

OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL UNION NO. 3

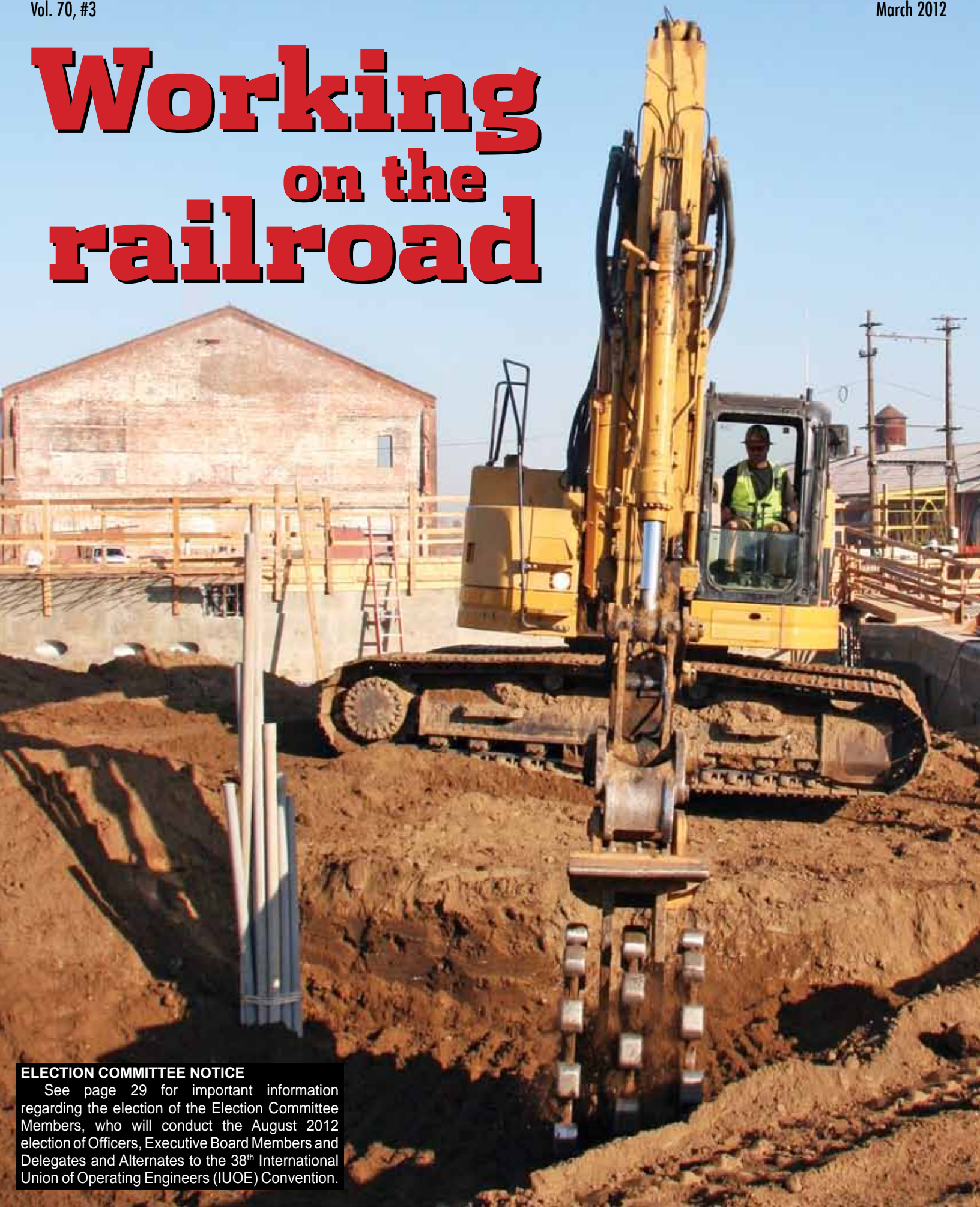
# ENGINEERS

## NEWS

Vol. 70, #3

March 2012

# Working on the railroad



#### 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 38<sup>th</sup> International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) Convention.





PAGE 11



PAGE 23

## CONTENTS

Financials .....	4
News & Notes.....	5
Unit 12.....	6
Organizing.....	6
Report & Review .....	7
Public Employee News .....	8
Credit Union .....	10
Signatories upgrade plant .....	11
Looking at Labor .....	12
Fringe Benefits .....	13
Rancho Murieta .....	14
Port added to boycott.....	14
Political Perspective.....	15
ATPA.....	15
Working on the railroad .....	16
OE3 partners with CIFAC .....	18
District Reports.....	19
Meetings and Announcements.....	26
Health News .....	30
Swap Shop.....	31

### Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3

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

Russ Burns	Editor
Carl Goff	Editorial Adviser
Mandy McMillen	Managing Editor
Jamie Johnston	Associate Editor
Dominique Beilke	Art Director

[www.oe3.org](http://www.oe3.org)

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



## For The Good & Welfare

By Russ Burns, business manager

## It's time to buck up and band together

Times aren't easy. Yes, our work hours are improving, as many districts are reporting more projects ahead this season. And yes, our union finances are improving (see pages 4 and 5 for details), but none of this offsets the political assault that is coming for all of us this year, if we don't come together and vote union.

Coming together isn't always easy, but for the sake of the whole, sometimes things must be sacrificed. At the beginning of this year, President Obama withheld approval of the Keystone XL Pipeline from Canada to Texas, stalling a project expected to create 20,000 jobs and improve our industry's 16 percent unemployment rate. Obviously, Local 3 and our International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) are not happy about this, and we are working closely with the International every step of the way to ensure that this project does move forward. In the meantime, I would suggest ignoring any right-wing depiction of the president's motives other than the simple fact that Republicans put a stringent timeline on the president to make a decision when he wasn't ready to do so. He made a prudent choice to explore all of the pipeline's options, which means the proposal can be evaluated again.

Whether we love or hate this decision or this president, it's important to see the big picture and vote as a team. Since his election, Obama has continued to uphold the relationship forged with labor by keeping his door open to us and appointing IUOE General Counsel Dick Griffin to the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), as well as making other pro-labor appointments. Also, U.S. Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood recently held a meeting with me in Sacramento, voicing Obama's commitment to High-Speed Rail in California. While Obama's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) may not have delivered all

the jobs we hoped for, there are still thousands of Americans – including our own members – who are benefiting from the projects this act started.

It is also important to mention that any alternative to Obama is not an option for us. This nation's union workforce is under a major attack. A right-to-work *for less* law has been introduced in 18 states and was approved by the Senate in Indiana this year. Anti-union lawmakers fail to realize its devastating impact on middle-class America. This union has seen these effects in our right-to-work states of Utah and Nevada, where members work harder for less. We must stop this plague, and we can only do it by ensuring we have pro-union leaders serving us from the White House to local city councils. We do that by getting out the vote and *voting as one*.

Another initiative that could potentially cripple labor's voice in California is the Paycheck Deception measure, which recently qualified for November's ballot. This measure has been introduced and shot down twice before as Proposition 226 in 1998 and Prop. 75 in 2005, but unlike those versions, this one seeks to prohibit all direct contributions to pro-labor candidates from unions. If it passes, labor will have no say over legislation, yet big business still will.

As you can see, now is not the time to throw your hands up in defeat or frustration. It is also not the time to turn against each other over political differences. Get together. We must be unified or we will fall. It's that simple.

I hope you'll come together and join me on March 18 at the Semi-Annual Event held at the Cow Palace in Daly City. Directions to and information about this event can be found on page 27. This is an opportunity for all of us to learn what's ahead. To survive, we must get politically involved this year, and we must do it together.

### IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER: EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO BE INFORMED

As members of Local 3, you have the right to know what is going on in your union! Remember: This administration is dedicated to transparency, and we are here to answer any questions you may have regarding your union, including, but not limited to, questions about your Pension, your Health and Welfare, your prescription-drug coverage or your Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBAs). Misinformation harms all our brothers and sisters. Please do not hesitate to contact any of the officers if you have a question regarding something you have heard on the jobsite or from another OE3 brother or sister. We are always glad to sit down with you and answer your questions. Remember, exercise your right to be informed about what is happening in your union. Get the facts.

## Questions about your Annuity?

### Ask the expert!

The Annuity “expert” is Jeff Breining, the investment advisor for participants in the Annuity Plan. He can answer your questions about which investments are best for your particular situation and goals. His advice is free and confidential. You can call him at (800) 543-9087 or (510) 486-2467. You may also visit [www.ibenefitcenter.com](http://www.ibenefitcenter.com) to manage your investments online.

## O.C. Jones wins national paving award

Signatory O.C. Jones & Sons knows paving, and its mastery of this skill recently gained national recognition.

The National Asphalt Pavement Association (NAPA) honored O.C. Jones with the 2011 Quality in Construction Award for the mill and overlay of six miles (north and southbound) of Hwy. 101 in Marin County. The company finished the job in 52 days rather than the maximum allotment of 310 days, despite weather delays and environmental restrictions.

According to NAPA Board of Directors Chairman Kim Snyder, “This award demonstrates the high quality of work that O.C. Jones & Sons is achieving.”

Congratulations!



O.C. Jones' night paving crew includes, front row, from left: Miguel Rodriguez and Gonzalo Rubio. Back row, from left: Art Mendoza, Juan Zarate, Ramiro Espinoza, Efren Pena and Jesus Castellanos.



O.C. Jones was recently recognized for this paving job on Hwy. 101.

## Talking Points

By Fred Herschbach, president



## Several items worth repeating

As Local 3 Trustees and officers, we get tons of information (statistics, articles, manuals, etc.) on health care and pensions. While some of it is helpful, a lot of it is junk. It all comes down to one thing: Jobs. The issues this country has with retirement and health care are the result of the struggling economy, and in order to fix that, we need jobs. The middle class is the best example of how the country is doing, and currently, the middle class is struggling. There are less jobs, but costs keep rising. For example, between 2003 and 2010, the average amount California families and employers paid for health-care coverage shot up 52 percent or \$13,819 annually, while family income only rose 4 percent. These costs keep rising, and the confusion grows greater regarding the national health-care law (Affordable Care Act). About every day, there is some new interpretation of the law and its effects. It seems no one can get a handle on things.

I know I keep saying it, but I hope you will listen: While we can't do much about laws already enacted and cost increases that have already occurred, we can get healthier, which in turn means less paid out of our Health and Welfare Fund. I'm as guilty as anyone for not taking care of myself. I am too busy, too tired and not motivated enough to make changes, but this mindset is expensive and may cost me my life someday. None of us are exempt from this reality. According to a recent study conducted in Massachusetts, for every \$1 spent to help someone quit smoking, we can save \$3. Smoking diseases in that state attributed to about 10 percent of its health-care costs (\$4.4 billion total). According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the United States spends about \$96 billion a year in direct health-care costs from smoking. Almost half a million people die directly from smoking every year, and many more suffer from cancer, heart disease and asthma, etc. Talk about a black hole – you lose money in health-care costs, and you lose your quality of life. The solution is prevention and early detection, which can be achieved by taking advantage of some of the union's health benefits. Call the Trust Fund Office at (800)

251-5014 or the Fringe Benefits Service Center at (800) 532-2105 about the new Preventive Care Program that could save you and your spouse \$250 each toward your deductibles and much more in health-care costs down the road. For more health-related benefits, see this month's Fringe Benefits article.

Regarding employment, you can make yourself more marketable to the employer by utilizing your downtime to upgrade your skills. The training sites in each state offer excellent classes and journey-level upgrades. We must be proficient on more than one piece of iron, especially with today's technology. We are doing more with less, which translates into operators needing to know how to operate more equipment. Take GPS for example. Now, one gradesetter can do the work that two to four gradesetters did five to 10 years ago. Surveyors used to stake a whole subdivision. Now, they go and set a few points and the GPS takes it from there. Call your training center today and get signed up for something. (The Rancho Murieta Training Center (RMTC) recently acquired a Cat “M” blade with electronics.) While not everyone will operate a blade or a crane, each member needs more than one skill and the ability to improve upon those skills. For you “veterans” who are proficient on lots of iron, don't forget about the apprentices. They are our future. Teach them how you were taught.

In case you didn't know, political season is here. We will need to contact you for help with phone banks and precinct walks. It takes a little effort from all to be successful. If your contact information has changed, please call your district office. Also provide the office staff with your e-mail address. We want to be able to communicate information to you as soon as we can. When we know, you will know!

One last reminder: Don't forget to re-register on the out-of-work list. After 84 days, you drop off the list, so a good rule of thumb is to call on the day of your birthday – that way, you won't forget to renew your registration.

Be safe, and see you at the next district meetings and the March 18 Semi-Annual.



# OE3 FINANCIAL REPORTS

## Fourth Quarter 2011 Financial Results

Our nation’s economy grew 2.8 percent during the fourth quarter of 2011, which is slightly below economists’ expectations but considerably higher than the prior three quarters. For 2011 as a whole, Gross Domestic Product (GDP) was up 1.7 percent versus 3.0 percent for all of 2010. As the year came to a close, the U.S. economy continued to pick up steam. The manufacturing sector began to show momentum, and talk of manufacturing jobs slowly returning to the United States could be found in headlines across the nation. Rising labor costs in China and other developing nations, as well as logistical problems from overseas production, began to make U.S. manufacturing more competitive in global markets. The beleaguered housing industry also began to show signs of life. While the recent upward trend in new home sales took a slight drop in December, sales of existing homes increased 5 percent – the third consecutive monthly increase – a pace slightly above 2010 levels. For December 2011, the inventory of existing homes for sale stood at 2.38 million units, the lowest level since March 2005.

Improvement was also evident on the job front. While the government sector continued to lose jobs – a total of 39,000 during the fourth quarter of 2011 – the private sector created 511,000 jobs, which resulted in a net increase of 472,000 new jobs. Year-To-Date (YTD), 2,171,000 new private-sector jobs were created, while 265,000 government-sector jobs were lost. Our nation’s fourth quarter 2011 unemployment rate also continued to improve, ending the year at 8.5 percent versus 9.1 percent at the end of the third quarter and 9.4 percent at the start of 2011. Nevada’s and California’s unemployment rates both fell 0.8 percent during the fourth quarter of 2011 to 12.6 percent and 11.1 percent, respectively, while Utah’s rate fell 1.4 percent, from 7.4 percent to 6.0 percent. Hawaii’s rate remained unchanged at 6.6 percent.

During the fourth quarter of 2011, Local 3’s membership decreased by 290 members, bringing the YTD membership loss through December 2011 to 848 members or 2.38 percent. Total membership as of December 2011 was 34,782.

As the economy continued its modest rebound during the final quarter of 2011, Local 3 also continued to show financial improvement. Receipts for the fourth quarter of 2011 were \$10.3 million, a slight decrease of 3.4 percent over the same period in 2010; however, fourth quarter 2011 expenses were down a greater amount, coming in at \$9.7 million or 5.3 percent below the same period in 2010. As a result, fourth-quarter net income came in at \$653,854, nearly 40 percent ahead of 2010’s fourth-quarter net income of \$469,016. For all of 2011, receipts were \$38.8 million, up \$1.4 million or 3.7 percent over 2010, while 2011 expenses were \$39.2 million, down \$2.0 million or 4.7 percent versus 2010. Even with the third and fourth quarters’ positive performances, however, 2011 finished just below breakeven with a net loss of \$348,053.

Looking back, 2011 appears to be the turnaround year for Local 3. Financial results, at about breakeven, showed significant improvement over the terrible 2010 year, while total membership has stabilized at about the 35,000 level. Work hours for 2011 increased for the first time in several years, and 2012 looks to be on track for an even better year with numerous large projects continuing from 2011 or just about to get started.

