

OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL UNION NO. 3

ENGINEERS

NEWS

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OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL 3 **GOING THE DISTANCE**



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VICE PRESIDENT



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DAN REDING
FINANCIAL SECRETARY



PETE FIGUEIREDO
TREASURER

SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING • SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 2012

9 a.m. Registration • 1 p.m. Meeting

Cow Palace, Daly City, California

ELECTION COMMITTEE NOTICE

See page 29 for important information regarding the election of the Election Committee Members, who will conduct the August 2012 election of Officers, Executive Board Members and Delegates and Alternates to the 38th International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) Convention.



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Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3

Table with 2 columns: Name and Title. Russ Burns (Business Manager), Fred Herschbach (President), Carl Goff (Vice President), Jim Sullivan (Rec. Corres. Secretary), Dan Reding (Financial Secretary), Pete Figueiredo (Treasurer).

Engineers News Staff

Table with 2 columns: Name and Title. Russ Burns (Editor), Carl Goff (Editorial Adviser), Mandy McMillen (Managing Editor), Jamie Johnston (Associate Editor), Dominique Beilke (Art Director).

www.oe3.org

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For The Good & Welfare

By Russ Burns, business manager

Protect what is yours at all times

I hope you all read your Engineers News cover to cover every month, but if you don't, I hope you at least look here for a good summary of what is most important. It is especially critical this year to stay up-to-date on your union's matters, as there is much ahead politically with the big General Election in November and Local 3's election of officers, Executive Board members, etc. Pay careful attention to the Meetings and Announcements sections in the next few months, as there is lots of information and important meeting dates to mark on your calendars. It is also important to note that next month, our Semi-Annual Event will be held on Sunday, March 18 at a new venue, the Cow Palace. I hope you'll come and bring your family. These are fun and informational events that offer something for everyone.

With winter slowly wrapping up, it is worth noting that most of our districts reported record dispatches in 2011 compared to 2010, and these numbers keep improving. Our dispatches are the most solid proof of how we're faring (they affect our Health and Welfare and Pension funds, our pocketbooks and our morale), and I am pleased to say that things are looking up. Regarding the national economy, the U.S. Department of Labor recently released new figures that also signal an economic upswing, as the United States added 200,000 jobs in December (many of which affect us, such as in transportation, manufacturing and mining), and the unemployment rate dropped to 8.5 percent (down from November's 8.7 percent rate).

However, the union fight, and more specifically, the Operating Engineers fight, is never over. I emphasize this point because we must continue to be watchdogs on our jobsites whenever other crafts try to claim our work as their own. I recently read an article in the Laborers' magazine commenting how they (Laborers) must "expand their jurisdiction" by "invading another craft's territory." I couldn't believe they were actually admitting this and then being proud of the fact. The last time I checked, stealing what rightfully belongs to another is wrong under every circumstance, and this circumstance is no different. Every hour that another craft sits on your

equipment is one less hour a Local 3 member earns toward a Pension credit or health-care coverage. Therefore, you have to say something. Call your business agent and make a note of the times and dates of every incident. We work for you, so put us to work - put us on the trail to end this robbery. If we let just a little bit of it continue here and there, it will become so commonplace that no one will monitor it.

Also, keep this in mind when you are on a jobsite: You are skilled masters of a difficult craft, and you worked hard to gain these skills. Not just anyone can perform the work that you do safely and successfully, so claim it and protect it at all times.

If you'd like to gain even more skills, the training centers across our four-state jurisdiction offer a wide selection of journey-level upgrades and specialized training. Utilize these on your downtime. It is free! For a schedule of some upcoming trainings, please see the Rancho Murieta article on page 11 and Utah's District Report on page 25, or visit our website at www.oe3.org.

Also on your downtime, consider volunteering for your union. Read through the District Reports in this edition and Political Director Mark Kyle's column regarding all the ways your union needs you right now. What you put into this organization is exactly what you receive. The benefits of union volunteerism are great.

Your efforts to the political end pay off in terms of projects, like the Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit (SMART) train profiled at right, and legislation. In California, Gov. Jerry Brown recently streamlined the transportation department to make it more efficient, while eliminating the usual "hold" placed on transportation funds during a stalled budget. Now, our projects can move forward even when our politicians can't, and this is all thanks to our endorsement of Brown. In Hawaii, federal funds were recently secured on several military projects thanks to union-endorsed Sen. Daniel Inouye. These are just a few examples.

Stick together this year, go to your union meetings and get the facts straight by staying in touch with your district office. Let us know what needs our attention and ask us any questions you have.

The future really is SMART, thanks to our VOTE volunteers

After almost four years of constant attacks, on Jan. 9, the Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit (SMART) Board of Directors approved a \$103.3 million construction contract to start work on the rail-line immediately. Signatory Stacy and Witbeck, Inc. will build the first phase of the project, which will initially create 1,000 jobs! Several of the subcontractors used will also be union.

And who can we thank for this well-deserved victory? Our many loyal Voice of the Engineer (VOTE) volunteers.

As critics tried to derail the project, our members stood strong, attending rallies and meetings to explain the real benefits of a project like this. Their efforts did not go unnoticed, as the *Marín Independent Journal* and *Press-Democrat* regularly covered the fight. Our presence was obvious and showed the huge support the project truly has. Retirees Jim Killeán and Joel Lanstra and member George Naill joined about 300 people at a rally in Santa Rosa in December. And now, their fellow brothers and sisters will be put to work!

Unfortunately, this isn't the only battle going on in District 10, but to no surprise, our volunteers are there to help.

Members Robert Hernandez and John Mannix shed some positive light on the Dutra asphalt plant planned at Haystack Landing by attending a Petaluma City Council meeting last month that caught the attention of the *Petaluma Patch*.

"At least a dozen members of Operating Engineers Local 3 arrived at Monday's meeting ... and spoke about the jobs the new plant would bring ..." the *Patch* reported.

As you can see, your involvement really can – and did – make a difference in the work picture. As this year's election season heats up, please remember these successes and join the fight!

For more information on the status of these projects, keep reading District 10's report.



Robert Hernandez attended a recent meeting in support of the Dutra asphalt plant. Photo courtesy of the *Petaluma Patch*.

Talking Points

By Fred Herschbach, president



It's up to us

I have written often about how important politics is in our everyday lives. You may not like it, but for most of us, politics is a constant but necessary burden. However, it hasn't always been that way.

Years ago, folks paid attention to politics only during the election cycles. Now, there is no break from it – it's everywhere. Across our four-state jurisdiction there is some kind of election, proposition, referendum or bill every year that affects our industry (especially this year). Not only does all of the political activism get time-consuming (there's phone banking, precinct walking, voter registration) but it is also expensive. Just watch TV and you'll see every politician has his or her hand out for money (endorsements). Your union representatives are constantly being bombarded with requests for money (asking us to attend breakfasts, lunches, dinners, cocktail parties, etc.). Most of these "invitations" get thrown in the circular file, but there are some that we have to attend to get the message out about what is important to the membership: High-Speed Rail, Project Labor Agreements (PLAs), light-rail, hospitals, freeways, etc.

The problem is these politicians are constantly trying to raise money to get re-elected without really thinking about what they believe in. What happened to the days when you said something and stood for something – that was it? Take California for example. We elect the politicians because on their campaign trail they say, "I agree with you, and when I get elected, I will champion your cause, because my intention is to represent my constituents." We believe them and vote accordingly. Off to Sacramento they go, but soon enough, parties become so gridlocked that no one can come together on any particular issue, and our agenda gets lost in the mix. Everyone starts blaming each other until it is decided: "Let's take it to the people; let them decide what's right."

Then it starts all over again: Requests for money and time. "This legislation needs passed now," or "Stop this bill from passing or else!" Soon our Voice of the Engineer (VOTE) volunteers feel burned out from the last election cycle. If legislation does get passed, a lawsuit

gets filed against it. In the meantime, the politicians we elected start trying to raise money for re-election! The ugly cycle never ends. We need to get back to the basics: Say what you mean and mean what you say. Maybe things aren't so black and white, but while the politicians disagree on everything, we the people suffer.

Why should a candidate running for president of the United States have to raise more than \$1 billion to get elected? (I read somewhere that it costs about \$68,000 an hour out of the candidate's own pocket to run, not including how much a candidate needs in endorsements – do the math!)

Just in the town where I live, Gilroy, it costs tens of thousands of dollars to run for City Council. The average person cannot afford that, even if they are incredible campaigners. Therefore, middle-class people with great ideas about improving their communities cannot afford to run, leaving only the wealthy campaigners (i.e. liars) left. How is that democracy? Political finance reform should be a priority. Otherwise, everything has a price that most of us cannot afford.

For example, a piece recently aired on "60 Minutes" about politicians making personal profits on property and stocks with their inside information. This stinks. We need to fix it. This country has become something altogether different than what it was founded on. We need to set absolute limits on campaigns. We need to take money out of politics. Then, I bet you would see the cost of prescription drugs, insurance, food, fuel, etc. all go down. Right now, everything is linked to politics, and everything in politics has a price. I am sure many politicians go into the political arena with the right motives, but the current system is flawed.

We all know this year will be politically taxing, but I want to urge you all not to give up. We do have some control over reforms. We have a voting right. We have the ability to mobilize, and we are 37,000-strong. Those numbers can pack a punch. If every one of us gets politically informed, we can combat some of this madness, save the country and our industry. It's up to us.

Be safe and see you at the meetings.

'Gateway to Yosemite' gets a much-needed upgrade

Story and photos by Jamie Johnston, associate editor

After nearly 80 years, a section of Hwy. 140 in Merced, also known as the "Gateway to Yosemite," is finally getting an upgrade.

Originally built in 1931, the Bradley Overhead was the first arc-welded steel-girder bridge in California. Located on the west end of the highway, it marks the beginning of the original route into Yosemite National Park. In its early days, it easily served visitors traveling to the valley floor along the Merced River Canyon. However, now that about 4 million people visit the national park every year, many of whom drive the stretch of roadway for its historical value, the bridge has reached its life expectancy.

It no longer meets construction standards or provides enough clearance for the railroad tracks below.

"It's built out of toothpicks," joked RGW Project Manager Steve Genereux.

RGW Construction is up to the task of bringing the highway up to date. The company has had crews working since June to replace the existing 900-foot-long, two-lane bridge with a four-lane overpass and widen Hwy. 140 from 21st Street to just east of Santa Fe Avenue. The \$18 million project should be completed by the end of next year.

The new bridge is being built with Mechanically Stabilized Earth (MSE) walls and will be supported by 12

columns (two at each bent). It will span the railroad tracks at a large skew, which is unusual, and the tracks will split two of the columns. When completed, it will provide a proper shoulder and room for pedestrian walkways.

Crews will finish one-third of the new bridge before opening it up to traffic, so the existing bridge can be demolished and crews can finish the rest of the project.

After the rain hits, certain portions of the project can continue through the winter, but much of the work will resume in the spring. A crane operator and a paving crew will be needed at that time.

At the end of 2011, Loader Operator Albert Fanini was one of the members



Loader Operator Albert Fanini works on Hwy. 140 in Merced. This was his last job before deploying last month to Bagram, Afghanistan with the Air Force Reserves.



Gradesetter Tony Reyes helps bring up the fill on the Hwy. 140 ramp.



RGW Foreman Chris McBride.



Skip Loader Operator Brent Morgan works on the west side of the bridge structure.



Excavator Operator Kurt Milovich mixes material that will be used on the MSE walls.

hard at work on this project. The 10-year member was getting in some good hours before his seven-month deployment to Bagram, Afghanistan early this year. The 19-year military veteran is in the Air Force Reserves and was deployed to Iraq a few years ago.

Fanini is a good example of a Local 3 operator, as he makes things better in California – and the country – in a number of ways. We thank him for his service and wish him luck on his deployment.



Crane Operator Don Durkee builds falsework at Hwy. 99 on one of three RGW Construction projects in Merced.



RGW wins trifecta in Merced

There's nothing strange about RGW Construction winning the bid on the Hwy. 140 job profiled at left. It's also not unusual that the company got a second job in Merced, replacing bridges and reconnecting a ramp on Hwy. 99 at 16th Avenue. However, it is worth noting that the company won a third job in Merced city limits, creating an RGW "trifecta." The company was the low bidder on the Hwy. 99 at Hwy. 140 job expected to start in the spring.

Local 3 applauds this signatory company for successfully bidding these projects and giving our members three more opportunities for work.

The Hwy. 99 project currently underway is at the north end of the city, and because two lanes of traffic must remain open during construction, work is being done in three phases. Members are currently on the second phase, as they replace the existing two bridges with one.

The upcoming job on Hwy. 99 also involves replacing a bridge over the Union Pacific (UP) railroad tracks and surface streets. Keep reading your *Engineers News* for more details.



Report & Review

By Carl Goff, vice president

A few reminders

We've started a new year, and as we approach a new work season, there are a few things I'd like to remind you all about.

As you know, winter is typically our down time, so, although some of you will continue to work, many of you will find yourselves on the out-of-work list. If that's the case, it is extremely important to remember to renew your registration. Registration on the A and B lists is good for 84 days, and registration on the C list is good for only one calendar month. Make sure you stay current. With work picking up, you don't want to miss out on a dispatch.

Also, when you call, make sure we have your current e-mail address and phone numbers, and be sure to distinguish between a cell number and a home number. Now that we're in the 21st century, we can communicate with members in many ways, including texting, so we appreciate having all of your contact information. Some members would rather get a text message than a phone call about an upcoming meeting or political activity, so keep us informed, and we'll do the same.

Please also add your name to your district's list of volunteers, if you haven't done so already. This is an election year, and our Voice of the Engineer (VOTE) program will be in high demand, as we campaign for labor-friendly candidates who promise

to put us to work and pull us out of this recession. We'll need help phone banking, precinct walking and getting out the vote.

We also encourage you to take advantage of our newly adopted Preventive Care Program, especially since we've increased the incentive. Now, any active member and non-Medicare-covered Retiree in the California Comprehensive Medical Plan who participates in this program will receive not \$200 but \$250 toward their annual plan deductible. The same is true for their spouses, so that's a \$500 savings in your health care! Not only do you save money *and* stay healthy but so do our Trust Funds. It's a win-win situation. Check out this month's Health News page for more details.

This information and more will be shared at the Semi-Annual Meeting held at the Cow Palace on Sunday, March 18, so I encourage you all to attend. The Cow Palace is located at 2600 Geneva Ave. in Daly City, CA. Directions to (including a map) and details about the event are on page 17.

There are also several District, Town Hall, Pre-Retirement and Retiree meetings coming up, so look through this month's *Engineers News* for times, dates and locations closest to you.

Start 2012 off right, and get involved! I hope to see you all soon.

Unit 12

Cracking the code

By Gary Rocha, business representative



Congratulations to, from left: Trevor Hunter, Andrew Freitag and Justin Bronson, who gained journey-level status at the DWR graduation ceremony.

DWR-JAC – that must be some kind of a code. ... Like a spy movie maybe? The letter reads: *11:30 at Café Med*. Should I wear my trench coat? Dark glasses? Must be a small café on a side street. ... Maybe in Romania or Morocco? Will I need my Ferrari?

No. What I'm going to is the Department of Water Resources (DWR) Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC) graduation in Bakersfield, Calif., and I'm going in a Ford Escape! Yes, I awake from my dream of spy verses spy and read on: *Special JAC Meeting with graduating apprentices at San Joaquin Field Division at 9 a.m. A graduation luncheon will follow at Café Med at 11:30*. This is a great announcement, especially if you're one of the Local 3 Bargaining Unit 12 members who successfully completed the three-year Apprenticeship Program with the DWR. This year, Local 3 graduating members in the Utility Crafts Worker classification included Justin Bronson from the San Luis Fields Division, Harrison "Trevor" Hunter from the Sacramento Maintenance Yard and Andrew Freitag from the Sutter Maintenance Yard.

From the first six-month period to the sixth six-month period, apprentices are trained in all phases of maintenance for California's vast water-distribution system. For the first six months, they are usually a little reluctant to tell the JAC board members how the training is going. They know they're getting a great education under the supervision of a journey-level worker and getting paid for it, but it's not always easy. However, by the time the apprentices are in their final six-month period, they feel more comfortable to talk about how the program is working for them and what should be done to improve it. They know it's time to graduate and receive the award of completion to journey-level status. Their hard work and training has paid off – for them and the Operating Engineers, since the union now has well-trained equipment operators working to keep California's waterways flowing.

I have another message coming in over the wire ... most likely in code. Is this the call to Morocco? The Ferrari is ready? Agent 008 signing off ...

