

OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL UNION NO. 3

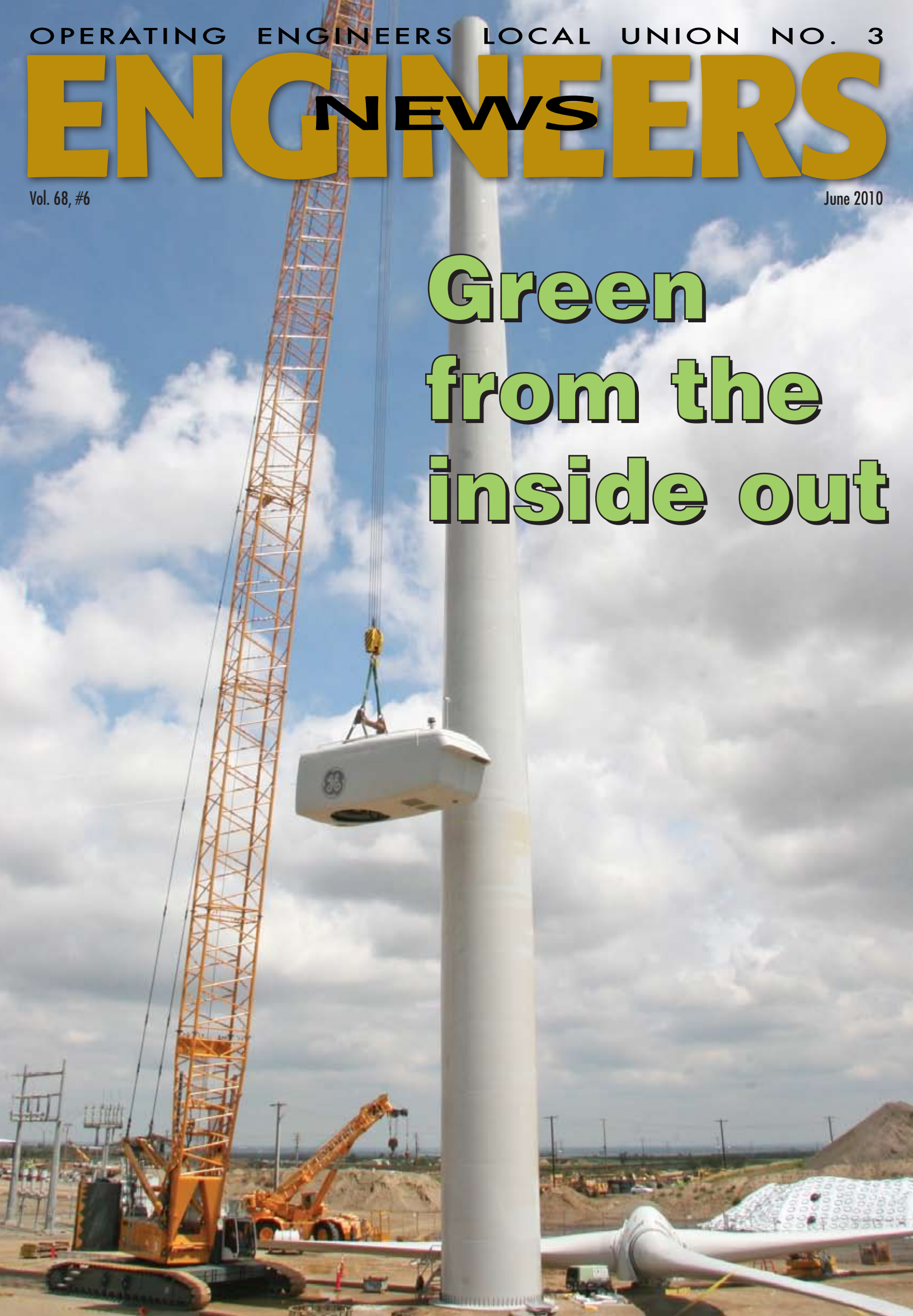
# ENGINEERS

NEWS

Vol. 68, #6

June 2010

Green  
from the  
inside out





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### Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3

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Engineers News (ISSN 1069-2185) is published monthly by Local 3 of the International Union of Operating Engineers, AFL-CIO; 1620 South Loop Rd., Alameda, CA 94502. Periodical postage paid at Alameda, CA and additional mailing offices. Engineers News is sent without charge to all members of Operating Engineers Local 3 in good standing. Non-member subscription price is \$6 per year. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Address Change, 1620 South Loop Rd., Alameda, CA 94502.



## For The Good & Welfare

By Russ Burns, business manager

# Stand together

By now, everyone knows the Health Care Reform Bill passed, and while we certainly haven't grasped all 2,600 pages of it, our California plan consultant, the Segal Company, has been given the task of poring over that doorjamb of a document and specifically pinpointing its impact to our Health and Welfare Fund.

As President Fred Herschbach mentions in his column this month, we do know certain aspects of the plan will negatively affect us, but other aspects will help us, such as aid for seniors' prescription-drug purchases and free preventive care. We plan to publish an in-depth article in an upcoming *Engineers News* on health-care reform and you. So stay tuned.

I realize that health care is a sore subject right now. Due to the drop in work hours, we had to make some painful changes to our Health and Welfare Plan. I want to break those numbers down: During our industry's full employment years in the early 2000s, we were working between 32 million and 39 million hours a year. In 2009, we worked less than 27 million hours, meaning we were about 11 million hours short of past peak seasons. The drop in work hours directly affected the contributions to the fund and created a critical shortage that had to be addressed immediately. None of your officers and trustees who serve on the Trust Fund wanted to increase health-care costs to the membership. However, as your representatives, it is our responsibility to do what it takes to make sure our Health and Welfare Fund remains solvent. We know that the increases couldn't have come at a worse time for our membership, due to the lack of work, but unfortunately, it is that same lack of work that created this crisis. We had no choice. The costs for health care continue to climb, and the trustees must address these issues as they arise. With that said, we still have an incredible health plan at a time when most companies are losing theirs. Because the trustees acted swiftly, our fund is more solvent now, and when times are not so lean, we may be able to go back and take a look at making some positive changes.

Speaking of changes, our Pension fund has and will have to undergo more changes too, since, just as with our Health and Welfare, our Pension lost approximately \$1 billion in 2008. In 2009, we pulled off a 10.76 percent return, or a \$300 million increase, but that is a drop in the bucket. You should have all received a letter from the Trust Fund explaining these changes in detail. Please don't hesitate to give those folks a call with any questions you may have. And of course, my door is also open.

At the backdrop of this bad news, we are in the thick of our Master Agreement negotiations. You may have been

approached by your employers about our agreement, and let me be clear: We are your bargaining reps. Employers *should not* be discussing these issues with you. If at any time during the course of negotiations you have questions or concerns, please go straight to the source and call your business rep. We also have a Master Agreement hotline you can call at (888) 870-6888 with current updates on events related to these negotiations and you. Stay tuned to the *Engineers News*, as well.

We gave the employers a fair proposal based on the increases we have seen some of the other construction trades receive from them. At the time of this writing, the employers are proposing a significant reduction to our current wage rates. We know these are tough times and that we need to work together with our contractors to weather this storm. We have always worked with our employers as partners for the benefit of our industry. Of course we want our employers to do well – they provide the jobs that put food on our tables. But, in return, we provide them with a highly skilled work force. Make no mistake, unskilled workers cost employers an enormous amount of money. All indications are that the economy is slowly starting to turn around. I know some of you have heard rumors that the employers are requesting a wage freeze. While a freeze may sound reasonable due to the current economic picture and may seem like no change, it actually equates to a *reduction*. Keep in mind that there will be no freeze in the cost of health and welfare and no freeze in the cost of our Pension.

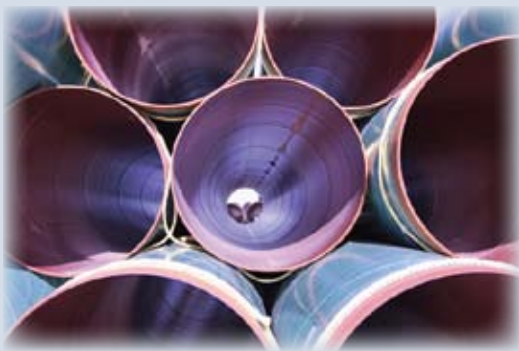
Also keep in mind that in 2002-2010, we negotiated a \$12.69 total increase over eight years. Well, \$8.33 of that paid for fringes, leaving about 54 cents in our pockets. Not much of a raise after all the deduction, right? Remember, other crafts have gotten increases. All we want is a fair proposal! The employers need to come to the table with a contract that is fair and reasonable. We will not settle for a backwards deal.

I'm asking you, brothers and sisters, to stand together on this. Now is truly where the rubber meets the road. Now is where the talk of union becomes an action. Many of you have attended Fair Industry Strike Training (FIST) events or signed an authorization card or petition. These contractors can hear a rumbling of our movement gaining strength as we truly mobilize to protect what we have. We cannot afford less. Let that be known.

Now more than ever it is important to stay in touch with your hall. Keep the communication open. Be ready to walk the walk with one another. We need to stand together.



## Can you tell what this is?



Spring has sprung, and everyone's buzzing about the Ruby Pipeline project scheduled to start this summer. It might look like a spring flower, but what this photograph actually shows is some of the 675 miles of 42-inch pipe at a staging area in Utah.

## Pipeline project creates buzz

Obviously, we're excited about the 675-mile Ruby Pipeline project that will run through Utah and northeastern Nevada and put at least 500 Local 3 members to work this summer. But local newspapers and TV stations seem to be too, as they recently featured the project and its upcoming start date.

*Northern Nevada Business Weekly* ran a story on the job along with comments from Local 3 District Rep. Steve Ingersoll.

"It's a huge boost to the Operating Engineers here and throughout our jurisdiction," he told the magazine. "It's probably four months worth of steady, high-dollar wages and good hours. It will be huge."

Utah's *Deseret News* also covered the \$3 billion project, which will cross Elko, Humboldt and Washoe counties in Nevada and Rich, Cache and Box Elder counties in Utah. The project involves laying 42-inch, natural-gas transmission pipeline and building four compressor stations, including one south of Curlew Junction, Utah and two in Nevada – one north of Elko and another near Winnemucca.

You're sure to see information on the project here too, as *Engineers News* tracks its progress.

## Building Women Exploration Fair a success

District 11's Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC) Administrator Greg Smith also earned airtime recently as KTVN Channel 2 News covered the sixth annual Building Women Exploration Fair in Reno. Smith told the TV station that more women are joining the construction industry every year. Many women attended the event to learn about joining Local 3 and building bridges to a new career.

If you're interested in joining Operating Engineers or know someone who is, please call the JAC office in Nevada at (775) 575-2729, in Utah at (801) 596-7785, in Hawaii at (808) 847-5523 or in California at (916) 354-2029 or visit us online at [www.oe3.org](http://www.oe3.org).

## Talking Points

By Fred Herschbach, president



## The price of health is high

I would like to thank the members who have taken the time to write in with their comments about the local's Health and Welfare. One in particular is 32-year member Kent Angel. He e-mailed me and explained that after all those years: "We sell a little bit of our bodies each day." That is so true, Kent. Thanks for your insight. He continued: "We may be skilled craftsmen, but we are human first. The greatest compliment is to be called a good hand, but more importantly, a good human being."

The jobs that we have can be dangerous. Last year, I attended seven funeral services for OE3 brothers and sisters who were killed on the job. They paid the ultimate price. Each day, whatever our jobs may be, we don't think we will be injured or never come home again. We want to work and take care of our families, so we keep our noses to the grindstone and carry on without fear, because we have to.

Yet, currently, we are in negotiations with just about every major contractor in the local, and both sides are posturing and accusing each other of this and that. Eventually we will come to a conclusion, but in between all the back-and-forth, our members sell a little bit of their bodies each day to the job, and the question becomes: What price is right in exchange for health? At the end of a career as a hand, when our backs, knees, shoulders, etc. don't work like they used to, all we're asking for is eight hours of pay for eight hours of work in a safe environment. Is it too much to ask to be able to go home at night and take care of our families?

We choose this career because we're different from other people. We like being outside, playing in the dirt, erecting buildings, paving roads, repairing equipment and protecting citizens from the bad guys, etc. Yet, in performing these tasks, injuries and accidents happen, so if you are on the job and an injury takes place, don't brush it off. Inform the right people and take care of it, because it may sneak up later and get you.

Regarding health, we have had some meetings about this new health-care law that went into effect in April. It's going to cost the Trust Fund some money in the near-term. The Fund will bear the burden for five to eight years, as the changes of the plan are slowly implemented (meaning more per hour from our back pockets). A few things that will increase our cost include the no-lifetime cap (currently it's at \$1 million) and dependents up to 26 years of age must be covered (currently, dependents with nine school credits up to 24 years of age are covered). The particulars are still being worked out, however, in the long-term, the health-care law should lessen the burden on our Trust Fund. Stay tuned as more information becomes available. We are learning more each day and will keep you informed.

Now, in terms of good character, I've had members ask me if I could mention something in my article about working conditions. When I was out in the field, I literally ate my share of dirt, asbestos, fiberglass, sand and anything airborne – we all do in this business. One year, when I was working for Don Tucker and Sons, Don purchased a brand-new 973 Track Loader with a cab. I thought I had died and gone to heaven. It extended my career several years. No dust. Clean cab. It took a few days to get used to the reflections the glass made, but I never realized the difference the cab made on my body. Contractors seem to be going the way of cabs, and it's a nice way. So, can we keep it that way? Not everyone operates the same machine every day, so let's have some respect for each other. If you smoke or chew, think of the next operator. Clean the cab after each day. It's not your cab, and you shouldn't treat it as such, especially since most cost anywhere from \$25,000 to \$40,000. Let's do what we need to do to make it better for the next operator. And remember: It's important to be a good hand, but it's even more important to be a good human being.

Thanks. Stay safe.

# OE3 FINANCIAL REPORTS

Our nation's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) grew 3.2 percent in the first quarter of 2010. During the quarter, consumer spending, which accounts for two-thirds of our nation's economic activity, increased 3.6 percent, the fastest quarterly rise in more than three years. Personal spending rose 0.6 percent, the largest increase in five months, and personal income gained 0.3 percent. Even activity in the beleaguered construction industry rose 0.2 percent. The first quarter GDP increase, though slower than the 5.6 percent rate registered in the fourth quarter of 2009, marked the third consecutive quarter of growth and provided many encouraging signs that the economy continues to recover. Unfortunately, moderate growth is still not sufficient to bring down unemployment from its stubbornly high levels in the near term. During economic recoveries, growth of 5 percent to 6 percent is needed to create meaningful job gains and decrease the unemployment rate. Nevertheless, the economy is headed in the right direction.

New job creation has begun in many sectors, including manufacturing and retail, but continues to be a huge challenge in the construction industry. Nationwide, the March 2010 unemployment rate was 10.2 percent, up slightly from December's 10.0 percent rate, proving that growth in the economy does not always translate into lower unemployment. Nevada's and California's unemployment rates ranked second and third nationwide at 13.6 percent and 13.0 percent, respectively, trailing only Michigan at 14.9 percent. Utah's rate rose slightly to 7.4 percent. Hawaii's rate continued to

show improvement, falling for the third consecutive quarter to 6.8 percent as of March 2010. Still, 162,000 jobs were added nationwide in March, the most in three years.

During the first three months of 2010, Local 3's membership decreased approximately 1.2 percent, with 464 fewer members than at the start of the year.

Financially, Local 3 got off to a slow start in 2010, with first quarter receipts down \$600,000 (8.3 percent) from that of 2009's first quarter. Actual first quarter 2010 revenues were also 6.6 percent lower than budgeted projections. While window-dues receipts proved to be resilient during the first quarter, supplemental dues hours were down due to wet weather and many projects yet to start. Offsetting the lower receipts was a 4.1 percent decrease in first quarter 2010 expenditures, primarily due to employee cost savings from last year's reduction in salaried employees and Local 3's reduced work-week program. Compared to the budget, expenses were down 3.7 percent. Overall, Local 3 had a net loss of \$1,819,319 during the seasonally slow first quarter of 2010.

Going forward, 2010 still has the potential to be a good year for the local and its membership. With continued growth in our economy, previously allocated federal Stimulus dollars yet to be spent and a successful outcome to the current Master Agreement negotiations for both labor and management, 2010 has the potential to be prosperous after several dreadful years in the construction industry.

