

OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL UNION NO. 3

ENGINEERS

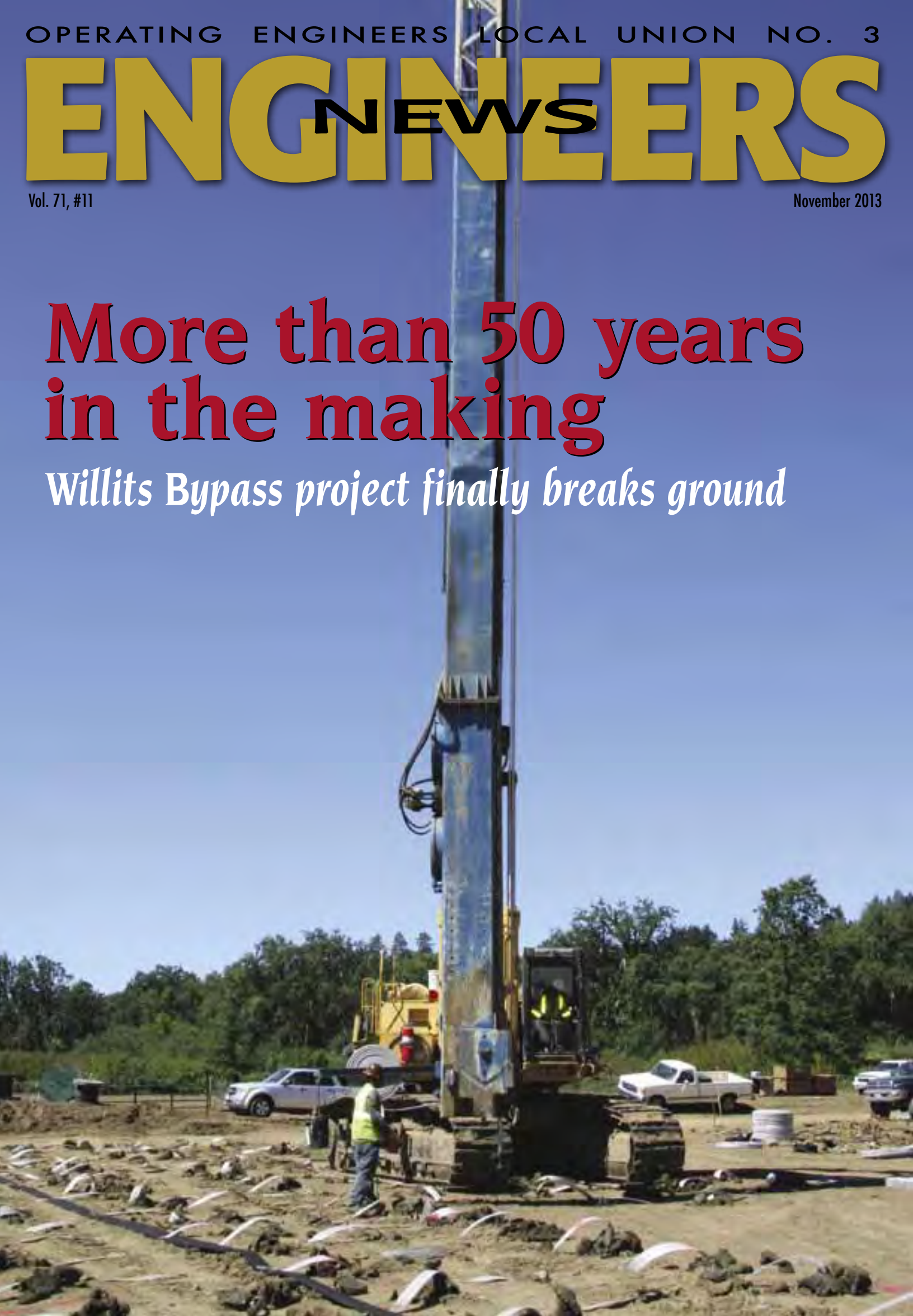
NEWS

Vol. 71, #11

November 2013

More than 50 years in the making

Willits Bypass project finally breaks ground





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For The Good & Welfare

By Russ Burns, business manager

Remember the important things this holiday season

Even though this is not a big election year, there is no shortage of political talk and events. Big things happen in our industry because of politics. Don't be the last one to know. Be the first to inform others! (You can find the union's endorsements for several local races on page 14.)

Right-to-work (for less) supporters are championing their backward message throughout our nation, but they received a major setback recently when a superior court judge ruled that the right-to-work law passed in Indiana was unconstitutional. If such a law can be overturned once, it can happen again. We must start to reverse this epidemic, and the victory for labor in Indiana is an example of how to do that, as Local 150 filed a lawsuit in the state and won the case.

Speaking of laws, as many of you know, our country is going through a major health-care overhaul because of the passage of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), which went into effect last month. Most of us are confused about what the new law will mean, because even its experts are confused. Some hefty taxes may be waged against multi-employer health-and-welfare plans like ours. But rest assured. We are working very closely with the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) to fight a mandate asking us to pay taxes just because we have a solid plan in place. This doesn't seem right, and we won't stand for it.

By now you have received a letter from the Trust Fund stating that information will be coming to you from the federal government that explains how you can shop for health-care coverage. The letter also explains that because of the quality of the health-care plan already in place for you as an Operating Engineer, *you don't need to shop for a new plan*. If you have any questions about this, please don't hesitate to call the Trust Fund Office at (800) 251-5014 or the Fringe Benefits Service Center at (800) 532-2105.

We are also working with the International on securing the Keystone XL Pipeline, a massive job-creating project for our industry that will revolutionize North America's infrastructure.

California was recently awarded \$155 million in transportation funding after the state met all of the federal government's project deadlines. (Too bad the government can't meet *its* deadlines!) This is obviously good news, but it hasn't moved the state's High-Speed Rail project any further along. For every day that passes without the project, the Central Valley suffers from slow employment growth. Why the rail project's naysayers can't see how their opposition is crippling their economy, I can't say! As we learn more, so will you.

Despite a few setbacks, California's overall construction economy is improving in large part due to the housing recovery that started in August. Gov. Jerry Brown also recently signed a law making California the first state to reach a \$10 per-hour minimum wage that will go into effect gradually between now and 2016. Livable wage is an important element for all middle-class people, and we applaud this decision.

In Hawaii, there is close to half a billion dollars in private-work projects. In Utah, the work season has turned around after a tough start, thanks to some pipeline and refinery work and, unfortunately, the Kennecott landslide. In Nevada, most of the mines will work through the winter and there are plenty of projects on the books for the start of the year. (This is true for nearly all of our districts.)

As we enter the holiday season, don't forget what matters most – family, friends and the time we have to spend with them. Life is short! Let the little things go. There is plenty to be thankful for.

Stay safe, and keep in communication with your union hall.

From the Archives

This month, 52 years ago

In the November 1961 *Engineers News*, Local 3 operators were photographed raising “some of the heaviest precast concrete-wall panels ever used.” It was quite the operation, as two heavy-duty truck cranes lifted the 45-ton panels using 12 pick-up points on each panel. Instead of two cranes working on the same spreader bar, the 30-foot boom of one of the cranes actually lifted the boom tip of another crane to get the job done.

Remember, this was back before Woodstock, before president John F. Kennedy was assassinated and before astronaut Neil Armstrong ever set foot on the moon. It was a time when Local 3's Swap Shop section included an ad for a 35 mm *film* camera and you could *write* to members about homes for sale in Utah and California!

In other words, a lot has changed in the last five decades!

Today, Crane Rep. Jim Jacobs said operators easily lift panels that are over 100 tons each and can move them four stories high!

We applaud the operators who got this job done more than 50 years ago as well as the current members who continue to break boundaries.

Keep your eyes peeled for more photos like this, as we prepare to celebrate the union's 75th anniversary next year!



In November 1961, Local 3 operators use two heavy-duty truck cranes to erect “some of the heaviest precast concrete-wall panels ever used,” at 45 tons each, on a jobsite in Davis, Calif.

Report & Review

By Carl Goff, president



A few answers

As your elected president, it is my job to take note of what you're all thinking or wondering about regarding your union. It is also my job to provide you with answers to these concerns.

Since I have been around awhile, I have a pretty good sense of what matters most – your Pension. This union's Pension is also extremely important to me and to all of your officers. It is one of the greatest aspects of this organization – that we provide our Retirees with a respectable retirement after they have put in their time. It is precious, and we protect it with everything we have.

Because of its importance, the Pension comes up again and again at our meetings, and I get phone calls about it on a weekly basis.

These inquiries increased after a recent *Wall Street Journal* article painted a negative picture of multi-employer pension plans like ours and claimed that a new proposal was on the table in Washington, D.C. to reduce retired members' pensions. I addressed those concerns in my column last May but want to re-visit the topic. Our Pension Plan is not among the plans to be dealt with regarding this proposal. No law is going to undo any guarantees to our current Retirees' pensions. Period. (If you're interested in learning more about this legislation, visit www.solutionsnotbailouts.com.)

I also receive calls from members wondering why our Pension Plan is not doing better than it is, given the fact that the market seems to be turning around (for now) and that work hours are up. Are we investing appropriately? Why are we still in the red zone?

I could bombard you with actuarial charts and graphs explaining future fund outcomes based on projected assumptions of work hours and market value, but I would prefer to explain it to you in simpler terms.

First of all, our Pension Fund is slowly but surely coming out of the hole that was created thanks to the one-two punch in 2008, when the stock market lost \$1.2 trillion in market value in one day (the single greatest point-loss in history) and our work hours declined by more than 6 million from the previous year.

Second of all, in spite of the major losses realized in 2008, we have continued to make our financial obligations. (Since we were elected in 2006, we have published the financials from the union's Pension Fund and General Fund quarterly along with the Health and Welfare disbursements semi-annually.) Unlike the federal government, we can't print money or lower interest rates. We are good on our monies owed, which include what we pay out every year to our Retirees and vendors. Since 2008, we have paid out more than \$1.6 billion from the Fund. Because of this, it will take that much longer to make up for the major losses.

Third, thanks to some recent Plan changes, the Pension Fund is on the path to recovery. (These changes are available on the Members Only website at www.oe3.org.) Eventually, we will be back in the green zone again, but until then, I ask that you be patient and rest assured that as the market continues to slowly improve along with our work hours, we will fill the hole created by hard times. As you know, the Great Recession came about because of years of bad business practices by lenders offering risky loans, etc. We didn't get into this mess overnight, and we won't get out of it overnight either! Since 2008, we have put more than \$2 billion back into the Fund (that's \$400 million in surplus), and over time, these gains will be more fully realized.

Please enjoy the upcoming holidays, and stay tuned for more information about the upcoming celebration of this great union's 75th anniversary next year. We have come a long way, and we have a bright future ahead.

What's for lunch?

By David Jake, business representative

There is a group of Local 3 Unit 12 Craft Maintenance truck drivers that works for the Department of Education and is responsible for carrying out the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA's) school breakfast and lunch program. This program provides students in participating school districts throughout California with fresh fruits and vegetables, meat and canned goods.

These drivers are assigned a tractor and trailer that can range from 48 to 32 feet in length and are responsible for keeping them in operational order. These drivers are also responsible for making arrangements with the schools for deliveries, planning the route they will take and offloading the commodities once they reach their destination. When the drivers make a delivery run, which could be a one-day trip or take multiple days, they ensure that the trailer is loaded in such a manner that the commodities for the first school are the first to be offloaded from the trailer.

Local 3 and Unit 12 appreciate their hard work and effort to provide food for all the schools that are part of the program. Thank you.



From left: Unit 12 truck drivers Jim Haggard and Les Stilwell.



Unit 12 member Matt Hartigan stands on the lift gate with a pallet jack.



From left: Unit 12 truck drivers Steve Whaley and Mario Penagos.



Talking with the Treasurer

By Steve Ingersoll, treasurer

Nevada apprenticeship has come a long way

The apprenticeship agreement for the state of Nevada was signed by governor Grant Sawyer in August 1965. It was a great day for Local 3 and our efforts to raise the standards of training for our District 11 members. Training in Nevada has gradually evolved from that day forward.

In the beginning, the Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC) actively arranged training for our members with the



Members take a class at the Lockwood Landfill in 1998.

resources they had on hand at the time. Training was held at employers' work sites, at the Hall and in parking lots. Every year since then, our training has improved. Classes were held at the Rancho Murieta Training Center (RMTC) for a short time, and eventually, apprentices and

journey-level operators were sent to the Utah training site in the winter months, but in March 1998, the Trustees decided to start Nevada's own training center in the Reno area. A Case 580 backhoe was purchased, and Local 3 began acquiring government equipment from sister locals and its other training sites. That same year, the first classes were offered on leased space at the Lockwood Landfill. By that time, Local 3 had a dozer, loader, backhoe and crane. Space and conveniences were limited at the landfill, so Local 3 continued looking for a permanent site.

That site was found in May 2002, when 153 acres were purchased near Wadsworth. The property needed many improvements, but through volunteers and apprenticeship classes, the site was developed. Year after year, improvements are still made, not just to the site but also to the equipment and class curriculums.