Tech News

By John Rector, senior business representative

Local 3 welcomes Central Valley Engineering and Surveying

Local 3 is pleased to announce another opportunity for our membership and signatories with the addition of Central Valley Engineering and Surveying (CVEAS) of Selma, Calif. The company was founded in 2005 by Narinder "Nick" Sahota, P.L.S., and Peter Moua, P.E., P.L.S. Both are graduates of California State University, Fresno. With backgrounds ranging from project management to construction staking, they have more than 30 years of combined engineering



Narinder "Nick" Sahota.

and surveying experience. CVEAS is a California Department of General Services certified minority business – Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)/Underutilized Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (UDBE) – specializing in surveying, project planning, civil-engineering design and construction management. With two survey crews currently serving the Central Valley, CVEAS is looking to expand and is excited about being the newest signatory surveying firm in Local 3.

Organizing

By Bruce Noel, director



Why is joining a union so important? Read this!

I would like to share a short story with you about some workers who recently tried to organize a union at their workplace. It wasn't just any union; it was Operating Engineers Local 3.

Workers at the Austin Creek Quarry had an opportunity to become part of our union family. They grew tired of their employer continuously nipping away at their pay and benefits. What we heard from these workers was clear and concise regarding their situation. When workers complained about the lack of work or reduction of hours, the employer benched them for a period of time to teach them a lesson. When the employer forced employees to pick up a larger portion of their health-care costs, they were not given any advanced notice, or any sympathy. When they complained, several of them were again left at home to "think about it." One of the workers described the situation like this: "I work for health care for me and my family, and if it wasn't for my wife working, I couldn't afford to live." He was getting 20 to 30 hours a week at \$17 an hour. When he complained, his hours were reduced to less than 20 hours a week.

Sounds like a tough situation to be in, doesn't it?

As the organizing campaign went into full swing, the employer representatives did exactly what most do in this situation: They made promises, they threatened workers, etc. By the time the election came around, the workers were so confused from everything they had heard from the employer and the employer's attorney that they found themselves in a tight spot: *Vote for the union and I may lose my job; vote for the company and I lose my chance to make positive changes for myself and my family.* Simply put, a bad job in this economy is better than no job – that's the way they saw it. Not much of a choice! In the back of their minds they were probably thinking that if the employer came through with some of the promises that were made, it would become a better place to work. Unfortunately, the workers voted against becoming union, and I am almost certain they regret it now.

Here's what happened after the election results were certified by the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB). Within a couple of days of the NLRB decision, the employees were sent a letter that went something like this: *Due to the poor economy, the company is being forced to make some changes. First of all, there will be no more paid holidays. Secondly, there will be no more accrual of paid vacation. If you have accrued any vacation, you must use it by your anniversary date or you will lose it. And last but not least, the company will cease to make any further contributions for health-care coverage to employees and their families. Any employees who wish to continue paying for health-care coverage can contact the main office, and our insurance-provider information will be made available to you.* It's important to note that this letter was sent just a few days before Thanksgiving. What a thoughtful gesture from an employer whose workers just voted to keep the union out. Happy holidays!

After all that, the workers have now come back to the union to let us know what really happened during the election campaign, and subsequently, more charges have been filed against the employer. The workers hope to get one more chance to vote for the union. I'm almost certain how they will vote this time.

In closing, I would like to express my deepest thanks to the District 10 staff for staying the course with these workers in spite of the setbacks along the way. If there was ever a clear example of why unions and having the right to collectively bargain over wages, benefits and working conditions are important to workers, this is it!



News & Notes

By Dan Reding, financial secretary

Be proud to be Local 3

I hope everybody had a wonderful Christmas and New Year's and that 2012 will be a much better work year for us all. Maybe sometime this year we will also see someone address this health-care problem. I have heard that we should start seeing something positive sometime between 2012 and 2014, but so far, we haven't seen anything but major cost increases.

It has become such a huge problem that health care and the Pension are the driving forces in every negotiation. As I write this, I am in the middle of negotiating the Northern California Master Surveyor Agreement. Like every other agreement we have negotiated lately, the employer starts out with a proposal of nothing but takeaways. Employers want to lower wages, and they want the members to pick up all the health-care and Pension cost increases.

It is true that employers have been hit recently, but our members have been making sacrifices all along. They have seen their health-care deductibles increase and any extra money they do receive go toward health care and their Pension, just to maintain what they have. They're lucky to get a 40-hour workweek with very little overtime. Many have been driving further to get to work. In a few instances, there wasn't enough money to cover all the Fringe Benefits, so our members had to go backward a little in their contracts. Luckily, that hasn't happened too often.

Overall, even in this bad economy, we have gotten a lot of good contracts that cover our Fringes. The employers tell us they are bidding work 30 to 40 percent lower than a few years ago. We know that, because we see the bid list, but we also know that means less hours for our members. By standing together, most times, we have been able to maintain what we have and not go backward, especially at the lengths the employers have wanted us to.

I recently had a member tell me that he wasn't sure that being union was worth it, so I told him what can happen when you are not union. We just went through a long battle to organize a company and had many meetings to show them all the benefits of belonging to Local 3. Of course the employer brought in union-busting attorneys to paint a false picture of what being union was all about. They told the workers how the employer would do a better job of taking care of them. Well, enough of them believed the lies, and we lost the election. The following week, they got a letter from their employer – the same employer that told them a week prior that they would be taken care of – saying the workers no longer had health care and that the employer would no longer contribute to their 401(k) plans. The workers are now calling us and saying that they should have listened to us. Remember: Anyone can make things sound great, but when you're not union, you have little to no say about your working conditions and nobody to stand up and fight for your rights.

Be safe, and be proud to be Local 3.



Public Employee News

By Carl Carey, director

Reflection

By the time you read this, we will have gone through the holidays, brought 2011 to a close and made a good start on 2012. It feels like only yesterday we were starting 2011. Where has the time gone?

In reflecting back on 2011, many things have happened to the staff and membership throughout the Public Employee Department. We've suffered the layoff of two agents and two secretaries and the closing of the Modesto office. These sad events have put an enormous strain on the department to provide the service our members deserve. The agents have had to fend off constant attacks from employers seeking concessions from the membership, which, more often than not, have resulted in Unfair Labor Practice (ULP) charges filed with the Public Employment Relations Board (PERB). For the agencies that do not fall under the PERB's jurisdiction, redress is being sought through the courts.

Last year was not one that most public employees will look back on fondly, since we were in a constant fight to salvage hard-earned benefits and salaries. With the economic downturn of the last several years, public employers have found their revenues reduced and the demand for services increased, so they have looked toward their employees to reduce expenditures. Employers have gone after salaries, health benefits and retirement benefits. Employees have suffered layoffs, furloughs and reduced hours, which has put an enormous strain on them.

It is true that the largest expense for a governmental entity is labor costs. With few exceptions, public employees do not manufacture or produce a product to sell on the open market to raise revenue – they provide a service the public demands.

In some jurisdictions, labor and management have come together, found a common ground and been able to agree on budget-saving solutions. In others, we have not been so fortunate. An example of that is in San Jose. In an effort to close the budget deficit, the mayor and City Council proposed a charter amendment that would drastically reduce retirement benefits for new hires and current employees. Informed members of the state Legislature and the Attorney General's office have said that if the city proceeds on this course, there will be legal repercussions. What the city proposes is considered illegal in most circles.

These fights are not just confined to San Jose – they are occurring in many jurisdictions throughout the state, such as in Fremont, Stockton and Santa Rosa, to name a few. Our efforts are now turned toward the courts instead of at the labor-negotiation tables, where they belong.

Through all of this, good labor relations have been lost in some jurisdictions. This is defined as a relationship that allows employers and employees to come together in collaboration for the purpose of finding mutually agreeable solutions. This relationship is fleeting at best, but with the strain during these past few years, it will take a lot more time to mend those fences.

I hope that 2012 will bring some economic relief to our membership. We are not out of the woods yet. As I have stated in the past, there are indicators that the economy may be turning around, but it will be a slow process.

Madera Affiliation of City Employees stands united

By Doug Gorman, business representative

We all know what's been going on throughout California when it comes to taking away public-employee benefits. This year, city of Madera officials decided to jump on the League of Cities' bandwagon and try to negotiate benefits away from the Madera Affiliation of City Employees.

Knowing the economy was on the mend, the unit only asked to remain "status quo" for the year, with the city continuing to cover the increases in medical premiums. Keep in mind: This unit is one of the lowest-paid groups of employees in the Central Valley.

City officials would have none of it and decided instead to go after the employees' California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) shares by asking them to pay for them at 2 percent a year. City officials also wanted a two-tiered retirement system, which would put new employees at the 2-percent-at-60 ratio, compared to the current employees who hold a 2.75-percent-at-55 ratio.

The membership countered with giving up the 8 percent in CalPERS for a 14 percent pay increase over three years, which the city officials refused.

In Madera, city officials tell you what they want, and you better give it to them or pay the price. Well, the members of the Madera Affiliation of City Employees were already paying a high price, and the increase in medical premiums was over-the-top. Instead of backing down, the membership decided to stand tall: The city's last, best and final offer was voted down 49 to 1.

What the city officials didn't expect was that we would do our homework. We found a financial report from April 2011 boasting about how well the city was doing financially (unexpected funds had come through), and there was no basis to take any action (financial cuts).

We then found the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for 2010, which listed a large amount of money in the city's investments and showed an unrestricted and undesignated fund of \$38 million with a General-Fund reserve of 76.1 percent. After receiving this information, we took the stance that we were not going to give up benefits.

City employers immediately started treating our members poorly. Redevelopment Agency employees were denied merit increases for long periods of time, and the manager began fabricating issues against our membership. This manager also began harassing our members, which forced three of them to seek medical attention due to stress.

The union filed grievances, but city officials failed to honor any timeframes pertaining to them and failed to follow the contract. This forced the union to file an Unfair Labor Practice (ULP) charge.

During a separate investigation, a member requested union representation as allowed for in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). He was denied, so another ULP charge was filed against the city.

When it came to grievance hearings, the city manager sided with his managers, making the procedure a waste of time and paper.

Upon declaring impasse, we went to mediation, which didn't work, so the union and the membership went public. Fifty-five members of the unit showed up on Dec. 7 at the City Council meeting with a rolling billboard and spoke their piece.

While it is uncertain at the time of this writing what the City Council's position is on this matter, it's clear that the members of the Madera Affiliation of City Employees stand united!

A tale of two cities

By Art Frolli, business representative

The two largest cities in Tehama County are Corning and Red Bluff, with Red Bluff being the largest of the two. These rural cities are located adjacent to I-5 and have elected city councils made up of local business owners and concerned citizens. Like most Northern California cities, Corning and Red Bluff have experienced financial hardships due to the down economy. However, the way these cities have addressed their budgetary issues is as different as night and day.

Corning city officials worked closely with the union and city employees when the budget was operating at a deficit and reserve-funding was used to supplement the budget. The city manager formulated an inclusive plan to balance the budget, which required all city employees to be placed on furloughs, resulting in a 10 percent savings for the city. Both the city manager and chief of police retired and returned as part-time city employees to save additional money. The union was able to negotiate terms and conditions that city employees thought were fair, including the promise not to lay-off any city employees during the term of the furlough agreement. It is obvious that since the city manager and chief of police both live in Corning and take part in community functions outside of their work environments, they have a deep concern for the city and its employees.

Red Bluff city officials approached their financial problems from a different position. Their strategy during the last three negotiations has been tyrannical. Rather than include the union and city employees, they have gone out of their way to exclude us. City officials have relied on “hard bargaining” techniques. Their last offer was the same as their first offer for most of the negotiation process.

A little background: The employee bargaining unit I represent is primarily funded through Enterprise Funds, which receive payment for services rendered, such as water and sewer fees. Enterprise Funds are generally stable. Most cities have financial problems with their General Funds, and such is the case in Red Bluff.

Two years ago, the city’s opening contract called for the employees to take a 16 percent reduction in salary, which would have only generated

about \$27,000 for the General Fund. The majority of salary savings would have been placed into the appropriate Enterprise Funds. Since this was the only offer we received from the city, our negotiating team provided an alternative offer, which gave the city’s General Fund more money, while the employees paid a flat “gift” to the city of \$97 per bi-weekly pay period. This represented between 4 percent and 8 percent of the employees’ salaries. (Keep in mind that these employees are among the lowest-paid in the city.) Since the payment was a flat rate, those making the least paid a larger percentage of their incomes back to the city. Although it was much less than the 16 percent salary reduction city officials wanted to impose on our members, it was still a hardship.

The following year, city officials wanted our bargaining unit to continue to make a gift of \$97 each bi-weekly pay period. The membership had suffered financially – some were single mothers, and others had lost their homes. When the bargaining unit refused to restart the donation, city officials – with the advice of the city manager – singled out 10 employees whose salaries were paid from the General Fund and furloughed them by five hours each week. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has no “furlough” language that would allow the city to impose these furloughs, nor was it part of negotiations, so city officials did this under the guise of a layoff, which is termination of employment. City officials cut these employees’ hours and then referred to them as 88 percent employees, which is a text-book definition of a furlough. In addition, city officials cut contributions to employees’ health care by 12 percent. Consequently, some members were forced to drop their health care. All of this was done without any meeting and conferring with the union.

Keep in mind, the Red Bluff city manager doesn’t live inside the city limits or even in Tehama County. He has no vested interest in the community or the welfare of its employees. He sees his employees as numbers rather than human beings, which is probably why he has attacked his employees’ salaries while keeping a vehicle stipend.

The contrast between the two cities is clear.

CEMA Spotlight

This month, we highlight County Employees’ Management Association (CEMA) member George Santiago with the Santa Clara Parks and Recreation Department. Last year, his son, Estevan Santiago, was one of the CEMA High School Senior University Scholarship award recipients.

CEMA is an association of managers, administrators and supervisors employed by Santa Clara County and the Santa Clara County Superior Court.



CEMA member
George Santiago.

New agent ‘up to the challenge’

New District 80 Business Agent Gregory Ramirez is excited about his new position servicing the membership in Alpine, Plumas, El Dorado and Sierra counties as well as in the city of Loyalton and the Rancho Murieta Community Services District. Ramirez was a member of American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) for 13 years, serving as an elected officer on its Executive Board and a business agent. His decision to join the Local 3 staff was an easy one.

“OE3 has a great reputation. Every interaction I have had here has reinforced my decision to come,” he said.

Ramirez is filling Rick Davis’ position, since Davis is now servicing the Local 3 membership in San Jose.

“He [Davis] is leaving big shoes to fill, but I am up to the challenge. We really need to pull together now and be more politically active than ever before.”

Local 3 welcomes Ramirez!



New District 80
Business Agent
Gregory Ramirez.



Credit Union

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

In your corner

With all the back-and-forth by some financial institutions about debit-card fees, you might be wondering why you haven't seen the same from the Operating Engineers Federal Credit Union (OEFCU). Those financial institutions that reversed their stance on charging debit-card fees did so because they cared about the money lost due to public backlash. We never considered debit-card fees in the first place, because we care about what's best for our members. It's that difference in philosophy that sets OEFCU apart and why you can depend on us as your trusted financial partner. We were built by union members for union members, and we continue to thrive because our focus remains on providing the best products and services to our members.

There are many other great reasons why OEFCU is the perfect choice for all of your financial needs:

Free checking. We offer a host of great features with our checking accounts, such as free online banking, free direct deposit, access to more than 28,000 surcharge-free ATMs nationwide and of course, free debit cards.

Competitive loan rates. OEFCU has competitive rates on everything from Visa credit cards to mortgages and home-equity lines of credit. Our auto-loan rates are incredibly low, and our members enjoy great benefits like our auto-buying service, Mechanical and Guaranteed Auto Protection (GAP) insurance and debt protection. If you have a car loan somewhere else, you can still get the benefits of OEFCU's low rates by refinancing your current auto loan with us. Visit www.oefcu.org for more details.

Convenience. You might not always be near one of our branches, but every time you pass a computer or pick up your phone, you can bank with OEFCU. Our members can transfer balances, view account summaries, pay bills and more from the convenience of a Web-enabled device. You can also bank through our text-banking service or our phone-activated teller. All of these services are available for free to our members, 24/7.

Safe and secure service. OEFCU is in its 48th year, and we will continue to make the smart choices that kept us out of the trouble that some financial institutions found themselves in. We've been able to keep our members' money safe. We've also invested in the latest security measures to make sure all of our banking platforms are secure. To add to the security of your accounts, please make sure to inform OEFCU each time your e-mail, cell-phone number or address changes.

A union-focused philosophy. From its beginning, OEFCU has been a union-focused financial institution. We offer the products and services that our union members need most.

Perhaps the most important reason to depend on OEFCU for all your financial needs is that the stronger our membership grows, the better we become. As a not-for-profit cooperative, OEFCU is committed to turning profits into better products and services for our membership. We understand that you have many financial institutions to choose from, and we appreciate the opportunity to become your trusted financial partner. For information on our products and services, visit www.oefcu.org or call (800) 877-4444.

Sure, you can buy flowers or chocolates...