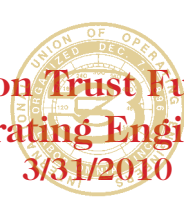
## HEALTH AND WELFARE PLAN BENEFIT DISBURSEMENTS Jan. 1, 2009 through Dec. 31, 2009

PLAN	MEDICAL <sub>1</sub>	PRESCRIPTION DRUG <sub>2</sub>	DENTAL	OTHER BENEFITS <sub>3</sub>	TOTAL
NO. CALIFORNIA	\$ 133,144,370	\$20,401,668	\$15,542,565	\$ 4,835,853	\$ 173,924,456
PENSIONED	\$ 34,886,409	\$ 32,586,868	\$ 3,442,514	\$ 2,660,263	\$ 73,576,054
NO. NEVADA <sub>4</sub>	\$ 10,303,080	\$ 1,745,028	\$ 819,767	\$ 228,758	\$ 13,096,633
HAWAII	\$ 15,702,602	\$ 2,883,469	\$ 2,572,198	\$ 1,167,619	\$ 22,325,888
UTAH	\$ 7,398,060	\$ 1,565,429	\$ 816,617	\$ 207,898	\$ 9,988,004
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES	\$ 9,845,997	\$ 2,532,231	\$ 1,257,753	\$ 315,982	\$ 13,951,963
TOTAL	\$ 211,280,518	\$ 61,714,693	\$ 24,451,414	\$ 9,416,373	\$ 306,862,998

Footnotes:

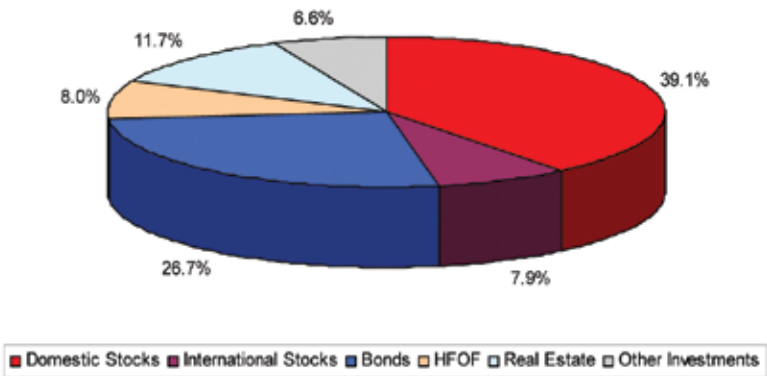
- 1. Medical includes: Regular and Kaiser medical (including Kaiser Drug), stop loss, and Medicare reimbursement.
- 2. Pensioned Health and Welfare prescription drug cost is the claims paid less Medicare drug subsidy of approximately \$5.4 million.
- 3. Other benefits include: Vision care, life insurance, burial benefits, hearing aids, physical exams, disability and chemical dependency.
- 4. Northern Nevada is on a fiscal year of Sept.1/Aug. 31, so the numbers above are for Sept. 1, 2008 through Aug. 31, 2009.

Pension Trust Fund for  
Operating Engineers  
3/31/2010



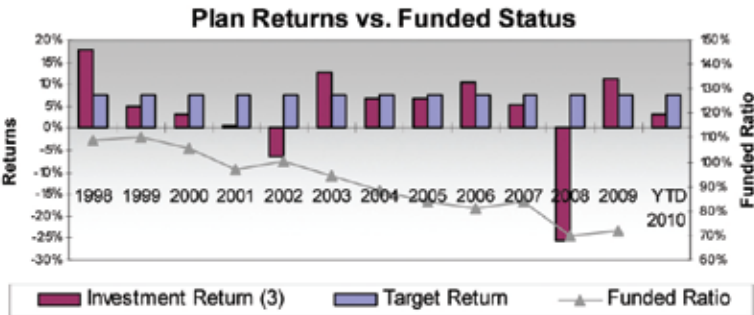
Plan Assets

(1) Total Investments	\$ 2,871,429,488
Domestic Stocks	1,122,709,556
International Stocks	227,059,300
Bonds	767,768,293
Hedge Fund of Funds	230,785,425
Real Estate	335,006,193
Other Investments	188,100,721



- Notes:
- 1) Asset figures and returns are preliminary and unaudited.
  - 2) Other Investments include an insurance contract with New York Life and operational cash.
  - 3) Returns through 12/31/2007 were not calculated by IPS.
  - 4) The Funded Ratio is the value of assets used for the annual pension plan valuation divided by the present value of accumulated plan benefits as provided by the actuary.

Plan Returns / Funded Status			
	Investment Return (3)	Target Return	Funded Ratio (4)
1998	17.8%	7.5%	108.9%
1999	4.8%	7.5%	110.4%
2000	3.2%	7.5%	105.4%
2001	0.4%	7.5%	96.9%
2002	-6.6%	7.5%	100.6%
2003	12.5%	7.5%	94.5%
2004	6.7%	7.5%	88.7%
2005	6.9%	7.5%	84.0%
2006	10.5%	7.5%	81.3%
2007	5.2%	7.5%	83.5%
2008	-25.6%	7.5%	69.7%
2009	11.1%	7.5%	71.6%
(1) YTD 2010	3.1%	7.5%	N/A



Commentary (1st Quarter 2010):  
The first quarter of 2010 ended with all major equity indices posting gains as the rally that began in March of 2009 carried through March of 2010. The S&P 500 Index returned 5.4% for the first quarter and 49.8% for the trailing one year. In March, the number of unemployed persons was little changed at 15.0 million, and the unemployment rate remained at 9.7%. At the start of the recession in December 2007, the number of unemployed persons was 7.5 million, and the jobless rate was 4.9 percent. The Barclays Aggregate Index, which measures the broad fixed income market, returned 1.8% during the first quarter and 7.7% for the past year. Corporate spreads, measured against equivalent treasuries, have continued to narrow year-to-date in 2010 from all time highs achieved in 2008 as investors have become more comfortable with corporate balance sheets and debt obligations. As a result, high yield bonds posted returns similar to equities over the past year.



News & Notes  
By Dan Reding, financial secretary

Meg Whitman: Bad news  
for the working class  
*Candidate wants to send your jobs  
overseas, eliminate prevailing wage*

At the time of this writing, Local 3 staff and I just attended another California Labor Federation meeting in San Jose. One thing you learn right away at these meetings is that it doesn't matter if you are a teacher or a construction worker, this economy is affecting all working men and women.

We monitor upcoming projects and whether or not there will be enough money available to get them done. Teachers and state workers are fighting cities and counties that claim to be broke or mismanaged and want layoffs to balance their budgets. The simple truth is we can't improve this economy if we don't create good-paying jobs. How many minimum-wage jobs pay folks enough to afford a house, a car and the cost of living in California?

We just spent eight years with a former president who thought he could improve the country by deregulating Wall Street and doing everything he could to destroy organized labor. Now we are in the worst recession most of us have ever seen, and California is facing a far worse scenario if former eBay CEO Meg Whitman is elected governor. According to the *San Francisco Chronicle*, the centerpiece of Whitman's plan is to cut 40,000 state jobs. Whitman is a huge fan of increasing H-1B visas to foreign workers to take U.S. jobs. Forty percent of eBay's workforce has been sent overseas. In order to fix this economy, we do not need to eliminate more U.S. jobs.

Whitman says it is time to do away with the eight-hour workday. She also favors cutting workers' pensions and leaving CEOs' golden parachutes untouched, which is no surprise. She plans a full assault on unions to do away with wages and pensions. According to the *Los Angeles Times*, she wants to undo health-care reform and protect insurance-company profits. Does that sound like someone looking out for the working class? She claims that she can fix California, yet she drove eBay shares down 43 percent before she left and walked away with \$500 million in stock options. She made \$2 million in perks working with Goldman Sachs. Congress has since made what she has done illegal. To date, she has spent \$59 million in an attempt to buy this election.

Without a doubt, if Meg Whitman is elected, she could be the worst governor for working class people in California that we have ever seen. But maybe I am missing something. Let's see ... Let's do away with 40,000-plus jobs, all unions and prevailing wage and import foreign workers who will do the jobs for a third of the wages. Let's put Californians on the unemployment line so corporations can pay foreign workers less money and make huge profits for their CEOs. What's wrong with that?

Look what happened to Wall Street and the rest of this country with that mindset. I guess Meg Whitman thinks we have forgotten the last eight years. When you make millions by outsourcing labor overseas, why stop? I pray for the working men and women of California and hope they haven't forgotten. I also hope they remember *not* to vote for Meg Whitman.



# The castle is calling

By Gary Rocha, business representative



What if you worked with a haunted castle in your backyard? That’s what I said: *Haunted!* Supposedly, by the spirit of a murdered nurse.

Operating Engineers Unit 12 member Joe Irby does that every day at work. He’s a heavy equipment mechanic at Preston Youth Correctional Facility in Ione, Calif., located on the same grounds as the Preston Castle.

Preston Castle was built in 1890 on a 230-acre parcel of land purchased for \$30 per acre by the state of California. The land is in the heart of the Mother Lode (Gold Country). The facility was designed to rehabilitate juvenile offenders instead of simply sending them to prisons like San Quentin or Folsom Prison.



Maybe you know some of the wards who spent time there: Actor Eddie Anderson, who played Rochester in “*The Jack Benny Program*,” novelist Ernest Booth, who was popular in the late ’20s and early ’30s, world welterweight champion Don Jordan and country music singer Merle Haggard. The Preston Castle – a great place for a con-cert?

Preston Castle remained open until 1960, when the new facilities were completed on the same grounds.

Irby maintains and repairs the heavy equipment and trucks at the facility, with a watchful eye out for the ghost. Boo!

Unit 12 member Joe Irby stands in front of the Preston Castle in Ione, Calif.



## Work is looking up

Utility Craftworker Mike Camara and Heavy Equipment Mechanic Steve Wolff perform a routine quarterly inspection on the Department of Water Resources’ (DWR’s) Lorain Crane at the San Luis field division.

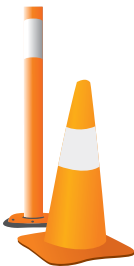
## Unit 12 Meet the Members



James Quick,  
Caltrans equipment operator



Mark Church,  
State Parks mechanic



Remember to be safe and  
slow for the cone zone.





## Report & Review

By Carl Goff, vice president

# Your legislators are listening – tell them how you feel at the ballot box

If you're like me, you've about had it with quite a few politicians. You have a thing or two to say about the ones who support the Department of Industrial Relations' (DIR's) scheme to "fix" the budget by doing away with prevailing wage. There's even a couple of politicians you'd like to get rid of and replace with someone who will get the job done.

Well, actions speak louder than words, folks.

The easiest way to make change and to have your voices heard is through voting. A single vote for or against someone can put a person in, or out, of office. You're in control. Politicians ultimately work for you and now is your time to review their performances. To make it easier, our Political Action Committee (PAC) members have done the work for you and made a list of those running for office who plan to support labor and fix the economy by putting *our* working men and women to work. Before you head to the polls (or fill out your Absentee Ballot at home), visit us online at [www.oe3.org](http://www.oe3.org) to print out an up-to-date list of Local 3 endorsements that you can reference when casting your votes. Broken down by state, then by district, these lists make voting simple.

If you have a little more time on your hands, please volunteer. We need your time to get our message out so others can make educated votes too. There's not a single person who is happy with what's going on right now – from Washington, D.C. to California. We need real change, and the politicians running for office need us. They need our endorsement, but if they're not going to support union labor and create jobs, they're not going to get it from us.

Those who definitely won't be earning our support are California gubernatorial candidates Steve Poizner and Meg Whitman. And let me make this clear: *It's not because they're Republicans.* We do not support them because they do not support us. Whitman specifically said that if she is elected, she will do away with unions and Project Labor Agreements (PLAs), which you know is our bread and butter, and she will continue the attack on our prevailing wages. (For more on why Whitman is bad for labor, read Financial Secretary Dan Reding's column on page 5.)

There's a poll going on right now about who will spend more money on advertising this election season: Poizner, Whitman or Taco Bell? As of press time, it looks like Whitman is in first place; Taco Bell is a tight second. Don't let her buy this election.

Instead, Local 3 has endorsed Jerry Brown for governor. When it comes to jobs, Brown has a long history of supporting workers' rights and union labor and does not plan to outsource jobs like Whitman.

We need to put our money where our mouth is, and instead of talking about change, we need to vote for those who plan to make it.

## On the lighter side ...

### Don't forget Dad

*This year, Father's Day lands on June 20*

June is a special time for dads – Father's Day is celebrated on the third Sunday of the month. And dads are a special part of Local 3 – not only are many of our members fathers, but it's because of several of them that Local 3 now boasts an impressive membership of about 40,000, as their children followed suit and grew up to be union operators just like Dad.

Local 3 consists of many of these multi-generational families. Take the Cleaver family. Second-generation Retiree Bill Cleaver joined the union in 1962, and his son, Blaine Cleaver, was initiated in 1997. Blaine had the unique opportunity recently to work on a project that affected yet another generation – Blaine's grandson, Jace Todd. The project was called Giving Back to the Community and involved putting in new sandboxes at the T.C. McDaniel Early Learning Center in Fairfield, which Jace can use.

Blaine was honored by the Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) for this work at an awards ceremony held April 27. Of course, there to congratulate him were his father and grandson, as was the rest of his family.

"T.C. McDaniel was in dire need of new sandboxes. The cats in the neighborhood had turned the old ones into litter boxes," said Blaine, who is thankful for contractor Ghilotti Brothers for purchasing the sandboxes and giving him the opportunity to perform his good deed.

We congratulate Blaine for achieving this award and thank his father for setting a good example and passing on his union pride. We also wish all dads a happy Father's Day.



From left: Jace Todd, his grandfather, Operating Engineer Blaine Cleaver, and his great-grandfather, Retiree Bill Cleaver, celebrate Blaine's achievement at the SELPA annual awards ceremony April 27.

## Join our online users

We invite you to join us on the Web. By registering on our Members Only website, you'll have access to important, confidential information. Visit [www.oe3.org](http://www.oe3.org) to get started.

Please also join our E-mail Campaign. E-mail us at [subscribe@oe3.org](mailto:subscribe@oe3.org) and we'll send you up-to-the-minute information regarding upcoming elections and political events, district meetings, job actions and important legislation. We will continue to use "snail mail," but through e-mail, we can communicate faster and cheaper about the things that matter! Be the first to know what's going on in *your* union. Don't get left behind.





**Public Employee News**

By Don Dietrich, director

## Technology is not always your friend

It seems at least once a month, a member is investigated for inappropriate use of the Internet. Generally, it has to do with conducting personal business during work time or viewing inappropriate materials, i.e. pornography. Sometimes inappropriate conduct leads to criminal charges, which are non-defensible.

*I cannot stress enough: This behavior is not condoned in the workplace. People get fired for this. Don't do it.*

We can sometimes mitigate the discipline if you are visiting a home-shopping network or a non-work-related website. However, just because it is not pornographic doesn't make it OK. Time spent at work is intended to be productive time. While everyone has moments of non-productivity during the day, the danger in spending it looking at Internet sites is that your employer can capture every second you spend in a non-productive mode. Every key stroke and every minute is recorded in the system when you are logged on. It's very easy to develop a record of wasted time as well as a pattern of activity. You cannot defend this. You can only plead for mercy and talk about your service record (hopefully it's good).

Keep in mind, government employees are under intense scrutiny. Every time someone gets fired, it adds to the negativity about government employees. Permanent status is not a guarantee of a job for life – it only guarantees due process if your agency tries to fire you. Computer records are nearly irrefutable. **JUST DON'T DO IT.**

Stay safe, stay productive and let us spend our time trying to fight off layoffs, furloughs, wage reductions and benefit losses like two-tiered retirement. This is a better use of your union dollar than trying to justify misuse of the computer.

## Surviving the economic times

By Doug Gorman, business representative

After spending nearly 34 years in the public employment arena, I have never seen such a concentrated effort by the media, the public you protect and serve and your employers to steal away previously negotiated pay and benefits.

It all starts with the poor economy that you had nothing to do with but are now in the middle of and the fact that the League of Cities, which your public employer belongs to, says now is the best time to take advantage of employees.

How do you deal with it? The first place is at home with your family. While this attack on your benefits will affect them, you need to stay strong and spend as much time as you can doing healthy and fun things that will positively impact all of you. Got a family hobby? In our case, we enjoy spending time with each other and our horses and watching family sporting events. This allows us to look at all of the positive things we have on a daily basis and not just the negative things that surround us.

If you're at work, then stay united with your union. Get involved with defending your rights and benefits and get active in politics. Your union cannot do it alone; we need your help in these times. We can weather this storm, but we need to do it together.

## Dividing the work force into those who have and those who have not

By Art Frolli, business representative

I recently read in the *Ventura County Star* that the Ventura City Council voted to instruct the city manager to create a two-tiered pension system. The article primarily argued the need for such an action to "balance the books" by alleviating projected increases in the employers' contribution to the CalPERS' retirement system.

This is a terrible idea.

The CalPERS' retirement system works like this: The employees have a statutory rate of contribution that is set at a fixed percentage. The employees' shares are 7 percent, 8 percent or 9 percent of their salaries, depending on the retirement program. Obviously, the employees pay a larger percentage of their salaries for the more enhanced retirement programs. The employers also pay into the retirement system, but their contributions fluctuate, depending on how well CalPERS' investment returns are doing. In the past, when the economy was strong and the system was solvent, employers received reduced liability. In other words, the employers' contributions were either reduced or they paid nothing toward the employees' retirement fund. I find it odd that these same employers are now complaining about the amount of money they have to pay.

During strong economic times, many employers opted through the negotiations process to pay the employees' contributions instead of providing them with salary increases. Now, many employers are asking their employees to start paying these contributions, resulting in a 7 percent, 8 percent or 9 percent reduction in salary. The employers are attempting to justify this by saying that it was intended that this cost be shouldered by the employees. Have they totally forgotten about the collective bargaining process, and had they not agreed to pay the employees' shares? If not, then they most certainly would have been paying higher wages.

Should municipalities be allowed to create these two-tiered retirement structures, the effect on employee moral would be devastating. This would pit the older, established employees against the younger hires who were receiving a substandard retirement formula. As time progresses and older employees' numbers are reduced and newer employees' numbers increased, each group's goals at the collective bargaining table would be vastly different. This would give employers a greater advantage, because they would have, in fact, divided and conquered the bargaining unit.