Currently, the Nevada training center has 43 pieces of equipment for training apprentices and upgrading the skills of our journey-level operators! Local 3 offers classroom training followed by hands-on or practical training in Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA); gradesetting; GPS; crane handsignal and rigging; scraper; loader; Commercial Driver's License (CDL); basic welding; dozer; natural-gas safety; Hazmat; Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 10 and 30; first aid/CPR; National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO); and forklift safety. In addition, the JAC recently purchased an excavator and loader simulator, which help members get a feel of the controls before actually getting on the equipment.

The program has continued to expand by offering training in eastern Nevada, including MSHA, OSHA, crane handsignal and rigging, first aid/CPR, gradesetting and GPS.

As co-chair of the Training Fund and a member of the JAC for 16 years, I can see firsthand how far this program has come. I have seen many journey-level operators and apprentices take advantage of our training opportunities, as I served as the district rep. of the Nevada Hall for many years. I am proud of our progress and look forward to helping the program grow even more in the future.

EQUIPMENT + EDUCATION = PAYCHECK

Graduating from Local 3's Apprenticeship Program eventually pays off. Just ask the recent graduates from Nevada. On Oct. 4 in Reno, the Northern Nevada Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC) presented 15 apprentices with a certificate of completion, a belt buckle and a \$50 Visa gift card donated from OE Federal Credit Union.

Heavy Duty Repairman (HDR) Tyrel Koon, Construction Equipment Operator (CEO) Baily Kight and Crane Operator Jesse Stretch were Apprentices of the Year and received special trophies for their accomplishments.

Other awards included Employer of the Year, which was given to N.A. Degerstrom, Inc., and Supervisor of the Year, which went to Dan Openshaw with Ames Construction.

In today's tough economy, apprentices praised the program as a way to get started in the work force.

"I went in straight out of high school, because it was the best job opportunity I could find," said graduate Gary Hauser. "I was going to go to UTL and spend \$50,000 to do the same thing. Now, I'm a journeyman mechanic. It was the best way to go."

Others, like Stretch, wouldn't have known about the program, if it wasn't for a family member's unionism. Stretch's father, Local 3 Retiree Bob Stretch, encouraged him to join Local 3's Apprenticeship Program, and it was a great move.

"My dad took me down and got me signed up, and a few months later, I was in Elko working around cranes," said the Apprentice of the Year.

"He was a natural, and I could see a lot of potential in him," said his father.

Graduate Jacob Belloli was also influenced by a Local 3 family member.

"My grandpa was in Local 3, and I wanted to be a mechanic, so I thought it was a good place to start," he said.

Graduates can now begin their careers! Congratulations to all the honorees and thanks to the following employers for donating parts and/or equipment:

Peterson Power Systems – 3406B truck engine

N.A. Degerstrom, Inc. – 773B haul truck

Granite Construction – 1997 IH mechanic's truck

Q&D Construction – articulated truck tires



Apprentice of the Year Tyrel Koon, his wife, Sarah, and daughter, Elijah.



Chad Mitchell receives a belt buckle from Business Manager Russ Burns.



Cody Powning visits with Vice President Dan Reding during Nevada's apprenticeship graduation in Reno.



Baily Kight says a few words after receiving his Apprentice of the Year award.



Gary Hauser is presented with his certificate of completion by Jim New from Truckee Meadows Community College.



From left: Mitchell Murphy is greeted by District Rep. Rod Young and Training Administrator Terry Picard.



Levi Romero shows off his new belt buckle with daughter Lea.



Apprentice of the Year Jesse Stretch with wife Emily and father Bob.

From left: Graduates Jacob Belloli and Justin Green.



Graduate Chris Haney and wife Dian.

Crushing it!

Story and photos by Jamie Johnston, associate editor

Like mayonnaise, sour cream and cigarettes, work in the Redding area has been light this year, with just a few large projects keeping members busy. In times like these, Local 3 members rely heavily on area shops, plants and quarries, where they can find steady work sometimes year-round. Crystal Creek Aggregate is one that has delivered!

The signatory company has provided work opportunities for Local 3 members for more than two decades, and before that, owner/39-year member Jerry Comingdeer and his father, the original owner, did so with Crystal Creek Construction, first becoming signatory with Local 3 in 1978.

Needless to say, Crystal Creek Aggregate has been a part of many jobs in the area over the years, from big Department of Transportation (DOT) projects that require specific compliance specifications to private homeowner's backyard upgrades. Before the recession hit in 2008, the quarry was supplying material to a lot of local subdivisions, but like most places in the country, those came to a halt a few years ago. In the meantime, the small crew has been busy with public-works projects, but things may be changing once again. Currently, the plant is preparing base rock for a small subdivision project nearby.

Operators Steve McBroom, Bryan Morris, Lester Ralston, Martin Cenicerros and first-step Apprentice Cameron Brown are currently producing about 1,500 tons of material in an eight-hour day – that's about half of what the company did in its heyday.

Though times have been tough for construction nationwide, McBroom, who also serves as a working foreman onsite, was never worried.

"We're actually one of the busiest ones [quarries] in the North State," he said, "and we're a pretty small operation."

Employed by Crystal Creek Aggregate for almost 17 years, McBroom said he's always had work since his first day on the job – July 12, 1997.

"My first load was rip-rap, and I'd never loaded rock in all my life," said McBroom, who ended up loading trucks for about nine years before trying something new. "As far as being able to weld and [work as a] mechanic – that keeps me going."

What's the company's secret to making it through the tough times?

"I think it's quality control on our materials," he said. "We have some real good granite. We got a really good product, and, being a smaller outfit, we're able to sustain what we have."



Loader Operator Martin Cenicerros works with some of the 1,500 tons of material the plant will produce that day.



Longtime member Jerry Comingdeer.



Haul Truck Operator Lester Ralston.

Though Crystal Creek Aggregate doesn't exactly compete with the "big dogs" for huge projects, McBroom said he's worked on some pretty impressive ones.

"We supplied Iron Mountain with a lot of filler sand. We've supplied quite a bit of rip-rap for the Buckhorn project," he said of the Hwy. 299 project nearby. "Spring Creek Dam for Iron Mountain – that was a big one."

The other half of the secret: "We supplement with small jobs," he said. "We supply a lot of material to Shasta County, the Bureau of Reclamation, the Bureau of Land Management and the National Park Service."

A big job that's on everyone's radar that could really impact the quarry is the rising of Shasta Dam, which has been rumored to happen for years. If it ever does get underway, Crystal Creek Aggregate is in a good spot, close to the site with local material.

Until then, the quarry is doing what it always does – providing work and a little stress-relief!

"Every time I want to relieve that stress, I go beat on a rock or something, because that takes your mind off your troubles," said Comingdeer.

Local 3 appreciates its many material producers, especially during times like these, as well as our signatory companies that use their services.

Thank you

Local 3's rock, sand and gravel plants play an important part in the union's success. In good times and in bad, many have provided steady hours for members as they produce the material needed to get any job done.

District 70's other signatory rock, sand and gravel plants include:

J.F. Shea Co., Inc.

- Aggregate Products
- Fawndale Rock and Asphalt
- Siskiyou Asphalt

Tullis, Inc.

- Cottonwood Creek Sand and Gravel
- Northstate Asphalt
- Shasta Ranch Aggregates

Stimpel-Wiebelhaus

- Mountain Gate Quarry

Custom Crushing Industries, Inc.

We thank you all.



While Excavator Operator Steve McBroom fills a haul truck operated by first-step Apprentice Cameron Brown, Loader Operator Bryan Morris feeds the jaw crusher with raw material.



Public Employee News

By Rick Davis, director

The fight goes on

A recent article in *The Sacramento Bee* gave fuel to the fire for more pension reform in California. It talked about the sharp increase in retirement benefits for public employees over the last 14 years. The increase is a result of Senate Bill (SB) 400, enacted in 1999, which enhanced pension benefits for public employees across the board, with significant enhancements for public safety.

The article stated that according to California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) data from the last 14 years, pension payments went from \$1,770 to \$4,978 for firefighters and from \$3,633 to \$7,418 for highway-patrol officers. I know that many county and city fire and peace-officer units also went to the same pension formulas in that time period. The article stated that miscellaneous-employee-pension payments rose from \$1,902 in 1999 to \$2,884 in 2012. (If you think that \$2,884 is an extravagant pension to live on, I'll argue with you forever.)

What has happened and is happening is public entities and politicians are doing everything possible to cut pay and benefits to public employees. The best examples of this are in San Jose and San Diego. Measure B in San Jose has significantly cut benefits to public employees and caused many of them to seek employment elsewhere. It also devastated the police department. Politicians have blamed the problems on unions, when they should have taken the blame themselves. OE3 is doing everything possible to fight Measure B, and it will be a long battle. Proposition B in San Diego has forced employees into a defined-contribution plan similar to a 401(k). Do not think that this could not happen in a city near you. There are many politicians and pension-reform advocates who continue to try to find a way to reform public-employee pensions, not only for new employees, which was successfully done on Jan. 1, 2013 with the Pension Reform Act, but for current and retired ones. OE3 is fighting for our members who work for the city of San Jose and Alameda County over pension-reform issues. So far, the California Supreme Court has ruled that public employees who contributed to their retirement have a constitutional right to be protected from unreasonable impairment of their pensions. But what is considered unreasonable?

Pension-reform advocates and politicians are meeting right now on ways to define this. The payouts that are just beginning as a result of SB 400 reflect exactly what it's going to cost taxpayers over the next two decades in pension enhancements. The effects of the pension reform that passed on Jan. 1, 2013 will not be seen for decades, when those employees begin drawing less benefits. It is important that employees who have the enhancements given from 1999 to Dec. 31, 2012 share the cost of paying for an enhanced pension. If we don't do something at the bargaining table, an anti-union measure could be forced on us at the ballot box and through the courts. That is the last thing we want – just ask the public employees in San Jose, San Diego and the bankrupt cities of San Bernardino and Stockton!

As always, be careful out there, enjoy your family and friends and never take yourself too seriously.

Pleasantly surprised

By Darren Semore, business representative

I am a new Local 3 public-employee business representative out of Stockton District 30. I have been a Local 3 member for more than 26 years. Before coming on staff, I was a police officer and retired as a sergeant after 26 years in Oakdale.

I am currently assigned to represent 14 different bargaining units, and let me tell you, it has been a wild ride! I have been dealing with complaints, grievances and negotiations. For the most part, our members are trying to survive these tough times but are facing challenges with the cities, counties and districts they work in.

So far, most of my dealings with employers have been negative, so I was pleasantly surprised when our members from Ripon Public Works told me they did not want to be unfair with the city, because the city has always treated them fairly and honestly.

A few weeks after this discussion, the Ripon city administrator called me and said he wanted to discuss our current Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). I assumed the worst and immediately called my stewards and asked if they knew why the city administrator wanted to meet. They had no idea.

After we met, I quickly learned that the city administrator had a surplus in his budget and wanted to put some of the money into capital improvements, put some of it into the reserve fund and give some of it back to the employees. He said he wanted to help our employees, because they had helped the city during these hard financial times and had been working twice as hard with less pay. He wanted to give them a raise, continue to pay 100 percent of their medical coverage through the current contract and reinstate the sick-leave-buy-back program. He wanted nothing in return. I was shocked.

It was great to see what can be accomplished when two sides agree and work together to get something done. The Ripon Public Works administration and our members had their eyes on the big picture, and consequently, both sides won. But the biggest winners were the city and the citizens of Ripon.

I'm looking forward to having a long and successful career on staff serving our membership. If you need any assistance or have questions, please feel free to give me a call at (209) 628-7197 or e-mail me at dsemore@oe3.org.



From left: Ripon Public Works members Jim Bodeson and James Bell.

CalPERS' health care – bait and switch

By Art W. Frolli, business representative

California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) offers three separate health-care plans to our members – Care, Choice and Select. Care is the most comprehensive and expensive plan. Choice provides mid-range coverage and costs less than Care but more than Select, which has traditionally been the least expensive. While providing adequate coverage, the biggest issue with the Select plan has been a shortage of providers in the North State and other rural areas. Therefore, most members chose the Choice plan. Last year, this changed when CalPERS actively expanded its Select providers.

Since salary increases were few and far between last year, I looked at this as a way of putting some money back into the pockets of our members who had been paying a portion of their health-care premiums. Once I confirmed that there were adequate providers for the Select plan, I recommended our members consider enrolling in Select rather than Choice.

2013 rates per month

Choice

- Employee: \$649.78
- Employee + 1: \$1,299.56
- Employee + Family: \$1,689.43

Select

- Employee: \$474.61
- Employee + 1: \$949.22
- Employee + Family: \$1,233.99

Net cost savings of these plan premiums:

- Employee: \$175.17
- Employee + 1: \$350.34
- Employee + Family: \$455.44

Since employers pay their portion based on the CalPERS' Choice amounts, our members were able to put all or some of this savings directly into their pockets, depending on the amount matched by the employer. (This amount varies from employer to employer and is dependent upon the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the municipality and Operating Engineers Local 3.)

Unfortunately, what seemed like a good deal was short-lived and has left me feeling duped. The 2014 premium rates are out. CalPERS' Choice costs went down by 1.34 percent and CalPERS' Select costs increased by 29.37 percent, virtually wiping away all of the savings our members saw the previous year.

2014 rates per month

Choice

- Employee: \$641.08
- Employee + 1: \$1,282.16
- Employee + Family: \$1,666.81

Select

- Employee: \$613.99
- Employee + 1: \$1,227.98
- Employee + Family: \$1,596.37

Even with the government-mandated changes placed on health-care providers, I find it difficult to justify these drastic increases on the part of CalPERS. This practice looks a lot like the classic bait and switch. I will keep you posted on any more updates as they become available.