*Don't forget, Feb. 14th
is Valentine's Day!*

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*APR=Annual Percentage Rate. Rate reflects a 0.500% APR discount for 20% down payment and a 0.250% APR discount for Member Rewards. Must meet the following requirements to qualify for Member Rewards: must be signed up for eStatements, make at least 10 checking account ATM/debit transactions per month, and have direct deposit or automatic bill pay. Rate is for terms up to 60 months. Rates and terms are subject to change without notice. On approved credit. Up to 100% Kelly Blue Book value or MSRP plus tax, license, GAP and MBI. Not to exceed purchase price. Minimum auto loan amount is \$5,000 for a new/used vehicle and \$3,000 for a refinance. Applies to model years 2005 - 2012. Refinance not valid on current OEFCU loans. Other terms and restrictions may apply.





Rancho Murieta Training Center
for apprentice to journey-level operators

By Tammy Castillo, director of apprenticeship

Bay Area students learn about careers in construction

Last November, the Operating Engineers Rancho Murieta Training Center (RMTTC) staff, apprenticeship coordinators and apprentices from the Oakland, Fairfield and Sacramento districts participated in another successful career fair. Sponsored by the Associated General Contractors’ (AGC’s) Education Foundation, the career fair was designed to educate students on how to build a future in the construction industry. About 40 educational booths were set up at the Pleasanton Fairgrounds.

The event hosted 756 students from a variety of Bay Area schools, and more than 85 percent of them were female and/or minority.

The activities the students liked the most were the hands-on demonstrations of our hydraulic excavator and crane simulators. They also liked the concrete-pumping demonstration by Cal-Con Pumping and Skanska.

When the students were asked to write down what they learned about the construction industry that they hadn’t known before, several of them actually quoted one of our presenters: “All the old guys in construction need to be replaced!”

Many of the students said they would now consider construction a better career choice than they did before the event.



Apprentice career-fair “instructors” include, from left, Paul Bresino, Eric Clark, William Smith Brown, Terrence Long, Chantaa Primus and Gary Snider.

Winter California Hazwoper safety training schedule

To sign up for the California eight-hour Hazwoper refresher, call the district office where the class is being held. All classes start at 7:30 a.m.

Alameda (Oakland District): Wednesday, Feb. 1

Stockton: Saturday, Feb. 4

Morgan Hill: Wednesday, Feb. 8

Eureka: Friday, Feb. 17

Sacramento: Saturday, Feb. 18

Fresno: Saturday, Feb. 25

Alameda (Oakland District): Saturday, March 3

Mechanics Corner
By Dave Bibby, Heavy Duty Repair (HDR) instructor

More on hydraulic hoses

Ever wonder what all the markings, referred to as the lay line, mean on a hydraulic hose? These markings are repeated every 9 to 10 inches along the length of the hose and typically provide (in no particular order) the manufacturer’s name and part number, hose size, working pressure and industry standards. For example, a hydraulic hose may have the following lay-line markings: Parker ToughGard 451TC-12 WP 21.0 MPa (3000PSI) MSHA IC-40/26 SAE 100R17 -12 19 mm.

In this case, the manufacturer is Parker with the part number of 451 TC. The hose size (inside diameter) is a -12 (3/4-inch) and has a working pressure of 21 Mega Pascals (MPa) or 3,000 psi. This hose meets Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) IC 40/26 standards and satisfies the Society of Automotive Engineers’ (SAE’s) 100R17 standards. The hose size is duplicated with the -12 and converted to metric as 19 mm.

An important part of the hydraulic hose is obviously the fitting/coupling, which is the portion of the hose assembly that connects to other hydraulic-system components. Hose couplers can be made of steel, brass, stainless steel and plastic. For mobile equipment, steel is preferred, because it withstands high pressures and temperatures.

Some standard sealing methods for hose couplers are pipe thread, dry seal, o-ring seal, split flange and o-ring face seal. Pipe thread is a tapered thread with the sealing occurring between the mating surfaces as the threads compress against each other. A dry seal achieves sealing through the metal-to-metal contact between the mating surfaces. An example of a dry seal is the Joint Industry Council (JIC) with a 37 degree flare-seating surface. Also known as an o-ring boss fitting, the o-ring seal coupling has straight threads, an o-ring seal, a flange and a jam nut. These couplings are threaded into a work port where the jam nut is then tightened against the flange, which squeezes the o-ring into a chamfer of the work port. The split-flange coupling has an o-ring that is installed into a groove in the coupling face. This coupling is positioned on the component which has a machined, flat surface and is secured using flanges held in place with bolts. The o-ring face seal offers the best leakage control available. The male coupling has straight threads with an o-ring groove in the face. The female swivel has straight threads and a flat machined face with sealing occurring by compressing the seal against the flat cover surface.



Hydraulic hoses do not last forever, leading to machine downtime, environmental spills and lost production. A common practice is to replace hoses regularly, before the hose reaches the end of its useful life. Eaton has developed a new hose technology that incorporates a conductor built into the hose and a special fitting that also serves as a diagnostic connection. A diagnostic unit is attached to the fitting, which monitors the hose condition, indicating when it requires replacement.

Take a look at the hydraulic hose on the next piece of equipment you see and read the lay line. Then think about how such a seemingly simple machine component has such a large amount of engineering and standards.



Fringe Benefits
By Charlie Warren, director

Pre-Retirement Meetings continue

The Pre-Retirement Meetings continue in February. Participants 50 years of age and over will receive a postcard reminder of the meeting in their area, though participants of any age are welcome. Please check the schedule at right. You and your spouse are encouraged to attend to familiarize yourselves with all aspects of your retirement benefits. These have a direct bearing on your financial security and deserve your attention.

One main point of discussion at Pre-Retirement Meetings is working after retirement. For those of you who are retired and under the age of 65, you may not work in an industry in which employees were employed and accrued benefits under this Plan at the time your Pension began or would have begun if you had not remained in or returned to such employment; and in a trade or craft in which you were employed at any time under this Plan. In other words, *you are not entitled to a Pension check for any month in which you work as an Operating Engineer anywhere, union or not.*

If you wish to return to work as an Operating Engineer, you must notify the Pension Trust Fund Office within 15 days of returning to such work, and your Pension checks will stop. When you cease working as an Operating Engineer, again you should notify the Trust Fund, and your checks will start again. However, your Pension payments will be suspended for an additional three months unless you were receiving a Disability Pension prior to your return to work.

The specific rules and exceptions can be found in the Rules and Regulations of the Pension Plan – Article 9 of the *Summary Plan Description*. If you have

any questions or need a copy of this book, contact the Trust Fund Office at (800) 251-5014 or the Fringe Benefits Service Center at (800) 532-2105. You can also visit the Trust Fund’s website at www.oe3trustfunds.org.

All meetings convene at 7 p.m.

ROHNERT PARK
Wednesday, Feb. 1
Operating Engineers’ Building
6225 State Farm Drive

FRESNO
Tuesday, Feb. 7
Operating Engineers’ Building
4856 N. Cedar Ave.

STOCKTON
Wednesday, Feb. 8
Operating Engineers’ Building
1916 N. Broadway Ave.

CONCORD
Wednesday, Feb. 15
Centre Concord
5298 Clayton Road

OAKLAND
Thursday, Feb. 16
Operating Engineers’ Building
1620 South Loop Road

RENO
Tuesday, Feb. 21
Operating Engineers’ Building
1290 Corporate Blvd.

SALT LAKE CITY
Wednesday, Feb. 22
IBEW Local 354
3400 W. 2100 S.

What you need to know about Medicare

What happens when I become eligible for Medicare?

Members and spouses covered by the Pensioned Operating Engineers Health and Welfare Trust Fund and eligible for Medicare benefits must enroll in parts A and B of the Medicare Program. Failure to enroll will result in the Plan denying any charges that would have been paid by Medicare, regardless of whether the eligible member or spouse has enrolled in the Medicare program. From the point the member or spouse becomes eligible for Medicare, the Pensioned Health and Welfare Trust Fund becomes the secondary payer, meaning Medicare will pay on the charges first and the Trust Fund will pay the appropriate balance of covered charges.

Members and spouses eligible for Medicare benefits and on the Kaiser Plan must enroll in the Kaiser Senior Advantage Plan, if they wish to remain with Kaiser.

What if I have Medicare, but my spouse isn’t old enough for Medicare?

If the spouse or member is not yet eligible for Medicare benefits, the Plan will pay the appropriate portion of the covered expenses. As soon as the spouse or member becomes eligible to enroll for Medicare, he or she must do so or suffer the reduction in benefits described above.

Retiree Association Meetings

The Retiree Association Meetings begin in March. The Local 3 officers look forward to joining Retirees and their spouses for concise reports, good

refreshments and plenty of fellowship. Check the schedule below or keep an eye out for the postcard inviting you to the meeting in your area.

MODESTO
Monday, March 5 10 a.m.
Tuolumne River Lodge
2429 River Road

FREEDOM
Monday, March 5 10 a.m.
VFW Post 1716
1960 Freedom Blvd.

STOCKTON
Monday, March 5 2 p.m.
Italian Athletic Club
3541 Cherryland Drive

FRESNO
Monday, March 5 2 p.m.
Cedar Lanes
3131 N. Cedar Ave.

MORGAN HILL
Monday, March 5 2 p.m.
Operating Engineers’ Building
325 Digital Drive

BURLINGAME
Tuesday, March 6 10 a.m.
Transport Workers Union Hall
1521 Rollins Road

UKIAH
Tuesday, March 6 10 a.m.
Hampton Inn
1160 Airport Park Blvd.

NOVATO
Tuesday, March 6 2 p.m.
Best Western Novato Oaks Inn
215 Alameda Del Prado

OAKLAND
Tuesday, March 6 10 a.m.
Oakland Zoo – Snow Building
9777 Golf Links Road

ROHNERT PARK
Tuesday, March 6 2 p.m.
Operating Engineers’ Building
6225 State Farm Drive, Ste. 100

CONCORD
Tuesday, March 6 2 p.m.
Centre Concord
5298 Clayton Road

AUBURN
Wednesday, March 7 10 a.m.
Auburn Recreation Center
Foothills Room
471 Maidu Drive

FAIRFIELD
Wednesday, March 7 2 p.m.
Hampton Inn
800 Mason St.
Vacaville, CA

YUBA CITY
Wednesday, March 7 2 p.m.
Veterans Memorial Center
211 17th St.
Marysville, CA

SACRAMENTO
Wednesday, March 7 2 p.m.
Operating Engineers’ Building
3920 Lennane Drive

EUREKA
Thursday, March 8 2 p.m.
Best Western Bayshore Inn
3500 Broadway

REDDING Meeting & Potluck
Thursday, March 8 1:30 p.m.
Frontier Senior Center
2081 Frontier Trail
Anderson, CA

RENO
Monday, March 12 2 p.m.
Operating Engineers’ Building
1290 Corporate Blvd.

SALT LAKE CITY
Wednesday, March 14 2 p.m.
IBEW Hall
3400 W. 2100 S.



Looking at Labor

By Pete Figueiredo, treasurer

Pension terms defined

Local 3's Pension Plan is very important to our members. It provides rock-solid benefits to our Retirees who worked hard and deserve them. However, it can also be very confusing. So, as promised, I will be breaking it down over the next couple of months. Please review the terms below, as they're often used when describing the Plan.

Multi-employer plan: A collectively bargained plan maintained by more than one employer, usually within the same or related industries, and a labor union. These plans are often referred to as "Taft-Hartley plans."

Actuary: Someone who calculates and budgets for funding pensions. Actuaries use elaborate data about life expectancy, retirement age and other information to quantify pension obligations. They then estimate the amount of funding from current employees and the estimated investment income. Using this information, pension actuaries can estimate how a pension is faring, called its funding status.

Trust Fund: A fund whose assets are managed by a *Board of Trustees* (see definition below) for the benefit of another party or parties. State and federal laws restrict what the board may invest the assets of the Trust Fund in.

Fiduciary: A trust or guardian. A fiduciary relationship exists where an individual or organization has an obligation to act on behalf of another person's or organization's interests. A person who is called a fiduciary is a kind of guardian over another person's interests.

Board of Trustees: A group of representatives from labor or employees and from management or an employer that controls and manages the operation and administration of a pension plan. Each Trustee accepts the obligation as a *fiduciary* under applicable law.

Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA): The written agreement that spells out the working conditions, wages and benefit package negotiated between an employer and its union employees.

Defined Benefit Plan: Any plan that is not an individual account plan and maintains a formula by which the employee's benefits will be measured. Defined Benefit Plans are subject to regulation by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC), which is an insurance program designed to guarantee workers' receipt of pension benefits. Defined Benefit Plans are "pension plans" under the Internal Revenue Code and are defined by the *Employee Retirement Insurance*

Security Act (ERISA) (see definition below). Local 3's Pension is a Defined Benefit Plan.

ERISA: The federal statute that requires persons engaged in the administration, supervision and management of pension monies have a fiduciary responsibility to ensure that all investment-related decisions are made with care, skill, prudence and diligence. (ERISA also established the PBGC.)

Defined Contribution Plan: Defined by the Internal Revenue Code and *ERISA* as a plan that provides for an individual account for each participant and for benefits based solely on the amount contributed to the participant's account, plus any income, expenses, gains, losses and forfeitures of accounts of other participants that may be allocated to the participant's account – 401(k), 403(b) and 457 plans are Defined Contribution Plans.

Department of Labor (DOL): The department that issues opinion letters and other pronouncements and requires certain information forms be filed regarding employee benefit plans.

Employer contributions: The amount an employer contributes toward a benefit plan. Employer contributions are usually set forth in the *CBA* and primarily based on dollar amounts.

Fiscal Year (FY): A 12-month period in which an organization accounts for the use of its funds. Our Trust Funds have calendar-year fiscal years (Jan. 1 to Dec. 31). Fiscal years are referred to by the calendar year in which they end.

Fringe Benefits: Non-cash benefits, often including health insurance, provided to a worker by an employer.

Summary Annual Report (SAR): A summary report on the financial status of an employee benefit plan; the *DOL* requires it be given to participants.

Summary Plan Description (SPD): The written description or plan booklet of the entire benefits package available to a plan participant.

Third Party Administrator (TPA): A firm that manages benefit plans. These firms collect premiums, determine eligibility and covered services, pay claims, prepare reports for plan sponsors and provide other administrative services. Local 3's is the Associated Third Party Administrators (ATPA) (see right).

Withdrawal Liability: A contributing employer's responsibility to a qualified multi-employer *Defined Benefit Plan* to make contributions necessary to fund benefits of its employees before it can cease contributions to the plan.

ATPA Angle

By Bob Miller, Associated Third Party Administrators (ATPA) senior account executive

All about ATPA – your Trust Funds administrator

There seems to be some confusion among the membership about exactly who and what a Trust Funds administrator is. Participants are often unaware that Associated Third Party Administrators (ATPA) is a separate and distinct entity from Local 3. ATPA is hired by the Trustees to administer the Trust Funds according to the rules as defined in the *Summary Plan Description* booklet. We process claims; determine eligibility; keep records; make payments; oversee the appeals process; mail participant notices; attend membership meetings and Pre-Retirement Meetings; handle about 1,000 daily calls; manage all aspects of quarterly Trust Funds meetings; work with Fringe Benefits Director Charlie Warren and his office; and provide countless other services and functions. ATPA works closely with Business Manager Russ Burns, the officers and the Trustees.

A little background: ATPA was founded nearly 15 years ago and continues to operate from a pioneering base for the administration of Taft-Hartley multi-employer Trust Funds, such as Local 3's. We specialize in collective-bargaining-agreement administration and are an industry leader in optimizing business practices, cost containment and operational efficiency.

Today, we are the second largest independent Taft-Hartley Third Party Administrator in the country. We recruit and train a diverse staff of more than 400 employees motivated to meet our clients' expectations and work with a vast community of actuaries, consultants, Certified Public Accountants (CPAs), investment advisors, banks, Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) insurance carriers and health-care specialists.

ATPA has 11 offices from Hawaii to New York and issues payments to more than 115,000 retired participants. We service nearly 500,000 plan participants and their family members, issue more than \$979 million in monthly Pension benefits and withhold more than \$109 million in Pension benefits' federal and state income taxes and payroll deductions. We administer more than \$2 billion in annual employee-benefit contributions, adjudicate more than \$500 million in annual health-care claims and transmit the same amount in annual health-care claims to providers and carriers.

Local 3 is ATPA's largest single client, and both parties have had a mutually beneficial and proactive partnership for more than half a century. Just as with the union, our biggest asset is our people – a number of ATPA employees have spent their entire careers serving the membership. As a result, these employees contribute vast knowledge and are an irreplaceable asset. You can compare our employees to a 30-year blade or crane hand, and we all know that a Local 3 "hand" is the best of the best!

Congratulations pin recipients!