Fund Balances (\$ in millions)		
	12/31/11	12/31/10
General	\$37.3	\$37.6
Hardship, Strike, Lockout	\$4.5	\$4.2
Emergency	\$13.3	\$12.3
Defense	\$6.0	\$5.4
Capital Maintenance	\$0.3	\$0.8

### Fourth Quarter 2011 Financial Report

(Unaudited, in thousands)

#### Profit & Loss Statement

(Dec. 31, 2011, year-to-date)

Membership Revenue	\$34,355
Other Revenue	\$4,494
Total Receipts	\$38,849
Salaries, Benefits & Taxes	\$24,030
Per Capita Taxes	\$5,668
Office & Operations	\$3,220
Depreciation	\$1,554
Professional Services	\$718
PACs & Fund Allocations	\$1,027
Admin & Public Relations	\$2,980
Total Expenses	\$39,197
Net Income/(Loss)	(\$348)

#### Balance Sheet

(As of Dec. 31, 2011)

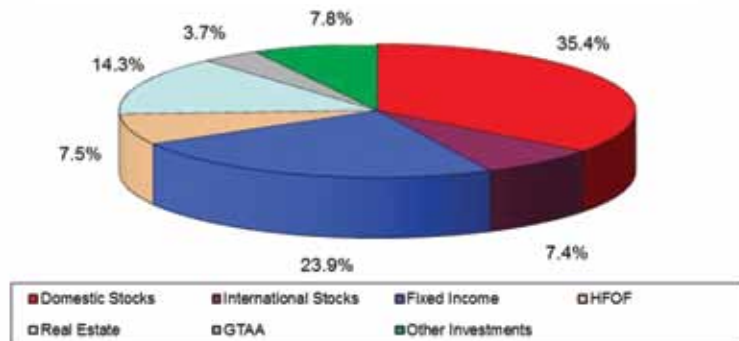
Cash, Investments & Deposits	\$30,792
Employee Funded 457 Plan	\$1,523
Automobiles	\$3,033
Office Furniture & Equipment	\$1,632
Computers & Software	\$9,166
Communications Equipment	\$885
Print Shop Equipment	\$1,006
Less Accum. Depreciation	(\$9,230)
Total Assets	\$38,808
Liabilities	(\$3)
Employee Funded 457 Plan	\$1,523
General Fund Balance	\$37,288
Total Liabilities & Fund Balance	\$38,808

# Pension Trust Fund for Operating Engineers

12/31/11

## Plan Assets

(1) Total Investments	\$ 2,806,628,920
Domestic Stocks	993,291,985
International Stocks	207,568,558
Fixed Income	670,662,584
Hedge Fund of Funds	210,331,514
Real Estate	401,651,616
GTAA	103,024,080
Other Investments	220,098,583



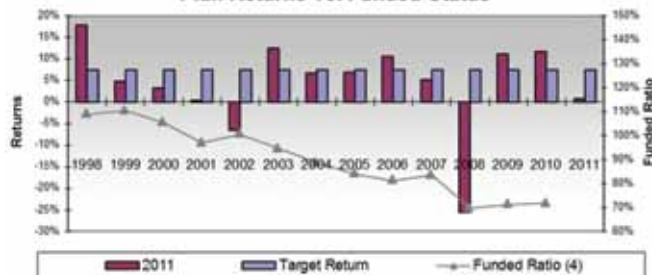
### Notes:

- 1) Asset figures and returns are preliminary, unaudited and gross of fees. The 2011 return is for 12 months, ending Dec. 31, 2011.
- 2) Other investments include insurance contracts with New York Life and operational cash.
- 3) Returns through Dec. 31, 2007 were not calculated by IPS.
- 4) The Funded Ratio is the value of assets used for the annual Pension Plan valuation divided by the present value of accumulated Plan benefits, as provided by the actuary.

## Plan Returns / Funded Status

	Investment Return (3)	Target Return	Funded Ratio (4)
1998	17.8%	7.5%	108.9%
1999	4.8%	7.5%	110.4%
2000	3.2%	7.5%	105.4%
2001	0.4%	7.5%	96.9%
2002	-6.6%	7.5%	100.6%
2003	12.5%	7.5%	94.5%
2004	6.7%	7.5%	88.7%
2005	6.9%	7.5%	84.0%
2006	10.5%	7.5%	81.3%
2007	5.2%	7.5%	83.5%
2008	-25.6%	7.5%	69.7%
2009	11.1%	7.5%	71.2%
2010	11.7%	7.5%	71.7%
(1) 2011	0.7%	7.5%	N/A

## Plan Returns vs. Funded Status



### Commentary (Fourth Quarter 2011):

The U.S. stock market in 2011 was truly a rollercoaster ride. We slowly climbed up in the first half of the year but then had a scary downhill run in the third quarter. October was the best single month in 20 years, but by the end of the year, we ended up right about where we started. The S&P 500 may have been up 2.1 percent for the year, but with small cap stocks down 4.2 percent and non-U.S.-developed equity markets down 12 percent, the total equity returns for most plans did not end up in the black. Last year was frustrating and emotionally draining. Strong fundamentals were ignored as we dealt with domestic political gridlock, record budget deficits, a downgrade of U.S. Treasury securities and the angst of the Euro-zone's financial problems. Interest rates continued to fall – driven by a flight to quality – producing good bond returns for the year with the Barclays Aggregate up 7.8 percent, but investors and savers are currently earning near-zero returns and losing value relative to inflation. In the United Kingdom, interest rates on government bonds actually went negative, as the country appeared to be the safe haven of the Euro-zone. Hedgefunds were whipsawed by the same global issues: Equity markets' volatility and lack of direction, the flight to quality in fixed income and declining commodity prices. Commercial real estate was the only bright spot in a surprisingly strong economy from the downturn of 2008-2009. Forecast Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth is anemic, and corporate earnings are high but slowing. Consumers are still spending what they can but at the expense of saving. Wall Street has been known to climb a wall of worry, and we can only hope 2012 produces better returns than 2011.



## News & Notes

By Dan Reding, financial secretary

# It's more important than ever to be union

We've started a new year, and it looks like it will be better work-wise than 2011 was. If all the projections for the economy are correct and scheduled projects start on time, hopefully we will continue to see an increase in hours.

Because of the extra work hours in 2011, we are seeing smaller increases to our health-care costs for 2012. There's still a substantial increase, but because of the added hours, it's far less than in 2011. We're keeping our fingers crossed that we will start to see some relief from Washington, D.C. When you are at nearly \$10 an hour for health care, any increase is hard to swallow.

For five or six weeks, the Survey, Testing and Inspection staff and I negotiated the Survey Master Agreement. It was a long, hard negotiation. We met on 10 different occasions and started with a lot of different issues, but as with all negotiations, it always came down to money. And for us right now, it's always about health care and Pension. With all negotiations lately, employers start out wanting the members to cover all the increases to Fringes, and with most, there's a cut in wages too. The surveyors were no different. The first proposal was a more than \$5 cut. Employers wanted us to cover all Fringes and accept their retirement plan. That would not give the members any benefits for three years and would cut their wages by about \$2.

One of the employers had a quote that really summed things up: "It's always about the money. Even when it's not about the money, it really is about the money." And that is what it always comes down to.

We ratified the agreement, but like every negotiation lately, it's a battle to get positive money out of the employers in this economy. With a lot of hard work and perseverance, we have been able to get positive contracts, including the Survey Master Agreement.

We hear the same message at every negotiation: The employers have taken huge reductions in office personnel, forced their staff to pay more for health care and reduced a lot of their work hours per week, so they come to the negotiation table expecting us to take the same cuts.

In these bad times, you should really see how important it is to be union; to be able to stand up and fight to keep what we have. Without a union agreement, we would be just like the non-union and office staff. The employer could come in and tell you that you now have to pay more of your health care – that's if they don't stop it altogether – or that they are cutting your wages by \$3 to \$4 an hour, knowing that, without a contract to protect you, your only other option is to look for another job. That's why in these bad times it's more important than ever to be union. Be safe.

# Get strong

By Gary Rocha, business representative

I've been a member of Operating Engineers Local 3 for a long time, and you should be too. Operating Engineers Unit 12 members receive benefits for being full members, and it's just a few dollars more a month. For the cost of two drinks at Starbucks, you get a \$3,000 life insurance policy and a \$3,000 accidental death and dismemberment insurance policy. And you get the right to vote on your own contracts and in the OE3 election of officers.

A union is more than the workers themselves. Workers who join together for a common cause and common interests are strong – stronger than they can ever be individually. California State Bargaining Unit 12 exists to protect and advance individual and collective rights in wages, benefits, work hours and working conditions for workers, their families, their communities and the state of California.



New member James Moyle understands the value of union.

The collective dues paid by employee members provide the means to have the finest legal, financial and political advocacy and daily representation needed to protect, advance and preserve the rights you've attained.

Fair Share Payers: We want and need you as union members. We need you to make us stronger. Ask your business representative for a membership application.

Don't wait. You must be a member to vote on the 2012 Bargaining Unit 12 contract.

Make sure your address is correct in our records, and if you have moved, get voter-registration and change-of-address forms from your agent. Remember: Your vote counts!



New member Matt Salles joined the many to strengthen the whole.

## Unit 12 members in the know

These Unit 12 members have already discovered the benefits of being full members of Operating Engineers Local 3. Read Business Rep. Gary Rocha's article above to find out how you can join the union and reap the same benefits they do.



Clockwise, from top left: Brandie Kirby, equipment operator I, Angelina Galvan, equipment operator II, Eric Degroodt, equipment operator II and Joshua Stein, landscape maintenance worker.



## Organizing

By Bruce Noel, director



# Union works!

Why is union better? This is a question that Local 3 organizers hear often. Sometimes it comes from workers, but more often than not, it comes from a non-union employer.

When replying to the question from workers, it's not that hard to point out the differences. As reported by the Department of Labor (DOL), unionized workers enjoy higher wages and better fringe benefits and working conditions. Most non-union workers have very little say in what they earn. As organizers, we educate them about the benefits of being union and how, as members, they have the opportunity to participate in the negotiating process. The ability to bargain collectively is one reason we, as union members, have what we enjoy today. When you compare apples to apples, a unionized worker will secure more than 30 percent higher wages and fringes than his or her non-union counterpart. Even through a down economy, unions continue to maintain the 30 percent advantage.

When responding to the question from non-union employers, it's much more complicated. The vast majority of non-union employers assume that it costs more money to be union; so much more that they can't compete or will lose the ability to control their company. That is simply not true. What most don't realize is through increased productivity, with a highly trained and safe workforce, their profit margins actually increase. The hiring hall also allows employers to maintain a flexible workforce. This means they don't have to recruit and train hands for a job. They can expand and contract as workloads change. Being union gives them access to a world-class apprenticeship program and training center. They will also enjoy more work opportunities through subcontracting with other signatories. Another benefit is the tax savings on prevailing-wage work for signatory employers. Non-union employers often pay taxes on the entire wage and fringe package, because they don't offer health care or a retirement plan.

As you can see, when it's all said and done, being union has advantages for both workers and employers.

Union works!

If you want to help with organizing or if you know a worker or an employer who wants more information, call Local 3's Organizing Department:

Director of Organizing Bruce Noel  
(916) 240-2100

Organizer Ron Roman  
(530) 308-5618

Organizer Mike Pickens  
(916) 240-1544

Organizer Terry Picard – Nevada  
(775) 690-4732

Organizer Paul Lundell – Utah  
(801) 330-1593





## Union density remains low

*We must work together to push the labor movement forward*

Check out these daunting figures:

- According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), in 2011, the percentage of wage and salary workers who were members of a union was 11.8 percent, essentially unchanged from 11.9 percent in 2010.
- In 1983, the first year that comparable union data was available, the union membership rate was 20.1 percent.

Private-sector industries with higher unionization rates include transportation and utilities (at 21.1 percent) and construction (at 14 percent), but those rates are still low, especially with the current attacks on workers across the country. As employers attempt to strip workers of their pensions and pit unions against each other, being union and supporting each other is even more important. It's the only way workers can negotiate for *fair* wages and working conditions without falling even farther behind.

The current union density in the United States is not good news, and if we don't work together, things can get worse.

Look at what's happening to cripple the labor movement right now – three more states have right-to-work initiatives on the ballot this year, and Indiana just passed right-to-work legislation last month. Remember: While this may *sound* like a good thing – having the right to work – it certainly *is not*! Don't be fooled by this catchy phrase. The Republican agenda wants to eliminate us to silence our voice. Right-to-work means a right to work *for less*! It means *no prevailing wage*. It means *having no say in your wages or working conditions*.

This may be hard to believe for our members in California and Hawaii, where our percentage is far above the national average, but just talk to your Local 3 brothers and sisters from Nevada or Utah, where they continue to belong to this union because they want to and keep fighting to repeal their anti-union, right-to-work laws.

I know we say this often, but we *need to work together* to preserve the standards Local 3 has worked so hard for over the last 73 years. If we don't, we'll simply lose control, and the far right-wing conservative agenda will prevail. Stay involved, get answers and volunteer. Keep us moving in the right direction instead of backward.

Don't think you can make a difference? Just look at the Associated Builders and Contractors' (ABC's) anti-union attempt to outlaw Project Labor Agreements (PLAs) in the city and county of Sacramento. *It lost!* Supporters needed 32,207 signatures to get a measure to ban PLAs on the ballot. Their efforts were strong – according to reports, they collected 46,692 signatures – but our efforts were stronger. Not only were almost half of the signatures gathered not valid, but Local 3 came together in solidarity with other unions and educated thousands of other registered voters in Sacramento about why they shouldn't sign the petition at all!

Please get involved. Talk with working Americans like yourself about the benefits of belonging to Local 3. We need to support union-friendly politicians in this upcoming election, and we need to educate people about upcoming legislation, like the Paycheck Deception Bill, which is bad news for unions and yet another attempt to silence our voice. It's just another version of Proposition 226 and Prop. 75.

For specific ways you can get involved, call your district hall, attend your membership meetings, stay informed and come to the March 18 Semi-Annual Meeting. This month's event is held at the Cow Palace in Daly City. Directions and a map to the venue can be found on page 27. I hope to see you all there!



\*Courtesy of BLS. For more information, visit [www.oe3.org](http://www.oe3.org).

## FIELD PERSPECTIVE:

*What the members are saying*

*Why did you join Local 3?*



*"The work. I like to start from the bottom and then see a finished product."*

– Kevin Enos, five-year member



*"I grew up in a Local 3 family – my dad, Leroy, is a Retiree. That and working with the best."*

– Jesse Donner, 20-year member



*"I was non-union for two years. Liked the work but not the pay, so I joined Local 3 for better pay and benefits."*

– Glenn Nakasone, 20-year member



*"Something I always wanted to do. This is my second career, and I have always been a union guy."*

– Doug Lebenbaum, 12-year member



*"I like running the equipment, and I make better money with the union."*

– Robert Miguel, 21-year member



## Public Employee News

By Carl Carey, director

# Know your rights

What are your due-process rights? This is a subject that has been written about many times before. Business agents have advised members of their rights and passed out written material about them, yet members still go into investigative meetings that could lead to discipline and don't ask for representation. Your Weingarten Rights and the Lybarger Warning are two due-process rights that I want to discuss further.

Your Weingarten Rights came out of a U.S. Supreme Court case in 1975. In essence, it ruled that:

1. The employee must make a clear request for union representation before or during an investigative interview. The employee cannot be punished for making the request.
2. After the employee makes the request, the employer has three options: Grant the request and delay questioning until the union representative arrives and has a chance to consult privately with the employee, deny the request and end the interview immediately or give the employee a choice of having the interview without representation or ending the interview.
3. If the employer representative denies the request for union representation and continues to ask questions, he or she commits an Unfair Labor Practice (ULP), and the employee has a right to refuse to answer. The employer representative may not discipline the employee for such a refusal.