Virtue and the return of the multi-year contract

By Scott Fullerton, business representative

To those who live outside the wonderful state of Nevada, “Nevada” and “virtue” are not necessarily considered synonymous, as many of the reasons people travel here are based on the exciting, neon-lit, 24-hour lifestyle they imagine. The problem is that they have never seen the state for what it actually is or the people who work hard to maintain and protect the quality of life for those who reside in or visit its communities. These people are the public employees who are represented by Local 3. They are skilled and dedicated but have struggled to maintain their quality of life because of how the economy has affected their contracts.

Nevertheless, Nevada's public employees have been patient. (If patience is a virtue, these employees are saints!) Of the 18 contracts up since January, only five were settled prior to their expiration. Five negotiations were with contracts that were still open from the previous year. It was a challenge to get everyone on the same page and schedule. These employees held strong and persevered. They understood that they had an uphill battle, and they vowed to remain patient.

Did their patience pay off? In almost all cases it did. Sometimes it helped them avoid the cuts that still plague some agencies. Most employees received an increase to their current contract, while others saw the return of previous concessions. They may not have gotten all they wanted, but they made progress.

Other challenges they face are year-to-year negotiating and whether they will actually be working under a contract. Of the 18 contracts being negotiated this year, 13 received multi-year terms. These employees will be able to catch their breath and take some comfort in knowing that next year is resolved. For the first time in more than two years, two of the agencies will actually get to work under a contract that is in effect.

None of this could have been possible without the members who gave their time and input in negotiations for their respective bargaining units. I thank each one of you:

Kathy Baker and Eve Daz – Elko Central Dispatch Administrative Authority (CDAA); Laronda Atchison and Marcie Compau – Churchill County Dispatchers (CCD); James Cork – Churchill County Mosquito, Vector and Weed Control District (CCMVWD); Steve Wilkinson – Carlin City Employees; Pat Stork and Brian Cooper – Ely Firefighters; Dave Berky and Ed Bell – Ely City Employees; Angel Cardenas, Tony Cantwell and Damon Kuskie – Humboldt County Law Enforcement Association (LEA); Nate Carmichael, Mike Stephens and Phil Dickerman – Pershing County LEA; Don Prince, Lori Calkins and Reita Newgard – Lander County; Alex Rangel, Gary Campbell and John Rochester – Lander County LEA; Tammy Burden, Adeceli Stephens and Joseph Jones – Lander County Sheriff's Office; Jerry Munk and Brian Green – Lovelock Meadows Water District (LMWD); Mike Bailey, Lori Howard and Maurice Holmes – City of Sparks Non-Supervisors; Larry Kolstrup, Nancy Owens and Dave Brandt – City of Sparks Supervisors; Mikey Whitaker – Incline Village General Improvement District (IVGID) Finance and Accounting; Don Hollingsworth and Jeff Bendorf – IVGID Non-Supervisors; Bob Lochridge and Dave Jenks – IVGID Supervisors; and Harvey Johnson – IVGID Superintendents.

I ask that you all be careful, stay strong and fight the good fight. There will be more battles ahead of us, and I know you will be up to the challenge.



Credit Union

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

Manage debt this holiday season

Fall is here, and the holidays are right around the corner. This time of year seems to be the most stressful, but it is also a time when many gather together and enjoy the important things in life, like family. Your family is what comes first, and the holidays are a great time of year to be reminded of that. Likewise, you are a family of union brothers and sisters to us. As we create products and services, it is always with you in mind. We have a variety of options that can help you this holiday season:

Budgeting. Holiday spending can be difficult to manage. If you are in need of a little help, we offer a *free* financial-services program, Balance. This can help you manage your holiday – or everyday – spending and get you on the right path to mindful spending and savings habits. For more information, visit our website at www.oefcu.org.

Holiday loans. If you are looking to make a big purchase or you just want a little extra help this holiday season, OE Federal has you covered with our holiday loans. They can help with gifts, parties, travel or anything else you like.

Credit cards. Did you know that OE Federal offers low-rate credit cards? You can even earn rewards with our Visa Steel Rewards credit card, which is a convenient way to make your purchases or have as a backup in case of an emergency.

Surcharge-free ATMs. While you're out and about, remember that we offer more ATMs than the big banks! Through our ATM networks, we offer more than 60,000 ATMs nationwide – just look for the Co-op or Allpoint logos. To locate your nearest ATM or branch, visit us online or use your mobile app to find us even faster.

Banking on the go. Do you enjoy all the benefits of Mobile Banking? You're about to like them even more with Mobile Deposit. You will soon be able to snap a picture of a check and deposit it in your OE Federal account through your Smartphone. It is not here yet, but look for more information as we begin 2014.

This holiday season, we are grateful for you. Without you, there is no Credit Union. Every decision we make is in the best interests of our loyal family of members. Thank you for choosing OE Federal as your financial institution. If you are not currently a member or you are and one of your immediate family members wants to join, call (800) 877-4444 or visit us online or at any local branch to learn more.



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3. **Text Banking*** – Send us a text command and we'll text you back.
4. **Mobile Deposit* Coming in 2014** – Snap a picture of your check and it will be deposited into your account.

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Rancho Murieta Training Center for apprentice to journey-level operators

By Tammy Castillo, director of apprenticeship

Meet your RMTc instructors

The Rancho Murieta Training Center (RMTc) instructors are well-equipped to train our future Operating Engineers, and they don't take this task lightly.

"The future of the Operating Engineers lays in the hands of these great apprentices," said Crane Instructor Mark Coumbs. "I'm thankful to be a part of their training and look forward to seeing their growth. These apprentices are an investment to me!"

Don't hesitate to say hello if you see these instructors around. Their diverse backgrounds and experience make them experts in their respective fields.



Doug Albright, Construction Equipment Operator (CEO) instructor
Background: Army equipment operator, CEO



Jenny Crist, CEO instructor
Background: Former Laborer, gradesetter, CEO



Jim Baldridge, CEO instructor
Background: Land surveyor, gradesetter, CEO



Greg Gasaway, master mechanic/equipment manager/HDR instructor
Background: Lube tech, mechanic, welder



Rodney Buck, Heavy Duty Repair (HDR) instructor
Background: Farming, mining clay, CEO



Billy Neely, field foreman/CEO instructor
Background: Farming, CEO



Mark Coumbs, Certified Crane Operator (CCO) instructor
Background: Crane operator



Rob Sharples, CEO instructor
Background: CEO

One of our own attends National AFL-CIO Convention

By Jamie Johnston, associate editor

All District 04 Apprentice Sabrina Martin was initially looking for was an easy summer job, so she joined Local 3 and became a parts runner when she was just 19 years old. About five years later, that job has snowballed into a promising career as an operator, and just a few months ago, she represented the union on an international level!

Martin was one of only a few apprentices who were invited from just a few locals to attend the National AFL-CIO Convention held this year in Los Angeles. She joined Business Manager Russ Burns, International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) General President James Callahan, AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka and thousands of other labor leaders from across the country – and a few from outside the U.S. – to discuss various aspects of trade unionism.

"It's an honor," said Martin, who is currently working on the I-580 widening job in Livermore for O.C. Jones. "I was surprised it was me."

We're not so much.

The second-generation Operating Engineer – her father, uncle, two brothers and brother-in-law are also Local 3 members – is a hard worker, regularly volunteers with the Voice of the Engineer (VOTE) program and attends her quarterly District Meetings.

For that, she was chosen to attend the event, and ironically, doing so gave her a better understanding of why it's so important.

"It really gives me a respect for the union," she said. "Someone in the field, I have a new perspective about what they [labor leaders] do."

She was especially impressed with Callahan, calling him "a very straight-forward person," and was amazed at the solidarity between the different locals and crafts, especially when it came to the big issues, like fighting the hefty penalties that could be imposed by the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

"I felt like it just showed unity through unions as a whole, instead of just one. ... I've never seen that on that level," she said. "It was good. It was a lot of fun. It was a good experience for me."

Burns also enjoyed the convention and was impressed with Martin.

"I couldn't have been prouder if it was one of my own children," he said.

We'll surely see more of this young operator.



Fifth-step Apprentice Sabrina Martin changed out of her workboots and into heels to meet with AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka, right, and Business Manager Russ Burns, above, at the National AFL-CIO Convention in Los Angeles.





ATPA

By Bob Miller, ATPA senior account executive

The importance of work hours

Business Manager Russ Burns, the officers and the Trustees continually stress how important “man hours” are to the health of the various Trust Funds and to individual members themselves. Simply put, investment returns and hourly benefit contributions add money to the Funds, while costs subtract from reserves and deplete Fund balances. The Trustees’ goal is to have a positive cash flow, build reserves and improve benefits for the membership.

Pension

When the recession hit in 2008, we experienced a large uptick in attendance at Pre-Retiree Meetings and in Pension applications. I remember a number of members telling me their employment situations looked dire for the next several years, and since they were eligible to retire, they wanted to do so. This gave them a guaranteed income and continuing benefits as opposed to a “maybe” in the field. It also reduced Trust Fund contributions and generated additional Pension Fund expenses.

Now, the opposite is happening. At district visits we have spoken to many long-term members who were not Pension-eligible a few years ago during the downturn and consequently took withdrawals. They are now flocking back as work is booming. This means more hours and money coming into

the Pension Trust Fund and fewer new retirements.

On an individual basis, more work hours equate to a bigger Pension. Remember that 1,000 hours equals one Pension credit (the maximum for a calendar year), but you earn contributions toward your Pension on *all* hours reported. If you contribute 2,000 hours, you still get one credit but you double the Pension contribution.

Health and Welfare

Several years ago, I spoke with a member in Burlingame District 01 who said, “I have been working 60-plus hours weekly for so long I have had no chance for even a physical checkup or dental exam. Now I can get that done plus get my knee and shoulder looked at, because there is no work for me.” Multiply this by a good part of the Local 3 membership, and you can imagine how the Trust outflow versus inflow was impacted. Existing hour banks went down, very little new money came in from contributions and Fund payouts skyrocketed.

Again, the opposite is occurring now. Hour banks have been depleted, reducing Fund expenses. Contributions are up because work hours are much higher. Members are once again building hour banks, which are designed to protect their Health and Welfare benefits in exactly these situations by providing a

reserve for when it is needed most. As the Burlingame District member said to me, “I’m not working now, so I have no money for Health and Welfare. Thank God for my hour bank!”

We can all be thankful that the work situation is much better, hours are on the rise, members are once again pulling in great paychecks and, above all, Local 3 has healthy, well-managed Trust Funds to protect our families!

ATPA district visit schedule

NOVEMBER

- 5 Rohnert Park
- 6 Eureka
- 12 Burlingame
- 13 Oakland
- 14 Fairfield
- 19 Redding*
- 20 Yuba City*
- 21 Sacramento
- 26 Stockton
- 27 Fresno
- 29 Morgan Hill

* No district visits for Redding or Yuba City, due to Retiree Association Meetings.

After this month, there will be no more district visits this year. Please call the Trust Fund Office at (800) 251-5014 if you need more assistance, and we will see you in the districts again starting in January 2014.

Retiree Post

Retiree and wife live the good life

If it wasn’t for the Operating Engineers, District 90 Retiree Edward Valdez might still be saddling horses on a ranch, since that’s what he grew up doing.

He also worked for a paper company in Hollister at a job he hated so much that his wife of 64 years, Leona, finally said he should quit and look for something else.

That “something else” was joining the Operating Engineers 42 years ago and working for Hillsdale Rock for nearly all of his career.

“Best thing I ever did,” he said. “Operating Engineers has done so much for me.”

His wife agrees.

“It was the best thing that ever happened to us in our married life,” she said. “We afforded a place.”

The two are still living the good life, they said, since they have never had to pay for a pair of glasses and can’t believe how great Local 3’s Health and Welfare and Pension are.

“We can’t believe it; we’re set,” Leona said. “There are so many perks that come with being in the union.”

Edward has been retired for nearly 25 years and still plays golf about once a week “with his old buddies,” said Leona.

They are also fully devoted to their two children, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

“Ed is shy,” said Leona. “Me, I speak up.”

Good thing she did 42 years ago!





Fringe Benefits
By Charlie Warren, director

Your vision plan

Your vision-care benefits cover you and your eligible dependents for regular examinations, eyeglass lenses and frames and contact lenses necessary to correct your vision. The benefits are provided through Vision Service Plan (VSP) and are available whether you are enrolled in the Operating Engineers Health and Welfare Trust Fund Comprehensive Plan or Kaiser.

The following is a quick-reference guide to your benefits. Please refer to your Summary Plan Description (SPD) booklet for more details.

Steps for using a VSP provider are as follows:

- Call any VSP-participating doctor and make an appointment. Identify yourself as a VSP member and provide your Social Security number and the name of your group plan (Operating Engineers Health and Welfare Trust Fund, etc.). To locate a participating doctor, contact VSP at (800) 877-7195.
- After you have scheduled an appointment, the doctor will contact VSP to verify your eligibility and benefits and obtain authorization for services and materials.
- When you go for your visit, pay the doctor your \$7.50 copayment and charges for any costs not covered.

For more information or to check your eligibility, please contact the Trust Fund Office at (800) 251-5014 or the Fringe Benefits Service Center at (800) 532-2105.

