time allows.