Local 3 pins are given to members for their years of service. Pin recipients put time into their union and have usually worked on major projects, seen the political and geographic landscape of their working environments change and often have interesting stories to share. Pins

are given in five-year increments from 25 through 70 years. This month, we congratulate them.*

If you are due to receive a pin, call your district office.

The following photos are also available online at www.oe3.org.



Joe Aguilar,
25 years



Tim Anderson,
25 years



Leon Anglesey,
40 years



Ted Bacoccini,
25 years



Ed Baldwin,
35 years



Bob Barry,
40 years



Kenneth Bartley,
30 years



Phillip Davis,
25 years



Joel Dawson,
40 years



Dave Degraff,
30 years



Logan Elston,
65 years



Hector Estrada,
30 years



Pete Figueiredo,
30 years



Julian Frazer,
60 years



Harry Hammers,
50 years



David Harlan,
45 years



Ottie Harris,
45 years



Jimmy Hawkins,
30 years



Otis Hopper,
50 years



Jerry Hunt,
25 years



Warren Jackson,
25 years



Ted Linow,
45 years



FJ Lozano,
25 years



Frank Martin,
50 years



James Matson,
25 years



From left: Ken Melville, 25 years, and
George Hawkins, 30 years



Herb Meyers,
25 years



Richard Patters,
35 years



Michael Payne,
35 years



Guy Piombo,
30 years



Cleve Pipkin,
35 years



Ernie Ramirez,
30 years



Dwayne Reaves,
30 years



Will Richardson,
30 years



Rick Silva,
25 years



Floyd Steed,
35 years



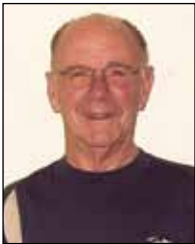
Dean Thomas,
35 years



Charles Tomlinson,
25 years



William Tullis,
60 years



Gary Venable,
50 years



Pete Visalli,
55 years

Retiree Post

Kiss and tell

Couple celebrates extraordinary anniversary



Carla and C A Kisse recently celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary.

We give pins, clocks and watches to members for their years of service to the union, but in honor of this more “romantic” month (Valentine’s Day is Feb. 14), we’d like to commemorate a Retiree and his wife on their years of marriage.

C A Kisse has been a Local 3 member since 1950 and retired since 1982, but his years of marriage to Clara Kisse trump it all. They were wed on Nov. 1, 1941, in Reno, Nev., meaning they recently celebrated their 70th anniversary!

While they don’t offer any marital advice, their familiarity with one another is evident. Both sit in well-worn recliners and read together in their retirement. They are quick to recall their first meeting as teenagers.

“I was 16,” said Clara, a retired nurse. C A worked for Harms Bros. of Sacramento and is a World War II veteran.

They live in Yuba City and have four children and five grandchildren.

Last month, C A celebrated his 90th birthday on Jan. 5.

Retiree Picnic: Save the date

This year’s Retiree Picnic will be held on Saturday, June 2. Don’t miss it!



*Joe Belton,
35 years*



*Doug Bender,
35 years*



*Jack Boydston,
25 years*



*Randy Bruce,
25 years*



*Bruno Dalporto,
50 years*



*Mark Freitas,
25 years*



*Jerry Galvin,
50 years*



*John Glaspey,
30 years*



*William Goodman,
40 years*



*Doug Green,
55 years*



*William Jenkins,
45 years*



*James Jenson,
45 years*



*Douglas Jojo,
45 years*



*Richard King III,
25 years*



*Robert Leslie,
40 years*



*Keith Milliron,
60 years*



*Roy Moore,
60 years*



*Bobby Munoz,
30 years*



*Jose Ojeda,
35 years*



*Billy Owens,
30 years*



*Robert Romero,
30 years*



*Leroy Rose,
50 years*



*Matthew Sampson,
30 years*



*William Schneider,
35 years*



*Wayne Segale,
45 years*



*Al Vogel Jr.,
50 years*



*Ron Webb,
30 years*



*David Williams,
45 years*



*Ted Wright,
50 years*



*Cort Zimmerman,
30 years*

**Please note: These are not all the pin recipients.*

Operating Engineers Local 3: Going the distance

Members break ground on innovative bio-refinery plant in Nevada

It's a genius concept – re-using trash as a source of energy – and Operating Engineers with Granite Construction played a part in this ingenuity at the end of last year.

Members finished the pads for the Sierra BioFuels Plant, a commercial-scale bio-refinery plant owned by renewable-fuels specialist Fulcrum Energy located 30 miles east of Reno. The plant is expected to be in full operation by the end of 2013, when it will convert about 90,000 tons of everyday trash – about what a city with a population of 165,000 would produce – into 10.5 million gallons of ethanol.

According to Granite Foreman Bernard Smith, “Ethanol is a big product. You can put it in gasoline, and for some, it goes in fuel,” meaning there is quite a demand for it in the Reno market.

This project is one of the first of its kind, and operators onsite were excited about being a part of it. To qualify for the work, members received refinery training.

“The plant itself is self-contained, self-producing,” said Smith, who likes the project’s environmentally conscious aim. “It’s ‘green-green.’”

Smith also likes the fact that the recently completed work was just the first of three phases. The next two involve concrete and pipe work, both of which Granite will competitively bid on. There is hope, as well, that Local 3 members may one day operate the 24-hour-a-day facility.

Other operators on the job, such as 32-year member Chuck Martinez, were thankful just to be working during the winter.

Loader Operator Kelly Walsh unloads storm pipe for Granite Construction.



From left: Mechanics Ken Rutherford and Logan Toles take advantage of the lunch break to change filters on a 330 excavator.



Bart Sandy, Loader Operator, on a storm pipe.



Loader Operator Jeff Glass and Blade Operator Travis Kincade take the pad to finish grade.

OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL 3 GOING THE DISTANCE

“It’s a good spread for this time of year,” said Martinez, who will be retiring this year. “It has been a good run, and I have been fortunate.”

For Operating Engineers in this area, travel is common, and the ability to do what is asked is necessary, according to Loader Operator Jeff Glass. “We never know where we are headed,” he said.

All involved, “go the distance,” such as 13-year member Ken Rutherford, who was one of three mechanics servicing the project. He traveled to the jobsite whenever they needed him.

And that’s what Local 3 members do.

Signatory Independent Construction was also on the project earlier last year.



Foreground, cleans up a slope, while Chuck Martinez, background, works drain.



Dozer Operator Dan Cozad and Compactor Operator Robert Heaton move fill for the completion of the pad.

The project (at left) and its members are a good example of the way Local 3 members “go the distance” to maintain their high standards of craftsmanship, commitment and consistency. Our members get specialized training, volunteer for political efforts, travel across states and attend many union meetings throughout their careers to maintain Local 3’s level of excellence. This union is strong because you are – you go the distance.

To visit with members and learn what’s happening with your union during this busy political year, come to the March 18 Semi-Annual Event, held at a new venue, the Cow Palace in Daly City, Calif. See directions and details below.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

9 a.m. – Registration

10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. – Lunch

1 p.m. – Meeting called to order

DIRECTIONS TO: COW PALACE (2600 GENEVA AVE.)

From Sacramento: Take I-80 West toward San Francisco (I-80 West becomes Hwy. 101 South toward San Jose after you cross the Bay Bridge); take the Third Street exit toward the Cow Palace; stay right to take the Third Street ramp toward Brisbane/Geneva Avenue; keep right to take the Bayshore Boulevard South ramp and turn right; turn right on Geneva Avenue – the Cow Palace is on the left.

From San Jose: Take Hwy. 101 North and merge onto the Bayshore Boulevard exit (toward the Cow Palace); turn left onto Geneva Avenue – the Cow Palace is on the left.





Political Perspective

By Mark Kyle, director of government affairs and public relations

Just do it – VOLUNTEER!

Every Local 3 district hall is gearing up for a busy election and legislative season this spring. We have to start now to be ready for all that's ahead. We're studying legislative bills, interviewing political candidates and training our staff, so we can better represent you in the legislative and political arenas. The only missing component is you (more on this last point in a minute). First, let's take a look at the biggest issues and campaigns coming down the pike in 2012.

On the federal level, we have a presidential race – the outcome of which is a toss-up at this time – and Congressional races in every state in our jurisdiction (California, Nevada, Utah and Hawaii). Nevada and Utah have added one congressional seat each, which means more opportunities to elect pro-union candidates. We are working on important upcoming federal legislation with the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) regarding the possible authorization of the Keystone XL Pipeline project, renewal of the Surface Transportation Act, numerous energy and infrastructure bills and keeping and expanding prevailing wage (Davis-Bacon).

In California, the anti-union folks are wasting no time. The Paycheck "Deception" Bill already qualified for the Nov. 6 ballot and is designed to severely limit the ability of labor unions to engage in political work. Other anti-union tactics include bills that attack public-employee pensions. At the time of this writing, none of these pension-busting bills have qualified for the ballot,

but if they do, we'll notify you immediately, since we'll have a battle on our hands.

It's not all grim news in California though. A multi-billion-dollar water bond will be on the November ballot. If passed, this bond measure will help build infrastructure for water and put hundreds of our members to work for years to come.

Utah is the only state in our jurisdiction with a governor's race. In Nevada, the U.S. Senate race is shaping up to be competitive. There are also state legislative races and local municipal races union-wide.

Legislatively, in all four states, we will work on moving infrastructure, water, transportation and energy bills forward – job-producing bills that benefit the entire nation, with better roads and highways, cleaner water and reliable energy.

As you can see, there is much ahead, and our work begins now to ensure Local 3's voice gets heard politically. So, when you get the call from your district hall to volunteer – *just do it*. In fact, don't wait for the call. Be proactive and call your hall first to see what's needed. There is always volunteer work to be done, and it pays off. See this month's In the News section for proof. Sign up to phone bank or precinct walk and attend a rally or a legislative hearing. Not only will you get great Voice of the Engineer (VOTE) awards, meet fellow members and have some fun, but you'll also help secure projects that create jobs for all of us.

For more information on upcoming elections in your state, visit Local 3's website at www.oe3.org.

Staff Spotlight: John Galeotti

While Rohnert Park Business Rep. John Galeotti's accomplishments in the field are great (he was accepted into the Apprenticeship Program in 1996 and eventually operated a crane on the Golden Gate Bridge and the San Mateo Bridge), his dedication to the membership is even greater.



Business Agent John Galeotti rallies with members at the Santa Cruz port last year.

Galeotti became an organizer for the Fairfield District in 2005 after driving around on his own time with Organizing Director Bruce Noel to see what it was like. The experience shaped his entire philosophy, a philosophy that has served him well.

"I saw that we can change people's lives and give them a voice in the

workplace versus being an at-will employee. This is my duty," he said.

And it's a duty he has fulfilled.

"If it wasn't for him [Galeotti], I wouldn't be in the position I'm in today," said new journey-level Operator Chris Chicarino, who is currently working for Pantano Demolition in Stockton. "I am in a great spot. This is a great union."

Chicarino met Galeotti while working for a non-union company. "He [Galeotti] organized the whole company and got me in the Apprenticeship Program," said Chicarino. "Every time I need to reach him, he is there for me." That company – Complete Decon Inc. (CDI) – is signatory today.

Another organizing success of Galeotti's was Excavators, Inc. (Lister Construction), a company that had been non-union for 26 years. Galeotti worked on establishing a relationship with the company owner during a five-year time period – efforts that were rewarded.

Between 2006 and 2007, Galeotti began organizing in both the Fairfield and Rohnert Park districts. He later became a full-time business representative in Fairfield, and then switched over to represent the membership in Rohnert Park in 2011 – the position he holds today.

While his title is "business representative," Galeotti feels strongly that agents are also organizers. Most recently, he spent months trying to organize the Austin Creek Quarry in Sonoma County. Galeotti spearheaded captive-audience meetings and handed out countless fliers regarding the benefits the union could negotiate for the 25 workers at the quarry – if they voted in the union. While these efforts have not been successful as of yet – thanks to the non-union campaign waged against Local 3 by pricey lawyers – Galeotti is confident that if a re-vote is cast, the workers will have seen the light (see this month's Organizing article for more details).

From late-night city council meetings and house calls to early-morning safety meetings, Galeotti puts in the time, crediting his family's support for his positive attitude and his work ethic.

"I believe in the union. Working men and women have to gain the market share rather than lose it. We [business agents] can do this by building relationships and networking with employers. One more seat for a union member is one more skilled worker for a company. It's a win-win situation."

Lots of levee work

Spring work is looking good this year. Be sure your registration on the out-of-work list is current, so you don't miss an opportunity for dispatch. The fourth and fifth phases of the Prison Medical Facility will go out to bid later this year, as will two Hwy. 99 widening projects for \$250 million each. Phase 1 will widen Hwy. 99 to six lanes by building new lanes in the existing median and adding sound walls and auxiliary lanes. The 8.3-mile stretch of road heads south from Arch Road to Austin Road, south of the Hwy. 120 interchange. The project will include interchanges at French Camp and Lathrop roads, and landscaping is planned. Construction could begin in the spring. The second phase includes building new interchanges and widening

the freeway from four to six lanes between the Crosstown Freeway and Arch Road in south Stockton.

At the time of this writing, work continues off Arch Road in south Stockton at the Prison Medical Facility, with work being performed by **Granite, Preston Pipelines and DeSilva Gates**. **Bay Cities** and **C.C. Myers** continue on the Sperry Road extension project, and there are multiple levee jobs going on in District 30 with **Teichert, Asta Construction, Dutra** and **Robert Burns**. **Teichert** is at Lower Jones Tract, where crews are moving infill, widening the levee and levee roadway and capping off the roadway with asphalt, and recently finished levee work at the Tiki Lagoon marina and boat-ramp area. **Asta Construction** is

widening the levee at multiple locations of Upper Jones Tract, while **Dutra** is doing the same at Woodward Island. **Robert Burns Construction** is widening the levee at five locations of Victoria Island. Four are on the north side of Hwy. 4, and one is on the south side. **Condon-Johnson** is also at Woodward Island and working on a section of elevated waterline that takes water to the Bay Area.

R&L Brosamer, Case Pacific and West Coast Welders continue work on the I-5 project from Country Club to Hammer Lane. This consists of widening roadways, bridges and new sound walls on both north- and southbound lanes. **PCS** is concrete patch-paving both north- and southbound lanes of I-5 from Country Club to Eighth Street.

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Local 3: More than meets the eye

Not too long ago, District Rep. **Ed Ritchie** was working in the field – October 2006 to be exact. He says he “found out in a hurry how little I knew, after 25 years of membership, about the organization I was so proud to tell others I was a member of.”

“I knew Local 3 directly benefited me and my family,” he remembers. “I enjoyed great insurance and a Pension, but I had no idea about the tireless efforts by so many people, both paid and unpaid, elected and retired, local and far away, who indirectly benefited me by protecting and promoting the middle class that unionism created. I found there is a lot more than work to Local 3. There is a fight. There is a community of people benefiting each other. This fight – and make no mistake, it is a fight – we could lose without the efforts of all of us to protect what we have. Join the fight.”

Here is one example of an OE3 member who promotes Local 3 every chance he gets:

Local 3 Retiree and current South Feather River Water Board member **Dennis Moreland** invited District 01 Butte County Supervisor **Bill Connelly** to a jobsite to see firsthand how a Local 3 paving crew operates. They arrived at the Hwy. 70 jobsite, were given the proper safety equipment and then were escorted out to the paving machine. Connelly posed for some pictures with the crew, and then he was allowed to ride along. He was impressed by the quality of workmanship. Paving is an example of teamwork in a hot, dirty work environment just feet away from dangerous traffic. Connelly was also impressed with the crew's coordinated efforts in such a dangerous situation. Every worker, from the Operating Engineers to the truck drivers and the Laborers, has an important job to accomplish, and each person's skill was evident. The danger cannot be overstated. People flew by the crew, oblivious to the situation, in a wide variety of vehicles.

Connelly's response: “From this time forward, I will promote the safety of our road-workers and give loads of praise to their work ethic.”

Connelly has contributed to the lobbying efforts of the Butte County Area Governments (BCAG) and the Butte County

Board of Supervisors. These efforts created funding for projects such as the Hwy. 70 Ophir Interchange, the Hwy. 70 widening in Oroville and the connection for the passing lanes south of Oroville. Connelly has been a proud supporter of Local 3 for seven years. Thanks go out to Moreland and Connelly for their continued support.

Local 3's fight continues, as we support projects that promote future jobs. Staff and volunteers were able to show support for the Enterprise Rancheria at a meeting in Wheatland. The meeting was called by opponents of a new casino in Yuba County, but to their surprise, their attendance was outnumbered by supporters of the casino, supporters of growth, supporters of jobs. Local 3 understands that a project such as a casino would provide much-needed jobs in our area. It takes unity to get the voice of the people, our members, to the politicians.