As the number of new employees participating in the lesser retirement programs increases, how will the retirement obligations to those employees retiring under the old formula be funded? Remember, the employer wants this two-tiered retirement system to reduce their liability, meaning they would be paying less into the CalPERS' retirement system. So, the question is: Where will CalPERS find the funding to pay these retirement obligations? Let us not forget that part of the scheme to funding current retirees is based on the concept that the working employees will pay for part of them, and future generations will do the same.

Even if the economy turns around in the near future, it could take years – maybe even decades – to rebuild the CalPERS' pension fund to its past glory. In the short run, any reduction in the employer contribution places the fund in jeopardy. All new hires would be paying at a reduced rate for 30 or more years, which could increase the strain on the fund. Although less money would be entering the fund, the obligations promised under the current retirement systems would still need to be met.

A wide-spread, two-tiered retirement system within the bargaining unit is short-sighted. Sure it provides some short-term relief for employers, but at what cost?



# The ultimate disrespect

By Fred Klingel, business representative

The city of Los Banos and its city manager have committed the ultimate disrespect to its employees and citizens.

Negotiations did not go well this year. The city imposed its last, best and final offer until the end of the 2009-2010 fiscal year and did what it intended to do all along. The city has wanted to stop paying the employees' share of the pension payment for a long time. This has actually been burning in the city manager's gut for more than a year, and now, city officials have finally succeeded.

During the negotiations process, the Police Officers Association (POA) already agreed to take over the payment for its portion of the Public Employment Retirement System's (PERS') benefit, a 9

percent reduction in take-home pay. But that wasn't enough for the city manager and the City Council (they voted 5-0 in favor of imposing this). The City Council also wanted a 3.5 percent reduction in base pay, which the POA fought. Ultimately, the city imposed 2.5 percent. How kind of them! So, now we have a reduction of 11.5 percent, but that still wasn't enough. Members also lost \$875 per year for vision and dental supplement, and they must participate and pay for their own life insurance. Additionally, after June 30, the present vision and dental program no longer exists.

To assist the city in good faith, the POA made a lot of concessions, including a change in the retirement plan, retirement

medical plan and medical cafeteria plan for new hires. This is a tremendous savings to the city. The POA was even willing to give up 1 percent of base pay. So, the ultimate insult is that instead of coming to an agreement, the city went forward and imposed the additional 1.5 percent for good measure. What does this whole contract mean to these officers who put their lives on the line on a daily basis? It means about \$500 to \$600 less per month and broken trust in the city they love and are willing to work for as a lifelong career. Do they still love their jobs and the citizens of the city? I believe so, but will that broken trust keep them here, or will they move on, where not only the citizens appreciate them but also the employer? Time will tell.

# Let nothing divide us

By Mike Minton, business representative

Things have quieted down in Lake County. Its employees are now enjoying a new contract with some incentives and benefit increases; however, the county is looking at some layoffs, though Human Resources Director Kathy Ferguson is trying to keep everyone employed. We started the meet-and-confer process regarding these layoffs.

Marysville Joint Unified School District (MJUSD) is looking at a substantial budget decrease in the upcoming school year, and more than likely, the following year. We are getting ready to go into contract negotiations for a successor Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), and the human resources director has already informed me that the district is considering salary reductions, benefit decreases and layoffs. These negotiations will be very ugly and hard on the membership. What makes it worse is starting and passing on rumors, pointing fingers, saying one member's job is more important than another's and blaming those who are trying to do the right thing to fix their problems. Don't fall into some of these bad habits, including the concept that everybody has a "source" who gives them "inside information" they think no one else has, when in fact, what these sources are giving them is nothing more than a rumor that they either started or are passing along after adding their own twist.



Job Steward Dale Campbell represents the members from the MJUSD Grounds.

This rumor then gets passed along from member to member until it is so blown out of proportion that the originator of the rumor can't even recognize it. Unless you hear it from your business representative or someone at the negotiation table, or you see it in writing, it is nothing more than a rumor. You are doing more harm than good by spreading it.

Everyone also needs to understand that no one's job is more important than another's. To you, your job is obviously more important, but that is what everyone thinks. We all need to understand that everyone's job is equally important no matter the classification or salary. You need to respect your fellow employees and realize that they are just as concerned and scared for their jobs as you

may be. Don't let management capitalize on you disrespecting and fighting among yourselves.

Thirdly, why blame other members for the situation your employers now find themselves in? Your stewards, officers and bargaining unit boards of directors are generally on your side and are trying to do the right thing by you. They're not getting paid for volunteering their time to represent you. They are just that, volunteers. Listen to them, support them, ask questions and say thanks once in a while. They will appreciate it.

I recently held an informational meeting with MJUSD job stewards to educate them on their specific tasks

and proper communication skills. If you have a problem, let your business representative know. He or she will advise you on how to handle the issue.

We are all in some economically devastating times, but we're in them together. We need to stick together, support and respect each other and stop the rumors. In time, we will all come through this. And when we do, we will be better and stronger for it. We're all union brothers and sisters, so don't let anyone or anything divide us. When that happens, we lose.



From left: Cathey Gingrich explains the negotiations process as Kathy Reilly and JoAnn Daniel listen at a meeting May 19.



From left: MJUSD job stewards Ruda Nelson and Henry Anderson discuss the upcoming negotiations.



From left: Kim Sutherland from the insurance committee and Job Steward Maria Flores attend an informational meeting held May 19.



## Credit Union

By Jim Sullivan,  
Credit Union secretary/financial officer  
& recording - corresponding secretary

# Your union Credit Union

We want to express our sincere appreciation to our members for their continued support of the Operating Engineers Federal Credit Union (OEFCU). We are well aware that our success is due in no small part to our loyal and dedicated members.

The entire, full-time OEFCU staff is comprised of union members who are dedicated to providing our Credit Union members with exceptional service. Their "can do" attitude is based on confidence and pride in an organization that exists solely for union employees and their families. With 22 branch locations throughout Northern California, Northern Nevada, Hawaii, Utah and Oregon, OEFCU is one of the largest labor-union credit unions in the United States. It is also considered one of the strongest financial institutions in the nation, with more than \$800 million in assets.

A real-life member story:

*"I do all of my banking through the Rohnert Park office. It is such a pleasure to do my business through this office. At a time when most banks do not even know your name, it is nice to be greeted*

*with a smile. This bank has many stellar employees who have treated me more like family than just an account holder, whether we talk by phone or in person.*

*"I would like to commend these people in no particular order: Nancy, Jennifer and Kim. These three ladies have always treated me with kindness, courtesy and friendliness. There is not a better, friendlier financial institution that I could recommend."*

If you've considered switching to OEFCU but are hesitant to make a big change, it's time to give us a second look. If you're tired of being treated like just an account number at your bank and paying all those high fees, pay us a visit. Whether on the phone or face-to-face, OEFCU always provides the personal service of a small credit union with the strength, sophistication and convenience of a very large establishment. If you'd like to join our OEFCU family, contact us at (800) 877-4444. Visit our website at [www.oefcu.org](http://www.oefcu.org) for more information on our products and services.

## Save The Date! July 10 & 11

OEFCU will be hosting a Used Car Sale  
at the Livermore Administration  
Office located at:  
250 N. Canyons Parkway  
Livermore, CA 94551

## Stay Tuned for Details!

 **Operating Engineers #3  
Federal Credit Union**

Union STRENGTH · Union PURPOSE · Union PRIDE

(800) 877-4444 • [www.oefcu.org](http://www.oefcu.org)





**We're here to help**  
Fringe Benefits Service Center: (800) 532-2105  
Trust Fund Office: (800) 251-5014

**Fringe Benefits**  
By Charlie Warren, director

## Credit for military service

If you are unable to work the necessary hours in covered employment due to service in the United States armed forces, you will receive credited service, Pension credit and accrued benefits for the period you retain reemployment rights under the federal law.

### Military service after your contribution date

After your contribution date, if you are absent for covered employment due to qualified military service, you will be credited with hours toward the accumulation of years of credited service, Pension credit, accrued benefits and the prevention of a break in service for the period of the military service, provided:

- You were working in covered employment in the jurisdiction of Local 3 during the 90-day period immediately preceding your military service
- You had not incurred a one-year break in service at the time you entered qualified military service
- You retain reemployment rights under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) of 1994
- You satisfy USERRA's advance notice to employer (or fund office) requirement prior to your leave to enter qualified military service
- Your discharge from military service was under honorable conditions
- You return to work in covered employment in the jurisdiction of Local 3 within the reemployment period required by federal law, as shown in the chart below:

Length of Military Service	Reemployment Deadline
Less than 31 days	Within one day after discharge (allowing travel time plus eight hours)
31 through 180 days	Within 14 days after discharge
181 days or more	Within 90 days after discharge

Hours for qualified military service are based upon the average hours you worked in a week during the 12-month period immediately preceding your military service or, if shorter, the period of employment immediately preceding the military service, but not less than 30 hours per week.

For the purposes of determining the amount of your accrued benefits, contributions will be credited based on the employer contribution rate that would have applied if you had continued to work in covered employment instead of entering military service.

No more than five years of qualified military service will be recognized toward the accumulation of years of credited service, Pension credit, accrued benefits and the prevention of a break in service or a separation from covered employment.

For more information, please refer to the Pension's *Summary Plan Description* or contact the Fringe Benefits Service Center at (800) 532-2105 or the Trust Fund Office at (800) 251-5014.

## Federal benefits for veterans, dependents and survivors

For our members and their dependents who have served in the military, the following is information from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

### Veterans' health care

The VA operates the nation's largest integrated health-care system with more than 1,400 care facilities, including hospitals, community clinics and living centers, domiciliaries, readjustment counseling centers and various other facilities. For additional information on VA health care, visit [www.va.gov/health](http://www.va.gov/health).

### Enrollment

For most veterans, entry into the VA health-care system begins by completing an application for health benefits, or VA Form 10-10EZ. This form may be obtained from any VA health-care facility or regional benefits office, online at [www.va.gov/1010ez.htm](http://www.va.gov/1010ez.htm) or by calling (877) 222-VETS (8387). Once enrolled, veterans can receive health care at VA health-care facilities anywhere in the country.

For more information, visit the VA website mentioned above (second paragraph), or call the department at (800) 827-1000.

## Retiree Post

### Golden couple

This is a special time for Lily and Masami Inaba, and 50 seems to be their lucky number.

Not only did both District 17 retirees recently celebrate their 50-year-membership milestone with Local 3, but they're also celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary this year. And all three accomplishments began at the same place: A Ford dealership that, at the time they started, was called Ruddle Sales and Service.

Lily worked in the parts department, "doing clerical work," and Masami was a mechanic. Both were Local 3-covered positions, and so the Inabas soon joined the union. It was here that the couple met.

The company was sold about three times, Lily said, but remained union. It was called Orchid Isle Auto Center when the couple retired. The Inabas now live in Hilo, Hawaii.

"I think we really benefited from it [the union]," said Lily, who is one of the first women to reach a 50-year milestone with Local 3. "I'm glad I was in the union."

To read more retirees' stories, see our coverage of the Retiree Picnic in next month's *Engineers News*. For details on this upcoming picnic, see page 28 in this edition.



Fifty-year members and spouses Lily and Masami Inaba visit the Hilo, Hawaii District 17 Hall.



**Political Perspective**

By Mark Kyle, director of government affairs and public relations

**2010: A big year in politics**  
*Vote for your jobs; vote for your family*

In 2010, Local 3 members will choose four senators, 29 members of Congress, four governors, dozens of constitutional officers and more than 300 state Senate and state House representatives, as well as representatives in county, municipal and special district offices.

Every election and every office is important to Local 3. This year our priority is jobs. That means we'll be voting for infrastructure investments – updating our water systems, improving transportation and building high speed rail. We'll be voting to protect prevailing wages and pensions. And, based on their voting records on our issues, questionnaire answers and interviews, we'll be voting for candidates who have stood and will stand with us.

Once again, the Voice of the Engineer (VOTE) program will make the difference in priority races. The VOTE program provides opportunities for members and their families to impact their communities and their union by supporting local candidates – all while earning awards. To volunteer in your area, call your district office or contact VOTE Coordinator and Asst. Political Director Margaret Hanlon-Gradie at (510) 748-7400.

Remember to check the politics page of the Local 3 website ([www.oe3.org](http://www.oe3.org)) regularly for news and updates. Also, you can receive alerts and updates by signing up on our Members Only page at the same site (click on the Members Only tab).

Spring elections are a warm-up for what's coming in November. See the break-down of political information by state below.

**HAWAII**

By the time you read this, a special election will have just taken place in Hawaii's first Congressional District. Go to Local 3's website at [www.oe3.org](http://www.oe3.org) to see the results.

**CALIFORNIA and NEVADA**

California and Nevada will hold their primary elections on June 8. If you haven't voted yet, refer to the May issue of *Engineers News* or visit our website ([www.oe3.org](http://www.oe3.org)) for a list of the most recently endorsed candidates and recommendations on the ballot propositions. Then *go out and vote!* If you've already voted, go to our website for results.

**UTAH**

Utah is having its primary election on June 22. The following is a list of endorsed candidates who *may be up for election* this June, however, this list may change. For an up-to-date list, please go to our website at [www.oe3.org](http://www.oe3.org).

**U.S. Senate**  
Sam Granato

**U.S. House of Representatives**  
Jim Matheson District 02

**State Senate**  
No primary possibilities

**State House of Representatives**  
John Netto District 25  
Jim Dunnigan District 39  
Chad Reyes District 52  
Mel Brown District 53

**Salt Lake County Offices**  
Calvin Noyce Council Seat 01  
Gary Ott County Recorder  
Jim Winder Sheriff

Look for VOTE volunteer opportunities on the union's website and in the July issue of *Engineers News*. Don't be left out of this critical and exciting political time for your union and your country. Every move you make from this point on – whether it's phone banking at your district office or telling a friend to vote for a local, labor-friendly candidate – will impact you and your family's financial future for years to come.

Some additions have already been made to Local 3's endorsements. Visit [www.oe3.org](http://www.oe3.org) for our most current political news.

**Our future depends on you**

*This is one in an occasional series of commentary from Rec. Corres. Secretary Jim Sullivan.*

In these troubling times, we wonder if the majority of our elected officials actually have our best interests in mind, or if they are even listening to us. Therefore, it is more critical than ever to make sure we are registered to vote.

Not only is it important for each of us to be a registered voter, but it's equally important that our families, friends and neighbors are too.

Becoming a registered voter allows each of us to have a voice by casting our votes on Election Day or sending them in as absentee ballots. If each of us in the working community exercised our right to vote, our voices would truly be heard, and we would ultimately finance the decisions of our elected officials. For voter registration information, visit or call your local district office, and someone can get you signed up in no time. You can also sign up online at [www.oe3.org](http://www.oe3.org) by clicking on the Politics link and finding your state.

With only less than 50 percent of us registered to vote in the last election cycle, how can we possibly expect any real change? How can we expect our voices to be heard? I'll say it again: I encourage those of you who are already registered to vote to get others registered and exercise your American right by making an informed decision and actually taking the small amount of time *to vote*. For a list of Local 3 endorsements and election dates, refer to last month's *Engineers News* or visit us online; Utah's endorsements are featured at left.

There are countless examples of important races that were won or lost by only a few votes. With a membership of this size (nearly 40,000 strong), can you imagine the power we'd wield over the political arena if we all voted? Politicians would be eating out of our hands, promising us whatever we wanted. Do you realize that labor is one of the major reasons President Barack Obama was elected? Let's use that power again. No time is more critical to labor's position than now. Get registered. Vote. Our future depends on it.





# Salt of the earth ... or dregs of society?

## Local 3 successfully targets non-union Salt River Construction

For more than three years, Local 3 has worked tirelessly on several targeted job-action campaigns, area-standard pickets and bid protests against non-union dredging company Salt River Construction (SRC). Best described as a “rat outfit,” the company has repeatedly violated safety and wage laws, thereby putting its workers and the community at risk. Its poor habits of bidding low on jobs and substandard practices drops the standard of excellence for all safety- and wage-compliant companies in the area.

It’s been a long fight but well worth our efforts, for in nearly every battle, Local 3 has been successful in drawing public attention to SRC’s dirty deeds and preventing the company from winning several bids.



**NON-UNION WATCH: SRC**  
SRC’s non-compliance with safety standards leads to equipment on the water that is not only unsafe but an eyesore.