Rule No. 1 is fairly self-explanatory. It is the employee's obligation to request representation, not the employer's obligation to provide it. Should the employee not request representation and go ahead with the investigative interview that leads to discipline, there is no wrongdoing on the employer's part.

Regarding rule No. 2, it is the choice of the employee, not the employer, as to who the employee's representative will be. The only restriction is that the representative cannot be a participant in the action that the employee is being questioned about.

Rule No. 3 can cause concern: Should an employee refuse to talk with a supervisor and the supervisor orders the employee to continue with the interview, the employee may be disciplined for insubordination. Therefore, we fight the

original disciplinary matter and may also have to defend the insubordination. The best course of action is to ask for a few minutes to contact your business representative. Even if the representative cannot get there immediately, he or she may be able to talk to the employer over the phone and get the employer to reschedule the interview at a reasonable time when he or she can attend.

The Lybarger Warning comes into play at the outset of the investigative interview. Before the interview begins, the employer representative should read a statement explaining that the employee is being ordered to cooperate with the interview and must answer the questions truthfully. If the employee does not do this, he or she could be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination. This is a common warning that business representatives hear all the time, but for the employee who has never gone through this process before, it can be stressful.

In cases where the investigation is about circumstances that are criminal in nature, the employer must advise the employee of his or her Miranda Rights. The employee should exercise these rights by stating that he or she does not wish to talk. The employer will then inform the employee that what he or she says cannot be used against him or her in a court of law. If the employee still refuses to cooperate with the investigation, he or she will be subject to discipline.

In 2007, a new appellate decision was published that threatens to unsettle the law regarding compelled interrogations of law enforcement officers: "Essentially this decision holds that a public employee cannot be compelled to waive the Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination by means of a Lybarger assurance that the statement made under compulsion is inadmissible in a criminal case. Instead, the Court held that the employee must be given formal immunity from use of the statement or its fruits in any future prosecutions, before being ordered to answer a question."

As public employees, these are just two of your rights. There are many others that may be discussed in future articles. As far as investigative interviews are concerned, the most important thing you should remember is to always request your union representative before going into an interview that may lead to disciplinary action.

## When should I call my business representative?

By Michael Eggener,  
business representative

As one of the newer public employee business representatives, I'm amazed at the number of calls I get from the membership. Unfortunately, 99 percent of these calls begin with: "Mike, I have a problem. What should I do?"

I'm a 30-plus-year union member, and before I came on staff, that is exactly how I called my business representative.

Business representatives perform several basic and interrelated functions on behalf of union members. They represent the interests of their members in large union functions and meetings with employers. Business representatives wear a number of hats. Sometimes they are organizers; sometimes they are liaisons between labor and management. As representatives of the union, they are the face of organized labor. They act as mediators during conflicts and are responsible for ensuring the smooth flow of information between union members, employers and the larger union organization.

The more contact I have with the units I represent, the sooner I can intervene on behalf of our membership. The reason unions were formed was for workers to organize and protect their rights. Communication is key, and knowledge is power. As a union member, you need to know who your business representative is and who your stewards are. You should have their telephone numbers with you at all times.

When should you call your business representative? You should call them often – even when you do not have a problem. You should keep them updated on the current working atmosphere. You know the culture and history of your work environment. You know when problems are brewing. Let's stop the problem when it's a little problem or before it becomes a problem at all.

As a public employee, you should know what district you're in and what your union registration number is. You should attend district meetings and other local functions. Election season is already gearing up, and as public employees, you need to be involved now more than ever. In case you have not read the newspaper or watched the nightly news lately, your jobs are on the line. You "make too much money" and "have huge retirement benefits." Guess what? The politicians are coming for you. Call your representative often and develop a proactive relationship. Then, when you do have a problem, you will know exactly what to do!



# A memorable recap

By Dave Cariaga, business representative

I hope you are all having a good 2012 and will take a moment to read about some memorable events last year that are worth recapping:

## Greenfield/Soledad

The city of Greenfield has a budget deficit and wanted to consolidate police services with the city of Soledad in an effort to save money. The Greenfield City Council voted 3-2 in favor of beginning the negotiations with the city of Soledad. But not so fast! Some Greenfield citizens were not pleased. They hope to recall two City Council members and have circulated a successful referendum petition. The issue of merging police services may be on the ballot. The Greenfield and Soledad Police Officers' Association (POA) and the Supervisors' Unit are in support of the merger. Stay tuned for more details.

## Monterey

The Monterey Regional Waste Management District celebrated 60 years in operation on Oct. 2. For more information and photos, visit [www.mrwmnd.org](http://www.mrwmnd.org).



From left: Members Rodney Barber and Frank Patague.

of sacrificing on the part of the employees, which is a common theme in the work place.

Negotiations for the district's Operations Unit, Support Unit and Labor and Sales Clerks Unit – the newest group – were an uphill fight. At the end of several months of negotiating, all three units signed three-year deals with the district. There was a lot

## Watsonville

The Watsonville Public Works Unit signed a two-year deal that is not really a “deal” at all, since it includes two more years of furloughs and an increase in concessions from 10 percent to 12-13 percent for some. The only highlight of the package was that step-increases were implemented for some members who had been frozen at their steps for the past two years.

## Scotts Valley

Scotts Valley POA members are hanging on to what they have and will be coming up for contract negotiations in June of next year. Hold on to your gun belts!

## Santa Cruz

The Santa Cruz County Deputy Sheriff's Association (DSA) has been called back to the table more than once over pay and benefits. The DSA is currently on furloughs and extended its contract from 2014 to June 30, 2016.

The DSA held its first Santa Cruz County Deputy Sheriff's Charity Rodeo at the Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds on Oct. 2. The Stars of Justice Inc. charity group, staffed by members of the Sheriff's office, presented the rodeo. Great job by all the volunteers, their families and friends!



From left: Sgt. Bill Gazza and Sgt. Michael MacDonald attend the first Santa Cruz County Deputy Sheriff's Charity Rodeo at the Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds.

I look forward to seeing you out there.

# Now is not the time to become complacent

By Mike Minton, business representative

Hopefully by the time you read this, we will be closer to restoring some of the salary and benefits lost in the past several years.

Many District 60 public employers seem to have finally hit the bottom of this recession and are either treading water or heading toward the light at the end of the tunnel. For those who have not yet hit bottom, hopefully their downward spiral has slowed.

Many of the contracts that I've had the most trouble securing have turned around or are on the mend, such as in Lake County and Olivehurst. Clearlake has remained status quo, and there are rumors that Ukiah may have some growth.

A sign that employees are truly upset with how their employers have been handling the economic downturn is an increase in union membership, and that is happening in District 60. Management officials continue to take salary and benefits away from their employees,

while increasing their own salary and benefits. Officials also increase their own staff at the expense of laying-off the line workers. In response, employees have opted to finally get involved and join their bargaining units and unions.

Still, we are not out of the woods. We have a long way to go to even get close to recovering some of what has been lost. We've suffered a lot of casualties – some that will never be replaced. In that sad process, we've become more organized. Now, we need to stay organized to move forward. Now is not the time to become complacent. If you know any fellow employees who are not union members, do what you can to get them to attend a union meeting or talk with a union representative. We need to continue to grow, so we can climb out of the hole our politicians put us in.

Yes, elections are coming. We all need to remember which politicians have been there for us – there are very few. A message needs to be sent to

politicians at every level, from your city council members, board of supervisors and state-elected officials to the federal megalomaniacs who have sent this great country into a tailspin: We are tired of their insolent attitudes and their unwillingness to do what is right. They need to actually work toward making our country stronger, while creating jobs, keeping people employed and listening to what the citizens are saying, rather than putting their personal needs and agendas first. We must go to the polls and speak – that means vote – and vote those out who have spit in our faces. It is time we rise up and take our country back. Until the fools in office get spanked and sent running with their tails between their legs, we can't expect any change. The rich will get richer, the poor will get poorer and the middle class will be eliminated.

Let's make the rest of this year full of positive change. Together, we can accomplish this.



## Credit Union

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

# Securing your financial future

At Operating Engineers Federal Credit Union (OEFCU), we strive to provide the products, services and guidance our Local 3 members need to build a strong financial future for themselves and their families. We're proud to be a part of our members' lives by making our loan and deposit accounts competitive and by giving sound advice on which products and options will work best for them.

One of the largest and most significant purchases a person can make is a new home. OEFCU understands that and provides many loan options to fit a wide range of budgets. We're happy to sit down with you and explain each loan option and what it can mean for the family budget now and into the future. We work with members who are in the market for a new mortgage or looking to refinance their existing loan. Our rates are very competitive, and we welcome the opportunity to help you with your next mortgage loan. We think you'll be pleased with the exceptional service you'll receive, if you choose OEFCU. Please visit [www.oefcu.org](http://www.oefcu.org) for current rate information.

OEFCU also provides options related to car expenses. When your car breaks down or you're in an accident, that can often mean thousands of dollars. Through OEFCU's Guaranteed Auto Protection (GAP) and Mechanical Breakdown Insurance (MBI) services, you're protected against those unexpected expenses.

You might be surprised to learn that many insurance companies will only pay the estimated value of your car in the event that it is stolen or totaled. GAP coverage pays the difference between what your car is currently worth and what

you owe on your loan, so you're not stuck owing money on a car you can no longer use.

MBI helps protect you from high service bills so you can keep your car running. MBI is like a dealer warranty, only it is less expensive, covers you for a longer period of time and allows you to get your vehicle serviced by any licensed mechanic. OEFCU offers MBI coverage to all members and GAP insurance to members who have an OEFCU car loan. If you're interested in more information about these services, visit the OEFCU website or call (800) 877-4444.

Recently, we made an investment in added convenience for our membership. Our new Android™ and iPhone® software applications ("apps") allow anyone using our online banking platform to access their account information on the go. The apps are free and can be found by searching for "OEFCU Mobile Banking" through the Android™ market or Apple iTunes® App Store. Online banking members who use these apps can check account balances, view recent transactions, transfer funds and pay bills. OEFCU safeguards these new banking methods by utilizing the latest encryption and security technology.

As we make changes, we encourage your feedback. Whether your experience with OEFCU was positive or negative, please take a moment to share your thoughts through the member testimonial section of our website, which you can find through the "About Us" menu on our homepage. We value your opinion, and we keep your comments in mind as we consider new products.

The secure & convenient way to bank.

# Mobile Banking

Introducing our *new*  
Mobile Apps




Mobile Web Banking

Mobile Apps

Text Banking

OEFCU's **FREE\*** Mobile Banking is the secure & convenient way to bank when you're on the go! Whether you're on the job, at the store, or even at home; with Mobile Banking, OEFCU brings the branch directly you! Visit our website to learn more about the convenience of our Mobile Banking options.

 **Operating Engineers #3  
Federal Credit Union**  
Union STRENGTH · Union PURPOSE · Union PRIDE

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

\*OEFCU does not charge fees to use Mobile Web Banking, Text Banking or Mobile Apps. However, web access, data charges and standard text message rates do apply. Please check with your wireless provider to get additional information on their applicable fees prior to using these features to avoid unexpected charges. Some wireless providers, such as Metro PCS and Cricket do not support Text Banking. Check with your wireless provider prior to enrolling in Text Banking.





# Signatories upgrade water-treatment plant

Story and photos by Jamie Johnston, associate editor

The Harry Tracy Water Treatment Plant project is a great example of union teamwork. Members with many signatory companies are working all over the jobsite.

Kiewit is the general contractor on the \$129 million project (engineers' estimate) to seismically upgrade the facility and improve its treatment capacity and water reliability. This involves updating the foundation for the existing water tanks and building a new one. Kiewit operators are moving 35,000 yards of material needed just to make room for the new tank.

Subcontractors Drill Tech and Foundation Construction are doing foundation and shoring work, and Pacific Engineering Construction (PEC) is performing remediation work. Bode has supplied concrete that Jos. J. Albanese, Inc. is pumping, and Construction Testing Services (CTS) is making sure the material meets the proper standards. California Caissons and Steiny and Company, Inc. are also onsite.

This is an extremely important project, because the plant, located just 1,000 feet east of the San Andreas Fault, serves as the Northern Peninsula's sole source of emergency water, should

delivery from the Hetch Hetchy aqueduct be interrupted. In other words, this work will ensure that if an earthquake rattles the system, several Bay Area cities, including the city and county of San Francisco, will still have water.

Construction began last March and is scheduled to continue through 2014. The project is currently about 10 percent completed.

"This job is really going to ramp up," said 32-year member Simon Gutierrez, while clearing an area for temporary construction parking.

This San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) project is part of the \$4.6 billion Water System Improvement Program (WSIP) to repair, replace and seismically upgrade the aging Hetch Hetchy Regional Water System. The WSIP includes more than 80 projects in seven counties from the Central Valley to downtown San Francisco.

For information on these projects, keep reading your *Engineers News*.



First-step Apprentice Inspector Jordon Sandbloom works for CTS.



Operator Robert Coronel hauls material for Kiewit.



Kiewit Operator Simon Gutierrez clears an area for temporary construction parking at the Harry Tracy Water Treatment Plant.



From left: Operators Steve Mackey and Brian Zolezzi work for California Caissons.



From left: Kiewit excavator operators Gerald Cunningham and Greg Lee prepare a slope on the Harry Tracy Water Treatment Plant in case of rain. A new water tank will eventually be located here.



Concrete Pump Operator Martin Hernandez works for Jos. J. Albanese, Inc.





## Looking at Labor

By Pete Figueiredo, treasurer

# Breaking down benefit plans

Last month, I defined several key terms related to Local 3's Pension Plan. These terms are thrown around a lot, and even when they're defined, they can still be confusing. Therefore, I wanted to break down two key Pension terms even further: *Defined Contribution Plans* and *Defined Benefit Plans*. I think these terms are important to understand, especially in today's media-biased environment, when so many articles mention the word "pension" in an unfavorable light.

Local 3's Pension Plan is what is called a *Defined Benefit Plan*, meaning employees' benefits are calculated based on a formula that promises a specific monthly benefit at the time of retirement. This formula takes into account contributions made to the Plan on your behalf and your years of service. You don't play an active role in the Plan's investments, but you are guaranteed a monthly benefit payable for your lifetime, so you are at a dramatically reduced risk for how the Plan's investments perform.

Other forms of retirement plans, such as 401(k) plans or our Annuity Plan, are called *Defined Contribution Plans*, meaning the amount of the contribution is defined rather than the benefit. In other words, participants in a Defined Contribution Plan are *not* guaranteed a monthly benefit payable for life upon retirement. In a Defined Contribution Plan, the participants have the investment risk because the amount of the participant's benefit is dependent not just on the amount of contributions made to the Plan but how the individual's investments perform. A participant's contribution may change as his or her individual situation changes, and if investments perform poorly, these accounts can lose considerable amounts of money.

Defined Benefit Plans are a much better deal than Defined Contribution Plans. Study after study shows that few people have the financial knowledge and discipline to invest their own money as well as the experts who invest money for Defined Benefit Plans. Most individuals with Defined Contribution Plans will need another source of retirement income to survive.

Our Defined Benefit Plan is truly one of the greatest benefits of union membership, as it allows our members to retire with dignity and takes the pressure off the individual to make complex financial decisions that are at the mercy of a volatile market. Most companies today do not offer the kind of Defined Benefit Plan that you, as a Local 3 member, receive. Consider yourself lucky!

From now on, I plan to broaden my column's focus, as more pressing issues occur.