Don't give up the fight. Get involved. We have a lot of opportunities coming up for our

volunteers this political season. If you are not on our volunteer list already, get signed up by calling Dispatcher **Danny Roles**. All of our members and their families are encouraged to get involved.

Another example of Local 3 and our good union contractors touching our community in a positive way is a community project at Barry School in South Yuba City. Two of our members donated their time and equipment to build a new walking track for the school. **Mike Dewitt** donated his Cat 140H blade, and **Aurelio Garcia** donated his John Deere backhoe. Also on board with donations were **Lamon Construction, Knife River Construction, Teichert Construction, Mid-Valley Building & Construction Trades** and the Marysville Central Labor Council, along with many other businesses and union members. Thanks to all, the Barry School walking track was completed. This project benefits the students and promotes exercise and outdoor activity as part of a healthy lifestyle.

Correction: Harvey “Downtown” Brown has 12 years of pipeline experience. He was mis-identified last month.



From left: Aurelio Garcia, Johnny Campos, District Rep. Ed Ritchie, Michael Dewitt, Hunter Wickum, Tom Wickum, Business Rep. Jeff Hunerlach and Nicholas Eli at the Barry School walking-track project.

An ‘uplifting’ start to the new year

In Marin, February is typically a slow month, but in Novato, freeway work with **Ghilotti Bros., Inc.** moves forward with Hwy. 101 improvements. **WR Ford** has work in Tiburon and parts of San Rafael. Work on the famous Golden Gate Bridge with **Shimmick** continues to keep our members working throughout the winter, as does the New Bay Bridge. **Team Ghilotti** is working on the sewer replacement in Petaluma and landslide repairs in Novato.

In San Francisco, private development continues to pick up. **Swinerton** started a three-year, \$75 million project at Mission and Eighth streets, constructing a 400-unit apartment building for Trinity Properties. **Carlos Gonzalez** is the tech for **Morrow Crane**, and

Sheedy Crane’s Danny Siebert and **Dave Lemon** are erecting the tower crane. Also on the project is **Magco Drilling** with **Wes Dial** and **Kiu Maafu**. **Clipper International** has two tower cranes scheduled to go up at Mission Bay for **Nibbi Construction** this month, and **Plant Construction** should have two tower cranes going up for the seismic-retrofit project at 680 Folsom and another at 140 New Montgomery. **Webcor Concrete** also has a tower crane slated for Sutter and Van Ness. What an uplifting way to start the new year!



Deck Engineer **Theo Rohr** works on the Left Coast Lifter at the New Bay Bridge.

Pipeline work associated with Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) should start again. Contact the Hall if you are pipeline-trained or have pipeline experience.

In San Mateo County, Operating Engineers continue to work with the San Mateo Building Trades to ensure that development in the county is built union when possible. The District 01 staff wants to thank the volunteers who understand that we have to “grow the pie” of union jobs to get back to full employment. These volunteers regularly show up at city council meetings to let our elected officials know that these jobs should pay union wages if they hope to employ local workers.



Carlos Gonzalez works for **Morrow Crane**.

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Caltrans crews get us home safely



Operator **Erick Dilello** mixes material with a 624 John Deere loader.

With winter underway, Caltrans crews have been keeping watch on all of our state highways. As the temperature drops, black ice becomes a very serious issue for motorists throughout the United States. Fortunately for those of us in District 10, we have **Team Willits** keeping our roadways the safest they can be. Members are currently on call 24/7 under the guidance of Supervisor **Mike Maples**. When supervisors see temperatures drop, our members are called out to dispense a special mix to combat black ice. They use a 50/50 mix of sand and bright red cinders topped off with salt to melt the ice and give vehicles some much-needed traction. About 5 tons of mix and 600 pounds of salt make the ice melt. Crews also use some impressive equipment to get the job done. Most of the trucks are fitted with massive rock-plow blades along with snow-plow blades to move whatever debris stands in their way. The crew must also make sure all the street signs are

visible and still standing, clear out ditches and catch-basins and keep all roadways free of obstructions. For these tasks, the crew has access to a John Deere 624 rubber-tire loader and various backhoes. These crews are some of the unseen heroes that let us all go home safely every night to our families.

Apprenticeship Spotlight

About 1,500 students from high schools and middle schools in Sonoma, Mendocino and Lake counties attended the recent Career in Construction Expo, an event put on by the North Coast Builders Exchange. The focus of the event is to introduce career opportunities in the construction trades. The North Bay Apprenticeship Coordinators Association participates in this event by each trade providing hands-on activities for the students.



Apprentice **James Merriman**, left, gives a possible future Operating Engineer some pointers on a simulator.

Operating Engineers Rancho Murieta Training Center (RMTTC) Executive Director **Kris Morgan** and Director of Training **Dave Stater** supplied six excavator simulators to the event. Fifth-step Construction Equipment Operator (CEO) Apprentice **Kevin Olsen** and first-step CEO apprentices **James Merriman**, **Andrew Skanderson** and **Keith Moretti** volunteered to help out at the event. The students related with the apprentices because of their closeness in age. You could see it in the students’ reactions to the instructions the apprentices gave them on how to operate the simulators. It was like magic! Hopefully the students could see themselves as apprentices working toward careers as Operating Engineers.

We would like to thank **Morgan**, **Stater** and these apprentices as well as Retirees **Gordon Lunde** and **Pat O’Halloran**, District Rep. **Chris Snyder** and business agents **Mike Hughes** and **John Galeotti** for all their help in making this a successful event.



The Willits Caltrans crew includes, front row, from left: **Steve Quinliven**, **Buster Mariom Newsom** and **Mike Maples**. Back row, from left: **Scott Gamet**, **Joe Smith**, **Jim McNelis**, **Cecil Caldwell**, **Mike Frahm**, **Richard West** and **Larry Branch**. (Not pictured: **William Bauer** and **Erick Dilello**.)

We need member involvement in 2012

Compared to 2010, last year was a good one for District 90 in terms of hours and dispatches. As we head into 2012, this is the time to get current on your certificates, such as Hazwoper, Bay Area Training (BAT) forklift, pipeline training, National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO), etc. Please call the Hall for dates.

We are looking forward to an even better work season in 2012, but we must get involved. Please attend your quarterly District Meetings and Semi-Annuals. These are great opportunities to meet fellow members and do one-on-one marketing for work. Also, mark your calendars for the District 90 breakfast picnic on March 31 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Morgan Hill Grange.

It is an election year, and there will be many local, state and national elections. We need your help in getting our members registered to vote. If you want to participate, please call the Hall for information. Keep in mind our pocketbook issues and set aside any personal feelings. Let's elect people who have our interests at heart.

We have some jobs working through the winter, weather permitting. **Granite Construction** is building new retaining walls at each end of the runway at the Monterey Peninsula Airport. This project involves grading, paving, drainage work and site demolition. **Beebe Construction** is replacing new waterlines in Carmel, Carmel Valley and the Monterey Peninsula for Cal-Water (a private-sector job). **Granite Rock/Pavex** is working on the runways and taxiways at the city of Marina Airport.

Golden State Bridge is closer to completing a bridge project and rock shed on Hwy. 1 in Lucia, and next to this project, crews are building a new retaining wall. **MCM, Joint Venture (JV) with Granite Construction**, is working on the Prunedale improvement project with very little downtime. **MCM** is also building a bridge in Watsonville at Hwy. 1 and Salinas Road for **DeSilva Gates**. **Granite Rock/Pavex** was the low bidder on the grinding and paving overlay on the north- and southbound lanes of Hwy. 1 from the Pajaro River to Aptos. **DeSilva Gates** is finishing a private subdivision in Santa Cruz for KB Homes.

General contractor **Granite Rock/Pavex** has been working nights on Hwy. 17 (from Summit Road into Los Gatos). **Mountain Cascade** has also been on this project and is building a water-filtration system for Santa Cruz County.

Many of our brothers and sisters have had the opportunity to do pipeline work in District 90 for **ARB** and **Snelson Company**. They worked long hours last year and look forward to the same in 2012. **RGW** is finishing the bridge work on Tully Road and Hwy. 101 in San Jose and was the low bidder on the project at Butterfield Road and Watsonville Road in Morgan Hill.

There are many other projects in District 90 that we will keep you informed on. Remember: In order for work to begin, future projects must be funded. Get involved in your union: Volunteer and get out and vote. Let our politicians know that working men and women deserve a good living wage, a pension and affordable health care.

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Members work to improve 'the worst commute in Northern California'

District 20's work picture looks good, as work continues on the Caldecott Tunnel. With the help of Local 3 operators working for **Tutor-Saliba**, the project hit a milestone in November, breaking through the Berkeley Hills to connect the Oakland side to the Orinda side. Good job to all, as the breakthrough proved right on target.

In eastern Contra Costa County, **R&L Brosamer** is rebuilding Hwy. 4. Local 3 operators will widen a stretch of the freeway to the Antioch Bridge with E-Bart going into the Hillcrest Plaza Terminal. This expansion will help with what is known as the worst commute in Northern California.

The Calaveras Dam project is staffing up for an early spring start, putting more than 100 Local 3 members to work on this \$4.5 billion expansion. This project is designed to give San Francisco the water it needs to supply its citizens in drought

years. The Irvington Tunnel is being dug through the hills of Sunol to the east side of Fremont, then under the Bay to San Francisco. Work should be completed in late 2015.

Construction also continues on the Bart-to-Oakland-Airport connection, with Local 3 members from several signatory contractors doing the work. The project is set for completion in late 2013.

Remember to call the Hall to check your status on the out-of-work list. Your registration expires every 84 days. Members are also encouraged to call the Hall to get involved with our Voice of the Engineer (VOTE) program. The officers and staff need your help to promote Project Labor Agreements (PLAs) on projects in your area to ensure the work will be done with all-union labor. It's an election year, so we encourage all members and spouses to support the

politicians in your area who will help in the ongoing fight with the non-union.

When you're working, please remember to always wear your seatbelts. These restraints ensure the protection of our membership, so we can all go home to our families at the end of our shifts.

Apprenticeship Spotlight

Congratulations to the following District 20 apprentices who recently completed the Apprenticeship Program: Construction Equipment Operator (CEO) **Charles McCauley** journeyed out on Oct. 24 and is currently working for **Mountain Cascade**. CEO **Adam Hilbelink** journeyed out on Oct. 31 and is currently working for **Bechtel Construction**. CEO **Mina Liu** journeyed out on Nov. 11 and is currently working for **Top Grade Construction**. CEO **Eduardo Garcia** journeyed out on Dec. 26.



CEO Adam Hilbelink.



CEO Mina Liu.



CEO Eduardo Garcia.



CEO Charles McCauley.

You may be eligible for a 10-year letter

Hopefully this year’s work season will start soon. It has been a tough few years for this union and its membership. Last year’s work hours were the most Local 3 has reported in a few years. There has been very little private-sector work, so we should be thankful for the Stimulus money that funded many of the projects members worked on last year.

Some projects from 2011 will continue this year, including the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) East Campus project, the Sacramento Railyards development, the Folsom Dam control project, the Sacramento River levee work, the Township 9 development and the I-80 Watt Avenue to West Sacramento High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lane addition. We also expect more paving overlay work for Caltrans.

This month, we should know more about the possibility of a new Sacramento arena/event center, which could put many members to work for several years. Projects like this are very political, and having local politicians who believe in Project Labor Agreements (PLAs) is very important for our work picture. The more support we can give them, the more union work we will have in our jurisdiction.

We are in an election year, and the candidates voted into office will have a great impact on our country, our union and the Sacramento District. Now is the time to call the Hall to see how you can help. We will need your help phone banking and precinct walking among other things. If you only help once during this political season, you can feel good about your contribution to the cause. Who knows – your time and effort might be what creates more work in our district. We also need

your help to encourage our members to become registered voters (preferably absentee ballot) and to vote for Local 3’s endorsed candidates. You will be getting many calls this year from Local 3 volunteer phone bankers as well as volunteers from our local building trades and the Central Labor Council. If you are unable to donate your time, we would appreciate it if you would be courteous to those who have found the time and let them know where you stand on the issues or candidates.

It’s the beginning of another year, so some members have become eligible for a 10-year letter. If you think you’re one of them, contact us for verification. If you are eligible, congratulations! You may now solicit work with any of our signatory employers. The criteria to obtain a 10-year letter is, as stated in Section 04.10.24 (i) of the *California Job Placement Regulations* (JPR): “For the immediately preceding ten (10) year period, been employed as an Operating Engineer or available for employment through the Job Placement Center in any one (1) or more classifications set out in Section 01.00.00 of this Agreement on the type or kind of craft work covered by this Agreement in Northern California, Northern Nevada, Utah or Hawaii.” We cannot stress the importance of registering on the out-of-work list when you are not working to show your availability for employment. This is an important piece to gaining eligibility for a 10-year letter.

Mark your calendars: The Sacramento District Meeting is on Wednesday, March 7 at 7 p.m., and our Semi-Annual Meeting is on Sunday, March 18. Hope to see you at both.
From the District 80 staff, be safe.

Screed operators needed soon

We are about to start another season, and it looks like it will be a busy one!

Mercer-Fraser has \$30 million worth of work at Dog Creek and \$11 million on Buckhorn that is already awarded and will start in early spring. **Tullis, Inc.** has \$28 million of new work on I-5 along with the remainder of work from last year on I-5. **J.F. Shea** is still bidding several projects. **Meyers Earthwork** is working on the extinction road at the Stillwater Business Park and has a fair amount of work at the Red Bluff fish-screens project. **Golden State Bridge** will be working at Minnehaha Creek Bridge, and **Balfour Beatty** is still working on the Red Bluff Diversion Dam project.

We also have several smaller projects in the district, so keep in contact with Dispatcher **Rick Knight** for updates on the work picture. There will be lots of paving work, so if you have paving experience, please stop by or call the Hall and update your classifications. There will be a need for screed operators, so if you know of anyone, give us a call.

We look forward to seeing you on the job this season and building a good working relationship with our members. The District 70 staff would like to thank all of you who helped make 2011 a success. It was an outstanding year, so let’s work together to make 2012 just as good.

Please don’t forget that this is going to be a very political year, and we will need a lot of support to make it a successful one for labor and our members. If you are interested in working on any of our many political projects, contact Knight for opportunities.

If you haven’t heard, our new Bylaws book is out and available at the Hall, so stop by, pick one up and feel free to ask any questions. It’s our goal to educate our members about our Master Agreement and the Bylaws, so they know their rights as Local 3 members. Please remember to work safe, and go home to the ones you love at the end of the day.



Members with Balfour Beatty work on the Red Bluff Diversion Dam project.



About \$450 million in military projects

We begin the first quarter with good news from Washington, D.C. Our congressional team, lead by senior Sen. **Dan Inouye**, has secured funding on construction projects for the military throughout Hawaii.

Army

Fort Shafter

Child Development Center \$17.5 million

Schofield Barracks

Centralized Wash Facility \$32 million

Combat Aviation Brigade Complex, phase 1 \$73 million

Navy

Barking Sands

North Loop Electrical Replacement \$9.679 million

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam

Navy Information Operations Command FES FAC \$7.492 million

Kaneohe Bay

Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Operations Complex \$57.704 million

Defense-wide

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam

Alter Warehouse Space \$9.2 million

Upgrade Refueler Truck Parking Area \$5.2 million

Army National Guard

Kalaeloa

Readiness Center, phase 1 \$33 million

Air National Guard

Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam

TFI – F-22 Combat Aircraft Parking Apron \$12.721 million

TFI – F-22 Flight Simulator Facility \$19.8 million

TFI – F-22 Weapons Load Crew Training Facility \$7 million

According to the Federal Highway Administration, of the total amount appropriated for 2012, Hawaii will receive more than \$162 million from the Department of Transportation to build and refurbish highways. A total of \$2.766 million will cover U.S. Army Corps of Engineers projects at Barbers Point, Ala Wai Canal and Nawiliwili Harbor. This brings a total of about \$450 million in construction projects. We will be following the procurement process as these jobs are put out to bid and awarded and will let you know the details here.

Other work in District 17 includes projects like the Puu’-Kukui Elementary School with **Primatech Construction**.



Excavator Operator Darrel Waikiki (our Political Action Committee (PAC) member) works at the \$31.2 million Puu’-Kukui Elementary School project for Primatech Construction.