General Plan Features		
Maximum calendar-year benefit	No overall calendar-year limit	
Copayment	\$7.50 per individual, payable for the first service rendered each year	
Benefits for covered service and supplies (All benefits shown are after the annual copayment of \$7.50)		
Item	VSP provider	Non-VSP provider
Exam (once every 12 months)	Covered in full	Plan reimburses up to \$45
Frames (once every 24 months)	Covered up to Plan allowance	Plan reimburses up to \$70
Eyeglass lenses (once every 12 months) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Single vision• Bifocal• Trifocal	Covered in full Covered in full Covered in full	Plan reimburses up to \$34 per pair Plan reimburses up to \$51 per pair Plan reimburses up to \$68 per pair
Contact lenses (once every 12 months) Elective	Professional fees and materials covered up to \$200	Plan reimburses up to \$105 for professional fees and materials

District visits

A representative from the Fringe Benefits Office or Trust Fund Office will be available to meet with you and answer questions at your district office once every two weeks. Please refer to the Fringe Benefits schedule below.

First Tuesday (Nov. 5) Redding
First Wednesday (Nov. 6) Yuba City
First Thursday (Nov. 7) Sacramento

Second Tuesday (Nov. 12) Stockton
Second Wednesday (Nov. 13) Fresno
Second Thursday (Nov. 14) Morgan Hill

Third Tuesday (Nov. 19) Eureka/Nevada (Retiree Association Meetings)
Third Wednesday (Nov. 20) Redding/Utah (Retiree Association Meetings)

Fourth Tuesday (Nov. 26) Burlingame
Fourth Wednesday (Nov. 27) Oakland

If you aren't able to meet at these times, you'll have an opportunity on another day to meet with a Trust Fund staff member. See this schedule at left. Contact your district office if you would like to schedule an appointment with either a Fringe Benefits or Trust Fund representative.

Retiree Association Meetings

The Retiree Association Meetings continue 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. Please note that Hawaii meetings are also below.

EUREKA
Tuesday, Nov. 19 2 p.m.
Best Western Bayshore Inn
3500 Broadway

RENO (Nevada)
Tuesday, Nov. 19 2 p.m.
Operating Engineers' Building
1290 Corporate Blvd.

REDDING *Meeting and Potluck*
Wednesday, Nov. 20 1:30 p.m.
Frontier Senior Center
2081 Frontier Trail
Anderson, CA

SANDY (Utah)
Wednesday, Nov. 20 2 p.m.
Operating Engineers' Building
8805 S. Sandy Parkway

Hawaii Retiree Association Meetings

KAUAI *(Town Hall Meeting)*
Monday, Nov.18 6 p.m.
Kauai Beach Resort
4331 Kauai Beach Drive
Lihue

OAHU
Tuesday, Nov. 19 2 p.m.
Operating Engineers' Building
1075 Opakapaka St.
Kapolei

HILO
Wednesday, Nov. 20 11 a.m.
ILWU Local 142 Hall
100 W. Lanikaula St.

KONA *(Town Hall Meeting)*
Thursday, Nov. 21 6 p.m.
Courtyard Marriott (King Kam)
75-5660 Palani Road
Kalilua-Kona

MAUI
Friday, Nov. 22 2 p.m.
Maui Beach Hotel
170 Kaahumanu Ave.
Kahului



Political Perspective

By Mark Kyle, director of government affairs and public relations

We’ve done the homework; you do the voting!

Please take a look at the list of endorsements below for the upcoming Nov. 5 General Election. Even though this is an “off” election year, there has still been a steady bustle of political activities throughout our jurisdiction. While some districts don’t have any races, there are enough to warrant one last endorsement list. When you vote on Nov. 5, make sure you vote the union way and support the endorsed candidates and initiatives listed here.

Operating Engineers November 2013 General Election Recommendations
Vote union Nov. 5!

Burlingame District 01

Marin County

County-wide initiative
Measure F (\$600 million in PLA work) YES

Marin College Board
Brady Bevis

Novato City Council
Pat Eklund

San Rafael

City-wide initiative
Measure E YES

San Rafael City Council
Maribeth Bushey-Lang

San Francisco County

Measure B (Responsible development of waterfront) YES

San Mateo County

Millbrae City Council
Ann Oliva

Redwood City Council
Jeff Gee
John Seybert

San Mateo/Foster City
Measure P (Funds San Mateo/Foster City Elementary School District improvements) YES

City of Pacifica
Measure V (Expands utility tax to fund fire departments and street repairs) YES

Fairfield District 04

Solano County

Vallejo City Council
Pippen Dew
Jess Malgapo
Anthony Summers
Rozzana Verder-Aliga

Rohnert Park District 10

Sonoma County

Measure B (Kills work for Operating Engineers) NO

Lake County

City of Clearlake
Measure H (\$1 million in road repairs) YES

Utah District 12

Salt Lake County

Taylorsville City Mayor
Jerry Rechtenbach

Taylorsville City Council
Dama Barbour
Brad Christopherson

Midvale City Mayor
Joann Seghini

Murray City Council
Diane Turner

Salt Lake City Council
Erin Mendenhall

Weber County

Ogden City Council
Turner Bitton

Oakland District 20

City of Antioch
Measure C YES

Stockton District 30

Stanislaus County

Riverbank Unified School District Board of Trustees
Charles Neal

Modesto City Council
Tony Madrigal (District 02)

Modesto City School Board of Trustees
Charlie Grom

Fresno District 50

Merced County

Merced Mayor
Noah Lor

Merced City Council
Kevin Blake
Josh Pedrozo

Tulare County

Visalia Unified School District Board of Trustees
David Alvizo (Area 04)

Sacramento District 80

El Dorado County

El Dorado Irrigation District Board of Directors
Dr. Dale Coco (Division 04)

Morgan Hill District 90

Monterey County

Alisal Unified School District Board of Trustees
Maricela Cruz (Area 02)
Noemi Armenta (Area 03)
Guadalupe Guzman (Area 05)

Hartnell Community College District Board of Trustees
Ray Montemayor (District 05)
L. Joel Hill (District 07)

Monterey County Education Board of Trustees
David Gomez Serena (Area 07)

Monterey Peninsula Water Management District
Dean Provence (Division 01)

Monterey Peninsula Water Management Board Director
Bill Thayer

Monterey Peninsula Unified School District Board of Trustees
Tim Chaney (Area 03)

Salinas City Elementary School District Board of Trustees
Jasper De Franco (Area 03)
Julian Garcia (Area 05)

Santa Rita Union School District Board of Trustees
Meri Keiser
Junnue “Jen” Partida

Members proud to work on military project

The Combat Aviation Brigade (CAB) project at Wheeler Army Airfield in Wahiawa, Hawaii keeps members with Delta Construction, who are working for Kingston Environmental Inc., moving, while giving them an air show at the same time! The base remains open as members work on the first phase of the project, which involves grading 250 acres and putting in drainage, utilities and roads. Eventually, crews will construct barracks and hangars.

“But there is no date set for that yet, so we are putting topsoil on for erosion control,” said eight-year member Neal Nobriga.

Operators had a lot to say about working on this phase of the military project, which should finish next month.

At the time of the interviews, operators with Kingston were not onsite.



“The aircraft are just 20 feet away. We were working five feet from the runway and had to stop until they flew over. There are three, four different models. They’re pretty neat to see, especially the Chinooks.” – Wayde Lindsey



“No problems with the base. We’re pushing the scraper to fill with topsoil.” – Justin Johansen

“Safety and security comes first with military-base work. It is a little different. ... We lifted the area we are standing on 11 feet to tie in to the runway.” – Neal Nobriga



“They [the military] assure us of our freedom, and this is for our soldiers – our future. It’s a good job.” – Jerome Kupukaa



“Outside the weather, which throws us a curve every now and then, the job is going well. I served three years in the Army. As a vet, I am proud to be working on base and feel like I am serving the country again.” – Allan Duhaylonsod

More than 50 years in the making

Willits Bypass project finally breaks ground

Story and photos by Jamie Johnston, associate editor

“No way, we don’t need a bypass,” Business Rep. John Galeotti said sarcastically while he sat in back-to-back traffic as it crawled through the city of Willits.

The controversial Willits Bypass project, which has been in the making *for more than 50 years* and finally broke ground earlier this year, is actually desperately needed. Just ask 27-year member John Kvasnicka. A crane operator and Willits business owner, he said the job is a win-win for the community. Not only will the city get an alternate route that takes travelers off the main drag through town – and past a local school – but it also brings work to local members. And though protesters claim it will end up hurting business in Willits, as travelers look for other places to stop to eat, shop and fill up, Kvasnicka says the construction will only *help* the city.

“This job is so important to our community and our membership up here,” the Willits resident said. “We haven’t had a job like this up here for I don’t know how long. ... People are so backed up through town, they can’t stop. [After the bypass is finished] when people come into town, they’re going to be coming there for a reason.”

In the meantime, the influx of workers has helped the economy. At Kvasnicka’s own frozen yogurt shop, he’s seen crews from general contractors Flatiron and DeSilva Gates place orders, and that’s the case across the board, as workers stay in local hotels, shop at the local grocery store and dine at local restaurants.

Of course the Willits Bypass project also offers Kvasnicka a few personal benefits.

“This is a retirement job,” he said as he set cages for the viaduct. “This job is just a dream, to work this close to home.”

District 10 apprentices Jonathan Hughes and Chris Boblitt are also happy to be working onsite. Still in their first step of apprenticeship, they’re sure to learn a lot on a big project like this. At more than \$210 million, the job involves constructing two interchanges and an almost six-mile section of highway. Currently, the apprentices are working as oilers for excavator operators Angel Sotelo and Ronald Gempler as they install vertical wick drains on the northern end of the project.

“He’s doing excellent,” Gempler, a District 10 member, said of Hughes. “I’ve been working him like a rented mule, and he’s doing it all.”

ON THE COVER: Operator Ronald Gempler and first-step Apprentice Spencer Hardy install vertical wick drains on the north end of the Willits Bypass project.



Scraper Operator Reginald Waters.



Scraper Operator Lonnie Hawley.



Mechanic Tony DeMera.



Dozer Operator Rich Tholcke works with Scraper Operator George Alex of highway.



Dozer Operator Tony Ghilotti assists the many scraper operators on the job.

Scraper operators Robert Silva and Miles Robinson move some of the 1 million yards of dirt on the grading portion of the project.

On the opposite end of the project – and the other side of his career – 35-year member Lonnie Hawley also sees good things because of the bypass. The Willits job is his fourth bypass project – he also worked on the Orick, Cloverdale and Susanville bypasses – so he’s seen how they benefit communities.

“It’s definitely going to help this little town,” he said. “Like Orick – it helped them a lot.”

The scraper operator also knows a lot about his machine, as it’s the only thing he operates – “I like dirt work,” he explained. “I don’t like the city streets.” He is one of eight scraper operators working on just the grading portion of the project, and there is plenty for them to do. There’s 1 million yards of cut to fill and 1 million yards of import. In one day, Hawley and his fellow operators moved a total of 13,000 yards of dirt.

“That’s what we do,” he said.

Though the grading portion of the project is supposed to wrap up soon, the job in its entirety will continue through the fall of 2016, thanks in large part to the hard work Local 3 members put in to educate the public about it. We’ll keep you informed on the job’s progress as it unfolds.



Crane Operator John Kvasnicka sets cages for one of 30 viaducts on the Willits Bypass project.



ander on what will be a new two-lane section



From left: Crane Operator Butch Williamson and Oiler Brandon Patterson drive pile on the south end of the project.



Compactor Operator Bryon Seal works on the grading portion of the project.



From left: Operator Angel Sotelo and first-step Apprentice Chris Boblitt.



Challenger Operator Daniel Graham also operates a blade on the project.



Safety

By Michael W. Strunk, director of safety

Safety is no accident

It was 5:58 a.m. The normally busy highway was unusually quiet with only an occasional car or truck going by to all points north and south. To my right, marked by yellow safety tape and surrounded by flashing road signs, was an abandoned jobsite where a little more than 12 hours before, a brother had been killed, crushed by the piece of equipment he had been operating. No one saw it happen. No one even knew it had happened until he and the piece of equipment he was on did not come back at the end of the shift.

The incident transformed the jobsite into an accident-investigation scene and shut the job down for several days. We still do not know how it happened, and in the end, we may never know. On that day, it was just me and the safety tape, the silence and the knowledge that a brother's life ended, and it had ended exactly there. This scene has repeated itself too many times this year. The details are different, but the result is the same – tragic.

As Local 3's newest director of safety, a third-generation union member and a safety-conscious operator, getting home in one piece has been a constant theme in my life since I attended my first union meeting on my grandfather's knee more than four decades ago in Vallejo, Calif. It was January 1971, and the main topic of the meeting was the passage of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, which led to the creation of what we know today as the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

Prior to 1970, the United States experienced 14,000 deaths a year from work-related incidents. In 2011, that number was 4,609 – a reduction of more than 65 percent. Occupational injury and illness rates have declined by 67 percent. During that same period, employment in the United States has nearly doubled.

While much has been done regarding safety, there is a need for more. As the work picture improves, so must our attention to detail and the safety of those around us. As union operators, we pride ourselves on getting the job done better and faster than our non-union counterparts. But spending an extra 30 seconds a day looking both ways, putting your eyes on your oiler, gradechecker, surveyor or inspector, could save you a lifetime of regrets.