For more important Pension terms, keep reading your *Engineers News*.

# Retiree Post

## Retiree holds impressive records

Forty-nine-year member Ron McCabe will tell you that he doesn't like to be in the spotlight, but he has done so much in his lifetime that the spotlight eventually finds him, like when he raced at the famous Bonneville Salt Flats in Utah. There he held the fastest land-speed fuel record for 10 years (1988-1998) in the 175cc division on a 1974 motorcycle that he and a friend built. The same motorcycle also held the gas record for four years (1988-1992) – his friend raced that one.



This brass-over-steel sculpture of a 1981 Cat 583K side-boom is one of three that Retiree Ron McCabe built for Snelson Co. Inc.

They broke the records on their first try.

"It was a big deal for me," said McCabe, who still builds bikes. His friend's expertise was building racing engines. "We pooled our resources, and what we did, it was unheard of."

Building bikes comes easily to McCabe, since he has been a master welder for most of his life. When he was just 18 years old, he became the youngest welder for Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) – another spotlight-worthy achievement.

"I've done a little bit of everything," he said. "Anything I was interested in, I always tried it."

He also perfected it.

While welding was his first love, his love of operating things led him to join the Operating Engineers in 1962 as a backhoe operator at the age of 23.

"Running equipment is like riding a motorcycle; eye-hand coordination," said McCabe, who, at 72, still talks of his passion for being in the field. "Any chance I have to operate equipment again, I jump on it. I love it."

McCabe has been a retired owner-operator since 2004 (Ron McCabe Trenching), but he doesn't lead a life of leisure. He recently

volunteered to be a backhoe instructor at the Rancho Murieta Training Center (RMTTC), if there was ever a need for help. He has also used his time for a more artistic endeavor beyond building motorcycles: Metal sculpting. He has sculpted horses, cars and even heavy equipment. His work is highly sought after by restaurants and has been displayed

at public art shows. His newest clientele are contractors, as he recently finished three metal sculptures of a Cat 583K side-boom for signatory Snelson Co. Inc. in Turlock, Calif.

It takes him about a month to complete a sculpture. While most artists use a mold for their bronze work, McCabe builds his work from scratch and braises over it.

"It [sculpting] is something I love to do. I am really fortunate to be able to do it," he said. He's been sculpting since the 1970s but has more time now. He credits his mother, who was an artist, for his gifts. "It's something I was born with."

His advice for members still in the field who may be struggling during the recession: "They have to have their own passions for it. Nothing is worth doing, unless you love it." He said the same applies to Retirees.

"At 72, I am almost as active as I was at 50," said McCabe. We believe him!



Ron McCabe gets ready to race the record-holding bike he helped build in 1988 at the Bonneville Salt Flats.





**Fringe Benefits**  
By Charlie Warren, director

# Physical-exam benefits: What do they mean for you?

Retired members and spouses on the Pensioned Operating Engineers Health and Welfare Comprehensive Plan and enrolled in Medicare are eligible for a one-time “Welcome to Medicare” preventive visit and yearly “wellness” visits.

*What does the “Welcome to Medicare” preventive visit cost?*

Medicare covers all the costs for the one-time visit during the first 12 months that you are enrolled in Medicare Part B.

*How often are the wellness visits covered, and what do they cost?*

If you’ve had Medicare Part B for longer than 12 months, you are eligible for a yearly wellness visit to develop or update a personalized plan to prevent disease based on your current health and risk factors. This visit is covered once every 12 months. You pay nothing. If you get additional tests or services during the same visit that aren’t covered under these preventive benefits, you may have to pay co-insurance and the Part B deductible may apply.

*Who’s eligible for wellness visits?*

All people enrolled in Medicare are eligible. However, if you receive a “Welcome to Medicare” preventive visit, you must wait 12 months before you can get your first yearly wellness visit. Please note: You don’t need to have a “Welcome to Medicare” visit before your yearly wellness visit.

For more information regarding Medicare plan benefits, contact Medicare at (800) MEDICARE or visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov).

*What if I don’t have Medicare?*

Retired members and spouses on the Pensioned Operating Engineers Health and Welfare Comprehensive Plan who are not yet eligible for Medicare may use the new Health Dynamics Preventive Care Program, which provides health screenings to eligible participants and is covered at 100 percent. Contact the Trust Fund Office at (800) 251-5014 or the Fringe Benefits Service Center at (800) 532-2105 for more information.

Retired members and spouses on the Pensioned Operating Engineers Health and Welfare Comprehensive Plan *with or without Medicare* are also eligible for a yearly physical exam paid under the Health and Welfare Comprehensive Plan. The Plan pays for one physical exam in a 12-month period for the member and spouse only.

*What if I’m not on the Comprehensive Plan?*

Members enrolled in the Kaiser, Kaiser Senior Advantage, United Health Care or Health Net Seniority Plus plans are not eligible for the physical-exam benefit through the Comprehensive Health and Welfare Plan. You should contact your plan provider for information about physical-exam benefits.

If you have any questions about your benefits, contact the Fringe Benefits Service Center or the Trust Fund Office.

Retiree Picnic

Save the date: Saturday, June 2!

## Retiree Association Meetings

Retiree Association Meetings begin this month. 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.

<b>MODESTO</b> Monday, March 5 10 a.m. Tuolumne River Lodge 2429 River Road	<b>CONCORD</b> Tuesday, March 6 2 p.m. Centre Concord 5298 Clayton Road
<b>FREEDOM</b> Monday, March 5 10 a.m. VFW Post 1716 1960 Freedom Blvd.	<b>AUBURN</b> Wednesday, March 7 10 a.m. Auburn Recreation Center Foothills Room 471 Maidu Drive
<b>STOCKTON</b> Monday, March 5 2 p.m. Italian Athletic Club 3541 Cherryland Drive	<b>FAIRFIELD</b> Wednesday, March 7 2 p.m. Hampton Inn 800 Mason St. Vacaville, CA
<b>FRESNO</b> Monday, March 5 2 p.m. Cedar Lanes 3131 N. Cedar Ave.	<b>YUBA CITY</b> Wednesday, March 7 2 p.m. Veterans Memorial Center 211 17 <sup>th</sup> St. Marysville, CA
<b>MORGAN HILL</b> Monday, March 5 2 p.m. Operating Engineers’ Building 325 Digital Drive	<b>SACRAMENTO</b> Wednesday, March 7 2 p.m. Operating Engineers’ Building 3920 Lennane Drive
<b>BURLINGAME</b> Tuesday, March 6 10 a.m. Transport Workers Union Hall 1521 Rollins Road	<b>EUREKA</b> Thursday, March 8 2 p.m. Best Western Bayshore Inn 3500 Broadway
<b>UKIAH</b> Tuesday, March 6 10 a.m. Hampton Inn 1160 Airport Park Blvd.	<b>REDDING Meeting &amp; Potluck</b> Thursday, March 8 1:30 p.m. Frontier Senior Center 2081 Frontier Trail Anderson, CA
<b>NOVATO</b> Tuesday, March 6 2 p.m. Best Western Novato Oaks Inn 215 Alameda Del Prado	<b>RENO</b> Monday, March 12 2 p.m. Operating Engineers’ Building 1290 Corporate Blvd.
<b>OAKLAND</b> Tuesday, March 6 10 a.m. Oakland Zoo – Snow Building 9777 Golf Links Road	<b>SALT LAKE CITY</b> Wednesday, March 14 2 p.m. IBEW Hall 3400 W. 2100 S.
<b>ROHNERT PARK</b> Tuesday, March 6 2 p.m. Operating Engineers’ Building 6225 State Farm Drive, Ste. 100	



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

By Tammy Castillo, director of apprenticeship

**Operating Engineers is proud to announce  
the 2011 graduating apprentices:**

**Construction Equipment  
Operators (CEOs)**

- Abreu-Peixoto, Kasey
- Adams, Travis
- Armendariz, Julio
- Bachan, Luke
- Beasley, Leo
- Blum, Douglas
- Boswell, Logan
- Buck, Michael
- Burnett, Bernest
- Castillo, Derek
- Cervantes, Jose
- Chicarino, Christopher
- Christensen, Jared
- Clark, Tonya
- Clay, Trecher
- Cooper, Dondrel
- Cooper, Shaun
- Duran, David
- Ferrer, Martin
- Finn, Patrick
- Flores, Juan Alvarado
- Foster, Daniel
- Garcia, Derek
- Garcia, Eduardo
- Garcia, Luis
- Garza, Pedro
- Gomez, Lucio
- Hanson, Logan
- Hartman, Gregory

- Heintz, Layne
- Hilbelink, Adam
- Hughes, Matthew
- Huppert, James Jr.
- Jimenez, Juan
- Johnson, Dale
- Klarr, Adam
- Ledbetter, Charlotte
- Lewis, Shawn
- Liu, Mina
- Martinez, Adalberto
- Martinez, Javer
- Mason, Todd
- McCauley, Charles
- McCray, Richard
- McGrath, Steven
- Meade, Dustin
- Medrano, Edgar
- Mehawk, Michael
- Moore, Matthew
- Muteff, Collin
- Nason, Shannon
- O'Campo, Jose
- Oglesby, Donald
- Orozco, Fernando
- Ortiz, Ramon
- Owens, Alden
- Parks, Jeremy
- Pauley, Jack
- Pereira, Tim
- Perez, Omar

- Phillips, Rickey
- Portillo, Carlos III
- Robertson, Allen
- Roessler, Kurt
- Schaible, Brenda
- Spence, Michael
- Strother, Edward
- Sutter, Daniel
- Swan, Jeremiah
- Timas, Felix
- Ulrich, Travis
- Vanfleet, Alan
- Vasquez, Sativa
- Villalobos, Martin Jr.
- Ware, Paris
- Yarbrough, Peter

**Construction Gradecheckers**

- Dodson, Nicholas
- Nunez, Carlos
- Saldana, Jose

**Construction Lubrication  
Technicians**

- Torres, Eulises

**Crane Operators**

- Baker, Dustin
- Buttler, Daniel
- Camara, Bryan
- Doglione, Logan

- Fincher, Scott
- Hubbard, Vernon II
- Maigret, Gary
- Matson, Michael
- Miller, Steven
- Phinney, Andrew
- Raine, Jacob
- Ross, Scott
- Sally, Joshua
- Shortt, Kenneth
- Stiern, Brent

**Heavy Duty Repairers (HDRs)**

- Adakama, Edet
- Burke, William
- Cline, Thomas
- Diaz, Jerry
- Haycock, Bryan
- Kaehler, Steven
- Marsili, Matthew
- Mendonca, Myles
- Palmer, Chris
- Reyes, Fernando Chan
- Seifert, Noel
- Stoddard, Jason
- Trimble, Joseph
- Waddell, Garrett

**Plant Operators**

- Bowen, Jason

**Port added to boycott list**  
*Fight continues, while more politicians join up*

On Jan. 17, members, labor representatives and public officials walked once again in support of the Santa Cruz Port dredging crew. Since the hiring of new Port Director Lisa Ekers in 2010, union members were forced to take drastic cuts, and last year, the entire crew was permanently replaced by out-of-state scabs.



From left: Santa Cruz County Supervisor Mark Stone and Dredgeman Denny Guinta, a 12-year member.

As usual, Local 3 has taken none of this lying down.

Members and union representatives have walked one day a week at the Santa Cruz Harbor since last August, urging the local community to rally for the crew that had kept their port safe for more than 25 years.

The labor, community and political support has been overwhelming. Most recently, Santa Cruz County Supervisor Mark Stone joined the picket. Stone is running for State Assembly District 27 and is one of several political officials voicing support for the crew and the union.

Congressman Sam Farr and State Assemblyman Bill Monning have also joined our side.

The fight is far from over, as Local 3 continues to put pressure on the port commissioners and recently added the port to the AFL-CIO's boycott list. Stay tuned for more updates here and online at [www.oe3.org](http://www.oe3.org) and call your district office to see how you can help.



From left: Sixteen-year member Mike Mathisen, Director of Safety/Special Rep. Dave Harrison and 14-year member Roman Rodriguez.





## Political Perspective

By Mark Kyle, director of government affairs and public relations

# Local 3 goes grassroots

As the late Tip O'Neill once famously said, "All politics is local." As a former Massachusetts congressman and the second-longest-serving Speaker of the House, he knew a thing or two about politics. Grassroots politics is as important as what goes on in the capitols in Honolulu, Sacramento, Carson City, Salt Lake City or Washington, D.C. Recently, Local 3 Voice of the Engineer (VOTE) volunteers and staff have been making a difference at the grassroots level.

In District 10, a group of no-can-do Tea Party nuts decided to try to stop a major light-rail project in Sonoma and Marin counties slated to break ground later this year. They launched a signature-gathering campaign to repeal the quarter-cent sales tax approved by voters only two years earlier. Local 3 VOTE volunteers and staff joined a coalition of other unions, including members from the North Bay Labor Council, as well as businesses, environmental groups and bicycle, housing and growth advocates to engage in an education campaign throughout the two counties. The coalition talked to folks about the rail project and the benefits it would bring – lots of construction and long-term jobs, traffic relief and a greener mode of transportation. After several months of squaring-off against the naysayers in public and in the media, we succeeded in foiling their efforts. They submitted several thousand signatures but failed to qualify their small-minded initiative for the ballot. Congratulations to District 10 members and staff who worked the grassroots angle.

In District 80, a national anti-labor group – the infamous Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) – launched a campaign to place a measure on the ballot to ban Project Labor Agreements (PLAs) in Sacramento. District 80 VOTE volunteers and staff joined forces with the local building trades council and other union activists to wage a grassroots

counter-offensive by educating members and the public about the petition drive and convincing them not to sign it. Ultimately, ABC failed to qualify the signatures it gathered – a defeat for them and a victory for our grassroots efforts. Good job, District 80 VOTE volunteers.

The Primary Elections are coming up (see the dates below), and there are a few things you and your family can do to get ready. First, make sure you and everyone in your house who is 18 and over are registered to vote. Later this month and next, Local 3 will be mailing voter-registration forms to members who are not registered. When you get the packet, take two minutes to fill it out. It's quick, simple and necessary! Every district office has voter-registration forms, and you can also register at the upcoming round of District Meetings (see page 28 for the schedule). Information on voter registration for each state, including how to sign up to vote by mail, is available on Local 3's website at [www.oe3.org](http://www.oe3.org).

Another thing you can do is make sure you are educated about everything – the ballot measures and the candidates' stances on issues important to us. To make this happen, keep reading the *Engineers News*, go to our website and look for and read all mail from Local 3.

Lastly, sign up to volunteer. We can always use your help. In fact, bring the whole family – the more the better. At District Meetings later this month, take the opportunity to sign up to help in the VOTE program. Business agents will start calling for volunteers in April, as the campaign season really starts to pick up. Help them and help your union by saying "yes." Step up and take part in Local 3's grassroots effort.

Statewide Primary Election dates:

California – June 5  
Nevada – June 12  
Utah – June 26  
Hawaii – Aug. 11

## ATPA Angle

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

# Pension rules for working after retirement

Every month, our office receives requests from retired Local 3 members either wanting approval to work while drawing Pension benefits or clarification on their options regarding this. As required by the Plan, anyone currently retired must notify the Associated Third Party Administrators (ATPA) of any intent to work and must obtain an approval letter to do so. Failure to comply may result in a loss of up to 12 months of Pension benefits. Most return-to-work requests are reviewed monthly by the Appeals Committee and are approved or denied depending on Plan rules.

If you are younger than 65, once retired and receiving your Pension benefits, you must not work anywhere in the Operating Engineer industry. After age 65, retired participants may work in the trade up to 40 hours per month within Local 3's jurisdiction and for unlimited hours outside of the jurisdiction. Upon reaching age 70½, by law, members must draw their Pension and salary by the following April.