The battle breakdown since 2007 is as follows:

- ✓ June 2007: First bid protest submitted to San Mateo County Harbor District; awareness of issues brought forward
- ✓ October 2008: First area-standard picket established on the Vallejo Ferry Terminal project; job action brought awareness to the public and revealed prevailing wage and safety issues, all of which were resolved
- ✓ December 2008: Emeryville Marina chooses Cooper Crane for its project, even though SRC was the low bidder; past efforts convinced this customer to choose the “high road”
- ✓ April 2009: Second bid protest submitted to the Iron House Sanitary District for a project starting in late 2010; Local 3 proved in writing that SRC blatantly lied to the awarding agency to be allowed to work on this project; if and when SRC begins work, the union plans to bring more awareness to the public about SRC
- ✓ July 2009: SRC selected by the city of San Francisco on an emergency contract to dredge the Gas House Cove Marina; Burlingame District Rep. Ken Oku aided the union’s fight in proposing stronger pre-qualifying language with the city for all future projects, with the hope of preventing SRC from bidding work there again
- ✓ August 2009: Third bid protest submitted to the Water Emergency Transportation Authority (WETA) against SRC on the Oyster Point project; Rohnert Park District Rep. Chris Snyder helped monitor this project and submitted a wage complaint to WETA that forced SRC to pay the appropriate prevailing wages to its employees
- ✓ November 2009: Second area-standard picket established on the East Bay Parks Martin Luther King project; union’s efforts completely shut job down for two weeks and caused the general contractor to redesign the project, costing SRC more than \$20,000; union filed a wage complaint with the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) for another \$7,000 in wage discrepancies
- ✓ December 2009: A \$175,000 wage complaint filed with the DIR against SRC on the \$330,000 Alameda Harbor Bay Ferry project that is only half-way completed; complaint filed with the U.S. Coast Guard for a huge violation of the “12-hour” rule; upon review of certified payroll records, it was found that SRC captains were operating vessels on this project up to 22 hours a day in consecutive days, which is strictly prohibited and can result in a \$25,000 penalty for each violation

- ✓ March 2010: Fourth bid protest submitted to San Mateo County Harbor District for the next phase of the Oyster Point project; received supportive letter from San Mateo Harbor General Manager Peter Grenell, which can be used for all future bid protests against SRC
- ✓ Current: Submitting apprenticeship complaints to the DIR regarding August 2009 and December 2009 jobs; working on wage complaints for November 2009 and December 2009 jobs

While the construction economy is not faring as well as we’d like, targeted job actions and organizing campaigns such as these send a strong message to the media (Local 3 gained positive press from the *Vallejo Times-Herald* and KGO AM810), the public and county officials about the ills of non-union, substandard companies and the benefits of being organized.

After reviewing the union’s careful documentation of SRC’s poor practices, Grenell sided with us, stating: “We ask that Salt River Construction be deemed a non-responsible bidder and be excluded from the district’s [San Mateo County Harbor District’s] bid selection process.”

Fairfield Dredging Rep. Dave Harrison, who is leading the SRC job-action movement, commented: “We’ve worked hard against these guys for years, and you can go down the list, every time, and see how much progress we’ve made along the way. I’ve said all along, all they have to do is get good or get gone.

“A special thank you to the union members who honored our picket that worked for Bigge Crane, Foundation Constructors, A-S Pipeline, Ghilotti Construction and CTS.”

Stay tuned for more details in the ongoing war against SRC (a war that we are winning) and ways you can get involved in ongoing and future job actions against the non-union. When the economy gets hit, our diligence in addressing non-union practices becomes that much more important. If you see SRC on a jobsite or have questions, call Dredging Rep. Dave Harrison at (707) 429-5008.



Retired Dredgeman Eugene Clark remains active in the campaign against SRC.



From left: Dredgemen Dan Cole and Troy Huckaby fight the good fight against substandard SRC.



**Rancho Murieta  
Training Center**  
for apprentice to  
journey-level operators

By Tammy Castillo,  
director of apprenticeship

**What’s happening at the Ranch?**  
*Training – and lots of it*

The Rancho Murieta Training Center (RMTTC) has been up and running at full capacity since the first day of March. The first Apprentice Supplemental Related Training (SRT)/Journey-Up-grade Training began March 15 with 55 trainees in attendance and no course failures. Classes included Backhoe, Blade, Dozer, Equipment GPS, Grade-Checking/Grade-Setting, Cranes, Paving, Support Equipment and Lubrication Technician for apprentices and Pipeline Excavator for journey-level operators.

Fifty-four students attended the March 29 classes that included Backhoe, Blade, Dozer, Engines, Grade-Checking/Grade-Setting, Cranes and Paving for the apprentices. Journey-level classes included Equipment GPS, Loader and Pipeline Excavator.

Of the 43 apprentices in these classes, the top six with the highest grade-point averages included:

*Construction Equipment Operators (CEOs)*

First Place: Stockton District fifth-step Apprentice David Davidson



David Davidson



Mathew Blum



Adam Burton



Dustin Baker



Gheorghe Enache



Thomas Cline

Runner-up: Stockton District fourth-step Apprentice Mathew Blum

*Crane Operators*

First Place: Fairfield District fifth-step Apprentice Adam Burton

Runner-up: Sacramento District fourth-step Apprentice Dustin Baker

*Heavy Duty Repairpersons (HDRs)*

First Place: Oakland District fifth-step Apprentice Gheorghe Enache

Runner-up: Morgan Hill District third-step Apprentice Thomas Cline

Since then, there have been four training classes with about 220 trainees. The apprentices worked really hard and did a wonderful job.

Journey-level operators interested in upgrading skills or learning new ones should contact their local district office for more information and/or to sign up.

Have a safe work season. See you on the next one.

**Mechanics Corner**

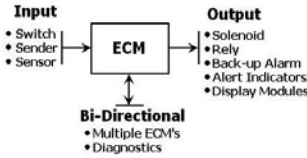
By Dave Bibby, Heavy Duty Repair (HDR) instructor

**Something in, something out**

Many functions on mobile equipment, including the engine, transmission and hydraulics, rely on electronics to improve functionality. These systems operate on the same basic principle and use the same basic components.

The “brain” of the system is the Electronic Control Module (ECM) or the Electronic Control Unit (ECU). Just as we require information to make sound decisions, the ECM requires specific information or input from the operator or machine components. The ECM receives the input information and, based on the software, will make a decision and respond with the appropriate output. The input and output information is only one-directional. However, a bi-directional data link exists allowing for the exchange of information between multiple ECMs and permitting the service technician to access and retrieve diagnostic fault codes.

The three types of input to the ECM are switches, senders and sensors.



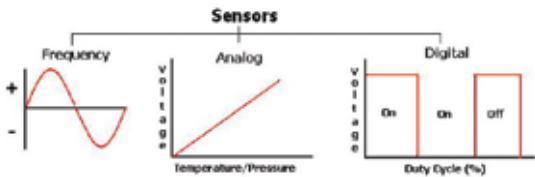
A switch is a device that connects or interrupts the electrical pathways in a circuit. A switch has one or more sets of contacts. Each contact is either closed (contacts are touching; the circuit is complete) or open (the contacts are separated; the circuit is interrupted). A switch can be manually or automatically actuated by the operator (pressure, temperature or flow).

A sender is a device that changes resistance in response to a changing physical condition. The most common usages are fuel level and temperature senders. In this instance, the input to the ECM is a varying resistance, measured in Ohms.

A sensor is a device that detects a specific parameter (speed, pressure, temperature or position) and converts it into an electrical signal that the ECM can interpret. A sensor will provide one of three types of input: Frequency, analog and digital. A frequency sensor produces an AC electrical signal in the form of a sine wave, which will vary as conditions change. Frequency is the number of cycles that take place within a specific time frame and is measured in Hertz. The most common example of a frequency sensor is the magnetic speed sensor. The analog sensor will smoothly vary a voltage signal over time and in proportion to a measured parameter. The digital sensor produces a pulse-width modulation signal that is a constant voltage continually turned “on” and “off.” Known as duty cycle (percentage), the input signal is changed by varying the time the signal is on vs. the time the signal is off. The most common usages of a digital sensor are temperature, position and pressure.

After the ECM receives all of the input information, a decision is made and the resultant output comes as an action or as information. Actions are typically through a solenoid or relay. Solenoids are used to engage transmission clutch packs and hydraulic control valves or control engine-unit injectors. A starter relay is used as part of the transmission ECM to only allow the engine to start when in neutral. Another action may come in the form of the back-up alarm when placed in reverse. Output information may consist of operator-alert indicators, action alarms, display modules (speedometer, tachometer, gauges, hour meter and gear selection) or onboard diagnostics.

At first glance, the electronic systems on mobile equipment seem sophisticated, lasting and part of technological advancements. But these systems rely on specific input information and respond with a specific output.





# BIG hospital – BIG job

## Operators improve large hospital in District 90

Story and photos by Mandy McMillen, managing editor

The Santa Clara Valley Medical Center (SCVMC) in San Jose is the community's largest and busiest public hospital. So it was no surprise when county voters passed Measure A, the bond measure dedicated to providing funds for upgrading and replacing the hospital's facilities, such as demo-ing outdated buildings and adding new ones. These include a wing for hospital beds (168 intensive and acute care beds), a rehabilitation therapy center, aquatic therapy pools, administrative offices, a pharmacy and a parking structure.

Main contractor Turner Construction was awarded the job under a Project Labor Agreement (PLA) along with signatory subcontractors J.J. Albanese, Condon-Johnson, Bee Bee Construction and Rosendin Electric.

*Engineers News* caught up with Condon-Johnson mid May while Drill Operator Michael Powell drilled 55-foot holes to house some 200 cages (for eventual piers) that Crane Operator Brian Usry carefully placed. Pump Operator Ara Call filled the holes with concrete for support. Third-step Apprentice Darrel Hewitt with Consolidated Engineering inspected the tolerance of the drill piers and checked the rebar for specs. Performing

"whatever is needed of him," Operator Jason Noe operated the loader and forklift.

Operators will eventually underpin the remaining building and extend the current foundation farther below for seismic purposes and to avoid structural damage.

With plenty of activity surrounding the work on the SCVMC, operators work quickly in close quarters with everyone focused on an immediate task, but the most important task is operator safety, commented Turner Safety Director Carlos Orozco.

"Every morning, these operators have a safety meeting and do their stretch and flex exercises," he explained. Most injuries occur from strains and sprains, so Orozco makes sure his crew avoids this. The irony is not lost on anyone, since they are as close as possible to medical attention, if needed!

The project itself is also not lost on anyone, as hundreds of hospital visitors, patients and employees pause daily to gawk at the big equipment creating what will soon be many beautiful and functional assets to the hospital. Eventually, a bridge will connect the west wing with the new wing. The project should be finished by 2012.



Testing and Inspection Apprentice Darrel Hewitt works for Consolidated Engineering.



Condon-Johnson Pump Operator Ara Call provides the concrete for the SCVMC project in San Jose.



Crane Operator Brian Usry.



Ten-year member Jason Noe provides whatever is needed on the SCVMC job. His grandfather, Dean Hyder, is also an Operating Engineer.



Drill Operator Michael Powell drills 55-foot holes for the cages and eventual piers.

Crane Operator Brian Usry places some 200 cages for eventual support piers used in the new wing of the SCVMC. Also pictured are operators Jason Noe and Michael Powell.



# Green from the inside

Story and photos by Jamie Johnston, associate editor

When you think Teichert, you think green, from its bright logo to its lime-green fleet. Now the company is going green on the *inside*, adding a whole new element to the company's trademark color.

This spring, construction crews installed a 380-foot-tall windmill at the Teichert Vernalis rock plant in District 30 to capture Mother Nature's natural wind power and ultimately save the company money.

According to Plant Operator and Steward Chad Schieve, the plant grosses between 15,000 and 18,000 tons of product a day, depending on the material. That requires about 6 megawatts of energy an hour. The new windmill can produce 1.5 megawatts. When the plant is busy, this in-house energy will be used to help run the plant. On slow days, Teichert can sell the power back to an energy company, a great idea in the current economic slump.

"This is going to be a big deal because of the way everything is going green," said Bragg Crane Operator Brian Anderson, a 15-year member who helped erect the windmill onsite. "Wind power is the wave of the future for everybody. ... Outright, they [Teichert] are paying for it, but it's going to pay them in the long run."

The giant windmill can reach about 100 mph at tip speed, with Kevlar/fiberglass blades 120 feet long and 14,000 pounds each. Anderson believes the windmill will become an area landmark.



Teichert Plant Operator/Steward Chad Schieve can see everything onsite from his office, including the installation of the new windmill.

"You're going to be able to see this from a long way away," he said.

This is the first windmill project Anderson has been on, but fellow Bragg Crane Operator Bill Alger is a veteran, having worked on a windmill project in Rio Vista last year. Oiler Beau Reding also brought experience to the job. The four-year member is a second-generation Operating Engineer.

The installation project only took a few weeks to complete, but its impact will carry on for a long time. Stockton Business Rep. Michael Pickens said other rock plants are already taking notice and are very interested in how the windmill works out.

Teichert's Vernalis rock plant is the largest in District 30, employing about 100 workers at its peak. Right now, about 30 operators are onsite. Local 3 members do everything at the plant, from mining rock from the pits to maintaining the equipment. Besides its size, the plant is also known for its safety standards after achieving nine consecutive citation-free inspections by the federal Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA).



Crane Operator Brian Anderson.





# de out

From left: Crane Operator Bill Alger and Oiler Beau Reding.



Loader Operator Nixon Jarquin moves materials at Teichert's Vernalis rock plant.

## CAMPAIGN WATCH: Jerry Brown

If Local 3-endorsed California gubernatorial candidate Jerry Brown is elected in November, other jobs like this one are sure to follow and put our members to work.

Brown is a huge advocate of creating jobs and using union labor. He also supports workers' rights and "green" construction – projects that would require operators to erect windmills, build plants and upgrade facilities. The bottom line is Brown supports jobs – *your* jobs – and has the experience in state government to know how to create more of them.

Remember this when you cast your votes, and encourage others to also vote for Brown for governor.

For more on Jerry Brown and other Local 3 endorsements, visit us online at [www.oe3.org](http://www.oe3.org).



Crane Operator Bill Alger hoists the nacelle to the top of the windmill's tower. The nacelle is the energy-producing part of the structure, as it contains the gear box, low- and high-speed shafts, generator, controller and brake. This process took about 45 minutes to complete.





# FIST attendance skyrockets

## Sessions carried across the local's jurisdiction

Word spread quickly about the important knowledge shared during Local 3's Fair Industry Strike Training (FIST) classes. As training continued in the California, Nevada and Utah districts, it seemed that each session had more participants than the last one. In total, more than 1,000 members attended. They sometimes brought their families, but they always brought questions and a willingness to learn what job actions, procedures and sanctioned strikes are really all about.

To honor these members for giving their time and energy toward improving the strength and solidarity of their union, FIST pins were awarded to participants during the past round of district meetings.

The following comments came straight from the membership about the training:

"Thank you for allowing me to bring my family members. The family needs to learn about this, understand it and get involved."  
– Anonymous District 80 member

"This training should be REQUIRED for all members."  
– Anonymous District 12 member

"I heard about this class through word of mouth."  
– Anonymous District 80 member

*Please note: If you missed your district's FIST class, call your hall and see if there is interest in holding another class. We may come and train your district again.*



Members from Nevada District 11 pose for a group photo in Elko.



District 11 holds a FIST class in Reno.



The Rohnert Park District's FIST class is a success.



Oakland District 20 has the biggest turnout of members for its FIST class.

Business Manager Russ Burns announces the roll-out of FIST 2.

- An intensive, in-depth training for strike captains
- A three-hour class, refreshments provided
- Special T-shirt
- For further information, contact your district office or Special Rep. Pete Figueiredo at (510) 748-7400

**Get the real scoop. Call the Master Agreement Hotline at (888) 870-6888 for updates and details on what's happening with your negotiations and if there are any job actions coming up in your district.**





The Rancho Murieta Training Center (RMTC) holds another successful FIST class.

## FIST in action

### Job action in Sacramento puts FIST skills to work

At the Case Power and Equipment shop in District 80, members have been without a contract for 1-½ years. As the union and the company head into negotiations, the local's Pension is at stake, among other issues. Members behaved proactively, using skills gained from recent Fair Industry Strike Training (FIST) classes held throughout the union's jurisdiction.

Members and volunteers stood their ground and rallied outside Case Equipment's location off Bell Avenue in late May. They asked the company's customers and the passing public to sign a petition, urging

the company to reach a fair agreement by sealing a fair contract.

"This was a fair industry example," said Director of Special Operations Bob Miller, "and there will be more of these in the future."

Several patrons and members from the community stopped to learn about the issues and sign the petition, which may be used as leverage during negotiations.

*Stay tuned for more FIST-in-action rallies, as well as ways you can support your local's cause to stay strong in negotiations.*



From left: Members Alan Peterson and Dan Campbell support the union outside the Case Equipment shop in Sacramento.



Case Equipment Shop Steward Allen Sherrill signs in during a recent rally in Sacramento.

## Bring on the Bear

### Unit 12's fair-industry training proves effective

The roll-out of Unit 12's strike training and job-action instruction started in May. Be Educated And Ready (BEAR) classes focused on issues prevalent in the difficult climate of budget cuts and furloughs for California's state workers. *Engineers News* caught up with Yuba City's training and will be on-hand to cover others. Stay tuned for more details and photos.

Local 3 is serious about fair-industry training for all departments within the union. Whether you're a Caltrans worker, heavy equipment operator, apprentice or public employee, there are classes and job actions available to you. Call your district office now!



Front row, from left: Participants Dave Victorino, Catherine Roman and Kristal Hersh, Unit 12 Business Rep. Gary Rocha, Special Rep. Pete Figueiredo and Director of Special Operations Bob Miller. Second row, from left: Participants Paul Helwig, Howard Larsen, Lee Moss and Dave Beasley and Unit 12 Coordinator Travis Tweedy. Back row, from left: Yuba City Dispatcher Danny Roles, Unit 12 Business Rep. Gladys Perry, Yuba City business reps. Ed Ritchie and Ron Roman, Yuba City District Rep. Dave Slack and participants Steve Winterath and Robert Coleman.



# Hamming it up

## Retired Operating Engineer also an amateur radio operator

Retiree Pete Visalli read an article in *Engineers News* recently calling for amateur radio operators. In true “ham” form, he took no time to respond.