One of the great benefits of being part of the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) is the training available to us. November signals the start of Hazmat training. Please see the 2013-2014 Hazmat-refresher schedule below. Eight-hour refresher training is provided at no cost to Local 3 members in good standing. If interested, please sign up with the district office where you plan to attend. Seats are limited and offered on a first-come, first-served basis. (Please be prepared to attend all eight hours required.)

2013-2014 Hazmat-refresher schedule

Yuba City District 60	Tuesday, Nov. 12
Morgan Hill District 90	Thursday, Nov. 14
Stockton District 30	Saturday, Nov. 16
Fairfield District 04	Saturday, Nov. 23
Alameda (Oakland) District 20	Saturday, Dec. 7
Burlingame District 01	Wednesday, Dec. 11
Sacramento District 80	Saturday, Dec. 14
Redding District 70	Thursday, Jan. 9
Rohnert Park District 10	Saturday, Jan. 11
Eureka District 40	Friday, Jan. 17
Alameda (Oakland) District 20	Tuesday, Jan. 28
Morgan Hill District 90	Thursday, Jan. 30
Stockton District 30	Saturday, Feb. 8
Rohnert Park District 10	Saturday, Feb. 22
Sacramento District 80	Saturday, March 8
Fresno District 50	Saturday, March 15
Alameda (Oakland) District 20	Saturday, March 29
Stockton District 30	Saturday, April 5
Morgan Hill District 90	Saturday, April 12

Staff Spotlight: Rick Davis

Public Employee Director Rick Davis has seen firsthand the importance of unions, since his father was a member of the Glaziers Union.

“Only because of the union did we have what he had,” he recalled. “We were never for want; the union gave my dad a livable wage and sustained Health and Welfare to take care of his family.”

Having recognized the benefits of unionism at an early age, Davis has devoted much of his life to fighting for and upholding union principles.

He was a police officer/sergeant in the Bakersfield area and was actively involved in the Police Officers’ Association (POA) before joining the Local 3 staff as an organizer/public-employee business agent in 2005. Since then, he has worked out of several offices, including Sacramento, Stockton, San Jose and Alameda. He was promoted to his current position last May, and according to his staff, he has been doing an outstanding job.

“Rick has gone above and beyond in representing his members,” said Yuba City Business Rep. Mike Minton. “He sees the big picture and does what he believes is in the best interests of the employee. Quite often that is telling that employee he or she is wrong and that management has the right to do whatever it is they plan on doing. Rick then tries to negotiate the best deal possible for the employee in order to keep them employed.”

Clearly, these are not easy tasks, but Davis performs them because he is a man of ethics.

“Rick has shown me that he is true to his principles, working hard for what he believes in, fighting the good fight and applying practical ideas and common sense to move labor forward,” said Sacramento Business Rep. Gregory Ramirez.

For Davis and the staff he oversees, moving labor forward is essential to ensure that the middle-class wage stays respectable.

“Unions are the only thing that’s keeping a working-class person at an acceptable livable wage, the only insurance that protects the working-class income,” Davis said. “We must protect the people who need to be protected. We must

protect the interest of the working middle class.”

Recently, Davis defended a member’s employment in a civil-service hearing. The member was exonerated and ordered back to work.

Davis admits that these are hard times for unions with the lingering effects of the Great Recession



From left: Public Employee Director Rick Davis discusses business with Vice President Dan Reding at a recent meeting.

and the public’s inaccurate perception of public-employee unions. But having been a police officer, Davis has no problem looking the tough stuff right in the face.

“For those unreasonable employers we all have to deal with, Rick is straightforward and cannot be intimidated to give in to what he thinks is an unreasonable request,” said Minton. “He will explain and argue his case and will not back down ...”

This is a guy you want in your corner!

“I may dislike some of the tasks,” said Davis, regarding his director’s role, “but I love the organization.”

Projects start to button-up for winter

From Reno

With fall temperatures dropping, work hours are doing the same.

Many of the mines in the outlying areas will continue work through the winter months and look to stay strong into mid-summer 2014. Both **Ames** and **N.A. Degerstrom** have picked up more work for 2014 and are negotiating with the mines for possibly more work in the summer.

Most of the highway work is beginning to button-up. Many of the jobs, such as the Carlin Tunnels, will shut down for the winter. **Granite** plans on finishing the dirt work and paving next spring at Lages Junction, and **Road and Highway Builders** will kick off next year with a \$19 million job in Elko, which was awarded last month.

Work looks very promising for spring, so take advantage of our upgrade training. You can call the training facilities at (775) 575-2729 for more information on how to renew your certifications. This will help you improve the skills you have or learn a new one. Only you can make yourself a marketable commodity.

Remember to call the Hall and renew your spot on the out-of-work list before the 84th day or you will fall off the list.

Beginning this month, late night will be once a month (on the fourth Wednesday) when we will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

As a reminder, our offices will be closed for Thanksgiving on Thursday, Nov. 28 as well as the day after, Friday, Nov. 29. We will re-open Monday, Dec. 2 at 7 a.m. We would like to wish

everyone a safe and happy holiday season. The Reno and Elko staff would also like to thank our members and signatories for another successful year.

From Elko

Speakers at the Nevada Mining Association's 2013 convention cite "uncertainty" as the major threat to the current mining industry. The recent slump in gold prices coupled with rising operation costs have caused many Nevada mines to tighten their belts and become more efficient. In response to these uncertain times, **Newmont Mining Corporation** announced that it was reducing its workforce in Colorado by 33 percent over a 90-day period beginning in July. It is unclear at this time how the Nevada **Newmont** operations will be affected, however, **Newmont** Spokesman **Omar Jabara** said that "reductions could apply company-wide," as was reported by the *Reno Gazette-Journal*. **Newmont** President and Chief Executive Officer **Gary Goldberg** said, "Ongoing price volatility and steadily rising costs create intense pressure for **Newmont** to continuously improve its efficiency and effectiveness," as reported by the *Elko Daily Free Press Mining Quarterly*.

Newmont membership meetings are held on the first Wednesday of every month, and construction membership meetings are on the second Wednesday of the month. We will also continue to have the office open on the fourth Wednesday for late night. If you have any questions, please call the Hall at (775) 753-8761.

HAWAII | 1075 Opakapaka St., Kapolei, HI 96707 ■ For all branches, call (808) 845-7871 District Rep. Pane Meatoga Jr.

More than \$400 million worth of work starting up

Local signatory **Hawaiian Dredging** has several projects starting up and more on the books. Those starting up are:

- The H-1 rehabilitation from Middle Street to Ward Avenue. This project comes in at \$42.3 million with signatory subcontractors **Concrete Coring Company of Hawaii** performing the saw cutting and **Grace Pacific Corporation** performing the asphalt paving and cold planing.
- The Ewa redevelopment at the Ala Moana Center. This will include the demolition of the Sears Building and Ewa-Makai (west, ocean) side of the parking garage. The company will rebuild the mall to extend to Piikoi Street and rebuild the Ewa-Makai parking garage from two floors to five. This project comes in at \$250 million with signatory contractors **Jayar Construction** performing the site work and **Concrete Coring** and **Northwest Demo** performing the demolition.
- The 801 South Street Condominium. This will include a 46-story building with 635 condominium units and an 11-story parking structure with 915 parking stalls. Signatory contractors **RHS Lee** will perform the civil work, **Hawaiian Dredging Waterfront Division** will perform the drilled piers and **Rons Construction** will handle the paving. This project comes in at \$114 million.

These projects total \$406.3 million worth of work. At the time of this writing, the Koa Ridge project should be in its final reading in city council for permitting. There is a lot of work on the horizon. Keep current with your dues and contact information.

Kauai's Sixth Annual Empowering Operating Engineers Event was a big success with a record attendance of members

and their families. The day's grand-prize winners were **Kennison Hanohano**, who won a grill, and **Kevin Krammer**, who won a television.

Hawaii's District and Town Hall Meetings in November are as follows:

- Monday, Nov. 18, 6 p.m., Kauai Beach Hotel (Retiree Meeting combined)
- Tuesday, Nov. 19, 7 p.m., Kapolei Union Hall (Retiree Meeting at 2 p.m.)
- Wednesday, Nov. 20, 7 p.m., ILWU Hall, Hilo (Retiree Meeting at 11 a.m.)
- Thursday, Nov. 21, 7 p.m., Kona King Kamehameha Hotel (Retiree Meeting combined)
- Friday, Nov. 22, 7 p.m., Maui Arts Center (Retiree Meeting at Maui Beach at 2 p.m.)

The next Empowering Operating Engineers Event will be held on Saturday, Nov. 23 at Kokololio (Kakela's in Hauula) Beach Park from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. A postcard and a robo-call will be sent to Oahu members to inform them of the change.



From left: Kennison Hanohano and Kevin Krammer were the big winners at Kauai's Sixth Annual Empowering Operating Engineers Event.

Bridge in Lakehead continues to keep members busy

It's November, and work is very slow in District 70. There are still around 20 hands working for **Tutor Perini** on the I-5 Bridge in Lakehead. It's hard to believe this project has provided four years of employment with a couple more to go. **Steve Manning Construction** has been doing some expansion work at the West



Bill Nelson works for Proven Management on Hwy. 99.

Central Landfill. **Northwest Paving** has been busy with paving and chip-seal projects throughout Lassen and Siskiyou counties. **Proven Management** completed a bridge project in Los Molinos on Hwy. 99. **RNR Construction** is still working on the Swede Creek Bridge in Palo Cedro. **S.T. Rhoades** and **Darren Taylor Construction** stayed fairly busy this year with multiple grinding and paving jobs throughout the local.

We are currently in negotiations with **Peterson Tractor** on a contract



Bob Spence works for Proven Management on Hwy. 99 in Los Molinos.

that covers the Chico, Redding and Willows facilities. **Peterson Tractor** has been picking up some steady work in both the tractor and truck shops. At the Redding truck shop, two longtime **Peterson** employees are retiring next

month. Mechanics **Chuck Rodgers** (32 years) and **Dave "Bubba" Zitnay** (28 years) have both worked their entire careers as Local 3 members for **Peterson Tractor** for a combined 60 years of knowledge and experience.

As of right now, we are not seeing a lot of new work for next year in District 70. It is well advised that members looking for employment opportunities place calls to other districts throughout the local. We will post new work for our district as that information becomes available. Please stay current on the out-of-work list if you are not currently working. You may consider reviewing your affiliate report to ensure we have you marked down for all the equipment you can run and any certifications or licenses you have. This information can help you in future employment.

Please note that our next District Meeting is on Wednesday, Nov. 20 at the Hall at 7 p.m.

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

Big jobs underway in San Francisco

In San Francisco, work should remain busy through the winter. At the Central Subway project, **Barnard/Impreglio/Healy Joint Venture (JV)** keeps many operators busy working day and night with both Tunnel Boring Machines (TBMs) being used. Along the Embarcadero at 201 Folsom St., the dig-out is underway for a 725-unit development with two towers, 350 and 400 feet tall. Digging 60 feet deep, and a whole city block, **A&B Construction** operators **Arik Gheno**, **Steve Lagares** and **Gerry Cunningham** can load as many as 300 trucks in one day. Every five feet they dig down, **Drill Tech Drilling & Shoring, Inc.** comes behind with the tie-backs. Operators for **Drill Tech** include **Charles Huckaba**, **Rick McCause**, **Raul Melgoza** and **John Byrne**. On another building at 10th and Market, a 35-story, 720-unit tower is going up in the Mid Market District. Members working on the tower include **Clipper International** inside-elevator operators **Henry Credo** and **Ron Robinson**. **Cabrillo Hoist** has outside-elevator operators **Phil Vasal** and **Red Ridley**. With the best view of the city, at 480 feet high, **Maxim Tower Crane Operator Leon Benjamin** works hard to keep the job moving forward.

In San Francisco's Mission Bay area, the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) Benioff Children's Hospital is scheduled to open in February 2015. Right across the street is the Mission Hall Global Health and Clinical Sciences Building, which will be seven floors of mostly office space and cost about \$96 million to build. **Rudolph and Sletten** is overseeing the project, and Tower Crane Operator **Ronald Kultti** is staying busy picking forms, rebar cages and decking materials, etc. His goal is to stay ahead of the concrete pour. Pump operators **Armando Garibay** and **Craig Jarvis** pump around 600 yards of concrete per floor for **Berkeley Concrete Pumping**. The pour keeps batch-plant operators busy at **Bode/Central** and **Cemex**.

In San Mateo, the Bay Division Tunnel is nearing completion. Many members have moved directly to the Central Subway project in San Francisco. With multiple San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) tunnels and Devils Slide, many District 01 members have made the most of the rare opportunity to learn some very valuable skills and be a part of historic infrastructure projects that they will be able to tell their children and grandchildren about.

Please check with the Hall and look on page 14 to see who Local 3 has endorsed in the November elections, and be sure to use your vote. It is critical to have labor- and development-friendly elected officials in office to ensure that we will have safe, modern infrastructure projects for our members to work on.

The District 01 staff wishes all of our members a safe and happy Thanksgiving!



Gerry Cunningham operates a Hitachi 600 for A&B Construction.



Craig Jarvis operates a boom pump for Berkeley Concrete Pumping.