Most of the uncertainty and work-request letters come from members younger than 65 wanting to know what is considered acceptable work while retired. If it is clearly outside of the trade, craft or industry, our office may approve requests. All others go before the Appeals Committee. Committee decisions are generally based on the following July 1, 2008 Pension Plan Amendment sections:

*To be deemed retired ... a Pensioner must withdraw completely and refrain from employment or self-employment for wages or profit anywhere ... in the industry in which Employees were employed and accrued benefits under the Plan ... or in a trade or craft in which the Pensioner was employed at any time under the Plan.*

*With respect to benefits accrued on or after July 1, 2008, the term "trade or craft" shall include the following:*

- 1. A skill or skills for which contributions are payable to the Plan under a collective bargaining agreement*
- 2. A skill or skills relating to selling, retailing, managerial, clerical or professional occupations*
- 3. Supervisory activities related to the skill or skills described above*
- 4. Without limitation the foregoing categories would include safety officers, estimators, supervisors, superintendents, project managers, consultants, inspectors, team leaders and similar jobs by whatever name used to describe them*
- 5. After the first one-year or five-year period, items 1 and 2 above apply with the addition of "for which contributions to the Plan have been made on behalf of the participant"*

(Note: These apply for the first year after a participant's July 1, 2008 retirement and for five years after a Jan. 1, 2012 retirement.)

As you can see, the rules are complicated. I hope this has simplified them somewhat. Please be sure you do not get caught working improperly or unapproved. Keep our great union strong!



# Working on the railroad

Story and photos by Jamie Johnston, associate editor

Thirteen-year member Stacy Props has a unique job on the Sacramento Railyards project.

Not only is he working on one of the largest urban-infill sites in the nation, but the third-generation Local 3 blade operator is relocating the railroad tracks that his father and grandfather may have also worked on. And as he cuts through the dirt on the 240-acre site, he's pulling up some of that past.

The project broke ground last June, and since Props has been onsite, he's unearthed old bottles, nails and even some dinner sets.

Props is part of the Granite Construction crew that is working on the \$41 million redevelopment project that Sacramento officials hope will revitalize the city's downtown

core and restore a lost connection to an urban treasure. The historic railyard dates back to the early 1800s, and in 1869, it served as the western terminus of the Transcontinental Railroad. Early settlers worked here to connect the West to the rest of the nation and later produced engines, cars, track and other railyard equipment. It was once the largest railroad facility of its kind west of the Mississippi.

It's hard to believe that the railyard has been idle since 1999.

In an attempt to bring life back to the area, Granite Construction is relocating about 2.3 miles of heavy rail track, building two pedestrian tunnels and a service tunnel and performing underground work.

Loader Operator Ed Preuss is one of the more seasoned operators working on the project. He has 27 years in Local 3. He was getting good hours this winter working as a fifth-step Apprentice Mike Scott, who was getting seat time on a second-step fourth-step Apprentice Robert Marshall, who was running a compactor.

Subcontractor Cal-Con Pumping & Blasting has been onsite. Operator Jeff Wright has poured at least 480 yards of concrete in just the last few weeks.

The job should be completed by the end of the year, and officials hope the transit center will attract new development. In the meantime, Props hopes to find more of the past.



Scrapper Operator Mike Scottodiarlo is a fifth-step apprentice getting good hours on the Sacramento Railyards project.



Skip Loader Operator Ken Caldwell works for Granite Construction.



Gradesetter Christian Walker.



Loader Operator Ed Preuss and Apprentice Mike Scott work around a pedestrian tunnel. The historic, brick building is part of the Sacramento Railyards project.

ON COVER: Member Ron Haley operates an excavator with a compactor wheel in front of some of these same, old structures.

## Tracking the railyards through the years

**1863:** Construction of the Central Pacific Railroad begins next to the levee in Old Sacramento. A ground-breaking ceremony was held Jan. 8 at Front and K streets.

**1869:** The Central Pacific and Union Pacific (UP) railroads meet at Promontory Point, Utah, officially completing the Transcontinental Railroad. The Sacramento Railyards serve as its western terminus.

**1870:** Central Pacific Railroad builds an ice-cooled freight car in Sacramento to ship California-grown fruit across the country.

**1885:** The Central Pacific Railroad is absorbed by the Southern Pacific Company.



nd

one of the  
nsite, with  
g in some  
alongside  
ttodiarlo,  
raper, and  
gana, who

g has also  
lped pump  
t one area.  
the end of  
sformation  
meantime,  
t.



*Dozer Operator Matt Barker fills and levels the area around one of many tunnels on the Sacramento Railyards project.*



*Blade Operator Stacy Props makes windrows on the Sacramento Railyards project.*



*Compactor Operator Robert Magana work together to fill and level the area behind a brick building that will eventually be preserved for adaptive reuse.*



*Concrete Pump Operator Jeff Wright works for subcontractor Cal-Con Pumping.*

**1910:** The Sacramento Railyards become the largest railroad complex west of the Mississippi, providing 33 percent of all jobs in Sacramento.

**1996:** Southern Pacific is absorbed by the UP railroad.

**1999:** The railyard becomes idle.

**2011:** Construction begins on the Sacramento Railyards project, one of the largest urban-infill sites in the nation.



# OE3 partnership with CIFAC equals jobs

By Steven Glenn Harris, CIFAC vice president



CIFAC Vice President Steven Glenn Harris is also a Local 3 Trustee and Morgan Hill district rep.

As your OE3 representative on the Construction Industry Force Account Council (CIFAC) Executive Committee and as vice president of the board, I'm always looking for ways to benefit our brothers and sisters, which in these hard economic times means finding job opportunities. As most of you already know, CIFAC is dedicated to providing us with more job opportunities through competitive bidding. CIFAC oversees the work of cities, counties, special districts and Caltrans to make sure that when these agencies have new construction projects and have reached their bidding threshold, they actually put the work out to bid.

In reviewing our recent accomplishments, I worked on two important legislative victories with the support of Local 3. The first was the Road Commission Reform Act of 2011 (Assembly Bill (AB) 720).

For many years, we've been trying to get counties to put more of their road construction and repair work out to bid. AB 720 was the CIFAC-sponsored measure to make that happen. In 2011, the time was right, so I encouraged CIFAC to go on the offensive. Because we all worked together to show the elected officials in Sacramento just how important this was to us, we successfully helped push the bill through the legislative process. The measure was signed into law by Gov. Jerry Brown just before the Oct. 9 deadline.

Now, there will be millions of dollars in additional work that will be done by our union contractors and more jobs for us. This is a big success for us after years of frustration over what is called "Road Commissioner" authority, which allowed counties to keep all the work in-house.

The second piece of legislation I worked on was not well publicized but is also beneficial to OE3. Senate Bill (SB) 1613 became law in 2008, and it also creates jobs for our brothers and sisters. This law is a win-win for contractors and operators. It says that for every piece of equipment Caltrans rents from a contractor, there must also be a trained operator. Contractors were reassured that their rental equipment was in good hands, and OE3 members run the equipment.

Since 1965, existing law allowed Caltrans to rent all types of heavy equipment from contractors to mitigate major damage on or to highways, but they were required to competitively bid the rentals, if the value of the rental was more than \$2,500. Caltrans sponsored a bill to allow the maintenance department to rent tools and equipment without going to bid on expenditures under \$25,000. But at my suggestion, CIFAC amended the bill to include provisions that allowed the higher bid threshold if the rentals "applied to maintenance only and added the requirement that every piece of equipment rented must be operator run."

These are two examples of the many ways OE3 and CIFAC work together to create job opportunities. But there are other ways to help us find work. If you see new public-works construction projects that are *not* being performed by Local 3 members and signatory contractors, call CIFAC at (800) 755-3354 or call me at (408) 465-8260, and we'll handle it from there. I look forward to giving you future updates as we continue to work together to improve job opportunities.

# STAFF SPOTLIGHT:

## Charley Lavery

Senior Business Rep. Charley Lavery has been a union member since 1981, when he joined the Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union (AEEU) in Europe. He joined Local 3 in 1998. If you talk with him, you can tell by his accent that he's not from here! But he is right where he belongs, working to protect and improve the working conditions of the members he serves.

"I am very proud to be a representative of this union and its members," Lavery said. "I respect the hard work of the members and the staff. ... No matter who I'm dealing with, whether it is management or politicians, I always remember that I am there to advocate for the rank-and-file Operating Engineer."

Lavery worked in the field as a certified crane operator – first abroad, then locally – from 1986 to 2006, before he joined staff as an apprenticeship coordinator. He became a business agent a year later and was promoted to senior business rep. in 2010. He currently covers San Francisco and San Mateo counties and has been involved in most of the big-name projects there, such as the New Bay Bridge, the Doyle Drive project, the Transbay Terminal, the Devils Slide Tunnel, the Crystal Springs Dam repair and the Bay Division Tunnel.

He also helped negotiate Project Labor Agreements (PLAs) for the Transbay Terminal and Emerald Cities. He hears grievances while serving on the union boards of adjustment, attends city council meetings on labor's behalf and is active in the San Mateo/San Francisco Building Trades and labor councils. When the non-union wins public-works contracts, he works with agencies to ensure that these companies are paying the correct prevailing wage.

Lavery also interviews applicants for the Apprenticeship Program, but most importantly, he makes sure the concerns of his members are handled quickly and appropriately.

When 12-year member Bill Hearon had issues with a company over payroll, Hearon – who was the shop steward at the time – remembers how much effort Lavery put into helping him: "Charley orchestrated the whole thing and audited the company," Hearon said. "I was wearing-out his phone, and he was right there, promptly returning my calls.

"Charley is first-class all the way; a straight-up guy who handles things in a professional manner. He's a helpful guy too, not just as an agent but as a person."

For Alan Rathjen, a member since 1999, Lavery helped secure a really good contract last year, which is unusual in today's economy.

"Charley is a no-nonsense kind of guy. He has always helped me," Rathjen said.

Lavery even talks about the importance of unionism at home.

"I was brought up in a labor household, and I teach my daughters the value of unions."

Lavery, Local 3 values the work that you do!



From left: Senior Business Rep. Charley Lavery gives Vince Marcum his 30-year service pin.



## Busy season at District 50 rock plants

FCI is working in the south valley in Hanford on Hwy. 198. **Diablo** is working on Hwy. 99 from Kingsburg to Goshen. **Emmetts** is in Dinuba working on Road 80. **C.W. Roen** is working at the Woodlake Wastewater Treatment Plant along with **Cal Valley**. **Cal Valley** is also working west of Madera. **Granite** has a big job in Kettleman City on Hwy. 41. **Teichert** is keeping members busy with an airport job in Tulare and Fresno. **MCM** has bridge work in Goshen and Tulare. **Rising Sun** has just a few operators working on its job off Hwy. 99, but according to Foreman **William Sario**, the company is bidding other work, and hopefully it can add a few more operators. **RGW** is staying busy in the north valley. UC Merced has several contractors doing work around campus.

Our brothers and sisters at the rock plants are anticipating a busy season selling more aggregate and asphalt. They have not been turning in the hours they used to, so this is good news.

Some upcoming work includes **Don Berry Construction's** \$1.9 million project in Visalia; **Granite's** \$8.4 million job in Tulare and \$1.1 million job in Fresno; **RGW's** \$22 million project in Merced; **West Valley's** work in Lemoore; **Teichert's** \$1.9 million worth of work in Merced; and **Emmetts'** \$15.9 million job in Visalia.

Hopefully with the jobs recently awarded, we'll see some of our members get dispatched off the list. A reminder to all members on the out-of-work list: Keep in touch with the Hall on a regular basis to make sure your registration is current. Also, members

who have been dispatched and worked for any signatory employer in the last five years are allowed to go back to that employer under a five-year letter. Any member who has 10 years in the union can solicit work from any signatory employer. Contact the Hall to find out if you're eligible for either of these.

If a member is getting dispatched with a letter, it's the member's responsibility to come by the Hall and get dispatched *before* reporting to work. If you have any questions, please call the Hall.

We also want to stress the importance of working safe. The type of work we do is very dangerous and requires our full attention. Make sure the jobsite and the equipment you're operating is in safe working order. Local 3 members are some of the safest and most qualified operators in the industry. Keep up the good work.



Rising Sun's Lester Endes.



Rising Sun's Mike Darnall.



Rising Sun's Silas Parker.

## MORGAN HILL | 325 Digital Drive, Morgan Hill, CA 95037 ■ (408) 465-8260 District Rep. Steven Glenn Harris

### Are you ready for some football?

At the time of this writing, it appears that the San Francisco 49ers football team will get a new stadium in Santa Clara. District 90 members and staff have been actively involved with the other building trades in the fight against several groups that have tried to stop its construction. Members and staff have attended meetings, handed out information and explained to people why this is such a great project for the area. **Turner/Devcon** is the general contractor on the nearly \$1 billion project, and it looks like the stadium will be built under a Project Labor Agreement (PLA). A lot of Local 3 signatories have already been evaluated and approved as subcontractors after turning in pre-qualification packages to **Turner/Devcon**. Crews have already started moving utilities, and **Ghilotti Construction** was the apparent low bidder on \$10 million worth of site work. A parking garage is currently underway across the street with **Stevens Creek Quarry** moving dirt.

Another large project coming to our area is the Bart extension from Fremont to San Jose, which the Valley Transportation Authority awarded to **Skanska/Shimmick/Herzog** on a \$700 million Joint Venture (JV).

These large projects are a blessing to our members who will get back some long-overdue wages and Pension hours.

Another job in District 90 is the \$35.8 million Hwy. 880 job with **Bay Cities Paving and Grading**. **O.C. Jones** has the \$35.7 million Hwy. 101 job that will add auxiliary lanes and extend High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes in Mountain View between Shoreline and the Oregon Expressway. **Pavex Construction**, a division of **Granite Rock**, was the apparent low bidder on the Hwy. 1 Asphalt Concrete (AC) overlay job from Pajaro River in Watsonville to State Park Drive in Aptos at just over \$12 million.

The company also got the I-85 project near Cupertino and Mountain View at \$7.7 million. **Pavex** is also working on \$4.8 million worth of operational improvements to Almaden Expressway between Blossom Hill and Branham Lane in San Jose. **RGW** is finishing up the Tully Road overcrossing in San Jose and starting the Butterfield Road extension in Morgan Hill. **Wattis Construction** was awarded the almost \$1 million bid on a bike lane in San Juan Bautista. Private housing projects are on the rise, and several are underway in the district with our signatories picking up grading, paving and underground work. **Case Pacific Drilling** and **C.F. Archibald Paving** are working on solar projects in several school parking lots in the area. All in all, we are off to a good year. Some of our signatories even have a backlog of work, something they have not had since

before the recession hit.

Congratulations to new Business Agent **Dennis Garringer** and Dispatcher **Ed Estrada**. Garringer, a 14-year member, was District 90's dispatcher for the last five years and accepted a job as business representative. Estrada is a 14-year member and a second-generation OE3 brother.

Don't forget to mark your calendars and attend the District 90 breakfast picnic on March 31. Breakfast will be served at the Morgan Hill Grange at 40 East Fourth St. from 9 a.m. to noon. The menu includes scrambled eggs, sausage, ham, hash browns, tortillas, coffee and juice. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$4 for kids 12 and under. Retirees are free. You can purchase tickets at the District 90 Hall. We will be having a raffle after breakfast, and tickets are \$1 each. Hope to see you all there.

The next District 90 quarterly meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 5 at the Morgan Hill Hall at 7 p.m., and the Semi-Annual Meeting is on Sunday, March 18 at the Cow Palace in Daly City.