“I have been a ham for 60 years,” he said. “There were four generations of hams in our family.”

He has been an Operating Engineer since 1953.

An amateur radio operator, or ham, uses specialized equipment to engage in two-way personal communications on radio frequencies. Hams have been given a license by a governmental organization and are thus assigned a call sign to identify themselves.

Hams may talk to people all over the world, and while it is a fun hobby, it also plays an important role in emergency communications. When phone lines are down or other systems fail due to weather conditions, hams prevail.

For example, on Sept. 11, 2001, it was ham radio that kept New York City agencies in touch with each other after their command center was destroyed. When Hurricane Katrina ruined other forms of communication, ham radio saved the day.

Visalli has participated in similar emergency efforts.

“I was very active in the floods of 1955. I was at a Navy Reserve base in San Jose for three days and two nights handling

health and welfare messages for the Yuba-Sutter area, etc. At the time I was living in Sunnyvale,” he said.

Visalli is also a member of the Military Amateur Radio Service (MARS). He was the first radio contact “to an air base in Alaska to find out if a large plane could land as requested by an Air Force base in Texas. I used to handle a lot of ‘phone patches’ for military personnel in both Korean and Vietnam wars.”

Visalli is a Navy veteran who served during World War II “on a Destroyer (USS Putnam DD757) at Iwo Jima and Okinawa.” He currently lives in the Yuba City District.



Retiree Pete Visalli sits here during his ham hobby time.



## FIELD PERSPECTIVE:

### What the members are saying

*Why do you attend your district meetings?*



*“To see all the people I worked with and keep up with what is going on in the union.”*

– John Comer, retiree



*“I’m an apprentice. At first it was because I had to; now the retirement means a bit, and I want to stay informed.”*

– Tim Cross, five-year member



*“Because it is the only way you get information. You can’t complain if you don’t attend your meetings.”*

– Joe Wurm, eight-year member



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## Operators work 10-hour days on pipeline project

The compressor station marked the beginning of Fresno’s 30-inch gas pipeline project performed by **Snelson Companies**. The project began in January and will continue through December with nine operators currently onsite. Additional crane and

forklift operators will be needed in the near future. The crew is working six 10-hour days on the construction of the compressor station. According to **Snelson Companies**, the crew will install one mile of pipe a day on the 27-mile project.



Roller Operator James Valenzuela.



Apprentice Chris Sines.



Crane Operator Harvey “Downtown” Brown.



Gradesetter Danny Henry and Excavator Operator Mark Sawyer.

## NEVADA | 1290 Corporate Blvd., Reno, NV 89502 ▪ For all branches, call (775) 857-4440

### Signatories work throughout state

Work in northern Nevada is slowly on the upswing. **Granite Construction** is working on the I-580 widening, the Reno-Tahoe Airport apron, I-80 stateline to Floriston, the city of Sparks’ street rehab and two of the city of Reno street projects. In the Carson area, **Q&D Construction** is working on the bridge structures for the U.S. 395 bypass and the widening of U.S. 395 at Jacks Valley Road. The company was also the low bidder on the Victorian Square improvements in Sparks. **Sierra Nevada Construction** is starting work on I-80 at Vista Boulevard that was left over from last year. The company was also the low bidder on the improvements at Kietzke Lane and S. Virginia Street and the sewer lines in Eureka. **Peek Construction** (formerly **El Camino Construction**) is working on a waterline in Carson City and the wildlife crossing north of Wells, resuming the drainage improvements on Kingsbury Grade and getting ready to start the Glendale Water Supply improvements for the treatment plant in Sparks. **Frehner Construction** is working in Contact and was the low bidder on the overlay at Success Summit north of Ely. **Reno-Tahoe Construction** (RTC) is finishing the Sparks Sewer line. **Valentine Surfacing** is working in Elko on Silver Street and north of Ely near Cherry Creek.

The Ruby Pipeline received good news in early April when its Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) permits were approved, which was a major hurdle. The pipeline is also gaining good news coverage, evidenced on page 3 in this edition. **PE BEN** is working on the pipe yard in Osino and is in the process of starting the stock yard in Gerlach. **Precision Pipeline** and **Rockford Corp.** continue working at their fabrication yards in Elko.

**Canyon Construction** recently started a project at the Cortez Mine for Barrick. **Ames Construction** is working at the Newmont Mine north of Carlin on a large tailings dam, and **N.A. Degerstrom** is working at the Rossi Mine and at the Queenstake Mine. **RTC** is sending crews to a project at the old Battle Mountain Gold Mine. If you have any questions regarding the mines or the pipeline project, please call Elko Business Rep. **Allen Strong** at (775) 753-8761 or (800) 348-2832.

Congratulations to **Cliff Birdsall** and **Ralph Hildenbrand**, who won the Cabela’s gift certificates at the Semi-Annual video presentations in Reno and Elko respectively.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call the Hall.



The Pipeline Class included, front row, from left: Jerry Worley, Ken Price, Joe Robison, Terry Ross, Pete Maher, Brian Coyle, Jonathon Moon, Kirk Baker and Keith Hoover. Middle row, from left: Don Spears, Brett Campbell, Mick Redfern, E. Scott Fiscus, Gary Land, Paul Hood, Paul Smith, James D. Peterson, Tom Furr and Bob Leegard. Back row, from left: Bill Lambert, Wes Lewis, Steve Klovski, Jesse Snyder, Ross Metzler and Ron Muntz.



The Pipeline Steward Class included, front row, from left: Troy Black, George Schoen, George Scott, Tim Flanagan, David Trujillo and Tracy Gingrich. Back row, from left: Elko Organizer/Business Rep. Allen Strong, Yvonne Carlsen, George French, Billy Brandt, Day Hyde, Sam Gingrich, Jack Derr, Nicole Balliett and Ernie Gray.



## Highway work providing jobs in

Mark your calendars: On June 19, District 70 will be hosting its annual picnic at the Anderson River Park. This marks the 39<sup>th</sup> year for this event, and we are looking forward to seeing all of our members and friends there.

Work in the district has been steady. **Tutor-Saliba** is working on the southern approach of the Antlers Bridge. **Sierra Equipment** is also working on the Antlers Bridge project, removing hillsides and building a new section of I-5. **Tullis Inc.** is constructing a third northbound lane on I-5 in Cottonwood, and **C.C. Myers** is replacing an old, worn-out concrete section of I-5 in Red Bluff. **Syblon-Reid** is installing screens and ladders on north Battle Creek in Manton. **Granite Construction Co.** is

paving Hwy. 395 near Doyle. **Q&D Construction** is replacing a small bridge with a cast-in-place structure in Standish. **Mercer Fraser** is realigning a curve in Trinity County. **JF Shea** is working on road reconstruction and paving Hwy. 44 near Viola. **Steve Manning** is overlaying a section of Hwy. 44 near the Shasta/Lassen County line.

The work picture looks to be promising this season. Please check in with the Hall to stay current with your registration.

Thanks to all who helped with the phone banking for our local elections. See you at the picnic.



*Siskiyou Asphalt's Will Peters, Roger Hanson and Ron Wishart.*

*Aggregate Products' Ron Triplet.*

## **SACRAMENTO** | 3920 Lennane Drive, Sacramento, CA 95834 ▪ (916) 993-2055

### Almost \$300 million in work to go to bid in

Summer is finally here, and there are a couple of dates to remember this month. The annual Retiree Picnic will be held Saturday, June 5 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. District 80 retirees: Please try to come out, spend some time, share some stories and have a good lunch with us. Also, Saturday, June 19, we will hold Be Educated And Ready (BEAR) training for all of our Unit 12 members at the District 80 Hall from 9 a.m. to noon. Learn the BEAR essentials for effective job actions, and get ready for the next round of negotiations. If you need more information on this training, contact Unit 12 Coordinator **Travis Tweedy** at (916) 993-2058.

Now that summer is here, please remember that any company working outdoors must provide you access to fresh, cool drinking water and training on how to work safely in the heat. Don't wait until you're thirsty to drink.

As for work, a question that is often asked is: Where are the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Stimulus Funds? At the time of this writing, a few of our signatory companies have been able to land some of these ARRA jobs. Downtown, next to I-5, **MCM** has the Fifth Street Overhead Bridge worth about \$4.57 million. At various locations in western Placer County, **Teichert** has about \$1.6 million of Asphalt Concrete (AC) overlay work. **DeSilva Gates** is doing the \$1.6 million Forcum Avenue and Bell Avenue road improvement. Phase 14 of the water-service meter retrofit is being done by **Marquez Pipeline** for \$883,670. Future projects in the bid stage include the estimated \$250 million Folsom Dam control structure and the estimated \$43 million Sacramento Railyard track relocation. It's good to see some of our tax monies coming back to us by way of work for the members.

Projects currently moving along include the Sacramento Airport Terminal B modernization. Behind the airport, **Independent Construction** is working on Phase 1B of the Sacramento River East Levee. The Hwy. 50 Harbor Boulevard Interchange improvement project is also underway with **C.C. Myers** widening the Harbor Boulevard Bridge structure and **Argonaut Constructors** adding three new ramps, removing



*Flatiron Construction works on the \$20 million Hazel Avenue improvement project.*

one and modifying three others. **Flatiron Construction** is pushing hard on the first phase of the \$20 million Hazel Avenue improvement project, which is about 50 percent complete. At its peak, the company has nine operators working. On the west side of Hazel Avenue, crews will be redirecting traffic for the widening of the bridge and roadway. The project should be completed by February 2011.

If you are not currently working but are able, be sure to check with the Rancho Murieta Training Center (RMTTC) for upgrade or refresher training to keep your skills up to date. If you are on the out-of-work list, please remember to update your registration to avoid falling off the list.

Lastly, for this union to stay strong, we need you to be involved when your schedule allows. Call the Hall or drop by to see if there are any political or union activities that you can participate in – phone banking, precinct walking, rallies, strike lines, district meetings, Semi-Annual Meetings, sporting clays shoots, district picnics, etc. There's always something going on.



**Members level landmark**

A Marysville landmark has been leveled. **Penhall Company** made short work of the old Caltrans District 3 headquarters building. It didn't matter that there was less than 10 feet of clearance between the old building and the new one – the skill and precision of Local 3 members working for **Penhall** had the rubble sorted and loaded out quickly. The building was just a memory in “wreck-ord” time.



*Penhall operators level the old Caltrans District 3 headquarters building – a Marysville landmark.*



Our Unit 12 brothers and sisters working for the state of California have also been feeling the state's wrecking ball with more than 13 percent reduction in pay from furloughs, the loss of two holidays given in lieu of an increase some years ago, the added takeaway of working the remaining holidays at straight time and the fact that the state won't pick up its share of any medical-rate increases. Yes, this is a wrecking ball delivered through unprecedented legal maneuvering by our legislation in a time of fiscal emergency.

This battle over a fair contract is far from over. The state continues to pay its lawyers untold amounts of tax dollars to find ways to take back what was bargained in good faith, through legal maneuvers and changes in government codes.

With your support, Local 3 won some challenges only to have them appealed and delayed. We continue to fight for fair and reasonable wages and working conditions for our members. There are countless contracts negotiated each year. Thanks to those who participate in the process.

Thanks also to those who participate in politics. Study the issues, know the candidates and vote for the representatives with common sense and working families first on their agendas. Visit [www.oe3.org](http://www.oe3.org) to see the candidates Local 3 endorses. Vote June 8!

**OAKLAND** | 1620 South Loop Road, Alameda, CA 94502 ▪ (510) 748-7446

**Local 3 negotiates PLA with Hayward Unified School District**

Summer is here, and we are hoping this season is better than last, though it's been a slow start with all the much-needed rain.

A special thanks to those of you who came out to the District 20 picnic.

Southeast Alameda County has its fair share of work. We have all driven down I-880 past the Solyndra project and watched in amazement as **Rudolph and Sletten** sometimes has up to 300 workers on each shift to build the new facility. Solyndra put the company under the gun, but with the help of all the signatory subcontractors and of course, union labor, crews are on schedule.

We are seeing a new phase on the Irvington BART extension. **Schnabel Foundation** is done with grouting work, which will allow **Shimmick/Skanska** Joint Venture (JV) to begin open cutting for the rail line.

**Ranger Pipelines** is also hard at work in Fremont. The company started the Hetch Hetchy reliability upgrade line in February and is moving along.

We are waiting to see how Hayward Unified School District will spend the \$240 million raised for school projects. Local 3 was instrumental in assisting the Alameda County Building Trades in negotiations to secure this work under a Project Labor Agreement (PLA), which means all union work on all projects.

The city of Livermore's \$1.6 million

Water Reclamation Plant Gravity Belt Thickeners upgrade project will also be done under a PLA.

**Teichert Construction** was awarded a \$400,000 project for arterial street rehabilitation on N. Vasco Road. This will include rehabilitation of asphalt and concrete streets, pavement grinding, asphalt overlay, replacement of asphalt and concrete dykes to make Vasco Road a safe thoroughway from Contra Costa County to Alameda County. **Shimmick Construction** was awarded an \$80 million project for the Sunol Valley Water Treatment Plant expansion and treated-water reservoir. This project will include the construction of a 40 million-gallon-per-day sedimentation and flocculation basin, modifications to the existing flow distribution structure, upgrade of existing filters and construction of a 17.5 million-gallon treated-water reservoir moving more than 300,000 yards of earth. We should see some good earth work and paving on this project.

Bids will go out soon for the state Route 84 Expressway, which involves widening a 4.6-mile section of Isabel Avenue from Ruby Hill Drive to Jack London Boulevard in Livermore. More to come on this transportation improvement in eastern Alameda County.

Work in western Contra Costa County is still slow. **O.C. Jones** is working on a massive overlay project at the Port of

Richmond. **Vortex Marine** is also working at the port, doing \$1.9 million in dock upgrades and a 300-foot sheet-pile dock wall. **Sukut Construction** is back at the San Pablo Dam Reservoir in El Sobrante finishing an abutment project from last season. **Ghilotti Bros.** is hard at work on a \$22 million highway widening project in Rodeo on I-80. The city of Richmond continues meeting on the Point Molate project, and everything is on track.

As you know, the political season has begun, and we need your help. It may be precinct walking or phone banking for a candidate; it may be one hour or several, but it's all very important to every one of our pocketbooks. Volunteering to help our Voice of the Engineer (VOTE) program means a stronger voice and a stronger union. *You* are the “U” in union.

*Apprenticeship Spotlight*

District 20 would like to congratulate Construction Equipment Operator (CEO) Apprentice **Brent Wullenwaber** for journeying out. Wullenwaber spent his apprenticeship under the tutelage of the skilled journey-level operators working for **RGW Construction**.



*CEO Apprentice Brent Wullenwaber.*

Grinding operations get green light

Behind the westbound scales in Fairfield, the Corporate Commons project should be finished within the next few months, depending on the weather. Several companies have attempted to get the rock crushing operations to pass specs. **Independent Construction**, under the guidance of Area Superintendent **Ed Salazar** and Foreman **Andrece Adams**, has finally received the green light from developers to get this project wrapped up. Recently, **FMG** performed the grinding operations for the project. PM-200 Cat Grinder Operator **Rod Gibson** filled trucks and sent them on their way, while his ground man, **Alvaro Corona**, kept the trucks ready for loading, helped the grinder stay lined up and checked grade during this project. **Independent** Skip Loader Operator **Matt Mullen** maintained a clear path for the grinding crew. **J&M Inc.** will perform the underground work. There has been talk that a Bass Pro Shop or a Cabela's will set up a store at this location.

**Ghilotti Construction** has some good work coming in Napa. A commuter bike path built along the railway right-of-way from Main Street to Vallejo Street and sidewalk improvements on East Avenue between the two streets will create close to \$1.5 million worth of work. The company also picked up the Yountville bikeway project – another \$1 million worth of work. All these projects are waiting for the ground to dry up, due to a very wet winter.

Congratulations go out to three apprentices who journeyed out from three different programs: **Nick Jessen** completed the crane program in March while working for **Sheedy Crane**, and in April, **Keith Murdock** completed the Construction Equipment Operator (CEO) program working for **Harold Smith & Sons**, and **Jeffrey Saenz** finished his dredging apprenticeship with **Manson Construction**.



Crane Apprentice Nick Jessen.



Dredge Apprentice Jeffrey Saenz.

Grinder Operator Rod Gibson and his ground man, Alvaro Corona, work on the Corporate Commons project.



Local FIST class a success

Don't forget District 90's annual picnic at Christmas Hill Park on Saturday, July 10 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bring sunscreen and a fan – it will be warm. There will be a barbecue, salad and ice cream for everyone. Come and enjoy games and prizes for the kids and fun for the entire family.

As far as work goes, **Granite** is busy paving Hwy. 101 from south San Francisco to Morgan Hill with three crews working a tight schedule as they lay down rubberized asphalt overlay. This will greatly reduce road spray during wet weather and road noise for those living near the highway.

**Viking Construction** from Rancho Cordova is progressing well on the Tennant Avenue overcrossing and ramp improvements in Morgan Hill, and by now, **RGW** should be well underway with the Salinas Road flyover south of Watsonville.