Paving, pipelines and private work

Thanksgiving is this month, and we have a lot to be thankful for! Many have worked a tremendous amount of hours this year in the Stockton District. Much of this work is still on the books and will carry over into next year, which could mean an early start next season. Hwy. 99, I-5 and their connecting roadways that are being altered as a result of some massive construction ventures are just a handful of the projects that are keeping our members working.

Paving has been very strong this year with millions of dollars awarded by cities and counties for roadway reconstruction and overlays. This will continue to be strong through next season. **Tom Mayo Construction** is working on one of the many streets being reconstructed for the city of Stockton this season.

Gas pipeline is the next big thing, and training is crucial. Applications are available at the Hall to sign up for classes. You

can also speak to a business representative about applications and class schedules. Do not miss out on this great opportunity!

In the private sector, subdivisions are making a solid comeback with projects like the River Islands development in the Mossdale/Lathrop area. This project has nearly 500 housing pads under construction.

Some projects that have been awarded and are pending a start date include the \$43 million Regional Transit District (RTD) project on East Myrtle Street near Stockton's Crosstown Freeway; the \$29 million Hwy. 12 pavement-rehabilitation/bridge-construction project on Bouldin Island; and the more than \$13.2 million Lathrop Road at the Union Pacific Railroad grade-separation project in Lathrop.

Again, there's a lot to be thankful for in District 30!

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

Training opportunities available

District 60 would like to wish you a happy Thanksgiving and let you know that we are honored to be able to serve our membership. We also want to thank all of you who attended our fourth-quarter District Meeting in Marysville on Oct. 17.

As some of you may know, former business rep. **Danny Roles** now works for the California Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC) as an apprenticeship coordinator. Dispatcher **Chuck Adamson** is now a business representative, and we are pleased to welcome our new Dispatcher **Duane "Flip" Imhoff**.

The District 60 staff would like to thank everyone who has called in to report violations on the projects they've worked on this season. If another craft is running our iron, one of our brothers or sisters is sitting at home. If you call in, we get the opportunity to put another member back to work. When we stand together as one, it makes us strong. Stay involved, and together we can make a difference. Your calls are confidential. You don't even have to leave your name!

This winter you might want to ask yourself, "Do I have the right certification for the job?" There are journey-level-upgrade classes at the Rancho Murieta Training Center (RMTC). Simply call (916) 354-2029 to get signed up ASAP.

District 60 has a Hazwoper refresher scheduled for Nov. 12. If you haven't already signed up, call the Hall to do so before the class is full. This class is on a first-come, first-served basis with only 20 seats available. Also, there are several different International pipeline-training classes scheduled from Feb. 24 through May. These classes are two weeks long, 10 hours a day. To apply or for more details, see Imhoff at the Hall.

A representative from the Fringe Benefits Department will be in the District 60 office on the first Wednesday of every month, and two weeks later, a representative from the Trust Fund Office will be in. The next scheduled Fringe Benefits visit is Nov. 6. There will not be any visits in December. If you have any questions or concerns regarding Health and Welfare, retirement, death benefits, etc., please contact the Hall to schedule a time to meet with a representative.

The work season is coming to an end for 2013, but 2014 is looking pretty good. We still have work being bid, and we will keep you informed as these projects come in. Jobs in the area that will carry over into 2014 include **Teichert Construction's** downtown Marysville/Hwy. 20/70 rehab project; **MCM/DeSilva Gates'** Hwy. 99 Feather River Bridge project; and **Siri Grading**

and **Paving's** third phase of the Thunder Hill Race Track in Glenn County, just to name a few.

We want to thank all of our District 60 signatory material producers and the members working for them for a job well done. This includes **DeSilva Gates'** hot plant; **Knife River's** Hallwood, Chico and Orland plants; **Teichert** (Hallwood); **Kino Aggregates**; **Silica Resources**; **Patterson Sand and Gravel** (Cemex); and **BCJ Unlimited Specialty Sand**.

Please remember to stay current on the out-of-work list. You must re-register before the 84th day.

As always, feel free to call the Hall with any questions you have or stop by in person.

Thanks, and enjoy the holidays with your family and friends.



Jesse Williams, above, and Lyle Swartz, right, pave in Marysville for Teichert.



Work continues in Garberville, Crescent City

The construction season has ended, and the gravel harvest with **Mercer-Fraser** seemed to fly by. As we head into the holidays, the slow-down has given us a chance to start preparing for the big move. Our District 40 office will be relocating from Fifth Street in Eureka to the Labor Temple at 840 E St. Though the move may not be finalized until after the first of the year, we have a lot to do to get ready.

We are also preparing for a huge project that will start in January at our Humboldt Bay Power Plant. **Chicago Bridge and Iron** has obtained a large portion of the decommissioning project, and we hope to provide several operators to get it done.

Mercer-Fraser kept its local hands busy this year, finishing projects and continuing to produce rock. The company added a shop agreement to its construction agreements, and we hope the new members will add new blood to our local area.

The rainy season means many of our signatory employers keep smaller crews, but **Wahlund** and **Dutra** continue to work on their respective projects in Garberville and Crescent City.

Northcoast Fabricators continues to provide valuable experience at the Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) Power Plant, and as **Fluor** wraps up its portion, the torch will be passed to **CBI**.

Peterson has been very busy throughout the summer, and it looks like the company will stay busy through the offseason as well.

District 40 would like to thank **Greg Plympton** from **Peterson** for serving as the appointed member of our Political Action Committee (PAC).

We hope everyone comes by to see us at our new location when we are all settled in and remembers that our annual Crab Feed is coming up on Feb. 15, 2014.

Winter is on its way, and we'd like to remind everyone to watch out for our Caltrans brothers and sisters, as they do road repairs to keep us all moving. They are an integral part of our union and keep the roads safe for us to travel during the rough weather.

Have a wonderful and safe Thanksgiving.



Apprenticeship Spotlight

Congratulations to **Todd Torgersen** who completed the Apprenticeship Program on Sept. 30.

SACRAMENTO | 3920 Lennane Drive, Sacramento, CA 95834 ■ (916) 993-2055 District Rep. Rob Carrion

Happy Veterans Day!

Happy holidays, brothers and sisters! Yes, it is that time of year once again. We hope you all got plenty of (well, not too much) Halloween candy. We hope everyone is looking forward to the holidays as much as we are and hope no one forgets to thank a veteran.

Veterans Day is on Nov. 11 and often gets overlooked. Veterans Day is on this date not by coincidence. In 1918, in the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, Germany (badly defeated) signed the Armistice, ending "The Great War." Back then, it was supposed to be the war to end all wars. Today, we know differently. While Memorial Day is a day to remember those who died defending America, Veterans Day is to celebrate the service of all U.S. military veterans. "All gave some and some gave all" is a saying that hits home for every one of our veterans. Many of us know or know of someone who in some way has done his or her part for the Land of the Free. A simple "thanks for your service" goes a long way for someone who vowed to defend the freedoms which all Americans enjoy.



Apprentice **Bob Waters** works for **Sierra Nevada Construction** on Glenshire Drive in Truckee.

As for the work picture, there are many projects going on in our district. **Lund Construction** is busy in the Lincoln/Roseville/Rocklin area. The company has a project on Wildcat Road in Rocklin for JMC Homes that should go until sometime in December and another one on Whitney Ranch that should carry into next year.

Teichert Construction is still busy on Old Auburn Road in Citrus Heights and picked up another phase of work on Sylvan and Old Auburn roads for the Safe Routes to School Project. This next section should keep several members busy for some time. **Teichert** will also be busy on the second phase of the Sorento Homes subdivision in Lincoln until next year or longer and will be working on Auburn-Folsom Road from Bell Drive past Douglas Boulevard. The more than \$7.5 million project will include waterlines; storm and sewer; and paving.

Knife River Construction was recently awarded the \$3 million Blue Oaks Boulevard widening improvement project in Roseville.

McGuire and Hester is still busy in Nevada City on the Dorsey Drive interchange.

Sierra Nevada Construction is in Truckee working on Glenshire Drive, the Tahoe Truckee Airport and down the center median of I-80.

If you are off work, be sure to register on the out-of-work list. *It's your responsibility to renew your registration before it expires.*

It doesn't hurt to familiarize yourself with your current Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA); after all, knowledge is power. If you don't have a copy, call your business representative and he or she will be happy to provide you with one.

Remember that the deadline for Local 3's 75th anniversary project is Jan. 1. If you have any information about historical projects, stories or pictures that you would like to share, please contact the Hall as soon as possible. Local 3 will be celebrating its 75th anniversary at Six Flags Discovery Kingdom in Vallejo on June 28, 2014. Stay tuned for more details.

From District 80, we wish you and your family a happy Thanksgiving!

Happy Thanksgiving, everyone

Throughout District 90 work is going strong. **O.C. Jones'** official groundbreaking on the new Martial Cottle Park in San Jose took place Aug. 9, with **Sanco Pipelines** working on the underground. **Pioneer Underground Inc.** is currently working on the Evergreen Valley College project. **Granite Construction** is continuing work on the widening of Hwy. 152.

The BART project continues to be very busy from the Milpitas area to east San Jose. In the Sunnyvale area, **NCM Construction** is gearing up for the demo of 20 buildings for Google. In the Santa Clara area, **Malcolm Drilling**, **Top Grade**, **Jos. J. Albanese** and **Bigge Crane** are pushing hard to get the new San Francisco 49ers stadium ready for action. In the Carmel Valley area, **Granite Construction** is the general for the \$61 million San Clemente Dam removal project, with **Beebe Diversified**, **Wood Rodgers**, **California Construction** and newly signed **Ventana Engineering**.



Members with Sanco Pipelines work on the new Martial Cottle Park in San Jose.

UTAH | 8805 South Sandy Parkway, Sandy, UT 84070 ▪ (801) 596-2677
District Rep. Justin Diston

Good work pays off

As we look forward to the start of another holiday season in District 12, we have a lot to be thankful for. What started out to look like a dismal work season turned around as the year progressed, and we were able to employ the majority of our members on some good projects this year. The pipeline from Colorado to Utah was rumored and pre-jobbed last year but became a reality this year and put a lot of members to work. The **Kennecott** landslide clean-up was another project we certainly didn't expect that has continued to employ our members throughout the year with opportunities on some massive equipment. Along with these projects, our signatory contractors have managed to sharpen their pencils and land projects throughout the year. We got into the **Holly** and **Tesoro** refineries on the grading side, performing work that has gone to non-union companies too many times. We were successful in these locations thanks to the well-trained, skilled supervision of the refinery personnel and our operators showing them how serious this union and its signatories are about safety. This should lead to much more work in the future, with most of the refineries planning on expanding and relocating soon.

W.W. Clyde's Parley's Canyon storm-drain-relocation project has been a great success this season, and by the time you read this, it should be completed. (It called for two shifts most of the season.)

Geneva Rock Products had some good work this year, including two projects

in Park City and a job at the North Salt Lake FedEx facility, which could hopefully open the door for more work as the facility expands. The company started the Powder Mountain Ski Resort job late this summer, and work will wind down this month for ski season and pick back up next spring. Work has expanded over the original contract with the possibility of future expansion, as home sales have picked up on the mountain. The company's batch plants have also done well this year, as has its rock, sand and gravel pits as they keep up with the demand of the concrete plants.

Granite/Ames' Joint Venture (JV) on state Route 193 in the Clearfield/Layton area also went well all season and is nearing completion. This has been a good JV for our signatories, and **Geneva Rock Products** picked up the white paving and has done a great job there as well. It's great to see our union contractors working together and having success.

Granite Construction has been busy in Northern Utah with several bridge-resurfacing projects and paving crews' resurfacing projects throughout the area. The company has kept its hot plants rolling along all season as well as its gravel and sand pits. This has been a really stressful season for **Granite** mechanics, as they continue to perform their normal work smoothly throughout the state along with the extra work at the **Kennecott Copper Mine**.

Mountain Crane, **Bragg Crane**, **Shurtliff & Andrews** and **Olsen Beal**

have had a strong season with a lot of refinery work early in the year along with taxi work throughout our jurisdiction. **Mountain** and **Olsen Beal** have picked up windmill projects throughout the U.S., and **Mountain** picked up a contract with Siemens to service its windmills throughout the country. **Shurtliff & Andrews** continued its power-plant project in Utah County and is bidding on other jobs in the area. **Bragg Crane** picked up some refinery-shutdown work in the spring and has kept its workforce going with some long-term rental jobs and normal taxi work in the area.

PNK Constructors is finishing the successful Echo Dam stabilization project way ahead of schedule and has kept several of our operators busy the last few years.

Berkel and Companies is back at the **Tesoro** refinery drilling pile and has been able to employ several of our members working there since July.

The last but not least thing to be thankful for this year is our new Hall, which opened the first of July. We can now have a District Meeting in our own Hall, and we look forward to seeing our members here Nov. 20 at 7 p.m. The new Hall has an expanded Credit Union as well as room to bring in some of our apprenticeship staff.

We hope you have a happy Thanksgiving and look forward to the holidays.

Another job well done

We are glad to report that there has been some movement in the private market in District 10. **Harold Smith & Sons Inc.** moved into the district with lots of iron and members to operate it. Under the guidance of Foreman **John Mitchell**, our members pioneered new roads, created flow lines for water and built 3,000 feet of retaining walls. They also put in 5,000 feet of domestic waterlines and moved more than 25,000 yards of dirt with cut and keyway grading. Member **Matt Macy** did a great job on the blade, and member **Nick Montelli** moved thousands of yards of dirt on a scraper. Apprentice **David Dozler** kept up with the compaction on the job, and **Charlie Wooten** operated the mini-excavator, working side-by-side with his Laborer crew performing the intricate parts of the retaining walls. Thanks to all those involved for doing such a great job and staying safe.