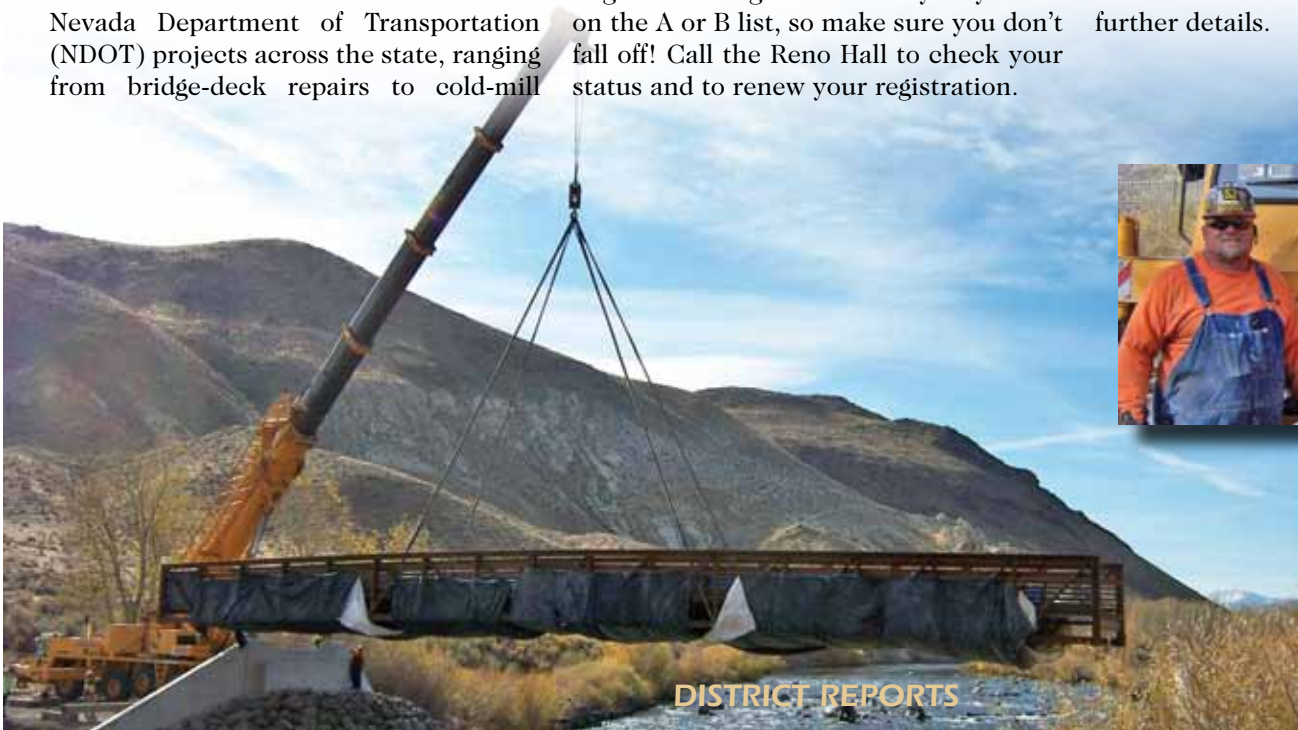
NDOT has projects across the state

At the time of this writing, the weather has not been an issue in Northern Nevada, and the amount of work scheduled to bid this year looks pretty good. Everyone hopes work will start earlier than last year. Some of the projects already advertised include the Southeast Connector bridge (city of Reno), several Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) street-rehabilitation projects in Truckee Meadows and a number of Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) projects across the state, ranging from bridge-deck repairs to cold-mill

recycle projects. **Q&D Construction** currently has a bridge project underway at McCarran Ranch, east of Sparks.

With winter here and work slow, it’s a good time to use the training site to update your certifications and qualifications. A list of classes is available at the Hall. While you’re there, be sure to update your phone numbers and addresses and renew your registration on the out-of-work list. Registration is good for 84 days if you are on the A or B list, so make sure you don’t fall off! Call the Reno Hall to check your status and to renew your registration.

With the new year well underway, we would like to remind our soon-to-be Retirees about the upcoming Pre-Retirement Meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 21. Also coming up this year is the Northern Nevada Master Agreement and private contract negotiations. We encourage all of our members who work under these to actively participate in the upcoming pre-negotiation meetings. Contact the Reno District Office for further details.



From left: Bragg Crane operators Kevin Porter and Leonard Massie set a bridge for Q&D Construction at McCarran Ranch, east of Sparks.

Awaiting bid results for new work

Work has been fairly steady in District 04. The city of Vallejo is in the bid process for the ferry-maintenance facility on Mare Island. This \$17 million project should put a lot of members to work. We are awaiting final bid results on the Hwy. 12/Jameson Canyon Road work (widening and wall construction) along with the eastbound truck-scale relocation. All of this upcoming work has a price tag of more than \$100 million.

At the time of this writing, **Hess Construction** continues work at Circle Oaks in the Berryessa area, including new water tanks, new fire hydrants and new waterlines. **Harold Smith & Son** is staying busy with work at Mt. Washington in Calistoga and Domaine Chandon in Yountville. Overall, it looks like 2012 will be a good year.

Apprenticeship Spotlight

In December, Construction Equipment Operator (CEO) Apprentice **Michael “Scott” Mehawk** and Crane Apprentice **Gary Maigret** journeyed out. Congratulations and good luck to both of you in your careers as journey-level operators.



CEO Scott Mehawk.



Operator Gary Yacovetti works at Circle Oaks for Hess Construction.

Crab Feed on Feb. 18

Our annual Crab Feed will be held at the Elks Lodge in Eureka on Feb. 18. We have reason to celebrate, since we’ve survived a tough couple of years economically, and things are improving. Don’t miss this opportunity to enjoy the North Coast’s specialty – fresh crab – and District 40’s beautiful scenery. A no-host bar will start at 4:30 p.m., and a prize drawing and Dr. Squid’s band will start at 8 p.m. for dancing and fun after dinner. Tickets are \$25 for active members, \$20 for Retirees and a special price of \$25 for Retirees with their spouses.



Peterson Shop Foreman Tom Earls answers phones at the Fortuna office.

Also mark your calendars for our Hazwoper refresher held on Feb. 17 at 7 a.m. at the Best Western in Eureka and District 40’s next District Meeting on Thursday, March 8. It will be our first meeting for 2012.

As far as work goes, **Fluor Maintenance** is still busy at the Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) plant, rebuilding and demo-ing the Humboldt Bay Power Plant. This job requires specialized skills, and our operators have succeeded in maintaining the high safety standards.

West Coast Contractors started replacing the harbor in Trinidad. Crab season was delayed until Jan. 15, so crews worked through December to get the necessary pile driven for the harbor. Our operators have done a great job in a tough environment – tight spaces and cold weather.

On the Mad River Bridge project, **Penhall** completed the demolition of the old bridge. This job, which was done in record time and with precision, has finally wrapped up, and a new bridge serves the North Coast in safety. **Golden State Bridge** is pulling its equipment from the site. Great job on the new bridge!

Mercer-Fraser is keeping its shop working during the winter months, gearing up for spring. Since much of the company’s work is paving, workers are forced to back off during the colder, wetter months. But **Mercer-Fraser** is still on the books for several upcoming jobs and will be busy in the coming year.

Peterson Tractor is keeping its shop open too, readying the equipment and tools for the new construction season. The company hired a few new people and is moving forward.

Wahlund Construction is still working on the Ferndale Waste Water Treatment Plant and the McKinleyville/Arcata Airport.

Call the Hall about upcoming jobs throughout 2012.

Please remember that registration on the out-of-work list is valid for 84 days. Make sure to renew your registration before you drop off the list.

Especially as the weather turns cold, wet and icy, the District 40 staff asks you all to Slow For the Cone Zone and keep our Caltrans brothers and sisters in mind.

Get involved with Local 3’s Voice of the Engineer (VOTE) program this year. Volunteers can make a difference in the political environment, and 2012 will be a very important political year, with major decisions being made about our economy, our health care and the future of our industry. We’ve seen in the last year that it’s not the professional politicians who make headway but grassroots movements that hold government officials accountable for the promises they made. It’s you and your voice that can turn the tide. Supporting Operating Engineers Local 3 in the next elections can and will make a difference in the political climate. Phone banking and other volunteer opportunities are great ways to support the union as it works to provide a better life for its members.

Abe Sousa is doing well, and we know many of you were worried. Word is he had a minor stroke, but he is recovering nicely. Our thoughts are with him.

Remember: Office hours have changed for the District 40 Hall as of Oct. 1. The Hall is now open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. and Wednesday from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. The Credit Union is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thank you to District 10 Dispatcher **Randy Bryson**, Secretary **Teresa Spain** and the rest of the District 10 staff who have answered our members’ questions when the District 40 office was closed.

We hope everyone has had a good start to the new year, and we look forward to a strong 2012.

Airport job should keep members busy

Our work picture has been pretty good, despite the season, and we expect things to really kick off this spring.

RGW has a few big jobs in the Merced area and Madera. West Valley has a small job in Lemoore. Teichert is staying busy around Tulare, Merced and Fresno and is getting started on the Fresno Airport job, which is estimated at \$25 million and will keep quite a few operators busy. Emmetts Construction picked up a lot of work around the Fresno area, the biggest being a \$16 million job in Visalia. Mountain Cascade has a smaller water project in Fresno and is doing work in Gustine on a water-system-improvement project. Rising Sun landed a \$2 million job in Merced. Granite has jobs in Fresno, Kettleman City and Madera. Floyd Johnston is doing a wastewater treatment plant in Caruthers. Agee Construction picked up some work, and Flatiron will be busy with a \$38.5 million job on state Route 180 in Fresno.

And that's just some of our current work. More is ahead, so it is important to keep your registration on the out-of-work list current. If you are currently on the A or B lists, your registration is good for 84 days. On the C list, registration is good for 30 days. If your registration expires, you'll lose your place on the list and have to re-register. Keep your contact information current, so

the Hall is able to reach you when we get a job order. We are now asking members for their e-mail addresses too, so we can send information about upcoming events electronically.

Our next District Meeting is on March 5. You should attend it if you want to stay informed on the latest news and upcoming events within the local and your district. This is the best way to hear for yourself what's happening with your union and gives you an opportunity to ask questions.

We are also having a Pre-Retirement Meeting on Feb. 7 at the District Office. Fringe Benefits Director Charlie Warren always provides good information for those who are close to retiring. He encourages members and their spouses to attend to familiarize themselves with all aspects of their retirement benefits.

Speaking of retirements, District 50 would like to congratulate member Jose Medina on his retirement after 30 years with Caltrans. Medina plans to take it easy, take a trip to Disneyland with his grandchildren and travel with his wife. Happy trails, Jose!



New Retiree Jose Medina.

New equipment donated to JAC

Work hours in Utah were good in 2010 and 2011, and as we enter 2012, it looks like this year's work picture will follow suit.

Kiewit Infrastructure West Co. acquired an emergency landslide-repair project on state Route 14 east of Cedar City, which should start ramping up this month. Jacobson Excavation LLC picked up work at Hill Field and should continue working through the winter.

However, with most of the gas-pipeline projects completed, work opportunities could be reduced. With that in mind, we encourage our members to check into the training opportunities available at the Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC) training site located on the west side of the Salt Lake Valley in Geneva Rock Product's West Valley pit.

Every year for the past 10 years, the hours of training at our JAC training site have increased dramatically. A new classroom at the training site was acquired with the help of a grant from the Workers Compensation Fund. Instructors Randy Thacker and Rick Bringham continue to acquire new training certificates to allow them to train in a broader range of areas.

The Trustees of the Affirmative Action Training Fund approved money to purchase updated training equipment, including a Cat 245 skid-steer loader with fork attachments, a

Cat 312 mini excavator, a Cat 950 loader with fork attachments and a Cat D6 dozer with a six-way blade. GPS equipment was also purchased, including a rover, base station and GPS setup for the D6 dozer. Also, we want to thank Shurtleff & Andrews for donating a 75-ton American truck crane to the JAC Training Fund.

It is very important for our members to continually improve their skills and abilities, and we want to continue to make these opportunities available. Please take advantage of them, because it will affect all of our futures.

For more information on training opportunities, please contact Office Manager Kayci Dunn at (801) 664-6934 or Apprenticeship and Training Administrator Jeff Anderson at (801) 509-5801.

February 2012 Training Schedule

Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24	Journey-level upgrade training
Feb. 6-9	Crane Training 40
Feb. 13-15	Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) 24-hour new miner
Feb. 16	First Aid
Feb. 18	MSHA eight-hour refresher
Feb. 20-23	Crane Signalperson and Rigging
Feb. 20-21	Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 10
Feb. 22-23	GPS
Feb. 24	Operator Qualification Certification (OQC)
Feb. 27-29	Gradesetting

March 2012 Training Schedule

March 1	Gradesetting
March 9, 16, 23	Journey-level upgrade training
March 12-14	MSHA 24-hour new miner
March 15	First Aid
March 16	MSHA eight-hour refresher
March 19-20	OSHA 10
March 21-22	GPS
March 26-28	Crane Signalperson



From left: OQC class participants Richard Fuhrman, District Rep. Justin Diston, Travis Hulme, John Bayles, Knut Carter, Sean Stevenson, Riley Bringham, JAC Instructor Randy Thacker and Sean Cox pose in front of a newly acquired piece of equipment.

Local 3 Scholarship Foundation Contest Rules for 2012

Applications available at district offices, Credit Union branches and online at www.oe3.org

The Local 3 officers, Executive Board and the Scholarship Board of Directors understand that the workplace is rapidly changing, and many jobs require skills that can only be attained with a good education. Local 3 is dedicated to giving our young people the opportunity to succeed by providing them with the chance to further their education and training. For this reason, Local 3 awards annual scholarships to sons, daughters, stepchildren and foster children of Local 3 members.

Local 3 awards two types of scholarships: *Academic Scholarships* (winners are judged based on academic qualifications) and *Merit Scholarships* (winners are selected through a raffle drawing).

WHO MAY APPLY

Children (sons, daughters, stepchildren and foster children) of Local 3 members may apply for the scholarships. The parent of the applicant must be a member for at least one year immediately preceding the date of the application. Grandchildren are only eligible to apply if their grandparent (member) is their legal guardian. Children of deceased members are eligible to apply for the scholarships, if the parent of the applicant was a member for at least one year immediately preceding the date of death.

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Six academic college scholarships will be awarded to children of Local 3 members:

First place: Two scholarships of \$4,000 each will be awarded to the first-place female and male applicant, with an additional \$2,000 for the second, third and fourth years of college, if they remain full-time students. (\$10,000 total)

Second place: Two scholarships of \$3,000 each will be awarded to the second-place female and male applicant, with an additional \$1,500 for the second, third and fourth years of college, if they remain full-time students. (\$7,500 total)

Third place: Two scholarships of \$2,000 each will be awarded to the third-place female and male applicant, with an additional \$1,000 for the second, third and fourth years of college, if they remain full-time students. (\$5,000 total)

These scholarships can only be used for study at an accredited college or university located in the United States and do not impose restrictions of any kind on the course of study. Recipients may accept any other grants or awards that do not rule out scholarship aid from other sources. Winners must submit proof of full-time enrollment to receive payment for the second, third and fourth years.

The applicants *must be high school seniors* who have, or will be, graduated at the end of either the fall semester (beginning in 2011) or the spring semester (beginning in 2012) in public, private or parochial schools, plan to attend an accredited college or university anywhere in the United States during the academic year and are able to meet the academic requirements for entrance in the university or college of their choice. Students selected for a scholarship must have achieved no less than a 3.0 (B) weighted grade point average in their high school work.

Applications will be accepted between *Jan. 1, 2012 and March 31, 2012*.

AWARDING ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Upon receipt of the application and required forms, Local 3 will not exercise any choice among the applicants or indicate in any way that one applicant should be favored over another. The University of California Berkeley Scholarship Selection Committee will submit recommendations for finalists to the Scholarship Foundation's Board of Directors. The list of potential

winners and their qualifications will be reviewed by the Board, and the winners will be selected.

Academic Scholarship winners will be announced at Local 3's June Executive Board meeting. Checks will be deposited in the winning students' names at the college or university they plan to attend.

Applicants who are not selected for an Academic Scholarship will automatically be eligible for OE3 Merit Scholarships, which are awarded through a raffle drawing; therefore, only one application is required. Merit Scholarships will be awarded at Local 3's July Executive Board meeting. Applicants need not be present to win.

INSTRUCTIONS

The following items must be postmarked by March 31, 2012:

1. APPLICATION AND ESSAY must be filled out and returned by the applicant.
2. REPORT ON APPLICANT AND OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT must be filled out by the high school principal or person he or she designates and returned directly to Local 3 by the official completing it. Transcripts must be official.
3. LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION must be submitted by the applicant. One to three letters of recommendation from teachers, community leaders, family friends or others who know the applicant must give information about the applicant's character and ability. Please submit all letters of recommendation with the application.
4. PHOTOGRAPH must be submitted by the applicant. It should be a recent photograph, preferably 2 inches by 3 inches, with the applicant's name written on the back. Professional photographs, such as senior portraits, are preferred. (The photo should be clear enough to reproduce in the *Engineers News*.)
5. NEWSPAPER INFORMATION must be submitted by the applicant. Provide the name and phone number of a local newspaper, so we can send a press release if the applicant is selected as a winner.

MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS

In addition to the six Academic Scholarships, Local 3's Scholarship Foundation will award 25 \$1,000 Merit Scholarships. Children of Local 3 members who plan to attend college or trade school are eligible to apply. The Merit Scholarship winners will not be judged on academic qualifications but instead be selected through a raffle drawing held at Local 3's July Executive Board meeting. Applicants need not be present to win; winners will be notified by Local 3. All applicants who apply for the Local 3 Academic Scholarships and do not win will automatically qualify for this drawing; therefore a second application is not necessary.

Applications will be accepted from *Jan. 1, 2012 to March 31, 2012*. Previous winners are not eligible to apply.

WHERE TO GET APPLICATIONS

OE3 Academic and Merit Scholarship applications are available at the local's district offices, Credit Union branches and online at www.oe3.org. *It is the applicant's responsibility to submit the application to the address below, postmarked no later than March 31, 2012:*

Jim Sullivan
Recording-Corresponding Secretary
Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3
1620 South Loop Road
Alameda, CA 94502



New year, new picnics

Eureka District 40: Saturday, Feb. 18
Morgan Hill District 90: Saturday, March 31
Stockton District 30: Sunday, May 6
Utah District 12: Saturday, June 9
Fairfield District 04: Sunday, June 10
Sacramento District 80: Sunday, June 10
Redding District 70: Saturday, June 16
Hawaii District 17 (Kona): Saturday, June 23
Nevada District 11: Saturday, June 30
Rohnert Park District 10: Sunday, July 1
Fresno District 50: Sunday, July 8
Yuba City District 60: Sunday, July 22
Burlingame District 01: Sunday, July 29
Hawaii District 17 (Kauai): Saturday, Sept. 22
Hawaii District 17 (Oahu): Saturday, Sept. 29
Hawaii District 17 (Maui): Saturday, Dec. 8
Oakland District 20: TBD

DEPARTED MEMBERS	
Akers, Albert Lemoore, CA District 50 10-29-11	Lobitos, Pedro Haleiwa, HI District 17 11-01-11
Angelos, Peter Applegate, CA District 80 10-26-11	Martinez, Manuel Concord, CA District 20 11-05-11
Anthony, John Helena, MT District 99 10-23-11	Oller, Eugene Wallace, CA District 30 10-03-11
Baza, F Barrigada, Guam District 99 10-20-11	Peralto, Manuel Sun Valley, NV District 11 11-10-11
Byrd, John Rio Linda, CA District 80 10-18-11	Robinson, Andrew Stockton, CA District 30 10-28-11
Facer, Alma Salt Lake City, UT District 12 11-18-11	Salaus, Otto Waipahu, HI District 17 09-11-11
Fistolera, James Tracy, CA District 30 10-15-11	Thompson, Donald Rancho Cordova, CA District 80 10-21-11
Flores, Arturo Windsor, CA District 10 11-05-11	Wilkinson, Elwood Stockton, CA District 30 10-14-11
Foust, William Copperopolis, CA District 30 10-28-11	Wymore, Ray Roseville, CA District 80 10-20-11
Jackson, Bob Willow Creek, CA District 40 11-14-11	
Jones, Herbert Oakland, CA District 20 10-17-11	
Livingston, William Cave Junction, OR District 99 10-26-11	

DECEASED DEPENDENTS	
Aksland, Mary. Wife of Aksland, Larry W. (dec) 05-01-11	Best, Dorothy. Wife of Best, Orland (dec) 11-23-11
Comer, Audrey. Wife of Comer, John W. (dec) 11-14-11	

February and March District Picnic Details
District 40: Eureka Picnic Details
Saturday, Feb. 18, 4:30 p.m. to midnight
Eureka Elks Club, 455 Herrick Ave., Eureka, Calif.
Menu: Crab, pasta, salad, bread
Cost: Retirees: \$20 or \$25 with spouse; Children: Free; Adults: \$25
Other information: No-host drinks, live band starting at 8 p.m., prize drawing

District 90: Morgan Hill Picnic Details
Saturday, March 31, 9 a.m. to noon
Morgan Hill Grange, 40 East Fourth St., Morgan Hill, Calif.
Menu: Eggs, ham, sausage, hash browns, tortillas
Cost: Retirees: Free; Children 12 and under: \$4; Adults: \$8
Other information: Raffle

Curtis, Linda. Wife of Olano, Tony (dec) 11-22-11	Delaney, Crystal. Wife of Delaney, James J. (dec) 10-20-11	Gardner, Ruth. Wife of Gardner, Verlin (dec) 11-04-11	Henley, Charlene. Wife of Henley, Delbert 09-19-11	James, Ramona. Wife of James, Donald 11-12-11	Larsen, Joyce. Wife of Larsen, John D. 11-10-11	Luke, Leora. Wife of Luke, Charles D. 11-11-11	Matsuyama, Bessie. Wife of Matsuyama, Andy (dec) 11-20-11	McCaleb, Cora. Wife of McCaleb, Ashley A. (dec) 12-01-11	Monticello, Jane. Wife of Monticello, Salvatore (dec) 11-09-11	Niemeyer, Betty. Ex-wife of Niemeyer, Dennis 10-25-11	Paolercio, Helen. Wife of Paolercio, Pete (dec) 11-06-11	Parker, Irene. Wife of Parker, John P. (dec) 11-12-11
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Preston, Emily. Wife of Preston, James (dec) 11-09-11	Rathbone, Dorothy. Wife of Rathbone, Robert (dec) 11-15-11	Steele, Virginia. Wife of Steele, Charles J. (dec) 11-14-11	Tavasci, Charlotte. Wife of Tavasci, Gino (dec) 11-10-11	Trout, Zelma. Wife of Trout, Elmer (dec) 11-01-11	Wells, June. Wife of Wells, Martin W. 10-26-11	Williams, Ann. Ex-wife of Williams, Charles A. 11-02-11	Williams, Joy. Wife of Williams, Donald (dec) 11-30-11	Yeaman, Marnay. Wife of Yeaman, Ernest II (dec) 11-09-11
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FIELD PERSPECTIVE:
What the members are saying

What’s it like being married to an Operating Engineer?



“It’s hard. They go out of town a lot, sometimes for months in Nevada.”
– Debi Hanson, wife of Danny Hanson



“One word: Fantastic. The insurance is so great, the benefits. They [the union] have taken good care of us.”
– Marge Jungnitsch, wife of Retiree Wally Jungnitsch



“He’s gone a lot, but the pay is good, and he is learning.”
– Melissa Holloway, wife of Apprentice Kyle Holloway

DISTRICT MEETINGS

All meetings convene at 7 p.m.

FEBRUARY 2012

No meetings scheduled.

MARCH 2012

- 5th District 30: Stockton
Operating Engineers' Building
1916 N. Broadway Ave.
- 5th District 50: Fresno
Cedar Lanes
3131 N. Cedar Ave.
- 5th District 90: Morgan Hill
Operating Engineers' Building
325 Digital Drive
- 6th District 01: Burlingame
Transport Workers Union
1521 Rollins Road
- 6th District 10: Rohnert Park
Operating Engineers' Building
6225 State Farm Drive
- 6th District 20: San Leandro
Sheet Metal Workers
1720 Marina Blvd.
- 7th District 04: Vacaville
Hampton Inn & Suites
800 Mason St.
- 7th District 60: Marysville
Veterans Memorial Center
211 17th St.
- 7th District 80: Sacramento
Operating Engineers' Building
3920 Lennane Drive
- 8th District 40: Eureka
Best Western Bayshore Inn
3500 Broadway
- 8th District 70: Redding
Operating Engineers' Building
20308 Engineers Lane
- 12th District 11: Reno
Operating Engineers' Building
1290 Corporate Blvd.
- 14th District 12: Salt Lake City (date changed)
IBEW Local 354
3400 W. 2100 S.
- 19th District 17: Kapolei (date changed)
Operating Engineers' Building
1075 Opakapaka St.

APRIL 2012

No meetings scheduled.

SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING

Rec. Corres. Secretary Jim Sullivan has announced that the next Semi-Annual Meeting of the membership will be held on Sunday, March 18 at 1 p.m. at the following location:
Cow Palace
2600 Geneva Ave.
Daly City, CA 94014

Town Hall Meetings

February 2012

- 1st District 11: Elko
Newmont Mine Meeting: 6 p.m.
Operating Engineers' Building
1094 Lamoille Highway, Elko
- 8th District 11: Elko
Construction Meeting: 6 p.m.
Operating Engineers' Building
1094 Lamoille Highway, Elko

March 2012

- 7th District 11: Elko
Newmont Mine Meeting: 6 p.m.
Operating Engineers' Building
1094 Lamoille Highway, Elko
- 14th District 11: Elko
Construction Meeting: 6 p.m.
Operating Engineers' Building
1094 Lamoille Highway, Elko
- 20th District 17: Kauai (date changed)
Meeting: 6 p.m.
Kauai Beach Resort
4331 Kauai Beach Drive, Lihue
- 21st District 17: Kona (date changed)
Meeting: 7 p.m.
King Kamehameha Kona Beach Hotel
75-5660 Palani Road, Kona
- 22nd District 17: Hilo (date changed)
Meeting: 7 p.m.
Hilo ILWU Hall
100 W. Lanikaula St., Hilo
- 23rd District 17: Maui (date changed)
Meeting: 7 p.m.
Maui Arts & Cultural Center
One Cameron Way, Kahului

April 2012

- 4th District 11: Elko
Newmont Mine Meeting: 6 p.m.
Operating Engineers' Building
1094 Lamoille Highway, Elko
- 11th District 11: Elko
Construction Meeting: 6 p.m.
Operating Engineers' Building
1094 Lamoille Highway, Elko
- 18th District 12: Layton (date changed)
Dinner: 6 p.m.; Meeting: 7 p.m.
Davis Conference Center
1651 North 700 West, Layton
- 19th District 12: Price (date changed)
Lunch: 1 p.m.; Meeting: 2 p.m.
Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites
838 Westwood Blvd., Price
- 21st District 12: St. George
(date and location changed)
Lunch: 12:30 p.m.; Meeting: 1 p.m.
Staheli Family Farm
3400 S. Washington Fields Road,
Washington

New Bylaws books available

The membership passed the resolution to amend the Operating Engineers Local 3 Bylaws. As of January 2012, copies of the new Bylaws books are available at your district office. Please pick one up at your earliest convenience.

Important reminder regarding your registration

Please remember to renew your registration on the out-of-work list before it expires! Registration for individuals with A-hire or B-hire status is good for only 84 days. After the 84th day, your registration expires, and you will lose your place on the out-of-work list, if you don't renew it. We will do everything we can to notify you in advance, but it is your responsibility to contact the district office to renew your registration prior to the 84th day.

Honorary Membership for Retirees

Retirees with 35 or more years of service in Local 3 are eligible for Honorary Membership. Eligible Retirees will receive their Gold Membership Card and a reduction in dues. To find out if you are eligible or to apply for Honorary Membership, please contact the Recording-Corresponding Secretary (RCS) office at (510) 748-7400.

This month's Honorary Members can be found below.

Honorary Membership

The following Retirees have 35 or more years of membership in Local 3 as of December 2011 and have been determined eligible for Honorary Membership effective Jan. 1, 2012.

David Clem District 50: Fresno	1682264
Billy Jackson District 90: Morgan Hill	0854260
Wayne L. Johnson District 60: Yuba City	1712695
Ron McCabe District 90: Morgan Hill	1117488
Richard Patters District 30: Stockton	1600854
Patrick J. Quinn District 60: Yuba City	1598072
Frankie D. Rino District 12: Utah	1499914
Wayne S. Segale District 30: Stockton	1243007
Elwood Sullivan District 70: Redding	1451634
Duane D. Van Liew District 99: Out Of Area	1644316

Go paperless

Engineers News online option available

Members who would rather read their award-winning *Engineers News* online instead of receiving it in the mail can go paperless. This format will save the union printing and mail costs and will cut down on waste.

If interested, please send an e-mail to gopaperless@oe3.org with your name, mailing address and union registration number.

2012 Political Action Committee Election

Rec. Corres. Secretary Jim Sullivan has announced that in accordance with Article X, Section 10 of the Local Union Bylaws, the election of Political Action Committees (PACs) will take place at the first District Meeting of 2012 in each respective district. To be eligible for election, a member must have proof of current voter registration in the district in which he or she is seeking nomination, per Bylaws Article X, Section 4(a). Please see below for more information.

The schedule of meetings at which these elections will be held appears on page 28 under "District Meetings."

2012 Election Committee Election

To be eligible for election to the Election Committee, a member shall be a registered voter in the district in which he or she is nominated, per Bylaws Article XII, Section 3(b). Please see below for more information.

All Political Action and Election Committee

Nominees Must Show Proof of Voter Registration

Proof of voter registration may be obtained by going to your county Registrar of Voters' or county clerk's office. The cost for a certificate varies by county, but is usually nominal (\$1) or free. All Political Action and Election Committee Nominees: Please bring proof that you are registered to vote to your first-quarter District Meeting; any member seeking nomination who does not bring proof of registration to the meeting will be required to fill out a new voter-registration form at the meeting. (You will need your driver's license when filling out a new voter-registration form.)



OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL UNION No. 3

1620 SOUTH LOOP ROAD, ALAMEDA, CA 94502 • (510) 748-7400 • FAX (510) 748-7412
Jurisdiction: Northern California, Northern Nevada, Utah, Hawaii, and the Mid-Pacific Islands

Recording-Corresponding Secretary James K. Sullivan

Dear brothers and sisters:

As you all know, our local union is large and encompasses four large states. All official union business, including the nomination and election for union-wide offices, Bylaws and Political Action Committee (PAC) delegates, will be conducted at locations close to the main district office in your specific home area.

As a result of the large geographic jurisdiction of Local 3, the business manager can, at his discretion, establish subcommittees. Business Manager Russ Burns has currently authorized four subcommittees to be located in Elko, Nev. and Hilo, Kauai and Maui, Hawaii. These subcommittees will have their own PACs to deal with local concerns. Please note: The payment of dues for subcommittee PAC members will be at the discretion of the business manager.

If you are interested in becoming a PAC member, the business manager strongly encourages you to attend your March District or Town Hall Meeting (these are listed on page 28), so you may be nominated and then elected.

Fraternally yours,

James K. Sullivan
Recording-Corresponding Secretary

ELECTION COMMITTEE NOTICE

Jim Sullivan, Recording-Corresponding Secretary of Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3, announces that in conformity with Article XII, Section 3(b) of the Local Union Bylaws, elections for Members of the Election Committee will be held in March at each district's regular quarterly District Meeting. The Committee will conduct the August 2012 election of Officers, Executive Board Members and Delegates and Alternates to the 38th International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) Convention.

ARTICLE XII, SECTION 3, ELECTIONS:

- (a) The election of Officers and District Members of the Local Union Executive Board shall be held during the month of August by mail referendum vote of the Membership of this Local Union under the supervision of the Election Committee and a firm of certified public accountants, selected by the Executive Board, with such other technical and legal assistance as may be provided.
- (b) The election shall be conducted by a committee known as the Election Committee, composed of one (1) Member from each District in which nominations will be made. The Member shall be nominated and elected by secret ballot at the regular quarterly or specially called District Meetings by vote of those Members present whose last known address, as shown on the records of the Local Union ten (10) days prior to the first such District Meeting in March preceding the election, was within the area covered by the District. Each nominee shall be a registered voter in the District in which he or she is nominated, shall have been a Member of the Parent Local of Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3 for five (5) years next preceding his or her nomination and election, and shall not be a candidate or nominator of a candidate for any Office or Position.

The nominee for Committee Member in each District receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected, and, in the event he or she is unable or unwilling to serve, shall be replaced by the nominee with the next highest number of votes, and he or she, under the same circumstances, by the next highest, and so on, until the list of nominees is exhausted.

ARTICLE XIII, SECTION 1, INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATES:

- (e) When the International Convention is to occur during the year next following an election of Officers under Article XII of these Bylaws, the nomination and election of Delegates and Alternates to such International Convention shall take place concurrently with the nomination and election of Officers.

The schedule of the meetings at which these elections will be held appears on page 28 under "District Meetings."

2012 Geographical Market Area Committee

Rec. Corres. Secretary Jim Sullivan has announced that in accordance with the new Local Union Bylaws, election of Geographical Market Area Committee (GMAC) Members will no longer take place annually at first-quarter District Meetings. In accordance with Article XXXI, Sections 1 and 2 of the Bylaws, the election of Geographical Market Area Committee Members shall be held at the fourth-quarter District Meeting of the year in each District (where a Construction Agreement provides for it) after the election and installation of Officers. The term of office shall be three (3) years.

A miraculous weight loss

District 30 member sheds 150 pounds, 12 pant sizes

By Jamie Johnston, associate editor

Just one year ago, Holt Shop Foreman Brian Hicks was a completely different person: He looked different, he felt different and he acted differently.