We had a Fair Industry Strike Training (FIST) class in April. Attendance was great – 50 members and staff, including President **Fred Herschbach** and Local 3-endorsed Santa Cruz County Judge **Steven Wright**. After extensive classroom training, with excellent input from Herschbach, Director of Special Operations **Bob Miller**, Special Rep. **Pete Figueiredo** and Public Employee Director **Don Dietrich**, we moved the action to our parking lot. The training was complete with picket signs, a bullhorn and various actors trying to disrupt a mock picket line. Miller and Dietrich teamed up as police officers (including doughnut jokes), disgruntled business owners and delivery people. The best was when Miller portrayed a reporter and Dietrich his devoted cameraperson, with an empty box on his shoulder for a video camera. To top it off, Wright participated as an attorney on behalf of the owner of the company and shouted at the picket



Several members take advantage of the Hazwoper class held in April.

line, waving his arms in the air. Our marching created quite the excitement for some of our neighbors, curious as to what was going on that night. Local 3 thanks Wright for his help and everyone who came out to further labor's cause. (For more information on Local 3's FIST program, see pages 18 and 19.)

For those of you who have been on the out-of-work list and are returning to work, remember to call Dispatcher **Dennis Garringer** and let him know. Many of you haven't been on the list in several years and may not know that you need to be re-dispatched to your employer to retain your death benefits and right to representation. It also helps us help those who need the work the most in a timely manner. This probably won't be a banner season, but we are headed in the right direction. Let's keep working on getting the High Speed Rail project going, and remember to vote with your dollars and buy American-made whenever you can.



Ash-cover jobsite puts many to work

At Aliamanu Crater, RHS Lee operators are hard at work, including 20-year member **Kenneth Kalaukoa** and five-year member **Danilo Salcedo**.

Operators working on **Goodfellow Bros., Inc.**'s ash-cover jobsite include 10-year member **Michael Whaley**, two-year member **Ronson Brandt**, four-year member **Clint Kanehailua**, 20-year member **Manuel Aila**, five-year member **Tui Savao** and 19-year member **Charles Dudoit Jr.**



From left: Oiler/Gradechecker **Fia Filishi** and Excavator Operator **Fred Norton Jr.** work for Highway Construction in Aiea.



From left: **Ronson Brandt** waits for **Michael Whaley** to fill his truck, while **Manuel Aila's** truck is filled by **Clint Kanehailua** on **Goodfellow's** ash-cover jobsite.

Let's hope the worst is behind us!

We have had a typical Utah spring this year – 70 degrees one day and 3 inches of snow the next; heater on in the car on the way to work and the air conditioner on for the way home. Although the weather has played a factor in work this year, we are lucky to have the work that we do.

**Commuter Rail Constructors, Stacy and Witbeck/Kiewit Western** and **Kiewit/Herzog/Parsons** continue to work on the rail systems in Salt Lake and Utah counties. **Kiewit/Clyde** are wrapping up work on Beck Street in north Salt Lake and Pioneer Crossing in American Fork, while **Geneva Rock Products** finishes work in Syracuse and Woods Cross.

As some of these jobs wrap up, we are excited for the work ahead. **Ames Construction** started on the I-15 Core project in Utah County. This \$1.1 billion project should keep many of us busy for the next 2-½ years. We anticipate that, by the time this is published, **Granite/Kiewit/Clyde** will be close to starting a job on the Mountain View Corridor in the southwest corner of Salt Lake County, which has been hindered by permits and right-of-way issues.

The Ruby Dome Pipeline has received the necessary Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) permit, so crews can start on the warehouses and mobilizing the pipe for the 42-inch, natural-gas pipeline project running from Opal, Wyo., through northern Utah and Nevada and ending in Malin, Ore. We have been told this project will start sometime this July. If you do not have a current Operator Qualification (OQ) certification for the pipeline, you should contact the Hall immediately so you can get certified before the pipeline kicks off.

We know many of you have struggled in this poor economy, but let's hope that with the opportunities ahead of us in 2010, we can finally say that the worst is behind us!

One place you have a say in your future is at the voting booth. The Utah primary election is June 22. For a list of endorsements, turn to this month's political column, or visit the politics page online at [www.oe3.org](http://www.oe3.org) for the most up-to-date information about this fast-approaching election. By the time this is printed, some changes to these endorsements may have been made, so be sure to go online.



**Blair Christensen** fixes the rail threader machine.



**Foreman Kelly Black** looks over the plans for the underground utilities.



From left: **Tony Muri** and **Alan DeFord** work for **Stacy and Witbeck/Kiewit** on the light rail project.



**Tim Squire** makes cuts for communication and power.



**Jake Carlson** lays ties for the new light-rail line.

## Big news for District 30 should keep members afloat

There are some big projects that highlight the 2010 construction season in the Stockton District, such as the new, \$1.2 billion California Department of Corrections prison hospital off Arch Road in Stockton. Construction will take three years to complete and is estimated to provide 1,700 construction jobs. Once completed, the facility is expected to employ 2,400 state workers and pump \$250 million into our local economy. Our elected officials on the City Council and County Board of Supervisors did a great job of holding the state accountable for

the foreseeable impacts to the community. The state agreed to make major upgrades to Arch Road, build an addition to the county hospital, purchase construction materials locally and give preference to contractors that use a local workforce.

Another project, the Northern California Power Agency Lodi Power Plant, will be the largest energy-producing facility in San Joaquin County, when it is completed by early 2012. It is projected to take two years to build and cost \$500 million. The project will also have several smaller projects associated with it,

including upgrades to the water-treatment plant and surrounding pipelines.

These projects, along with the Hetch Hetchy Water System, Delta Water Supply, multiple paving projects and smaller Stimulus-funded projects, will keep members afloat as we look to the future for more prosperous times.

Thank you to all who attended the Stockton District Picnic on May 2. Look for pictures and details in next month's *Engineers News*.

## **BURLINGAME** | 828 Mahler Road, Suite B, Burlingame, CA 94010 ▪ (650) 652-7969

### Nothing 'boring' about the work picture

Great news out of San Mateo County – the estimated \$450 million Gateway Project in Menlo Park is one step away from final approval, and it looks good. The City Council will make its final decision this month. Your local labor leaders are working hard to make this an all-union job. Thanks to the volunteers who came out on the evening of April 6 to support this project.

Also coming to the county is a tunnel under the San Francisco Bay just south of the Dumbarton Bridge. The all-union job is worth more than \$300 million and will bore west to east from East Palo Alto. We will keep you updated on its start time and any role operators will play there. At Devils Slide on Hwy. 1 in Pacifica, the boring of south and northbound tunnels is nearing completion, but the project still has a year to go as operators complete finish work. This dangerous and dirty job is producing Local 3 members who are adaptable and resourceful. Other tunnel work is planned. We need to claim this work, as it is ours, and we are the best.

Also in San Mateo County, the boring on the Crystal Springs Bypass Tunnel is finished, and now crews are concentrating on finish work. This **Shank and Balfour Beatty** Joint Venture (JV) should be finished in one year – another dirty tunnel job that takes a special kind of person!

The High Speed Rail is slowly but surely moving along. With opposition from some Peninsula cities, a common ground must be sought. Many public hearings have taken place to get input from local communities. Their voices are being heard, and so are ours. This project is good for the state of California and the local economy. You can express your support online at [www.oe3.org](http://www.oe3.org). Click on the Caltrain link on the homepage.

The heartbreaking closure of the Nummi Plant in Fremont is one place we can build the rail cars and get those laid-off assembly folks back to work. Not one Toyota recall came out of that plant.

District 01 would also like to recognize a small and profitable Local 3 shop in south San Francisco called **RA Metal Products**. Members/brothers **Russ** and **Richard Asmussen** own the company – a small, unique shop that specializes in fabrication, welding, machining and bucket and blade repair. If you want it, they can make it. Russ is quite the designer who “thinks in 3-D to design and fit the demands of the customers.” The brothers even weld and fabricate step brackets for the Jaws of Life. Keep up the good work.

In the city and county of San Francisco, the work picture continues to get better. New projects include improvements to the St. Francis Traffic Circle at Sloat Boulevard and Junipera Serra by **NTK Construction**. On Valencia Street, north of 24<sup>th</sup> Street and around the Seventh and Irving Street hub, **Ghilotti Bros Inc.** is performing street improvements and ramp work to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). At Pier 94, **Aman Environmental Construction** is crushing concrete and supplying the nearby batch plants. At Doyle Drive, **R&L Brosamer** was awarded the fourth contract of the Golden Gate Bridge feeder-replacement project, including the Battery Tunnel and some permanent roadway. On the Bay Bridge transition section between the Self Anchoring Suspension section and the Yerba Buena Island tunnel, general contractor **C.C. Myers** is constructing the footings and piers, while subs **Silverado Contractors** and **Sheedy Crane** finish dismantling the falsework and demolishing the section of old bridge bypassed by the notorious “S” curve. Projects on the radar include the \$1 billion Cathedral Hill Hospital and the Central Subway (Chinatown tunnel). **MCM** is scheduled to mobilize in the summer/fall for a contract to build the road decks.

District 01 would like to thank all the volunteers who participated in our three-hour Fair Industry Strike Training (FIST) program on March 24, including: **Peter Lowrie; Dan Rosas; Vance Pope; Bruce Spencer; Stephen Baker; Virginia Morgan; Brian Mooney; Thomas Rosas; Kevin Castain; Ed Elwell; Joe Galicia; Joe Wendt; Mike Berti; Tranquilino Gaspar; Vince Morales; Linda Olivier; Lynette Squire; Nick Winch; Robert Allen; Jose Haro Ruiz; Myron Coleman; James Fahy; Gerard Tynan; Bob Willis; Bobby Strickland; Mike Rodrigues; Wayne Ferrare; Dan Reguera; Julie Bagley; Harry Pali; Dave Daneluz; Boyd McBride; Scott Feely; Anthony Hall; Byron Cheeves; Gene Pratt; Cameron Robbins; Johnny Moreci; Gerald Duffy; William Meyers; Craig Ogans; Jeff Scott; John Waggy; Jeanetta Brown; John Griffin; and Joe Solorzano.** The education of strikes and picketing was excellent. (For more information on these trainings, please see pages 18 and 19.)

District 01's annual picnic starts at 11 a.m. on Sunday, June 13. Tickets are available at the Hall. The location is the same as last year: Coyote Point Eucalyptus picnic area. We hope to see you there.



Members and owners of RA Metal Products in south San Francisco Richard and Russ Asmussen fabricate step brackets for the Jaws of Life.



## Let's fight the fight together

Solidarity is defined as unity based on shared interests, objectives or standards. It is time to get back to the basics and fully understand what standing united means to us, especially in these hard economic times.

There are numerous assaults on our way of life: There are attempts to do away with prevailing wage, hour laws and more. There are attacks on the American standard of living, the right to earn a fair day's wage for a fair day's work, the right to have health and welfare benefits to keep our families healthy and the right to freedom and the pursuit of happiness.

We bring these things to your attention for a few reasons: The ongoing Master Agreement negotiations and the elections coming in November. The significance of standing up, getting involved and letting our voices be heard is very important, as is getting the right politicians elected, those who have our issues – workers' rights and liberties – at heart. (For a list of Local

3-endorsed candidates, visit us online at [www.oe3.org](http://www.oe3.org).)

We all need to come together as one in solidarity, fight the right fight and make sure we always step forward.

The following is a quote from **Samuel Gompers**, an American labor union leader and founder of the American Federation of Labor (AFL) in the early 1900s:

"What does labor want? It wants the earth and the fullness thereof. There is nothing too precious, there is nothing too beautiful, too lofty, too ennobling, unless it is within the scope and comprehension of labor's aspirations and wants. We want more school houses and fewer jails, more books and fewer arsenals, more learning and less vice, more justice and less revenge – in fact, more opportunities to cultivate our better natures, to make manhood and womanhood more noble and more beautiful and childhood more happy and bright."

Have a safe season.

**ROHNERT PARK** | 6225 State Farm Drive, Suite 100, Rohnert Park, CA 94928 ▪ (707) 585-2487

## Pancake-palooza – annual picnic a success

District 10's annual Pancake Breakfast/Car and Motorcycle Show was held April 18 at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds and was attended by about 300 members, their families and friends. The show included more than 60 cars and motorcycles as well as a dragster and a helicopter. The day included a raffle and awards for best car and best motorcycle, chosen by those in attendance. Retiree **Russ Swanson** (son of Local 3's first business manager **Vic Swanson**) won best car with his 1921 Dixie. Member **Jim Scagliola's** Ural Russian military bike with sidecar won best motorcycle. The highlight of the day, however, was Retiree **Hap Miller** and his single-seat helicopter, which arrived on a trailer and was unloaded by Miller and his son and walked to an open field on the fairgrounds. Miller started it up, hovered for a brief moment, made a loop around the fairgrounds and hovered once more to wave to the crowd of onlookers before flying home to Kenwood. A good time was had by all. We would like to thank all of the volunteers who made this event possible: **Randy Bryson; Patti Jenkins; Lindsay Farley; Tommy Numainville; Joel Lanstra; George and Ellie Naill; Anna and Ashley Steffensen; Anthony and Katie Caldwell; Charles Richardson; Julie Niehaus; Judy Lunde; and Danielle Spain** as well as staff members: Business reps. **Pat O'Halloran** and **Michael Hughes**; Dispatcher **Gordon Lunde**; District 10 Secretary **Theresa Spain**; Apprentice Coordinator **George Steffensen**; Public Employee Rep. **David Gossman**; Member Services Office Manager **Jennie Armstrong**; and Collection Manager **David Hayner**.

On the work front, **O.C. Jones** is waiting for dry weather and good nighttime temperatures to finish the final lift of paving on the company's Hwy. 101 widening project between Windsor and

Santa Rosa. **Ghilotti Brothers** completed a major traffic switch on Hwy. 101 and began excavating the new overpass at Golf Course Drive in Rohnert Park. Now, **Foundation Constructors** can start driving piles. **R.M. Harris** has falsework in place for the first bridge deck at Wilfred Avenue. **North Bay Construction** and **Gordon N. Ball, Inc.** are set to start widening Hwy. 101 from Rohnert Park Expressway south to Pepper Road. The project is at the stripping stage with most of the trees removed. **North Bay** is also waiting for good weather to return to a slide-repair job on River Road near Hacienda Bridge. **Argonaut Constructors** is gearing up on Hwy. 116 (Stage Gulch Road) between Petaluma and Sonoma. This job is also in the tree removal stage. Work will mostly be done at night due to the high volume of traffic and the narrow access to the work area.

On the horizon: The Airport Avenue interchange and overpass widening project is in the design review/approval stage. **Ghilotti Construction** is the low bidder on the Caulfield Road widening at the rail crossing in Petaluma. **W.R. Forde** is the apparent low bidder on the \$940,000 waterline improvements for Sweetwater Springs Water District in Guerneville. **Granite Construction** has a \$1.1 million Asphalt Concrete (AC) overlay project on Hwy. 1 near Albion in Mendocino County. In Lake County, **North Bay Construction** is the low bidder on the \$785,000 Soda Bay Road rehabilitation and AC overlay. Sonoma County has the \$7 million Laughlin Road extension near the airport and the \$2 million replacement of the Crocker Road Bridge near Cloverdale in design review. Hopefully, by the time you read this, the weather will be dry and the job picture much improved.



After hovering above the picnic site, Retiree **Hap Miller** flies his single-seat helicopter home.



Retiree **Russ Swanson's** 1921 Dixie car took top honors.



**Jim Scagliola's** Ural Russian motorcycle won best motorcycle at District 10's picnic.

## DISTRICT MEETINGS

All meetings convene at 7 p.m.

### JUNE 2010

- 2<sup>nd</sup> District 11: Reno  
Operating Engineers' Building  
1290 Corporate Blvd.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> District 12: Utah  
IBEW Local 354  
3400 W. 2100 S.
- 8<sup>th</sup> District 17: Honolulu  
Operating Engineers' Building  
1075 Opakapaka St.  
Kapolei
- 9<sup>th</sup> District 17: Kona  
King Kamehameha Kona  
Beach Hotel  
75-5660 Palani Road
- 10<sup>th</sup> District 17: Maui  
Maui Beach Hotel  
170 Kaahumanu Ave.  
Kahului

### JULY 2010

No meetings scheduled.

### AUGUST 2010

- 3<sup>rd</sup> District 04: Suisun  
Veterans' Memorial Building  
427 Main St.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> District 40: Eureka  
Best Western Bayshore Inn  
3500 Broadway
- 4<sup>th</sup> District 10: Rohnert Park  
Operating Engineers' Building  
6225 State Farm Drive
- 4<sup>th</sup> District 70: Redding  
Operating Engineers' Building  
20308 Engineers Lane
- 5<sup>th</sup> District 60: Marysville  
Marysville Veterans' Memorial Center  
211 17th St.
- 10<sup>th</sup> District 20: San Leandro  
Sheet Metal Workers  
1720 Marina Blvd.
- 10<sup>th</sup> District 30: Stockton  
Italian Athletic Club  
3541 Cherry Land Drive
- 11<sup>th</sup> District 50: Clovis  
Veterans' Memorial Building  
453 Hughes Ave.
- 11<sup>th</sup> District 80: Sacramento  
Operating Engineers' Building  
3920 Lennane Drive
- 12<sup>th</sup> District 01: Burlingame  
Transport Workers' Union  
1521 Rollins Road
- 12<sup>th</sup> District 90: Morgan Hill  
Operating Engineers' Building  
325 Digital Drive
- 25<sup>th</sup> District 11: Reno  
Operating Engineers' Building  
1290 Corporate Blvd.
- 26<sup>th</sup> District 12: Salt Lake City  
IBEW Local 354  
3400 W. 2100 S.