Remember, with the seasons changing, allow ample time to get to work safely. There will be wet roads, fogged-up windows and dark driving conditions, so be careful!



Blade Operator Matt Macy, Scraper Operator Nick Montelli and Apprentice Compactor Operator David Dozler.

Sign up for Hazwoper, pipeline training

The holidays are upon us, and the year is coming to a close, but we are thankful for having had a prosperous year thus far. While it is impossible to foresee the future, our members have seen an upswing in their hours this year.

Some of the larger projects that were in our district last year are continuing today. The Hwy. 99 projects with **Teichert Construction**, **FCI**, **Security Paving** and **Diablo Constructors** are still going strong. **Granite** is also working.

Recently, the nearly \$50 million Hwy. 180 project with **R&L Brosamer** has had major traffic-pattern changes. The newly built connector ramps have been opened, creating some problems for the heavily congested construction zone, but new traffic patterns were needed to make room for crews to work.

In preparation for future work, we want to remind members that downtime is a good time to train. The 2013-2014 Regional Pipeline Training Program schedule is posted in the district office, and applications are available.

OE3's Rancho Murieta Training Center (RMTC) will be hosting four pipeline-maintenance (rehab) training classes, with the first starting on Feb. 24. The classes are two weeks long, will follow a six-day/10-hours-per-day schedule and are intended for experienced operators. Classroom training is followed by hands-on field training and will include subjects such as hoe applications throughout the many stages of rehabilitation; how

to dig around pipelines; sloping, padding, carrying pipe and installing stream crossings; pipeline terminology; and safety.

In addition, all apprentices and journey-level operators who meet the journey-level-training requirements can now sign up for training at the RMTC to receive a California Commercial Driver's License. Some of the requirements include being a member in good standing, possessing a valid California Class A Learner's Permit and having a current Department of Transportation (DOT) physical.

Also worth noting is the California Hazwoper eight-hour refresher course. For the Fresno District, the training will be held on Saturday, March 15 from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Attendees must be OE3 members in good standing and be able to present a current Hazwoper card to the instructor. Call the Hall with any questions.

Due to the training that Local 3 offers, we have some of the best qualified operators in the industry!

We'd like to congratulate former Unit 12 business rep. **Gary Rocha** on his recent retirement. His smile and upbeat personality will surely be missed, and we wish him all the best!

Congratulations also to Apprentice **Cody Preis** and his wife on the birth of their baby girl, Marilynn, who was born on Sept. 1, 2013.



Front row, from left: Mitch Dennis, Darrel Hunter and Steve Brand work for Granite with, back row, from left: Eric Rawls, Milko Vanderlinde and Art Cruz.

Lots of accomplishments this year; more work in 2014

Some big jobs came to a close in District 20 this year. The Bay Bridge, after 11 years and \$6.8 billion, is an amazing work of art. All the work the brothers and sisters put in to build the bridge will produce stories they can tell their loved ones. The westbound bore at the Caldecott Tunnel, after 2-½ years, is also done. There were also two power plants in the district, one in Antioch and one in Hayward. It was hard to see these big projects go. However, the future for work in the district looks good. There are plenty of projects going on, such as the Calaveras Dam. There's lots of highway work – Hwy. 4, I-80, I-580, I-680 and I-880. Then there's BART. The expansion and upgrade just keeps going with plenty of our members working.

The work picture in 2014 looks good with another power plant in Oakley, and the pipeline work is here to stay for at least a couple of years. The Bay Bridge demolition has started but will go full force in 2014. West Contra Costa Unified School District will receive \$2.6 billion to rebuild eight to 10 schools in 2014.

A shout out to all the brothers and sisters who came to the District Meetings this year and participated in this wonderful union! Remember, the 2013 season is coming to an end and the weather is an issue, so prepare your loved ones and yourself for

safety measures. Be sure to let the Hall know if you have any changes or updates to your address, phone number, work status or beneficiaries.

Thank you, brothers and sisters, for a great year. We look forward to 2014!



The New Bay Bridge is opened to the public.

Next year could be a busy one for refinery work

Ghilotti Brothers and **Ghilotti Construction** continue work on Hwy. 12 through Jameson Canyon. This project has been keeping hands busy, and they hope to complete more of the roadwork by the end of the year. We all need to be careful traveling this route due to roadway changes that create a congestive traffic situation. Always leave plenty of space between you and the vehicle ahead of you. We are still waiting for the I-680/I-80 interchange job to go out for bid.

In Napa, we are awaiting the award for the Oxbow Dry bypass project. The Army Corps of Engineers should have all the bids, and it looks like \$15 million to \$20 million worth of work for early next year. This is another phase of the Napa flood-control project that should put many hands to work.

Also in Napa, **Keith Gale General Engineering** is performing all the site work on a new shopping center on Soscol Avenue between Shelter and Kansas avenues, and **West Coast Contractors** completed the new pier off Third Street downtown.

In Vallejo, the start of the new ferry-maintenance facility should put many of our brothers and sisters to work, and it is about time! In the meantime, **Redgwick Construction** is staying busy on Military West in Benicia.

On the east side of District 04, **Michels Pipeline** began pulling 18-inch pipe through the 1,400-foot bore crews made under I-680. Next, crews will pull under I-80, and they have a 24-inch line to pull as well. This \$13 million project will keep OE3 members working well into the end of the year. The rest of the east side of the district is staying busy with a couple of waterline projects. On Peabody Road in Fairfield, the utility relocations for the train station are also in full swing.

In the crane-rental world, **Sheedy** stayed busy with what turned out to be the longest America's Cup race in the history of the event. **Sheedy** launched and recovered Team New Zealand's sailboat and worked to pack up Italy's Team Prada, which did not make it to the finals.

Other than maintenance, there has not been a lot of new work at any of the refineries in 2013. **Bigge** is getting ready for a turnaround at the **Tesoro** oil refinery, which should utilize

about 30 members around the clock for about six weeks. **Valero**, **Phillips 66** and **Chevron** are trying to obtain permits for projects at their facilities, which may lead to a busy 2014 as far as refinery work goes.

On the dredging front, **Vortex** is finishing the Stockton and Sacramento deep-water-channel maintenance project with a suction dredge, keeping about 20 members working around the clock. **Dutra** is dredging the Richmond Harbor with a clamshell rig – another around-the-clock project working three shifts. **Dixon Marine** is working at Mountain Lake and Hamilton Field. **Manson** was just awarded the Oakland deep-water-channel maintenance contract for the 2013-2014 season, and by the time you read this, the company should be utilizing the dredge Njord and working a three-shift operation.

Please mark your calendars for District 04's Ninth Annual Pancake Breakfast and Motorcycle Toy Run, which will be held on Saturday, Dec. 14. We hope to see you all there!



Members with Michels Pipeline pull 18-inch pipe through the 1,400-foot bore made under I-680.

DISTRICT MEETINGS

All meetings convene at 7 p.m.

NOVEMBER 2013

19th District 11: Reno
Operating Engineers' Building
1290 Corporate Blvd.

19th District 17: Kapolei
Operating Engineers' Building
1075 Opakapaka St.

19th District 40: Eureka
Best Western Bayshore Inn
3500 Broadway

20th District 12: Sandy
Operating Engineers' Building
8805 S. Sandy Parkway

20th District 70: Redding
Operating Engineers' Building
20308 Engineers Lane

DECEMBER 2013

No meetings scheduled.

JANUARY 2014

No meetings scheduled.

TOWN HALL MEETINGS

November 2013

6th District 11: Elko
Mine Meeting: 6 p.m.
Operating Engineers' Building
1094 Lamoille Highway

13th District 11: Elko
Construction Meeting: 6 p.m.
Operating Engineers' Building
1094 Lamoille Highway

18th District 17: Kauai
Meeting: 6 p.m.
Kauai Beach Resort
4331 Kauai Beach Drive, Lihue

20th District 17: Hilo
Meeting: 7 p.m.
Hilo ILWU Hall
100 W. Lanikaula St.

21st District 17: Kona
Meeting: 7 p.m.
Courtyard Marriott
King Kamehameha Hotel
75-5660 Palani Road

22nd District 17: Maui
Meeting: 7 p.m.
Maui Arts and Cultural Center
One Cameron Way, Kahului

December 2013

4th District 11: Elko
Mine Meeting: 6 p.m.
Operating Engineers' Building
1094 Lamoille Highway

11th District 11: Elko
Construction Meeting: 6 p.m.
Operating Engineers' Building
1094 Lamoille Highway

January 2014

No meetings scheduled.

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.



Important notice about Medicare

Members and spouses covered under the Pensioned Operating Engineers Health and Welfare Trust Fund and eligible for Medicare benefits who fail to enroll in both parts A and B of the Medicare program will have to pay more for their health costs. Therefore, it is strongly advised that these members enroll in BOTH PARTS.

Important registration reminder

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.

Oahu District Picnic

District 17: Hawaii (Oahu) Picnic Details
Saturday, Nov. 23, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Kokololio Beach Park, 55-017 Kamehameha Highway, Hauula, Hawaii
Menu: Steak, barbecue chicken, fish, hot dogs, rice, salad
Cost: Free
Other information: There will be entertainment, lucky-number prizes, an equipment rodeo, games, popcorn, shaved ice and cotton candy.

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Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address): *Mandy McMillen, 3920 Lennaxe Dr., Sacramento, CA 95834*

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	(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies Included on PS Form 3841		
	(3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail®)		
	(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>
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18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner <i>Russ Burns</i>			Date <i>9/24/2013</i>
I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).			
PS Form 3526, August 2012 (Page 2 of 2)			

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 September 2013 and have been determined eligible for Honorary Membership effective Oct. 1, 2013.

Morris J. Ahnee Sr.	1781781	District 17: Hawaii
Andrew A. Akau Sr.	1532337	District 17: Hawaii
Harry Aki	1386831	District 17: Hawaii
Maurice Aoki	1308965	District 17: Hawaii
Robert Barraza	1732977	District 90: Morgan Hill
Paul Basquez	1229742	District 80: Sacramento
Nick A. Bastovan	1774286	District 20: Oakland
Carlos Benton	1774294	District 30: Stockton
James Bogle	1477858	District 99: Out Of Area
Wayne D. Burley	1427998	District 17: Hawaii
Rolando R. Cabingabang	1689675	District 17: Hawaii
Rodney A. Campos Sr.	2407585	District 17: Hawaii
Jesus Canoy	1309062	District 17: Hawaii
William Capinpin Jr.	1492828	District 17: Hawaii
Lloyd Case	1414747	District 17: Hawaii
Steven Casuga	1469583	District 17: Hawaii
Robert Chang	1981720	District 17: Hawaii
Palmer Ching	1578398	District 17: Hawaii
Gerald K. Cobb-Adams	1598062	District 17: Hawaii
Scott Coleman Sr.	1774638	District 50: Fresno
Raynald Cooper Sr.	1519547	District 17: Hawaii
Regino Corpus	1571566	District 17: Hawaii
Alfred Correa	1571568	District 17: Hawaii
Henry Debebar	1666082	District 17: Hawaii
Harry Demello Jr.	1309065	District 17: Hawaii
Freddie Dumlaio	1993803	District 17: Hawaii
Victor Farwell	1563137	District 17: Hawaii
Warren Fenner	0708356	District 12: Utah
George F. Fernandez	1301508	District 17: Hawaii
Donald Fujiyama	1627888	District 17: Hawaii
Theodore Fukushima	1191272	District 17: Hawaii
Alfredo Garcia	1606621	District 17: Hawaii
Donald Garner	1615387	District 10: Rohnert Park
Clarence Garrett Jr.	1555821	District 17: Hawaii
Hilarion Gascon	1463500	District 17: Hawaii
Victorino P. Gomez	1534967	District 17: Hawaii
Stanley Hashimoto	1105337	District 17: Hawaii
Bill T. Holaday	1176721	District 17: Hawaii
J. Scott Holliday	1758938	District 12: Utah
Herman Hopfe Sr.	1689687	District 17: Hawaii
Bobby Huffman	1977113	District 04: Fairfield
Edward Imamura	1321278	District 17: Hawaii
Isaac Inouye	1339392	District 17: Hawaii
Bernard S. Isip	1761716	District 17: Hawaii
Guy A. Kaaiai	2472629	District 17: Hawaii
Samson Kahakauwila	1620425	District 17: Hawaii
Jerry Kaluhiwa	1993819	District 17: Hawaii
Calvin Kanoa	1382386	District 17: Hawaii
Michael Kealoha	1563040	District 17: Hawaii
Walter Keamo	1238672	District 17: Hawaii
Landre Keao	1391949	District 17: Hawaii
Vernon Kimball III	1482458	District 17: Hawaii
Greg Knuedler	1768892	District 01: Burlingame
Gerald Larsen	1761441	District 12: Utah
Stanley Leanio	1586169	District 17: Hawaii
Henry Levi Jr.	1230009	District 17: Hawaii
Thomas Lohmann	1774449	District 30: Stockton
Lionel D. Lopez	1451600	District 17: Hawaii
Gregory Lucas	1451602	District 17: Hawaii
Phillip R. Luna	1781942	District 01: Burlingame
Jacob Mahi	1532385	District 17: Hawaii
John Makepa Jr.	1551071	District 17: Hawaii
Morris Matsuda	1067498	District 17: Hawaii
Robert Maule	1187413	District 17: Hawaii
C. Medeiros	2004954	District 17: Hawaii
Charles B. Miguel Sr.	1451770	District 17: Hawaii
Warren Miyasato	1647195	District 17: Hawaii
Abel Moniz Jr.	1586174	District 17: Hawaii
Harry M. Morikami	1175200	District 17: Hawaii