Drill Operator James Lambott works for Case Pacific at Leigh High School in San Jose.

## Slow for the Cone Zone – our lives depend on it!

District 40 would like to thank everyone who attended the 2012 Crab Feed and the Hazmat class.

Please call or stop by the Hall to find out about upcoming projects in District 40.

The Mad River Bridge near McKinleyville is almost completed, and **Penhall** started demo-ing the old section. The work space for these operators is pretty tight, but they're getting the job done.

**Wahlund Construction** continues work on the Arcata Airport and the Ferndale Water Treatment Plant. A few operators remain busy making these two jobs move forward, despite the weather.

When weather permits, **Mercer-Fraser** has also been busy in the shop in Fortuna and on numerous projects throughout the district. In Miranda, the company is working on a retaining wall, a job bid at a little over \$1.4 million. Martin's Ferry Bridge and many paving jobs are still providing work for our operators, carrying on from 2011.

**Peterson** has remained busy throughout the winter, and **West Coast Contractors** has



*Mike Flanagan stays busy at Mercer-Fraser's shop in Fortuna.*

been busy on the Trinidad Pier and helping local fishermen offload their crab, so their season isn't interrupted by the work on the docks. The company had a night- and day-shift schedule through January and the first part of February.

**Powell Concrete** is staying busy on several jobs throughout Humboldt and Del Norte counties.

The District 40 staff would like to remind everyone to Slow for the Cone Zone and our brothers and sisters working on the

highways. In January, a Humboldt County worker lost his life when a distracted driver hit him as he was working. Though he was not a Local 3 member, it's a grim reminder of the real dangers our operators face on the roads. Slowing down may save a life.

We would also like to remind you about our Voice of the Engineer (VOTE) program. This is an election year, and Operating Engineers and your local district will need your help to get out the vote, inform the membership and participate in the crucial 2012 elections. We face many challenges ahead, and having a voice may make a big difference. Call the Hall for more information.

Finally, as you drive through District 40, if you see anything out of order, such as non-members running equipment, call Business Rep. **Bob Center** directly at (707) 601-8172, so he can investigate. Every hour counts, and we want to keep our members busy throughout the year.

With that in mind, don't forget to renew your registration on the out-of-work list every 84 days.

## **ROHNERT PARK** | 6225 State Farm Drive, Suite 100, Rohnert Park, CA 94928 ■ (707) 585-2487 District Rep. Chris Snyder

### PLAs on two new projects

The work picture has slowed now that the rain has finally started. **Ghilotti Brothers'** section of Hwy. 101 at Wilfred Avenue/Golf Course Drive is buttoned up for the winter. The company is waiting for **R.M. Harris** to finish pouring the concrete on the two remaining new bridges at Golf Course Drive. As soon as the weather changes, **Ghilotti Brothers** should be ready to do the finish paving.

**Ghilotti Construction** continues work on its section of Hwy. 101 from Rohnert

Park Expressway to Petaluma Boulevard North. The final overlay will happen in the spring. **Ghilotti Construction** is also doing site work at Sonoma State University for the new University Center Building and has paved out and winterized the new Sutter Hospital site in northern Santa Rosa. The company also started work on the Washington Street/Hwy. 101 on- and off-ramp-improvement project. **Bigge** has a crane staged and ready to start erecting the building.

**Preston Pipelines** has a force-main sewer job in Clearlake and another in Lakeport. **Argonaut Construction** is doing the site work and underground work for the new College of Mendocino campus in Lakeport. **Mountain Cascade** is working on a sewer-line replacement near Montgomery Village in Santa Rosa. **Granite Construction** still has parts of Hwy. 175 to pave in Lake County, and **Sierra Equipment** has a Hwy. 53 widening project winterized and waiting for spring.

Upcoming work looks good for District 10. **Kiewit Power Plants** has the first of two new power plants at The Geysers steam field in Sonoma County. The job is under a Project Labor Agreement (PLA), meaning the project will be good for all the trades when it starts this summer.

**Stacy Witbeck/Herzog** was awarded the first phase of the Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART) project, which involves \$190 million worth of rail-line

upgrades between Santa Rosa and San Rafael. **Stations Casinos** should be close to breaking ground on the Graton Rancheria Casino in Rohnert Park. It's estimated that \$200 million will be spent on the first phase of the project, which also has a PLA and should require a good amount of site work and earth-moving. **Ghilotti Construction** is the apparent low bidder on the Sixth Street undercrossing at Hwy. 101 in Santa Rosa. This will add a much-needed east/west connector near downtown Santa Rosa. **Teichert Construction** is the low bidder on a \$4.29 million Asphalt Concrete (AC) overlay project on Hwy. 29 in Lake County. **Terracon Pipelines** has a \$1.3 million sewer and water job for the city of Santa Rosa.

The Hwy. 101 corridor continues to have projects throughout Sonoma County. The design phase is almost finished on the Airport Boulevard/Fulton Road project, which involves widening the overpass at Airport Boulevard and improving the on- and off-ramps. The engineers' estimate is \$47 million. Hopefully, if funding is in place, this project will go out to bid this year. Farther south at the Petaluma River Bridge, Caltrans should let the \$63 million Petaluma Boulevard South Interchange project and the \$60 million Petaluma River Bridge replacement project sometime this year. According to the Sonoma County Transit Authority, these projects are funded.



*Bigge Crane Operator Liam Byerly and Oiler Devin Scott work on the new Sutter Hospital in Santa Rosa.*



## Lund Construction: Whatever it takes, the company finds a way!

**Lund Construction** was started in Sacramento in 1957 by **George Lund**. The family-owned company was founded to perform earth-moving and road construction. From the beginning, George emphasized that the owners would always be hands-on. In 1967, he and his son, Jerry, started the underground department in an effort to expand the company's customer base. In 1976, **Lund Construction** became a corporation, but its owners never lost sight of the original hands-on concept. Since 1990, the company has been run by Jerry and his two sons, Jeff and Kevin.

The company's primary business has been subdivision and public-works projects; however, in the past few years, **Lund Construction** has expanded its business to include substations, dry utilities, power-plant site work, long-term maintenance and rehabilitation projects. **Lund Construction** continues to adapt to changing markets, as it has done throughout the last 55 years, and

consistently seeks new ways to improve the way it does business. At its peak, the company's revenue was \$25 million to \$30 million annually with about 100 employees. Current annual revenue is about \$10 million with 40 employees.

According to Jerry, success is a personal thing. The staff closely follows all aspects of the company and its projects, so nothing slips by. All employees work together as a team to ensure that each achieves personal goals as well as the collective vision of creating an admired company. Teams execute with excellence and the result is predictable success. Everyone on staff shows focus, faith and effort in everything they do. **Lund Construction** values its status as a Local 3 employer and knows that having such a well-trained and professional workforce gives the company a competitive advantage.



From left: Vice President of estimating and earth-moving operations Jeff Lund, President/General Superintendent Jerry Lund, Vice President of underground operations Kevin Lund and superintendents Eric Eissinger (33 years) and Darrell Nygard (38 years).

## Local 3 supports Hannemann



Front row, from left: Jason Olayan, Miguel Ancheta, Palmer Ching, District Rep. Pane Meatoga Jr., Local 3-endorsed candidate Mufi Hannemann, Hamona Dowell, Business Rep. Ana Tuiaosopo, Calvin Kapua and Glenn Aquino. Back row, from left: Alan Kumalae, Charman Kekahuna, Peter Kersting, Mitchell Pa, Business Rep. Fabian Kalili, Doug Westbrook, Aaron Tilton, John Kiko, Calvin Dole, John Duque, Senior Business Rep. Sam Spencer and Calvin Johnson.

On Jan. 17, the Hawaii Construction Alliance (HCA) held an event at our Kapolei office on Oahu. The HCA, which is made up of the Hawaii Masons, Laborers, Carpenters and Operating Engineers, stood together in support of **Mufi Hannemann**, a Democratic candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives from Hawaii's 2nd Congressional District. Hannemann has been a champion for labor throughout his political career. His experience and ability to work as a team player with our congressional members as well as his relationship with members of the House on both sides of the aisle will serve our state well. More than 60 members and friends attended the event.

As far as work goes, we will end the first quarter with more jobs being awarded or starting, though we are still digging ourselves out of the worst two years (2009 and 2010) recorded in the last decade. Every new job is a step in the right direction. Some of the jobs that have been awarded or started are as follows:

### Awarded

<b>G.W. Construction</b>	\$930,566
Waiakea Uka Park and Gym accessibility improvements, South Hilo, Hawaii	
<b>Goodfellow Brothers, Inc.</b>	\$5.05 million
Taxiway paving and miscellaneous improvements at Molokai Airport, Hoolehua, Hawaii	
<b>Isemoto Contracting Company Ltd.</b>	\$801,000
Corporation Counsel/Liquor Control Office hazardous-material mitigation and improvements – phase 1 selective demolition, South Hilo, Hawaii	

### Pre-jobs

<b>RMT Inc.</b>	\$60 million
<b>Goodfellow Brothers, Inc.</b> (subcontractor)	
Kawailoa wind project, 61-488 Kamehameha Hwy., Haleiwa, Hawaii	
<b>NCM Contracting Group (Nuprecon)</b>	\$5.5 million
Demolition of sugar mills in Lihue and Kekaha, Hawaii	

It will probably take a good portion, if not the rest of the year, to get to a positive or breakeven return on work hours. We continue to work with developers, landowners, businesses and the government to create and secure jobs for our members.

Election season is upon us, as government officials are seeking re-elections or new positions. Your Political Action Committees (PACs) on all the islands have been actively interviewing candidates and will post our list of endorsed candidates in an upcoming issue of *Engineers News*. Register to vote and call your respective business representative for more information on sign waving, rallies, fundraisers, precinct walking and phone banks.

## Millions of dollars worth of new work this season

Wet weather has come to District 70. Hopefully we will get a good amount of moisture *before* the work season begins. We still have operators working on the Diversion Dam project in Red Bluff for **Balfour Beatty**, rain or shine, and for **Meyers Earthwork**, when the sun is shining. **Tutor Perini**, **Shaft Drilling** and **Becho Drilling** produced good hours for our members last year as well as this year on the Antlers Bridge job in Lakehead.

Work should start soon on **Tullis Inc.**'s \$35 million paving job on I-5 in Red Bluff and **J.F. Shea Co.**'s \$18 million paving job on I-5 in Weed. **Mercer-Fraser** has an upcoming \$30 million paving job on I-5 at Dog Creek and \$11 million worth of highway construction and paving on Hwy. 299 at Buckhorn. New work in the district that has not yet been awarded includes \$11 million worth of road construction and paving on Hwy. 299 east at Montgomery Creek; the \$55 million Yreka Courthouse;

the \$2.8 million Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) overlay/dig-outs in Redding; \$10 million in highway improvements in Corning; the \$4.3 million polyester concrete overlay at Salmon River Bridge in Siskiyou County; the \$1.5 million HMA overlay on Hwy. 89 in Mt. Shasta; the \$2 million HMA overlay/dig-outs in Douglas City; and the \$2.8 million HMA overlay at the Stillwater Creek Bridge. These and many more projects are coming to District 70 this year.

We would like to thank those who participated in January's eight-hour Hazmat refresher class. Please mark your calendar for our District Meeting at 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 8 and the Retiree Luncheon/Meeting at 1:30 p.m. the same day. We look forward to seeing you at one or both of the meetings.

Call the Hall for more information and to stay current with your membership.



*Tutor Perini Excavator Operator Jeremiah Swan.*



*David Rose works for Tutor Perini.*



*Operator Wesley Castaneda works for Tutor Perini.*

## **NEVADA** | 1290 Corporate Blvd., Reno, NV 89502 ■ For all branches, call (775) 857-4440 District Rep. Steve Ingersoll

### Newmont members get scheduled raise

The winter months (as of this writing) have been relatively mild. Some projects have been able to continue during the dry spell. **Granite Construction**'s project on I-80 has been the most noticeable. After finishing its portion of the I-580 project six months early, the company was able to dive right into the I-80 project and is moving along well. **Q&D Construction** started work on the North Virginia Street sewer project and the Spanish Springs Road project north of Sparks. **Sierra Nevada Construction** is working on one of the city of Reno rehab projects and will begin work on Virginia City Highway (state Route 341), when the weather allows.

The contract for **Securing Our Country (SOC)** at the Hawthorne Army Depot was ratified in January. We would like to thank negotiating team members **Joe Baughman** and **Corinne Sterns** for all the time, hard work and effort they put in. The members received a 2 percent per-year increase and fought hard to maintain the seniority language and discipline procedures that were attacked.

The District 11 staff would like to remind everyone to make sure their information is current and updated. If you have had any recent changes, please go to the Reno office to fill out the appropriate form(s). We would also like to remind you to make sure that your certifications are updated, primarily Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). Mine sites require MSHA and construction requires OSHA. You will need

one or the other – we recommend both. For class availability, contact the Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC) at (775) 575-2729.

There is a District Meeting in Reno on Monday, March 12 at 7 p.m. Please put the date on your calendar and plan to attend. There is also a Retiree Meeting that same day at 2 p.m. We look forward to seeing you there.

#### *From Elko*

**Newmont Mining** has remained very busy with gold prices staying at a record high. Feb. 1 marked the beginning of the last year in the current contract, with the employees due to receive a 2 percent raise. In January, the company, Operating Engineers Local 3 and the members of the last negotiating committee met to discuss economics. This was a very successful meeting with the committee and **Newmont** agreeing to an increase on the scheduled raise, in addition to the scheduled 2 percent. We would like to thank the members of the 2010 negotiating committee for their continued service and dependability. **Newmont** members should contact their steward or come by the office. We are starting to have talks about the upcoming contract. If you know anyone who is not a member but is interested in having an opinion about the contract, let them know they need to sign up as a member to be eligible to participate. At this time, we have not set a date to elect a negotiating committee, but keep in mind

who you would like to nominate. We will be posting fliers at the office and at **Newmont** for pre-negotiation meetings. You need to attend these meetings to have a say in the next contract. If you have any questions, please call Business Rep. **Bill Bodin** at (775) 753-8761.

**Ames Construction** is working at Newmont, Barrick Gold Strike and Cortez Gold Mine. **N.A. Degerstrom, Inc.** is staying busy at Spirit Mine north of Wells and at Queenstake Mine north of Elko. **Canyon Construction** is starting back up on the county road at Cortez Mine and at Newmont. **Remington Construction** is working at Barrick Mine and on a pad and waterlines in Elko. **Q&D Construction** is working on some box culverts and getting ready to start the on- and off-ramps east of Carlin. **Road and Highway Builders** was the low bidder on bridge work by Dunphy in Eureka County. **Granite Construction** was the low bidder on Hwy. 93 near Curry.

This is a presidential election year, so make sure you are registered to vote. The last day to do so for the Primary Election in Nevada is May 22. If you have not registered yet, come into the office and pick up a voter-registration form.

**Newmont** membership meetings are on the first Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m., and construction meetings are on the second Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. If you have any questions, please call Bodin or Business Rep. **Allen Strong** at the Elko office.



## We need you to volunteer

This year's work season looks good with plenty of projects ongoing and more to start.

There's lots of highway and overpass work, as well as work on power plants. There are also several Bart and E-Bart projects. As soon as the rain stops and the ground is dry, we will have another dam project and more refinery work.

For those of you who want to get involved in the upcoming Primary and General elections: We are already in the swing of things and need you to volunteer to phone bank and precinct walk. Call business agents **Ken Edgcombe** or **Brian Lester** at the Hall, and we will get you on the list. We need all the help we can get.