## HONORARY MEMBERS

The following retirees have 35 or more years of membership in Local 3 as of April and are eligible for Honorary Membership effective July 1, unless otherwise noted (\*).

Louis Cames	1644237	District 99: Out Of Area
Ken P. Francek	1644256	District 30: Stockton
Sal J. Tripoli*	1144752	District 50: Fresno
Dennis Winget*	2105095	District 12: Utah

\* Effective April 1, 2010

## SERVICE PINS

In honor and remembrance of years of service in Local 3, service pins are available to members with 25 or more years of membership in Local 3. These pins come in five-year increments from 25 through 70 years. Please contact your district office to receive your pins.

The agents take the delivery of this honor seriously. Morgan Hill Business Rep. Al Souza made a surprise delivery to 50-year member Evarist Abila, while he was in the hospital. Abila retired in 1986.

Galleries of some pin recipients can be found online at [www.oe3.org](http://www.oe3.org) and occasionally in the *Engineers News*.



Fifty-year honoree  
Evarist Abila.

## GET READY FOR PICNIC TIME

It's hard to believe it's district picnic time again. Listed below is the picnic schedule for 2010. Mark your calendars. Please note: The Retiree Picnic will be held on Saturday, June 5 at the Rancho Murieta Training Center (RMTc).

- Retiree Picnic: Saturday, June 5
- Burlingame District 01: Sunday, June 13
- Redding District 70: Saturday, June 19
- Morgan Hill District 90: Saturday, July 10
- Hawaii District 17: Oahu, Sunday, Aug. 29
- Kauai, Saturday, Sept. 25
- Maui, Saturday, Oct. 2
- Kona, Saturday, Dec. 4

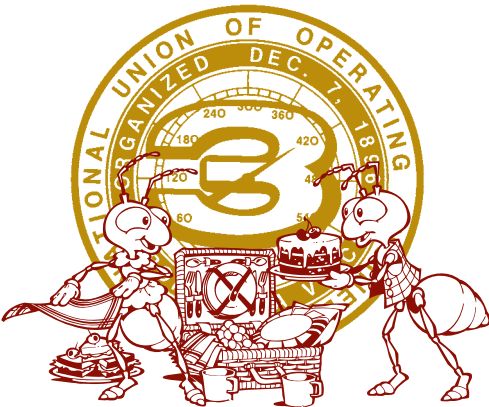
Fresno District 50: Has decided not to hold a picnic this year.

Yuba City District 60: Has decided not to hold a picnic this year.

### Retiree Picnic Details

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the upcoming Retiree Picnic held at the RMTc on Saturday, June 5.

Come up Friday at noon and stay until noon on Sunday, if you wish. There is plenty of parking for your self-contained motor homes and trailers. Once again, Local 3 will pick up the tab for this event. We'll see you there!



- District 01: Burlingame District Picnic Details
- Sunday, June 13, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Coyote Point Recreation Area, Eucalyptus picnic areas three and four, 1701 Coyote Point Drive, San Mateo
- Menu: Tri-tip, salad, hot dogs, cake, soda, beer and lots more
- Cost: Retirees and children – free, adults – \$10
- Other information: Lunch served at noon. Astro jump, raffle and prizes. Must present ticket at door. Parking at gate is \$5 per car

- District 70: Redding District Picnic Details
- Saturday, June 19, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Anderson River Park (barbecue area No. 1), 2800 Rupert Road, Anderson
- Menu: Pit-roasted beef-cross rib roast, green salad, barbecue beans, bread, fruit, ice cream and beverages
- Cost: Retirees – \$6, children ages 6 to 12 – \$4, children under 6 – free, adults – \$10
- Other information: Raffle, band, dancing and games for the children

- District 90: Morgan Hill District Picnic Details
- Saturday, July 10, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Christmas Hill Park (Mulberry areas), Gilroy
- Menu: Roast, chicken, hot dogs, salad, beans, ice cream, cotton candy, water, soda and beer
- Cost: Retirees and children under 10 – free, pre-sale tickets – \$10, \$12 at the door
- Other Information: Face-painting and bounce house for the kids, raffle



<b>DEPARTED MEMBERS</b>	
Allen, Ted Lincoln, CA District 80 02-15-10	
Ballenger, Richard Colfax, CA District 80 11-28-09	
Beam, Gerald Prather, CA District 50 02-08-10	
Blakely, Marvin Yuma, AZ District 99 03-03-10	
Capote, Gerald Red Bluff, CA District 70 02-11-10	
Chacon, Ignacio Stockton, CA District 30 01-28-10	
Cooney, Mike San Lorenzo, CA District 20 03-02-10	
Draper, Elmer San Jose, CA District 90 03-02-10	
Drewry, Harry Fresno, CA District 50 02-13-10	
Engelsen, Thor Woodside, CA District 01 03-26-10	
Golithon, William Santa Rosa, CA District 10 03-13-10	
Hashimoto, Masao Honolulu, HI District 17 02-27-10	
Jones, Robert North Fork, CA District 50 02-22-10	
King, John Sr. Napa, CA District 04 03-27-10	
La Delle, Charles Pollock Pines, CA District 80 03-13-10	
Lovato, Ralph Mariposa, CA District 50 03-12-10	

Magri, Peter Colorado Springs, CO District 99 03-20-10	
McBride, George Sweet Home, OR District 99 03-27-10	
McGuire, Wayne Antelope, CA District 80 03-01-10	
McKnight, Harry Vallejo, CA District 04 03-05-10	
Miller, Wayne Bouse, AZ District 99 12-13-09	
Okamoto, Fred Kaneohe, HI District 17 02-06-10	
Parrish, Jesse Lodi, CA District 30 03-16-10	
Parrott, William Atascadero, CA District 99 03-01-10	
Powell, Elmer Napa, CA District 04 02-23-10	
Richardson, Stanley Payson, UT District 12 02-27-10	
Rodriguez, Feliz Napa, CA District 04 03-22-10	
Ross, Cecil Marysville, CA District 60 03-03-10	
Rowden, Dallas Sun Valley, NV District 11 03-28-10	
Sadler, Wayne Concord, CA District 20 03-06-10	
Shepherd, Ed Clayton, CA District 20 03-05-10	
Sierra, Richard South San Francisco, CA District 01 02-24-10	
Skinner, Wiley Martinez, CA District 20 02-26-10	

Smith, Norman Salina, UT District 12 12-07-09	
Thompson, Henry Mililani, HI District 17 02-23-10	
Tyler, Michael Reno, NV District 11 02-26-10	
Villajuan, Antonio SF Mabalacat, Philippines District 99 03-02-10	
Westphal, Rudolph Georgetown, CA District 80 03-09-10	
Williams, Don West Valley City, UT District 12 02-25-10	
<b>DECEASED DEPENDENTS</b>	
Anderson, Charlotte. Wife of Anderson, George 03-14-10	
Arnold, Lucy. Wife of Arnold, Samuel 03-08-10	
Bailey, Linda. Wife of Bailey, Mark (dec) 03-27-10	
Cover, Ella Mae. Wife of Cover, Cleon (dec) 03-02-10	
Coy, Billie. Wife of Coy, Thurman (dec) 02-19-10	
David, Alyce. Wife of David, Evan 03-13-10	
Drewery, Mildred. Wife of Drewery, Wilmer (dec) 02-28-10	
Gorman, Freida. Wife of Gorman, John (dec) 03-19-10	
Hampton, Patricia. Wife of Hampton, William (dec) 02-18-10	


Hay, Maxine. Wife of Hay, Jack 02-01-10	
Hintze, Sandra. Wife of Hintze, Dennis 02-10-10	
Hurt, Delores. Wife of Hurt, Alfred (dec) 12-26-09	
Jamison, Shirley. Wife of Jamison, Theodore 02-27-10	
Janikowski, Shirley. Wife of Janikowski, Ernest (dec) 03-10-10	
Jaques, Daisy. Wife of Jaques, Marvin (dec) 03-26-10	
Johnson, Inez. Wife of Johnson, Joe (dec) 03-19-10	
Keeney, Josephine. Wife of Keeney, Bennett 02-13-10	
Koivisto, Louise. Wife of Koivisto, Arnold (dec) 02-23-10	
Lopez, Neal. Husband of Lopez, Azure E. 01-24-10	
May, Virginia. Wife of May, Robert (dec) 02-22-10	
Michel, Alice. Wife of Michel, Larry (dec) 03-14-10	
Miller, Joe Anna. Wife of Miller, Alton 02-28-10	
Morrison, Norma. Wife of Morrison, James (dec) 02-28-10	
Mullins, Lila. Ex-wife of Mullins, Dexter 03-03-10	
Nicholson, Marilyn. Wife of Nicholson, Richard (dec) 03-23-10	
Njirich, Grace. Wife of Njirich, Fred (dec) 03-19-10	

Norris, Patricia. Wife of Norris, Orvill (dec) 03-11-10	
Peterson, Alma. Ex-wife of Peterson, Danny 03-15-10	
Pitschner, Isabella. Wife of Pitschner, Fred (dec) 03-07-10	
Potter, Jacob. Son of Potter, Ernest H. 01-23-10	
Price, Corine. Wife of Price, Clinton (dec) 03-08-10	
Sandner, Myra. Wife of Sandner, Herman (dec) 03-06-10	
Searcy, Gladys. Wife of Searcy, Roscoe (dec) 03-30-10	
Shields, Edna. Wife of Shields, Herman (dec) 03-17-10	
Spittler, Carolyn. Wife of Spittler, Robert 03-16-10	
Strain, Esther. Wife of Strain, Dale 03-28-10	
Uahinui, Winona. Wife of Uahinui, David (dec) 03-13-10	
Wetherby, Mary. Wife of Wetherby, Clarence (dec) 02-19-10	
Whitfield, Thelma. Wife of Whitfield, Robert 02-13-10	
Wilson, Carma. Wife of Wilson, Corey G. 02-26-10	
Winn, Lenna. Wife of Winn, Robert (dec) 12-18-09	
Wynn, Marge. Wife of Wynn, Homer (dec) 03-04-10	

In memory of

William Dorresteyn

April 18, 1933-May 3, 2010



William “Bill” Dorresteyn passed away at his home in Benicia on May 3 with his family at his side.

A true union man, from a true union family, Bill leaves a rich Local 3 legacy in the many young operators he mentored throughout his career, such as Fairfield District Rep. Mark Burton.

Bill was born in Twin Falls, Idaho to Dorothy and William Dorresteyn, who was an Operating Engineer when the union was first organized. Bill attended El Cerrito High School. He enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps, eventually seeing combat in the Korean conflict. Upon his return, he followed in his father’s footsteps and initiated into Local 3 in 1955.

He first worked as an oiler for a small drilling outfit and then as a heavy equipment operator for Bigge. His son, Derek, was a gradechecker for the union, and his brother, Dick, worked as his oiler when they both worked for Bigge.

Bill’s success as an operator led to a role as shop steward and later to a career as a business agent in 1973, the first special rep. for the crane industry, the Oakland district rep. from 1985-1989 and a special rep. in charge of dredging.

According to retired Safety Director Jay Bosley, it was in this capacity as leader and especially in his knowledge and passion for the crane industry that kept him “head and shoulders above everybody else. He was a tenacious rep. ... full of integrity, sweet-natured and remarkable. ... He was a fabulous guy.”

Current Fairfield Bylaws Committee member Jack Short worked closely with Bill on revising many crane industry standards to keep operators safe.

Bill retired from the union in 1992.

He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Ginny; his daughter, Denise; his son, Derek; his granddaughters, Melody and Anneka; and his daughter-in-law, Windy.

Beyond his love of the union, Bill loved his family and he loved motorcycling. His strength, sense of humor and big heart will be sorely missed by his family and his union family.

# TRAINING THE MIND

## Member's hobby a healthy approach to retirement

By Mandy McMillen, managing editor

The choo-choo sound coming around the base of a tinsel tree in December is a usual childhood memory for many of us. We remember watching the model train in all its detailed glory follow the track and come 'round again. For others, the fascination with trains started with the real ones whizzing in and out of train stations of our birthplaces, their steam and whistles as loud as the lumbering of their engines. We wanted to hitch a ride or at least catch a glimpse of the engineer. What treasures were those cars carrying?

For Retiree Pete Ward, the fascination for trains began when he was 4 years old in nursery school in Albany, Calif. He saw the big Santa Fe engine come by and chased after it, wanting a ride. The steam engineer saw him and blew the boiler down, and the sight of the steam and the sound of the engine was fierce. Ward was terrified ... and fascinated.

Today, Ward is still fascinated by model trains, and he is not alone.

Model trains are one of the biggest hobbies in the country for people of all ages.

That is apparent at the Carquinez Model Railroad Society that Ward belongs to, since members range in age from 15 years old (junior members) to the late 80s. The society is located on the second floor of the Independent Order Of Odd Fellows (IOOF) building in Crockett, Calif. The main layout of the society is 36 feet by 60 feet with an additional room that houses the south helix for a total of 2,330 square feet of model railroad possibilities.

Helix what?

According to Ward, who currently sits on the society's board, the helix is where the train track switches levels at a 2 percent grade, and there are two of them. When you walk in the main room of Carquinez Model Railroad Society, you are greeted first with the life-like sound of the engines whirring across the tracks, complete with conductor's whistle. As you follow the train along its track, you first notice the life-like scenery surrounding it. The art of this hobby is not just clipping tracks together and collecting trains, it's also about designing a true-to-life universe, complete with real train stations and natural landmarks.

With the use of photographs taken from local stations, twigs taken from real life and a true artist's and engineer's expertise, the Carquinez Model Railroad Society members set to work on an unending creation of railroad scenery. You can spot the C&H Sugar Plant in Crockett, the Benicia Bridge, the Davis train station and the Sierras, just to name a few.

Ward explains that more than one train can run on the same tracks, and each train can run in different directions and different speeds. Ward's personal train, the California Zephyr, has passenger windows that actually light up (seen in photos).

The full layout is operated using Digital Command Control (DCC), which allows up to 67 simultaneous operators! There are three mainlines of track, with a total track length of about 3,880 feet.

What does being a Model Railroad Society member entail? For Ward, who worked in Local 3's Testing and Inspecting industry since 1969 in test labs and as an inspector in refineries, the society is "good therapy. ... You go here, or you go to a bar." Ward is a firm believer that if retirees do not

lead an active life, their minds can go to mush and they can get depressed.

Research has proven time and time again that hobbies reduce stress and common health problems.

"I have the time and would rather be here than watching daytime TV," said Ward.

He also has the interest, which is all that's required of a member, along with a small monthly membership fee of \$20 and an initiation fee, which pays for materials, trains and maintenance. Currently, the club meets Wednesday nights at 7 p.m. There are about 25 members, male and female.

Members discuss the ongoing project of bringing life to the train's travel and can "pretty much do what they want in terms of design." That is great freedom for them, since

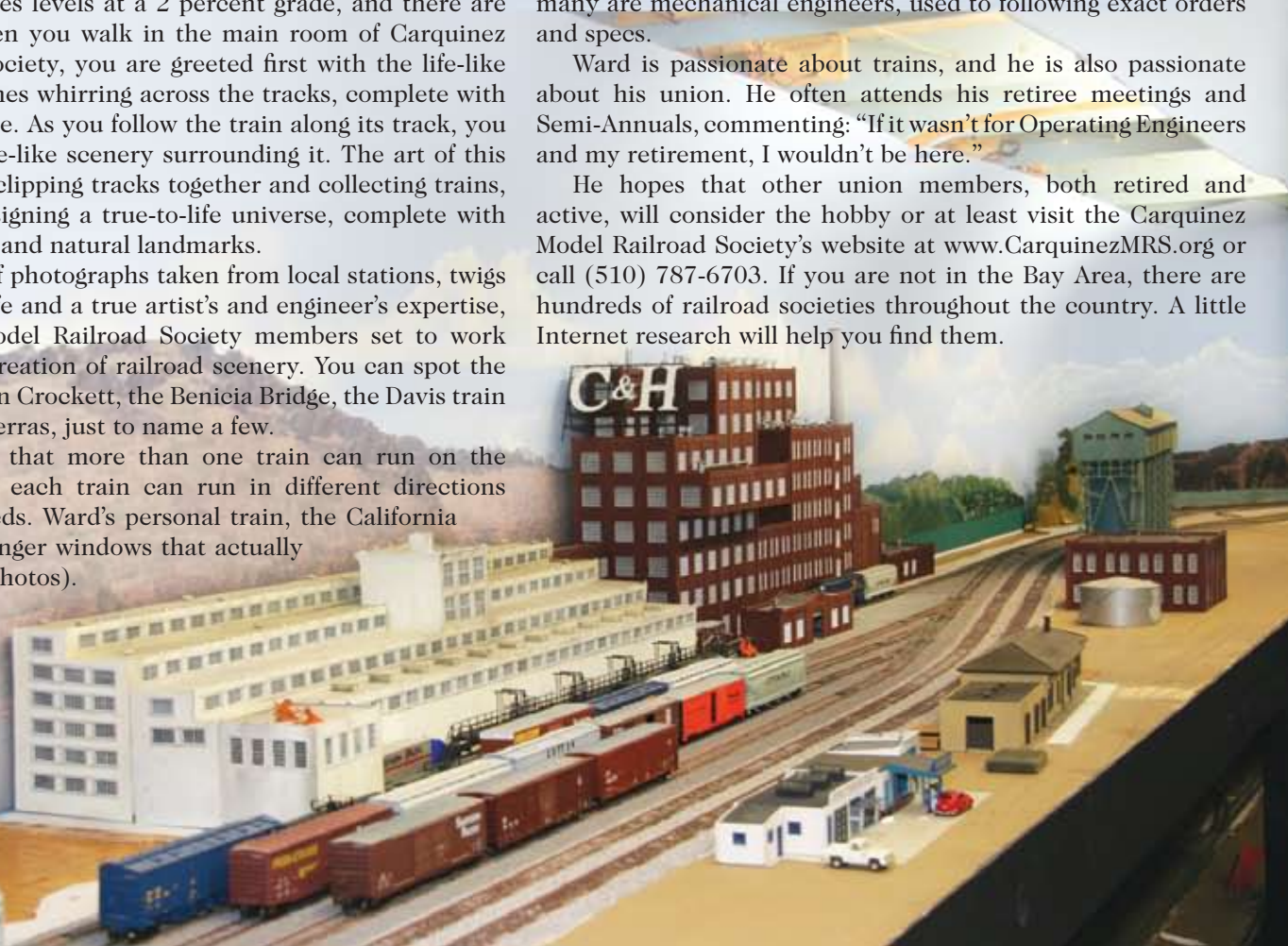
many are mechanical engineers, used to following exact orders and specs.