That's because in December 2010, at 6-foot-3, he weighed 370 pounds, was a size 44, wore 4X shirts and had no energy. Today, he's dropped 150 pounds! He's now a size 32 and wears 1X shirts. And the best part: He's got more energy and stamina than he's had since high school.

"My own daughter can't keep up with me, and I'm 46 years old," said Hicks, a Local 3 mechanic for 15 years.

Though his results are impressive, his journey to good health was a long and life-threatening one that spans 12 years.

In 2000, Hicks was diagnosed with pericarditis, a condition that causes swelling and irritation of the membrane surrounding the heart. Hicks suffered severe pains in his chest and said he couldn't walk more than 30 feet without feeling winded. To alleviate his pain, Hicks was prescribed a drug called Prednisone, but he said it simply masked the pain and never solved the real problem. After an almost deadly visit to his chiropractor, when the pressure got so bad he was

rushed to the hospital, something else had to be done.

Hicks eventually had exploratory open-heart surgery. Because his pericardial sac, or the outer layer of his heart, had become so infected, doctors had to "peel [it] off my heart." His pain was finally gone. However, though his heart was healthy, Hicks claims the Prednisone made him gain 150 pounds – the medication "turns everything into fat," he said.

Overweight, Hicks was diagnosed with type 2 diabetes, and his cardiologist recommended a gastric bypass. Hicks opted for gastric-sleeve surgery – one of the newer and simpler types of weight-loss surgery that removes about 85 percent of the stomach. He was "under the knife" on Jan. 27, 2011.

"I've lost 150 pounds in 10-½ months," he reported in December.

And he's determined to keep it off.

Today, he's able to not only walk regularly and work-out at the gym about three times a week, but he also breaks and trains horses with his daughter – things he says he couldn't do when he was overweight.

"A body at rest stays at rest; a body in motion stays in motion. That's totally true," he said.

He's also eating right. Now that his stomach is only 4 ounces (an average adult's stomach is about 32 ounces), he is very conscious about what he puts in it. He can only consume less than 1,200 calories a day, plus protein and nutrient supplements, and has cut out all soda and bread.

Hicks has had to have regular checkups since the surgery, but he's heard nothing but good news.

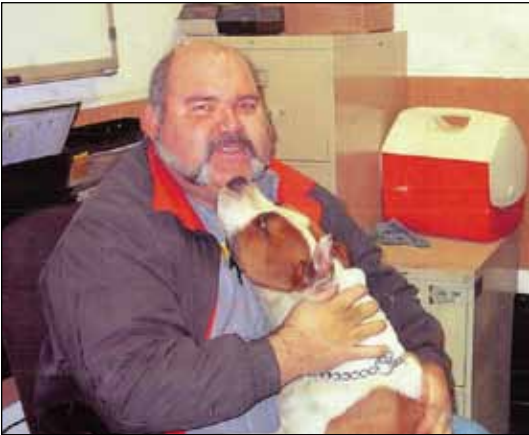
"I have the blood work of a teenage boy right now," he said. "I'm in the best shape since high-school football."

He recommends the surgery to others in his situation, but warns that you must be mentally prepared and know what you're getting into, because it is a life-altering procedure that is irreversible.

"It's not a quick fix," he said.

Hicks is grateful for the surgery and said it's given him a new outlook on life.

"I enjoy life again. Before, I really didn't," he said.



BEFORE

December 2010

Holt Shop Foreman Brian Hicks sits at his desk in Stockton. Before undergoing gastric-sleeve surgery, he weighed 370 pounds and wore a size 44 pant and 4X shirt.



AFTER

December 2011

Hicks now weighs 225 pounds and wears a size 32 pant and 1X shirt.

Notice: Health Dynamics program improved, expanded

To all California active members and non-Medicare Retirees enrolled in the Comprehensive Medical Plans:

Some improvements have been made to the Health Dynamics Preventive Care Program to encourage member participation:

The Local 3 Active Comprehensive Medical Plan will credit \$250 against participants' annual deductible for members and their spouses, *each*, for a total savings of \$500 for those who participate in 2012.

The program has been expanded for 2012 to include non-Medicare Pensioned Health and Welfare participants. The

Local 3 Pensioned Comprehensive Medical Plan will credit \$250 against participants' self-pay premium for members and their spouses, *each*, for a total savings of \$500.

Participation only helps you and the Plan, so sign up today! For more information:

Trust Funds Office: (800) 251-5014
Trust Funds Website: www.oe3trustfunds.org
Fringe Benefits Office: (800) 532-2105
Health Dynamics: (414) 443-0200

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 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. Ads received by the 1st of the month will run the following 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: Harley 1985 FXRS.SP. 35,000 miles. Carb, header, heads, cam, brakes just serviced. \$9,000. 2003 FXD low rider. 5,500 miles. New carb, coil, header. \$8,500. 1963 6-cylinder motor and 2-speed power glide transmission: \$400. Turbo 400 auto transmission: \$350. 1985 Bayliner cabin cruiser, 22-feet, V8 without drive, Volvo Penta, canvas, tandem trailer. 400 hours. Great for fishing. \$3,000 OBO. (925) 256-0621. Reg# 2380910.

FOR SALE: Snap-On ratchet 1 inch along with handle. Comes with reducer from 1 inch to ¾ inch and a couple of 1-inch sockets, 1-1/8 inch to 1-1/16 inch. \$350 OBO for all. (209) 956-1705. Reg# 2487038.

FOR SALE: Stove fireplace insert for wood burning. Country Flame Mt. Vernon Fireplaces, Mo. Metallic brown, can recolor, removable solid brass trims with heavy brass trimmed glass doors and adjustable side panels. Three-speed fan. Size: 33-¾-inch-wide by 27-inch-high insert with side panels fits up to 41-inch-wide by 29-inch-high. Excellent condition. Has manual to install, etc. \$350. (209) 931-2058. Reg# 1022395.

FOR SALE: AeroPilates exerciser. 4-Cords-home studio with cardio rebounder and foot bar. Heavy duty steel frame. Wood end accents.

Quiet. Folds. Holds 300 pounds. Complete in original box. Used once. New model. \$275. (209) 931-2058. Reg# 1022395.

FOR SALE: 2003 Hitchhiker 2. 35-feet long. Has three slide-outs, kingdom for satellite receiver and solar panel on top, 24-inch TV in living room, 8-inch TV in bedroom, two new batteries, good tires. \$19,500. (530) 384-0379. Reg# 0854095.

FOR SALE: 2001 38-foot Monaco Diplomat, two slides with awnings; 330 Cummins; low mileage; 63,800; Allison six-speed transmission; 7,000 generator; 20-foot awning; good rubber all around; queen bed – Select Comfort mattress; clean throughout; new dual air and day and night shades; sleeps four, Dingy Tow bar included. Model 38 PBD no water leaks. \$67,000. Redding, Calif. Contact Leonard at (510) 912-6272. Reg# 1351548.

FOR SALE: Renovated 1,344-square-foot home in owner occupant family park in Vallejo, Calif., 28 miles from San Francisco. Low space rent and taxes. Lifetime roof, Jacuzzi tub, vinyl siding, central heat/air, 120-square-foot cover-all building roll-up door, 220 V fluorescent lighting, fruit trees, furnished. \$50,000. (530) 366-5543. Reg# 2389916.

FOR SALE: Mint condition 1982 GMC Sierra Classic 4X4. Rebuilt motor, 20,000 miles on new motor, fresh paint, new tires 35X12.5 all-terrain, full power, dual tank, short bed, smog legal. \$3,500 OBO. (510) 551-7933. Reg# 2387132.

FOR SALE: 1974 Chevy Step Side dual tank need restoration, complete some parts. \$1,500, trade, OBO. (510) 551-7933. Reg# 2387132.

FOR SALE: A new, 54-inch lawnmower. 26 hp engine, automatic. Drives like a tractor. Value: \$3,229; will sell for \$1,700. (916) 991-1530. Reg# 0486196.

FOR SALE: 302A John Deere Tractor. Bucket in front, hydraulic tilt on scraper and rippers, safety cab; set up for backhoe; has reconditioned heads, heavy-duty pump for backhoe, new valves, injectors, diesel fuel pump, booster pump and starter, good tires. Ready to go to work. \$9,500 OBO. Will take smaller tractor in trade. (916) 991-1530. Reg# 0486196.

FOR SALE: 2003 30-foot Wellcraft Martinique boat

with 2007 Nextrial trailer. Very clean. Excellent condition. 2-by-10 swim deck. White with full black canvas enclosures. Large salon, wraparound lounge, portside lounge seats eight adults; sleeps eight. Walk-through windshield. Power engine compartment hatch. 310 hours on twin 5.0 Mercruiser MPI motors (305 chev), Bravo 3 drives. Extras. \$55,000 OBO. Call Ken at (559) 960-4966. Reg# 2149218.

FOR SALE: Charlie 1 horse cowboy hat. Python snake and real gold around bridge of hat. White. Size 7-5/8. \$200. Also: Beer neon lights – Coors, Miller, Bud, Lite Ice. Call for prices. (209) 339-8049 or (209) 401-7997. Reg# 2292849.

FOR SALE: Several Pepsi and Coca-Cola machines from late '50s/early '60s. All work but one. \$700 each OBO. A large jukebox from the 1960s. Works, but needs a little work. Lights up. Has 200 records in it. \$700. Also: Several autographed football pictures, most of 49ers or Cowboys, footballs signed by 49er teams and many autographed football and baseball cards. (209) 401-7997. Reg# 2292849.

FOR SALE: Ridged Model 246 Ratchet soil pipe cutter in good condition. \$200. Also: A TOPCON RL-H1S Lazer level with LS-30 receiver, Tripod and Linker rod. \$1,200. The lazer is in like-new condition and was just calibrated. Contact Dan at djohn94577@comcast.net. Reg# 2000150.

FOR SALE: 1997 GMC C7500 bobtail dump truck in good working condition. \$18,000 OBO. Also: A 2001 Millennium 9-ton backhoe trailer in good condition. \$8,000 OBO. (510) 453-4533. Reg# 2215029.

FOR SALE: Like new. 2004 seadoo bomardie sportster 4-tec. 20 hours or less. \$10,000. Contact Mary at (707) 480-4121 or vpd412@aol.com. Reg# 0939949.

FOR SALE: Trailer hitch for 1991-1997 Ford Escort. Factory made. \$75. I will install it for you. Call Ken at (510) 215-7040 or e-mail lafrance@prodigy.net. Reg# 1219576.

FOR SALE: 20-foot chain-fall. Perfect condition. \$100. Call Ken at (510) 215-7040 or e-mail lafrance@prodigy.net. Reg# 1219576.

FOR SALE: Remodeled 2 bd/1.5 ba home on 37+ acres in Wauconda, Wash. near Bonaparte Lake.

Rolling hills, small pond, sub-irrigated pastureland, dense forest. Perfect horse or cattle property with plenty of water. Deer, moose and elk have been sighted. Quiet and secluded, but completely fenced and cross-fenced. Hot tub, detached garage and pole barn with power, water, RV storage. (509) 486-0830. Reg# 1770647.

FOR SALE: Beautiful lady's opal ring. Full of fire, set in a gold, 14-carat band. Opal is ¾ inch by ½ inch egg shape. Appraised at \$1,200 plus. Sell for \$1,000. (707) 725-5334 or (707) 616-4749. Reg# 0939694.

FOR SALE: 2008 Harley Davidson Road Glide. Can't take it with me. Crimson red denim. Has Vance Hines slip-on exhaust, Screaming Eagle Stage 1, Power Commander 3. Many extras. Extended warranty through August 2014 is transferrable. \$16,000. (707) 477-9761. Reg# 1732998.

FOR SALE: Collection of 36 old tin spice cans. All different spices in excellent condition. Beautiful colors and lost are full of spices. \$70 takes all. Will send pictures if interested. (530) 223-4388. Reg# 0827031.

FOR SALE: 2008 Kawasaki "side-by-side" model 749. Extras include heater, hard cover and soft cover that zips around it. Every add-on possible. 1 inch from being street legal. Three years old, but used only twice. Like new. Has special-made door that zips. Camo. Paid \$12,000. Will take best offer. In Salt Lake City, Utah. (801) 448-1911. Reg# 2314416.

FOR SALE: 1986 Holiday Rambler Imperial motorhome Class A, 33 feet. 83,253 miles. 6.0 Onan generator, six aluminum wheels, moore-ride tandem axles, two auxiliary batteries, 1,500-watt inverter, roof weatherproof luggage carrier, two roof air conditioners with heat, central heat, central vacuum, TV hookups, nearly new refrigerator, lots of extras. \$5,000. Contact Marvin at (530) 878-8941, (916) 539-8836 or tinsel@suddenlink.net. Reg# 0883620.

FOR SALE: Pride electric three-wheel adult scooter. Excellent condition. In Pollock Pines, Calif. \$750. (530) 647-2808. Reg# 1040605.

FOR SALE: 5,000-watt Kawasaki generator with one, 220 outlet. Less than 40 hours. \$600 OBO. Paid

\$1,200 new. (530) 632-5180. Reg# 1967866.

FREE: Gradesetter plywood pickup organizer. 6-½ feet length by 4 feet width. Room for grade stick, Lenker rod, tripod, two bundles lath on bottom. Platform on top has room for plans, GPS, laser, etc. Retired; don't need it anymore. San Ramon. (925) 735-9038. Reg# 1826056.

FOR SALE: Land – 10.92 acres, 30 minutes north on Hwy. 395 from Reno, Nev. in Rancho Haven. Great owner financing with 10 percent down. Power less than 50 feet. Will need well/septic. Completely surveyed. \$57,700. (865) 363-3273. Reg# 1840427.

FOR SALE: 2005 Allegro Bay 37-foot motor home. Two slides, back-up camera system, two air conditioners, two heaters, two full entertainment centers, solar, auto awning, hot water electric/or gas, queen-size bed, 47,000 miles, new brakes and rotors. \$60,000 OBO. (707) 569-8825 or (707) 953-3877. Reg# 2017003.

FOR SALE: 2007 Nu-Wa HitchHiker 11, L.S. FKTG, 29.5-foot-long 5th wheel. Three slides, queen bed, Splendide combo washer/dryer, 2,000-watt inverter, Trac Vision satellite dome, 32-inch TV and DVD with surround sound in living room, 19-inch TV in bedroom. Designer glass tile backsplash in kitchen, bathroom. Purchased new in May 2009. \$32,500. (530) 273-2489. Reg# 1025259.

FOR SALE: 2010 Dodge Ram 2500 Laramie 4X4. Long bed, crew cab, light graystone pearl coat, GPS navigation system, 6.7-liter Cummins Turbo Diesel, diesel exhaust brake, rear back-up camera, U-Connect with voice command. Fifth Airborne pin box, Reese 5th wheel hitch and large diamond-plated toolbox included. Remote start, heated steering wheel, more. All warranties transferable. 5,800 miles. \$42,500. (530) 273-2489. Reg# 1025259.

FOR SALE: Retired mechanic is reducing tool inventory. Too much to list. Please call with what you need. Also have Tec 1000 top and bottom box. Asking \$4,000. (209) 662-0615. Reg# 2579515.

FOR SALE: 2006 550 H Case Dozer. 1,830 hours. ROPS with sweeps, rear screen, six-way blade, ripper, 70 percent UC with 16-inch pads. \$34,900. (916) 768-8801. Reg# 2284201.

WEATHER HOLDS FOR BIG WIND FARM

For a project that, when completed, will rely solely on weather, the some 30 Operating Engineers working on the third phase of the Solano Wind Farm at Birds Landing are thankful that there has been almost none of it this winter.

Since the project started last summer and is scheduled to finish at the end of April, a steady work schedule through winter has been surprising but necessary. The only issue has been the fog, which can roll in thick and cause zero visibility in this part of Solano County. But operators with Michels Wind Energy Division have only lost about three days to fog so far. Overall, it's been clear skies and secure work for our members erecting the more than 50 wind turbines that will power about 78,000 homes. On the expansive property, windmills already exist, but Operating Engineers are more than doubling the current energy output.

Last month, about eight cranes dotted the rolling farmland, carefully assembling the new windmills in pieces. These additional windmills will add 128 megawatts of energy to the current 102 megawatts with 31 1.8-megawatt turbines and a dozen 3-megawatt ones.

Many of the Operating Engineers onsite are veterans of this type of work, such as 39-year member Mike Martin, who also worked on the Shiloh III Wind Farm in District 04.

Knife River Construction provided about 25 miles of road on the jobsite, and Mag-Con General Engineering worked on the project's substation.

For more photos of this project, visit our online gallery at www.oe3.org.

Crane Operator Tony Mackey lifts the nacelle and hub of a windmill on the giant wind farm in Birds Landing.