### Grandfather, grandson share special bond

After coming home from Germany where he was stationed with the Army, Retiree **Frank Bonde** says he "begged his uncle," a salesman for **Peterson Tractor** in the early 1950s, to get him a job at the Caterpillar dealership as an apprentice mechanic. That wish was granted when he joined Local 3 on Oct. 1, 1951, he explains, pulling the date from memory.

Now in retirement, Bonde, 83, is still crazy for Caterpillar, restoring vintage bulldozers in his free time. And it looks like he's passed on that passion to his only grandson, fifth-step Construction Equipment Operator (CEO) Apprentice **Shane McElley**, who joined Local 3 in August 2008.

"I love it," a very proud Bonde said about his grandson following in his footsteps. "It's unbelievable how good he is."

His company agrees. McElley currently works for **Bay Cities Paving & Grading**, and those working with him say he has a great attitude, is a hard worker and is a natural at operating equipment.

This year, both McElley and his grandfather will celebrate special milestones within the union: Bonde will become an Honorary Member in April, clocking in 35 years with Local 3, and McElley will journey out this summer.

We congratulate them both.



From left: Retiree Frank Bonde and his grandson, fifth-step Apprentice Shane McElley, show their Local 3 pride.

### Gregory Enes • May 4, 1950 – Jan. 11, 2012

We are sad to report that former Oakland Dispatcher **Greg Enes** passed away on Jan. 11. He was the dispatcher in 1999 and retired a year later. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family and friends.

## BURLINGAME | 828 Mahler Road, Suite B, Burlingame, CA 94010 ■ (650) 652-7969 District Rep. Ken Oku

### Five-story residential project will start this month

In Marin County, the Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART) train project is moving forward. **Stacy and Witbeck/Herzog** was awarded the

north Novato station and will be repairing the crucial bridge over Novato Creek, according to a recent press release. Included in the SMART train work is a contract with **Dutra Materials** to supply 150,000 tons of ballast rock, which will keep our operators busy in San Rafael. There is more work ahead for **Ghilotti Bros., Inc.** beyond the widening of

Hwy. 101 in Novato. Weather permitting, a new \$20 million project is slated to start with paving and associated duties on Hwy. 101 (Corte Madera) to the Golden Gate Bridge. Just south of Petaluma Boulevard in Petaluma, **Team Ghilotti** is working on a 7,000-foot main sewer line worth \$841,000.

In San Francisco, the work picture continues to be positive. Two tower cranes (one free-standing at 315 feet) are now up at the **Plant Construction** project at 680 Folsom, with **Dan Allen** and **Craig McNaught** at the helm. **Sheedy** operators **Tim Adams** and **Oscar Vera** erected the cranes with a 165-ton American crane with 280 feet of boom and a 60-foot jib.

Speaking of **Sheedy**, we would like to congratulate **Eric Anderson** who retired from the company recently.

**Plant Construction** has a project slated to start at the San Francisco Mart at 875 Stevenson Alley off 10<sup>th</sup> Street. City paving



From left: Operators Tim Adams and Oscar Vera work for Sheedy.

and sidewalk-improvement contracts have increased, thanks to the passage of Proposition B, which was supported by OE3. **Esquivel Grading and Paving** is paving in the Sunset District. **A. Ruiz** is performing sewer work on Folsom Street, and **JMB Construction** is doing the same on Cesar

Chavez. At Mission Bay and Fourth Street, a new, five-story residential project is slated to start this month with **Roberts/Obayashi**. **Webcor Concrete's** 13-story project has **Mike Johnson** operating a new tower crane on Van Ness and Sutter. It's nice to see more tower cranes going up!

In San Mateo, **Kiewit** is about 10 percent complete on the \$129 million Harry Tracy Water Treatment Plant and is continuing progress on the Crystal Springs Dam repair and the Crystal Springs/San Andreas transmission line. **Kiewit's** tunnel division has almost completed the Devils Slide Tunnel, a project that has been a good employer for more than five years. At the San Francisco International Airport, **Schembri Construction** is building an emergency-response station on the Bay side to house fire department

boats. Subcontractors onsite include **RC Underground** and **Dutra Construction**. **Conco** is pumping concrete on the job, **Bode** is supplying the mud and **Signet** is testing the material. Another great project built by our hands!

*Correction:* **Manny Morales** was incorrectly identified in the February *Engineers News*. We apologize for the mistake.



Tower crane operators Craig McNaught and Dan Allen work in San Francisco.

## Power plant providing work

At the time of this writing, the sun is shining and we still have members working in the off season.

One of the bigger jobs still going on in District 30 is the \$235 million Combined Cycle Power Plant project in Tracy. The project consists of modifying the existing 169-megawatt simple-cycle power plant by converting it into a combined-cycle power plant, with an additional 145 megawatts of generating capacity, for a total of 314 megawatts. **Performance Mechanical Inc. (PMI)** has most of the work that has been let out to bid. The company has seven members onsite now, with more to come in the near future. PMI is subbing all the crane work out to **Maxim**, which currently has 10 to 12 members onsite.

PMI is also working on the Almond II Power Plant located in Modesto under a Project Agreement. There are currently about three Operating Engineers onsite.

**Contri Construction** started the San Joaquin Pipeline Eastern Segment for Hetch Hetchy and has two members currently installing the valves to tie into the existing pipes. The project will need more operators in the spring to lay the bulk of the 78-inch pipe.

There is a lot of work on the books for next year, with a lot more to bid. Two of the bigger projects already on the books are the \$78 million slab rehabilitation on Hwy. 99 in Turlock and the \$108 million wastewater treatment plant in Modesto.

As we come into spring, be ready to work. It should be a good year in the Stockton area.



Twelve-year member Jon Souza is the foreman for PMI at the Tracy job.

## YUBA CITY | 468 Century Park Drive, Yuba City, CA 95991 ▪ (530) 743-7321 District Rep. Ed Ritchie

### Get involved in contract negotiations

There is a lot of work coming up for bid this year, and we hope our signatory contractors secure most of it.

Ongoing projects and work that will start soon include: **Viking Construction Company's** state Route 32 undercrossing in Chico for \$23.8 million; **Teichert Construction's** pavement rehabilitation and overlay on Hwy. 113 near Knights Landing for \$7.5 million and paving in Sierraville (Nevada County line to state Route 49) for \$5.4 million; **C.C. Myers' Spanish Creek Bridge** replacement on Hwy. 70 for \$12 million; **Knife River Construction's** paving in Downieville (Sierra County) for \$16 million; **McGuire and Hester's** Third Street rehabilitation in Marysville for \$952,000; **Nehemiah Construction's** bridge replacement on Hwy. 99 for \$30 million; and **Mountain Cascade's** ongoing work on the Sankey Road/Sacramento River fish-screen project for \$18 million.

For more information about these and other projects getting ready to start within the district, please feel free to contact the Hall.

At the time of this writing, District 60 is in negotiations with **Recology** (Butte/Colusa) and **Cemex – Patterson Sand & Gravel**. Contract negotiations are a critical time for Local 3. This is when we get to take the voices of our members – you – to the employer to ensure you get fair wages, competitive fringes and safe working conditions. When you see notices at your jobsite announcing membership negotiation meetings, this is your call to action. This is the time when our members can meet collectively to discuss their needs in the workplace. There is strength in numbers and strength in the

union. Let your employer know that you are willing to fight for a fair contract.

We are asking *all* members to get involved with our Voice of the Engineer (VOTE) volunteer program this year to help out during the political season. There is so much that you, as a union member, can do to help. Please contact the Hall to add your name to our volunteer list. Remember: It's your union, so get involved.

We want to extend a big thanks to the OE3 members and signatory contractors for volunteering their time and supplying the equipment for the Barry School track program. We are proud to say the project is completed and is a great addition for the students and staff at Barry School.

If you are not working and want to prepare yourself for a job that may be coming up, ask yourself, "Do I have the right certification for the job?" Hazwoper, Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA), CPR, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 10, First Aid, Forklift, Signalman, Rigger, Certification of Crane Operators (CCO), Operator Qualification (OQ) and CDL are

offered through the Rancho Murieta Training Center (RMTTC). Call the Ranch at (916) 354-2029, or call District 60 Dispatcher **Danny Roles** at the Hall for more information.

As always, we want to remind our members to not only get on the out-of-work list but to keep your contact information (address, phone numbers, e-mail address, etc.) up to date, so you can be reached for jobs, upcoming trainings, meetings and other important information. Remember the out-of-work-list, 84-day rule. You must call or come in to the Hall to re-register on the out-of-work list before the 84<sup>th</sup> day. Failure to do so will result in your name being removed from the list.

Save the date: District 60's annual picnic has been scheduled for Sunday, July 22 at the Butte County Fairgrounds. Along with the barbecue, there will be fun entertainment, prizes and a great raffle. This year we will also be featuring the California Old Time Fiddlers. Pre-sale tickets will be available soon at the District 60 Hall, so be sure to get enough for the whole family!



From left: Nicholas Eli, Johnny Campos and Cesar Garcia volunteer at the Barry School track project.



## Work will be steady once rain stops

Hopefully the rain has come and gone by now. There are some good jobs scheduled to start in District 04 this spring. Two sections of the Jameson Canyon Hwy. 12 road widening and walls have signatory low bidders. **Synergy Project Management** has the Napa County side, and the low bidder for the Solano side is **Ghilotti Construction**. These projects tally up to more than \$50 million worth of work and should keep members busy for some time.

**O.C. Jones** was the low bidder on the eastbound I-80 truck-scale move, which is another \$40 million worth of good

work. With all of this highway work, **Syar Industries'** Lake Herman and Napa quarries will be staying very busy this season as well.

At Mare Island in Vallejo, we have a ferry-maintenance facility out for bid that is estimated to be worth \$17 million. It looks like we're off to a good start this year, so let Mother Nature do what she has to do, so we can get busy.

## UTAH | 1958 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, UT 84116 ■ (801) 596-2677 District Rep. Justin Diston

### Politics are key

Spring is finally coming to the Wasatch Front, and we look forward to another good work season for 2012. There will be a lot of work on the commuter rail lines this year. **Commuter Rail Constructors (CRC)**, made up of **Stacy and Witbeck/Herzog**, will be working on a section from Salt Lake City to Provo, and **Stacy and Witbeck/Kiewit Western** will be working on the Trax Lines from Draper to the Salt Lake City International Airport. Both projects are expected to be completed this year.

**Ames Construction** is working to rebuild I-15 in Utah County and is following a very stringent schedule to finish the project this year. Mountain View Corridor contractor **Copper Hills Constructors**, a Joint Venture (JV) with **Granite/Kiewit** and **W.W. Clyde**, is finishing the bulk of the major dirt work on the first phases of this project. Hopefully our signatories will pick up the next phase as well. In April, **PNK Construction** should start again on the Echo Dam stabilization project. There's currently a small crew onsite, but the company is gearing up for a double-shift operation in mid summer. **Kiewit Western** is still working on the Orange Street sewer-rehab project and should finish by this summer.

There are several asphalt paving jobs currently going on and several concrete paving jobs that will run into the fall. Crane rental has been strong the last several years, and that trend should carry into the 2012 season. **Kennecott Copper** has been expanding its operation on the west side of the valley and should keep some of our signatories, such as **Ames Construction**, **Granite Construction**, **Mountain Crane Rental** and **Bragg Crane Rental** busy throughout the year. **Kiewit Western** also picked up a job outside Cedar City to remove a mudslide on state Route 14 this spring. The project should require two shifts, working five to six

days a week, starting this month. By the time you read this, several smaller Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) paving and grading jobs should have come out for bid, and hopefully our signatories have landed some of the work.

This is a significant year for politics in our state, and we can't overstate the importance of our Voice of the Engineer (VOTE) program. Whether you like politics or not, it's key to keeping our members employed in a right-to-work state like ours. One way to get involved in politics is to become a delegate in the area you live in. To do this, you need to find out where your Democratic Caucus

(on March 13) or Republican Caucus (on March 15) is being held in the precinct you live in, so you can attend and ask to be a delegate. The more we get involved as members of this local, the more we can work to change the way business is conducted in this state and improve the playing field for our contractors. Politics played a key role in moving the proposed \$1.8 billion terminal-redevelopment program forward. District 12 Political Coordinator **Dale Cox** worked with Salt Lake County, Salt Lake City and the Airport Authority, and now we'll have ongoing work for the next eight to 10 years.



*Granite mechanics include, front row, from left: Tim Lemasney, David Himes, Brian Worthley and Brandon Catmull. Back row, from left: Richard Carlsen, Austin Murray, Josh Gardner, James Brunson, Derek Nelson and Blake Mills.*



*Mountain Crane operators include, from left: Robert Blake, Parker Chapman, Tyson Allen, Roy Justice and Dave Robison.*

# Local 3 Scholarship Foundation Contest Rules for 2012

Applications available at district offices, Credit Union branches and online at [www.oe3.org](http://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](http://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





Operating Engineers Local 3: Going the distance

Semi-Annual Event: March 18, Cow Palace, Daly City

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 at right.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

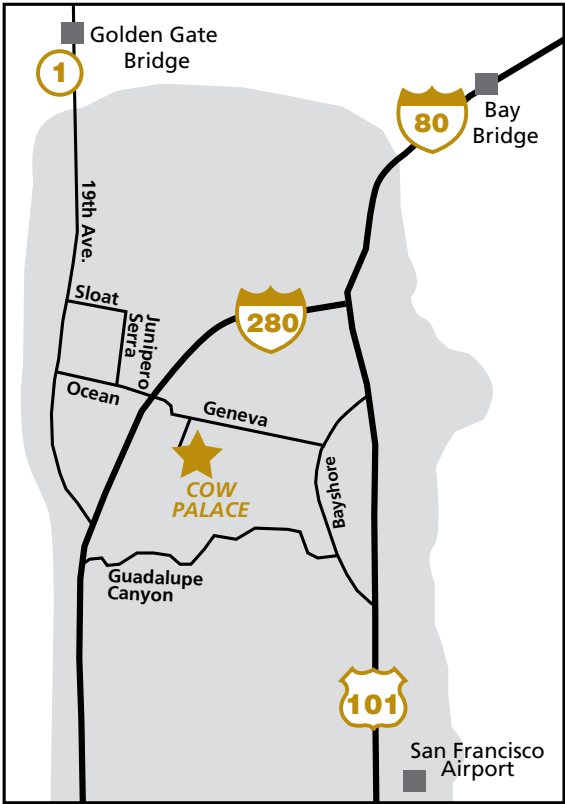
- 9 a.m. – Registration
- 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. – Lunch
- 1 p.m. – Meeting called to order

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); take the Cow Palace/Third Street exit; stay right to take the Cow Palace/Brisbane off-ramp; keep right to take the Bayshore Boulevard South ramp and bear right; turn right on Geneva Avenue – the Cow Palace is on the left; enter at Gate 5

*From San Jose:* Take Hwy. 101 North; take exit 426A – Bayshore Boulevard/Cow Palace; turn left onto Geneva Avenue – the Cow Palace is on the left; enter at Gate 5

*From the North Bay:* Take Hwy. 101 South; cross the Golden Gate Bridge; take the Presidio exit onto 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue South; turn left on Sloat; turn right on Junipero Serra; turn left on Ocean; turn right on Geneva Avenue – the Cow Palace is on the right; enter at Gate 5