Ward is passionate about trains, and he is also passionate about his union. He often attends his retiree meetings and Semi-Annals, commenting: "If it wasn't for Operating Engineers and my retirement, I wouldn't be here."

He hopes that other union members, both retired and active, will consider the hobby or at least visit the Carquinez Model Railroad Society's website at [www.CarquinezMRS.org](http://www.CarquinezMRS.org) or call (510) 787-6703. If you are not in the Bay Area, there are hundreds of railroad societies throughout the country. A little Internet research will help you find them.



Retiree and model railroad enthusiast Pete Ward.





Swap Shop ads are offered free of charge to members in good standing for the sale or trade of personal items and/or real estate. Please notify the office immediately if your item has been sold. Business-related offerings are not eligible for inclusion in Swap Shop. *Engineers News* reserves the right to edit ads. Deadline 1st of the month. Limit two ads per issue.

To place an ad, type or print legibly and mail to:

Operating Engineers  
Local Union No. 3  
3920 Lennane Dr.  
Sacramento, CA 95834  
ATTN: Swap Shop\*

Or call:  
(916) 993-2047, ext. 2506

Or fax ads to: Swap Shop  
(916) 419-3487

Or e-mail to:  
jjohnston@oe3.org

\*All ads must include Member Registration Number or ad will not appear.

FOR SALE: 2 bd/2 ba split-level home; ½-acre lot. Partial ocean view; seven miles north of Gold Beach, Ore. Two-car garage that also fits an RV. Added sunroom. 2,400 square feet (includes shop space). \$295,000. (541) 247-6064. Reg# 1109423.

FOR SALE: 2007 Harley Davidson Ultra Classic Electra Glide [FLHTCU]. Custom Jake blue and Elwood blue paint, California license BLUEBRO. 19,000 miles, new Michelin tires, Python mufflers, extras. Perfect condition, meticulously maintained and pampered. The best ride you'll ever experience. \$18,000 OBO. (925) 366-7378 or skyhook03@comcast.net. Reg# 2417899.

FOR SALE/RENT: 2 bd/2 ba ocean view condo on the beach in Maui, Hawaii. Condo comes fully furnished and is currently used as our vacation house/rental, so it has built-in income to help offset payments. \$400,000. Also, two 2 bd/2 ba condos with ocean view. Sugar Beach, Maalaea Bay, Maui, Hawaii. Contact Mary via www.marysmauicondo.com. Reg# 0782777.

FOR SALE: 2009 Nissan Frontier SE King Cab, 9,600 miles with factory warranty. In new condition. Sprayed-on bedliner, 2-by-4, P/w p/l p/m c/c p/s T/w. Non-smoker, original owner. Silver metallic, four doors (rear access "hidden" doors). (530) 403-7128 or brenda8552@att.net. Reg# 2349065.

FOR SALE: 1991 Pace Arrow motor home, 32 feet. Chevy 454, fuel injected, only 32,500 miles, 7 kw Onan generator. Twin beds in rear, sofa bed couch sleeps five to six. \$9,800 OBO. (510) 222-8869. Reg# 2282104.

FOR SALE: 1987 mobile home, 2 bd/2 ba, laundry room, double car carport. New roof, three years, window shutters. Well-maintained adult park 55+. Make offer. Call Jerry at (209) 406-0707 or Darlene at (209) 482-1198. Reg# 1187250.

FOR SALE: 1989 18-foot Sunbird boat. 4.3 liter Chevy V6 engine with King Cobra package and OMC Cobra outdrive. Open bough. Low hours. Good condition. \$6,500, including one-axle trailer with new tires. (209) 795-6569 or (209) 404-5083. Reg# 1040650.

WANTED: Camper shell to fit Toyota Tundra longbed. Full 8-foot length and bed width measuring 5 feet, 1 inch inner/5 feet, 9-inch outer. This is the midsize bed, 2003-2006 model year. (707) 887-1244. Reg# 2018324.

FOR SALE: Walk to work 1974 Dodge, Class A Motor Home. 23 feet. Stand-up hot shower, propane heat, stove. Sleeps six. \$1,000. Stockton: aualloy@gmail.com or (707) 709-8723. Reg# 1389404.

FOR SALE: 2001 Bass Tracker Bass boat, 17-feet, 6-inches Pro-Crappie 40 HP Mercury four-stroke electric troll motor two down rigger, two fish finders. Motor and lower-end oil changed. Very low hours. \$6,800 OBO. (530) 367-3883. Reg# 1155433.

WANTED: Precinct walkers and phone bankers. It's political season, and there are many important races in this year's upcoming elections. Please call your district office to find out how you can get involved in the Voice of the Engineer (VOTE) program and earn rewards for volunteer hours. Local 3 Political Department.

FOR SALE: 20 acres – can be split – on county-maintained road. Easy drive to five national parks, heavy treed, 2,130-square-foot triplewide, 3 bd/2 ba, Whirlpool garden tub, open plan, GE appliances, pellet stove, large deck, 28-by-32 garage, John Deere backhoe, large/small tillers, lawnmower, tools, furniture. Reduced to \$250,000. (435) 587-9183. Reg# 2241844.

FOR SALE: 15 treed acres on knoll, easy access, utilities close by, five min to Priest River, Idaho, and less than an hour to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho and Spokane, Wash. \$115,000. (208) 255-6933. Reg# 2004942.

FOR SALE: A 2006 Custom Chopper S&S 124 cubic inches. Super Sidewinder polished engine, Extreme frame with Progressive air suspension, Baker six-speed with Primo Hydraulic clutch, wheels and controls by PMI Inc. Custom paint: Black onyx with yellow flames outlined in emerald. More. Not a special construction; easy to license and insure. Under 800 miles. \$16,500 or reasonable offer. (805) 219-0201. Reg# 1986429.

FOR SALE: A 1986 Cat 426 backhoe, four buckets, GP, hoe clamp, extra valve front and rear, good rubber. Tubes in all tires. Has 600 hours in 18 years. Stored inside. Very good condition. \$16,500. (707) 442-5265. Reg# 1620480.

FOR SALE: A 416 Caterpillar backhoe hydraulic pump. New take off. Two bolt mount. Part# 9T6857. Caterpillar backhoe controls pump \$650. Controls \$300. New condition. (707) 442-5265. Reg# 1620480.

FOR SALE: A 3 bd/2 ba brick home in northeast Texas – Atlanta, Queen City area, 22 miles from Texarkana, Texas; 50 miles from Shreveport, La. C/HA, ceiling fans, tile, carpeting, wood laminate flooring, wood stove, laundry room, all electric, 1,963 heated square feet, two-car garage, 20 acres pasture and pecan trees, barn with 10 stalls, tack room, corral, outbuildings, more. \$300,000. (903) 799-7000. Reg# 1230337.

FOR SALE: Troy Bilt 8 HP Rototiller-Power Composter with PTO, includes V-sweep cultivator implement, operating manual. Excellent condition. \$800 OBO; 1987 Toyota 4WD newly rebuilt starter, oil and fuel filters and fuses (22R engine), \$50; original 1987 Toyota 4WD truck or 4Runner owners manual, repair manual, electrical wiring diagram manual, all three \$65; spare tire and tool kit, like new, \$30; (510) 223-6532. Reg# 0935703.

FOR SALE: A 14-foot Gregor fishing boat with 25 HP Yamaha, electric anchor, electric trolling motor, EZ loader/Sprint trailer. \$3,000. Also: A 2-inch Wacker Trash pump with 3.5 HP Honda, \$200. (510) 223-6532. Reg# 0935703.

FOR SALE: A 2001 Ford F-350 4X4 Supercab Lariat 7.3 Power Stroke Turbo Diesel V-8, 139,000 miles. New tires, new ball joints, transfer flow additional

57-gallon fuel system, air bags, front receiver, tork lift-frame mounted tie downs, camper ready. \$14,000. (530) 644-8750 or bigtandm@comcast.net. Reg# 0976122.

FOR SALE: A 2006 HOST "Rainer" camper 9.6 all aluminum frame, double slide with slide-out toppers. Low profile AC, TV/VCR, AM/FM/CD, micro/convection oven, refrig/freezer, 6-gallon water heater, upgraded escape hatch, queen bed, outside/inside shower, Onan 2500 generator, awning, remote-controlled electric jacks and more. Excellent condition. \$23,500. (530) 644-8750 or bigtandm@comcast.net. Reg# 0976122.

FOR SALE: Miller Tig welder. Dialarc H.F. constant current AC/DC Arc welding power source, 250 amps. Custom, self-contained rolling cabinet stand. Very low hours. Sacramento area. \$800. (916) 487-2201. Reg# 2046985.

WANTED: Shotguns, rifles, pistols and ammunition. From one to a whole collection. (559) 351-6615. Reg# 2123273.

FOR SALE: A 1994 diesel pusher 36J Bounder, Allison trans, 48,000 mil, queen rear bed. \$25,000. Located in Sallisaw, Okla. on I-40. Call Charley at (918) 776-0926 or e-mail cmorris@diamondnet.us. Reg# 1651736.

FOR SALE: 82 acres hardwood and seasonal stream, 40-by-60 barn, older 24-by-60 doublewide. Three septic systems, city water, electric. Located north of Sallisaw, Okla. \$185,000. Call Charley at (918) 776-0926 or e-mail cmorris@diamondnet.us. Reg# 1651736.

FOR SALE: Sixty 8-track tapes and 24 4-track. Oldies and the best of many voices. \$3 each, plus postage. (503) 639-4496. Reg# 0716361.

FOR SALE: Truck Crane. 25 Northwest mounted on dart carrier. Cat 318 diesel on top, Cummins on bottom. 60 feet of boom, 20-ton head block. Complete working machine. \$5,000 OBO. (530) 865-7306. Reg# 1051405.

FOR SALE: Yamaha 1998 YZ-250 and 2002 YZ-125. Well maintained by owner/mechanic. Both have green stickers/up-to-date DMV registrations. Comes with small parts, factory pipes, silencers, ramps, stand and fuel jug, riding gear, helmets, goggles, chest protectors, etc. Combined package: \$5,250 OBO. (209) 957-4001 or (209) 969-5963. Reg# 2237594.

FOR SALE: Male red nose Pit Bull. Fixed. Approximately 2 years old, 65 pounds. Good with people. Will not get along with his father. OK with other

dogs: Tan, white. No fighting please. (925) 766-3590. Reg# 2521906.

FOR SALE: A 1963 Cadillac four-door. Runs good. All stock white original paint. Odometer reads 55,000. Works. \$2,950. Also: A 2000 Warrior trailer. Great shape. White. 23 feet. Self contained. Everything works. Back opens for toys. Carpet like new. \$8,000 OBO. (925) 766-3590. Reg# 2521906.

FOR SALE: A 1990 FJ 1200 Yamaha. Sport-touring motorcycle. Very good condition. Runs and looks good. \$1,800. Also: 2005 Dodge 2,500 stock wheels and tires, \$200. (510) 734-0294. Reg# 2299640.

FOR SALE: A 2002 Kawasaki 650 KLR dual sport. New motor. Never been motor crossed. Extras. \$3,000. (916) 955-7878. Reg# 2106364.

FORSALE: An 8-foot-by-8-foot steel dump bed: \$700. A 1971 Dodge 1-ton truck: \$300. Two rebuilt starters, one for a 92 series Detroit and a 220 cummins engine for \$50 each. (530) 346-2918 or farmerar@cwnet.com. Reg# 1271053.

FOR SALE: A 2001 Dutchmen Classic, 27-foot fifth wheel. This fully loaded trailer has a dual slider, is equipped with lots of amenities and is in excellent condition. Must see. \$12,500. (408) 373-1089. Reg# 2536199.

FOR SALE: John Deere 110 TLB 2007, 233 hours, 4-in-1 front bucket, two buckets for hoe – 12- and 24-inch. Three point hitch arms and pto. Like new. \$38,000. (775) 423-8536. Reg# 2098722.

FOR SALE: A 2150 Seaswirl Striper 1/0 Volvo 5.7 two-axle trailer. New tires. Fresh water cooling. Great condition. Low hours. \$16,000 OBO. (209) 274-4557. Reg# 1117589.

FOR SALE: Classic 1958 Chris-Craft wooden boat. Has Ford 292 V8 engine, 125 horsepower. Great condition. \$9,500 OBO. (916) 687-6198. Reg# 2396395.

FOR SALE: EL-1 Level System. Laser and receiver with carrying case. Linker rod with engineers tenths. \$750. Small, portable, electric concrete mixer. \$150. (209) 852-9031. Reg# 1386841.

FOR SALE: A 2008 Fleetwood TT/Pendleton Gear Box 5th Wheel. Includes 5.5kw Generator (ONAN), built-in power washer, air compressor. All in excellent condition. Never been lived in. Currently financed through the Operating Engineers Federal Credit Union. Looking for someone to take over payments. Contact Vic at (530) 923-4878. Reg# 1276105.



# And the winners are ...

## NCS-JAC Hands-On Competition another success

By Joanie Thornton, NCS-JAC administrator

On Saturday, May 1, the Northern California Surveyors Joint Apprenticeship Committee (NCS-JAC) held its 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Hands-On Competition. The Alameda Headquarters parking lot was transformed with surveyor apprentices, journey-level upgrades, signatory employers, JAC instructors and union representatives. Instructor/Survey, Testing and Inspection Business Rep. John Rector and Lead Instructor Fred Seiji put together a competition of survey crews who worked on four simulated field problems with the hopes of winning award money, prizes and “bragging rights.”

First place went to Party Chief Sanjeev Raj of BKF, Chainman Sonny Patterson and Apprentice Brian Field of BKF. Second place was awarded to Party Chief John Puffer of Mid Coast Engineers, Chainman Chris Roberts and Apprentice Daniel Sampson of Sandis. Third place went to Party Chief Daniel Linarez of Bryant Surveys, Chainman Andrew Tasabia and Apprentice Linda Prasad of HMM. Fourth place was awarded to Party Chief Michael Brandt of Sandis, Chainwoman Christina Bury and Apprentice Colton Feickert of F3. Puffer also snagged the prestigious Apprentice of the Year Award, as we congratulated him on excellent job performance, outstanding training attendance and curriculum work and dedication to our surveyor community.

The crews were treated to lunch catered by Kinder's Barbeque to wrap up a very successful event. We thank everyone who makes this tradition possible and successful, including NCS-JAC instructors; Operating Engineers Local 3 officers and Technical Engineers business representatives; California and Nevada Civil Engineers and Land Surveyors' Association (CELSA) Employer Group Executive-Secretary Eric Angstadt; and employer representatives in attendance from MTS and Kier & Wright. Many thanks!

The event is co-sponsored by Local 3 and CELSA, of which participants make up the NCS-JAC. We thank the CELSA group of employers that generously donated prize money and Local 3, which added sweatshirts, T-shirts, caps and goody bags from the Credit Union. We also thank Associated

Third Party Administrators (ATPA) for donating 25 \$20 Home Depot gift certificates, awarded by way of raffle.

Although this had been a tough year with work virtually at a standstill, students who have chosen surveying as their life-long career are sticking with it, and the NCS-JAC is supporting and encouraging them in their training by continuing to have regular and special events such as the Hands-On Competition. When the economy is ready, the NCS-JAC surveyors will be ready for the economy!

We pause to remember our retired instructor Ted Taylor, who passed away April 13. Ted loved apprenticeship and brought his hands-on teaching style to the classroom, where he motivated and developed his apprentices and journey-level upgrades into the surveyors of our future. Ted will be remembered for his lively smile, his wonderful sense of humor and his caring and sharing attitude that brought life into many a student with his knowledge of his craft.



NCS-JAC Hands-On Competition first-place winners include, from left: Chainman Sonny Patterson, Party Chief Sanjeev Raj of BKF and Apprentice Brian Field of BKF.



NCS-JAC second-place winners include, from left: Chainman Chris Roberts, Party Chief John Puffer of Mid Coast Engineers and Apprentice Daniel Sampson of Sandis.



Third-place winners include, from left: Party Chief Daniel Linarez of Bryant Surveys, Chainman Andrew Tasabia and Apprentice Linda Prasad of HMM.



John Puffer of Mid Coast Engineers won the prestigious Apprentice of the Year Award.