<b>DEPARTED MEMBERS</b>	Hearne, Edward Sutter Creek, CA District 30 11-10-11	Rookwood, James Vallejo, CA District 04 08-26-11	Winget, Dennis Fillmore, UT District 12 12-02-11	Jaykins, Tami. Wife of Jaykins, Douglas L. 07-05-09	Richey, Linda. Wife of Richey, Allen 11-13-11
	Amarillas, Joe Sunnyvale, CA District 90 11-29-11	Spinetti, Fumie Santa Cruz, CA District 90 11-03-11	Wollbrinck, Robert Campbell, CA District 90 11-20-11	Jernigan, Betty. Wife of Jernigan, Robert (dec) 12-17-11	Schalesky, Amy. Wife of Schalesky, Fred (dec) 12-16-11
	Anderson, G Robert Bountiful, UT District 12 12-02-11	Stanley, W Port Hadlock, WA District 99 10-29-11	<b>DECEASED DEPENDENTS</b>	Kanda, Daisy. Wife of Kanda, Hiroshi (dec) 11-27-11	Smith, Rosemary. Wife of Smith, Archie (dec) 12-23-11
	Banta, Earl Carmichael, CA District 80 11-08-11	Taclan, Melchor Wahiawa, HI District 17 11-11-11		Leon, Inez. Wife of Leon, Isaac (dec) 10-28-11	Songer, Lois. Wife of Songer, George (dec) 12-16-11
	Cole, John Rio Vista, CA District 04 11-15-11	Tella, Barbara Manteca, CA District 30 11-18-11		Long, Elva. Wife of Long, Harvey (dec) 11-11-11	Staas, Maud. Wife of Staas, Henry (dec) 12-31-11
	Dalske, Harold Sacramento, CA District 80 11-30-11	Tosta, Frank Gentry, AR District 99 11-12-11		Lynch, Dona. Wife of Lynch, Michael (dec) 12-2011	Swegle, Patricia. Wife of Swegle, Forrest (dec) 12-11-11
	Deetz, Henry Jr. Redding, CA District 70 11-22-11	Travis, David Kapaa, HI District 17 12-24-11		Main, Barbara. Wife of Main, Fred (dec) 01-03-12	Thompson, Franalee. Wife of Thompson, Albert E. (dec) 12-25-11
	Farnum, Rodney Antioch, CA District 20 11-12-11	Tsuda, Rufus Honolulu, HI District 17 12-30-11		Meyer, Adeline. Wife of Meyer, Raymond (dec) 12-11-11	Wendel, Eva. Wife of Wendel, John 12-24-11
	Gaspar, Eugene Jr. Honaunau, HI District 17 11-20-11	Veerkamp, Harold La Mesa, CA District 99 12-15-11		Miller, Jeanne. Wife of Miller, Leonard (dec) 11-05-11	White, Renee. Wife of White, William S. 06-11-09
	Gordon, Edward Imlay, NV District 11 06-11-11	Walters, Warren Cottonwood, CA District 70 12-16-11		Raingruber, Christine. Wife of Raingruber, Sidney (dec) 12-22-11	Wilkes, Evette. Wife of Wilkes, Richard 10-10-11
	Hanis, Edward Alameda, CA District 20 11-28-11	Webb, James Livermore, CA District 20 11-30-11			

DISTRICT MEETINGS

All meetings convene at 7 p.m.

MARCH 2012

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

APRIL 2012

No meetings scheduled.

MAY 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

March 2012

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

April 2012

- 4<sup>th</sup> District 11: Elko  
Newmont Mine Meeting: 6 p.m.  
Operating Engineers' Building  
1094 Lamoille Highway, Elko
- 11<sup>th</sup> District 11: Elko  
Construction Meeting: 6 p.m.  
Operating Engineers' Building  
1094 Lamoille Highway, Elko
- 18<sup>th</sup> District 12: Layton (date changed)  
Dinner: 6 p.m.; Meeting: 7 p.m.  
Davis Conference Center  
1651 North 700 West, Layton
- 19<sup>th</sup> District 12: Price (date changed)  
Lunch: 1 p.m.; Meeting: 2 p.m.  
Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites  
838 Westwood Blvd., Price
- 21<sup>st</sup> 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

May 2012

- 2<sup>nd</sup> District 11: Elko  
Newmont Mine Meeting: 6 p.m.  
Operating Engineers' Building  
1094 Lamoille Highway, Elko
- 9<sup>th</sup> District 11: Elko  
Construction Meeting: 6 p.m.  
Operating Engineers' Building  
1094 Lamoille Highway, Elko

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 your district office or 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 January 2012 and have been determined eligible for Honorary Membership effective April 1, 2012.

Mark W. Allen	1528308
District 30: Stockton	
John Baldetta Jr.	0758414
District 99: Out Of Area	
Bruce F. Brumaghim	1697311
District 17: Hawaii	
Jack Burris	1578392
District 99: Out Of Area	
Stephen A. Deily	1712586
District 20: Oakland	
Curtis O. Fifer Sr.	1711183
District 20: Oakland	
Fred Grimshaw	1196434
District 80: Sacramento	
Bret Haney	1692161
District 90: Morgan Hill	
Grant E. Kirkham	1296074
District 99: Out Of Area	
Amado Labasan	1492860
District 17: Hawaii	
Alfred G. Lopez	1628151
District 60: Yuba City	
Charlie V. McGuire	1711189
District 80: Sacramento	
Roland A. Schaffer	1088537
District 11: Nevada	
Tom Slivka	1712699
District 10: Rohnert Park	
Kenneth Tail	1389940
District 99: Out Of Area	
Albert Tamez	1511660
District 90: Morgan Hill	

Service pins

In honor and remembrance of years of service in Local 3, service pins are available to members with 25 or more years of membership. These pins come in five-year increments from 25 through 75 years of service. Please contact your district office to receive your pins. A gallery of some pin recipients is available online at [www.oe3.org](http://www.oe3.org).





## 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

### 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 years.

### New year, new picnics

Eureka District 40: Already occurred  
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  
Oakland District 20: Sunday, June 24  
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

### March District Picnic Details

*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

## 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 38<sup>th</sup> 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 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.)



# Life is all about choices

*Type-1 diabetic leads insulin-free life through diet*

Story by Mandy McMillen, managing editor

***"I knew this was a sinister disease that will shorten your life."***

**T**hirty-three-year member Ford Webster's life sounds familiar to many of us. Working most of his career (17 years) driving a lube truck and running a small shop for T.W. Construction (now Reno-Tahoe Construction), he was so busy that he ignored his stress levels. A "dedicated employee" and a "typical male, with a tendency to think we're invincible," he also ignored any health symptoms, because he didn't have time to deal with them.

But then, unlike most of us, Webster grew so ill in 2008 that he almost went into a coma and nearly died. He was incredibly thirsty and dropped nearly 30 pounds in two weeks. His health practitioner sent him to the emergency room, where his face turned gray. His body was shutting down.

Webster was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes, a condition in which the pancreas produces little or no insulin. Insulin is a hormone needed to allow sugar (glucose) to enter the cells to produce energy. If sugar is not broken down, blood-sugar levels become dangerously high, and fat is used instead of sugar to create energy. As fats are broken down, acids called ketones build up in the bloodstream and are poisonous. This condition is called ketoacidosis, and this is what happened to Webster. He had actually been in ketoacidosis for two weeks before he was hospitalized. To give you an idea, normal, non-fasting blood-sugar levels should be between 80 to 110 mg/dL. Webster's was 841! Normal hemoglobin A1c rates, which determine how much sugar has been staying in the body, should be less than 5.7 percent. Webster's was 13.4 percent! His health numbers were literally off the charts.

While the exact cause of diabetes is yet to be determined, studies suggest a link to environmental factors, diet or infection. Type 1 diabetes is rarer than type 2 diabetes and is usually diagnosed in children, adolescents and young adults. Those affected are advised to lead insulin-dependent lives, but Webster didn't accept this fate.

"I knew this was a sinister disease that will shorten your life," he said. "I also knew I could control this and not need medications." He told his doctor at the time: "I am giving this [the disease] back."

The same year he was diagnosed, Webster retired. He then did more research on the disease and diet's relationship to health than most doctors have done. Today, his levels are healthy, even though he takes no prescription drugs and uses no insulin – something that is unheard of.

Webster believes that stress, environment and poor lifestyle choices are what caused the disease and nearly killed him. "I was a fairly good eater, but I didn't understand the importance

of eating – like the difference between whole carbohydrate grains versus over-processed white bread, which instantly turns to sugar. Most people don't realize how damaging sugar is," he said. "I worked around toxins (cleaned my hands with starter fluid) and ingested them in my foods – nitrates and nitrites."

Webster became an avid food-label-reader and advises his fellow union members to do the same. "If you can't pronounce the name of the stuff [ingredients], don't buy it. Yes, it takes time," he warned. "But it's worth it."

Since his diagnosis, he has only had one relapse. In 2010, his blood-sugar level reached 128 mg/dL. He was able to get it down to 75 mg/dL in 24 hours and re-accessed his diet by having tests done to check for food allergies.

Currently, Webster does not eat sugar or overly processed foods. Instead, he eats lots of steamed, green vegetables, such as asparagus, broccoli and romaine lettuce, and plenty of brightly colored vegetables, such as red peppers. He seasons them with Cholula hot sauce. To satisfy his sugar cravings, which used to be intense, he uses the sugar-substitute Xylitol.

Webster does eat a lot of meat, but he makes sure he knows where it comes from and how it was raised. "Stay away from the huge, mega-farms and corn-fed beef," he advises. "There are more Omega-3s in the tissue of grass-fed beef."

While Webster's diet is not for everyone, he hopes that some of what he does to stay healthy will stick with his union family. He offers an analogy that resonates: "Our bodies are like this bio-energetic machine. Whatever you put into it – this is how the machine runs."

He also explains that unfortunately, our bodies are often attracted to the things we're allergic to – things that can make us the sickest, like alcohol, nicotine or sugar. He used to suffer from depression and blames the condition on his heavy consumption of sugar, which can cause highs and lows in brain chemistry.

"The body begins to crave foods that no longer work for you; these are absorbed by the small intestine, where they stay," he said. "Undigested foods putrify and become particles into the bloodstream."

Yuck!

Webster also touts the benefits of physical activity, as he swims nearly every day. He and his wife, Connemora, work on balance through the art of Jin Shin Jyutsu, which releases tensions thought to create symptoms in the body.

"Manage your health," said Webster. "Drink water instead of soda – our bodies are 70 percent water – and remember: Life is all about choices. We all have choices to make every day."

Which ones will you make?



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: John Deere 450 loader with hydraulic ripper. Serial # T0450BB140132. \$16,000. Also: Ford loader 515. Serial # 567043. Rippers, drag scraper and disc. \$7,000. (916) 487-4846. Reg# 0486295.

FOR SALE: Cement mixer. Portable with wheels. \$100. (916) 487-4846. Reg# 0486295.

FOR SALE: Honda gas engine wheelbarrow type. Double tanks (two small tanks side-by-side). All set up for painting. Double hook-up. \$400. (916) 991-1530. Reg# 0486196.

FOR SALE: 25-foot Bayliner Saratoga Chevy V8 with Volvo Penta outdrive. Trim tabs. Ship-to-shore power. Ship-to-shore radio. Depth finder. Lighted compass. Built-in battery chargers. Twin batteries. Anchor winch. Has cabin with stove, ice box. Table makes into bed. Enclosed bathroom. About 680 hours operating time. Always in covered berth at Clearlake, CA. \$4,500 OBO. (707) 838-2612. Reg# 1225979.

FOR SALE: More Old West magazines: Frontier Times, True West, Real West, etc. All in very good condition. Lots of good historical tales – approximately 70 – \$1.25 each or \$1 each for all. F.O.B. Southern Idaho. (208) 734-5540 or lj3845@gmail.com. Reg# 1121987.

FOR SALE: Bench Rest Rifle Scopes: Leupold 20X – \$500 OBO. Lyman Perma-center 20X – \$400 OBO. Lyman Perma-center 10X – \$375 OBO. All in original boxes and have 1/8 min. dots – no marks on Lymans, some on Leupold. All prices are plus shipping. (208) 734-5540 or lj3845@gmail.com. Reg# 1121987.

FOR SALE: Large collection of 45 RPM records, approximately 2,200. Most in original sleeves. All types of music from the '60s and '70s. In excellent condition. In original boxes. \$1,100 takes all. (530) 223-4388. Reg# 0827031.

FOR SALE: Eaton 205 (red) 90cc. Has 40 hours on it. New. \$800. Also: 1970 Dune Buggy (brown). Very clean upholstery. Street legal. \$5,000. (559) 732-1257. Reg# 2060990.

FOR SALE: 28-foot Gooseneck Car Hauler, 2005. New tires. 14,000 GVW. \$5,000 OBO. (510) 685-8353. Reg# 2324130.

FOR SALE: 1996 Dodge 2500 truck parts. Rear sliding window, tailgate with aluminum diamond plate on inside, set of side mirrors, two hubcaps, seat cover for a full rear seat, brand new still in package. All in good condition. Make offer. (707) 778-3478. Reg# 1212487.

FOR SALE: 25 acres, 3,200-square-foot 3 bd/2 ba home with sun room, closed-in deck. Dishwasher, smooth-top stove, refrigerator, washer and dryer, daylight basement, mud room, fantastic view, 78 Gl. minute in well, 30-by-40 shop and 18-foot side, concrete floor in shop, barn, fence and cross fence, pond, blackberries, raspberries. Worley, Idaho. Owner will finance. Can send pictures. \$300,000. jendavleon@aol.com or (208) 686-0223. Reg# 0883658.

FOR SALE: 1984 Ford 8000 dump truck. 3208 Cat engine, low hours. Five-speed transmission, two-speed differential, two 50-gallon fuel tanks, new batteries, 6-yard dump, two-axle bobtail. Good body and paint. Rock tight. Ready to work. \$6,000, best offer or trade. (530) 824-8105. Ask for Don. Reg# 1087675.

FOR SALE: Set of five Pro Comp Polished Aluminum Rims, 17x9, 5 on 5 lugs. \$500 for set. Call (775) 857-1220 after 6 p.m. or e-mail mausethj@att.net. Reg# 2036499.

FOR SALE: Men's suede leather jacket, long fringe on sleeves, front and back yokes, shorter fringe on front pockets. Size 38, three-button front closure, lapel style, fully lined. \$100. Call (775) 857-1220 after 6 p.m. or e-mail mausethj@att.net. Reg# 2036499.

FOR RENT: 2 bd/2 ba ocean-front condos in Maui. Both units are right on the ocean at Sugar Beach in Maalaea Bay. Full kitchens, laundry. Sleeps six. (707) 480-4121. Reg# 0782777.

FOR SALE: Condo in Maui, 2 bd/2 ba. Ready to move in or use as a vacation rental. Comes furnished. Ocean-front unit. (707) 747-6727 or vpd412@aol.com. Reg# 0782777.

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: 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. (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: 2003 30-foot Wellcraft Martinique boat with 2007 Nextrial trailer. 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. 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. (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. Hot tub, detached garage and pole barn with power, water, RV storage. (509) 486-0830. Reg# 1770647.

FOR SALE: 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.



# MAINTAINING PUBLIC SAFETY

Engineers News recently spent a morning with Caltrans maintenance crews in Colusa, Calif. This is just one of the many kinds of calls they receive.



Marysville Tree Maintenance Crew member Joe Stevens trims the first of three overgrown elm trees causing problems for local businesses along Hwy. 20 in Colusa. Leaves and debris that collect on roofs can create pools of standing water, which causes rot and leaks.



Crewmember Ed Custer feeds branches into the chipper. "I like doing what I'm doing," he said.



From left: Steve Lowell and Neal Skadden blow debris off the road and away from traffic.



Colusa Maintenance Crew members, from left: Chris Meredith, Steve Hyde, Ed Long and Brett Hord, repair a buckled sidewalk, where roots pushed the sidewalk up and created a tripping hazard.