Earl Nomura	1472512	District 17: Hawaii
Ernest Olival	1451783	District 17: Hawaii
Richard Oshiro	1451785	District 17: Hawaii
Robert L. Paaluhi Sr.	1451786	District 17: Hawaii
F.L. Padilla	1694597	District 17: Hawaii
Jose Pagaduan	1451789	District 17: Hawaii
Edgar Pama	1637838	District 17: Hawaii
Daniel K. Pascal Sr.	1359580	District 17: Hawaii
Terry Porter	1519470	District 70: Redding
Ben N. Pulawa III	1606668	District 17: Hawaii
Walter Quon	1597778	District 17: Hawaii
Rodney Rezentes	1543023	District 17: Hawaii
Miguel Rivera Jr.	1590593	District 17: Hawaii
Franklin Rodrigues	2033184	District 17: Hawaii
Joseph Rodrigues Jr.	1725672	District 17: Hawaii
James P. Rust	1339417	District 17: Hawaii
Allan Saguibo	1620482	District 17: Hawaii
Ramon Sanchez	1679719	District 90: Morgan Hill
Ray K. Sasaki	1447155	District 17: Hawaii
William Shigetani	1584241	District 17: Hawaii
Stanley Shiroma	1284797	District 17: Hawaii
Pritam S. Sidhubrar	1732981	District 20: Oakland
Waldo S. Simons	1669636	District 90: Morgan Hill
Clement Soares	2404579	District 17: Hawaii
Harold Sogi	1506922	District 17: Hawaii
Peter Solomon	1171944	District 17: Hawaii
Ronald Souza	1414674	District 17: Hawaii
Vic Swanson	1709990	District 10: Rohnert Park
Minoru Takaesu	1171909	District 17: Hawaii
Bert Tarpley	1332617	District 17: Hawaii
Clarence M. Tavares	1694612	District 17: Hawaii
Larry Texeira	1532411	District 17: Hawaii
Sam C. Uhler III	1781862	District 30: Stockton
Nelson Umiamaka	2198113	District 17: Hawaii
Joseph Veincent	2005587	District 17: Hawaii
Vernal Veincent	1575852	District 17: Hawaii
Joseph Victorino Jr.	1597792	District 17: Hawaii
Samuel K. Vela	1584260	District 17: Hawaii
Vidal J. Villarreal	1589192	District 30: Stockton
Presley V. Wann	1728088	District 17: Hawaii
John D. Warby	1659388	District 12: Utah
Jerry Wilkerson	1175274	District 17: Hawaii
Ernest Wong	1420106	District 17: Hawaii
Stephen Yoshikawa	1447217	District 17: Hawaii
Carol Yoshimoto	1355465	District 17: Hawaii

Notification – district office business hours

Please note that for 2013 there are new hours for “late night.”

In California, Utah and Nevada, “late night” will be as follows:

- November-March: Late night will be the fourth Wednesday of the month.
- April-October: Late night will be the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month.

Office hours:
Monday-Friday: 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Designated late nights: 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

In Hawaii, “late night” will be as follows:

- November-March: Late night will be the fourth Monday of the month.*
- April-October: Late night will be the second and fourth Mondays of the month.*

Office hours:
Monday-Friday: 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Designated late nights: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
(All remaining Hawaii dates: Nov. 25, Dec. 2 and Dec. 23.)

*In March, June and December, late night will be the first and fourth Mondays of the month to accommodate members in paying their dues prior to suspension.

*In May, late night will be the second Monday of the month.

*In September, late night will be the first Tuesday and fourth Monday of the month.

* In October, late night will be the first and third Mondays of the month.

IMAGINE THE OPPORTUNITIES

Local 3 is dedicated to giving our young people the opportunity to succeed.

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Two scholarships of **\$10,000**

Two scholarships of \$7,500

Two scholarships of \$5,000

MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS

25 scholarships of **\$1,000**



Pick up an application today!

OE3 Scholarship applications are available at the

local's district offices, Credit Union branches and online at www.oe3.org.

Applications will be accepted from Jan. 1, 2014 to March 31, 2014. See full rules online.

Please call Rec. Corres. Secretary Jim Sullivan's office at (510) 748-7400 if you have any questions.



2014 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 2014 in each respective district. No Member shall be eligible for election, be elected or hold the position of PAC Member:

- 1. Unless he or she is a Member in good standing in the Parent Local Union and a registered voter (with proof of current voter registration) in the District where he or she is seeking nomination;
- 2. Unless he or she was continuously a Member of the Parent Local Union for not less than two (2) years next preceding his or her nomination;
- 3. If he or she is retired, is an Officer of or is on the payroll of the Local Union or a related entity;
- 4. If he or she is an Owner-Operator or a Contractor;
- 5. No Member shall be nominated unless he or she is present at the meeting, or unless he or she has filed prior to the meeting with the Recording-Corresponding Secretary or District Meeting Secretary on the day of the meeting before the meeting commences, a statement in writing, signed by him or her, to the effect that he or she is eligible to be a PAC Member and will accept the nomination if nominated.

Please see January's *Engineers News* for the schedule of meetings at which these elections will be held.

Proof of voter registration for Political Action Committee nominees

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 Committee (PAC) nominees: Please bring a copy of proof that you are registered to vote to the District Meeting at which nominations take place. 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 before nominations begin. (You will need your driver's license when filling out a new voter-registration form.)

DEPARTED MEMBERS

Ahloy, Valenti Mililani, HI District 17 08-02-13	Byers, Dale Livermore, CA District 20 08-24-13	Kochis, Wendell Ontario, OR District 99 09-02-13	Poole, Wayne Elkville, IL District 99 07-28-13
Anderson, William Reno, NV District 11 08-30-13	Carlsen, Casey Duchesne, UT District 12 06-21-13	Lapadula, Randy Snelling, CA District 50 08-20-13	Ream, Brett Placerville, CA District 80 07-31-13
Antonino, B Mapleton, UT District 12 08-04-13	Crownoble, Jay Sacramento, CA District 80 08-24-13	Maggiora, Elmo Sausalito, CA District 01 08-13-13	Robeson, Alfred Morgan Hill, CA District 90 08-26-13
Baldwin, Robert Alameda, CA District 20 07-27-13	Franco, Salvador Jr. Gilroy, CA District 90 08-02-13	Mariscal, Ysidro Ceres, CA District 30 06-27-13	Tanaka, Harry Kaunakakai, HI District 17 08-22-13
Bjork, Stig Oakland, CA District 20 08-26-13	Gadth, William Redwood City, CA District 01 08-26-13	Thomas, Vurel Marysville, WA District 99 07-11-13	Thomas, Vurel Marysville, WA District 99 07-11-13
Bonzo, David Cedar City, UT District 12 08-13-13	Graham, F Sparks, NV District 11 08-09-13	Vargas, Jose Tracy, CA District 30 08-18-13	Wall, Elfawn Santaquin, UT District 12 06-22-13
Bowman, Grover Bayside, CA District 40 08-31-13	Jonson, Alvin Fort Collins, CO District 99 08-04-13	Ward, Thomas Riverdale, GA District 99 09-06-13	Wendel, John Chico, CA District 60 08-09-13
Burns, Henry Sr. Waianae, HI District 17 07-26-13	Kenworthy, Roy Kelly, LA District 99 06-19-13	Wilder, Richard Wellton, AZ District 99 08-04-13	
Burton, Kenneth North Fork, CA District 50 08-15-13	Keoho, Albert Sr. Lihue, HI District 17 08-08-13		



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, elections 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, Nevada; and Hilo, Kauai and Maui, Hawaii. These subcommittees will have their own PAC 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 first-quarter District or Town Hall Meeting (see January's *Engineers News* for meeting dates and locations), so that you may be nominated and then elected.

Fraternally yours,

Jim Sullivan
Recording-Corresponding Secretary

DECEASED DEPENDENTS

Amarillas, Maria. Wife of Amarillas, Anthony (dec) 08-20-13	Buford, Bridget. Wife of Buford, Elbert 08-19-13	Kane, Joan. Wife of Kane, Mark (dec) 08-15-13	Sundem, Donna. Wife of Sundem, Robert (dec) 08-08-13
Ayers, Edythe. Wife of Ayers, James (dec) 06-24-13	Chandler, Doris. Wife of Chandler, Joseph (dec) 08-09-13	Martinez, Rose. Wife of Martinez, Joe 09-11-13	Tarpley, Gladys. Wife of Tarpley, Willie (dec) 08-01-13
Ball, Betty. Wife of Ball, Cecil (dec) 08-02-13	Croze, Brenda. Wife of Croze, Harold 08-26-13	Miles, Rose Ann. Wife of Miles, Robert (dec) 07-22-13	Thompson, Sandra. Wife of Thompson, Lawrence 08-10-13
Benson, Joanne. Wife of Benson, Kenneth 08-10-13	Deering, Mary. Wife of Deering, Henry (dec) 08-06-13	Oswald, Betty Ann. Wife of Oswald, Charles 09-07-13	Turner, Tamma. Wife of Turner, Myron (dec) 06-21-13
Blaney, Lorraine. Wife of Blaney, Richard (dec) 08-06-13	Ellis, Hazel. Wife of Ellis, Thomas (dec) 07-23-13	Pleas, Alice. Wife of Pleas, James (dec) 09-01-13	Van Ness, Dorothy. Wife of Van Ness, Daryl 08-23-13
Bockover, Susan. Wife of Bockover, Robert 08-05-13	Fantozzi, Bruna. Wife of Fantozzi, Ugo (dec) 07-29-13	Ramirez, Lupe. Wife of Ramirez, Raymond 08-24-13	Watson, Phyllis. Wife of Watson, Garin 08-15-13
Brossard, Frances. Wife of Brossard, Al Ross (dec) 08-31-13	Farnum, Shirley. Wife of Farnum, Rodney (dec) 08-06-13	Reardon, Sharon. Wife of Reardon, Daniel 08-02-13	Wenzel, Linda. Wife of Wenzel, Donald 08-19-13
Brown, Marialice. Wife of Brown, Philip (dec) 08-03-13	Harling, Maxine. Wife of Harling, Vernon (dec) 08-26-13	Rodriguez, Raquel. Wife of Rodriguez, Robert 08-25-13	Williams, Christine. Wife of Williams, Truman (dec) 04-12-13
Brown, Roberta Sue. Wife of Brown, James (dec) 08-20-13	Ince, Geneve. Wife of Ince, Lloyd (dec) 07-28-13	Roush, Anne. Wife of Roush, Warren (dec) 08-20-13	Wilson (Morgan), Judy. Wife of Morgan, Ray (dec) 09-02-13
	Jones, Edith. Wife of Jones, Robert 08-06-13	Schissler, Beulah. Wife of Schissler, Wallace (dec) 08-03-13	

A total approach to health

Longtime operator shares tips for longevity

Story by Mandy McMillen, managing editor

After 34 years of union membership, two knee replacements, diabetes and back pain so bad that he couldn't stand steady enough to shave in the morning, you'd think 75-year-old Charlie Grater would go ahead and retire already.

"You would think so," said his wife, Nanci. But the man just won't quit.

Like a boxer, Grater comes back for more because he loves to be in the ring.

"I thank God for the union," he said, while attending the last Semi-Annual at Rancho Murieta. "Working is a wonderful thing."

In order to continue working after all these years, Grater takes good care of his body, just as he does his equipment.

"Your body is like a machine," he said. "You have to keep it up."

Grater has a total approach to health, which is something he has honed over time.

Since being diagnosed 15 years ago with diabetes, Grater had to change his diet. Thanks to the help of his wife, who "does an excellent job cooking good," he has controlled his diabetes without the use of insulin. He and his wife avoid baked goods and try to eat fresh fruits and vegetables and lean meats.

A few years ago, Grater was also diagnosed with sciatica, which is pain related to the sciatic nerve that runs from the lower back down the back of each leg. The pain was debilitating, and Grater worried that his working days were numbered.

A doctor suggested physical therapy in the form of core exercises on a work-out ball and back-strengthening resistance-training at Grater's local gym. Rather than shying away from this assignment, Grater embraced it, adding fitness to his total health package.

He admits it was tough at first, but he kept at it.

"I worked through it ... built myself back up and came out like a new man."

And the best part of his newfound strength was that his back pain was gone.

Grater doesn't keep up his regular regiment while he's working, but in the offseason, he heads to the gym and works out five to six days a week, two to three hours a day.

Keeping a rigorous schedule has been a part of Grater's daily makeup since he started his career in the oil fields working on triple derricks. He joined the union when he was in his early 40s and laughs when he recalls how his crewmembers thought he was old then. If they could see him now!

The final piece of Grater's health package is his attitude, which changed once he started going to church regularly.

"Going to church changed my attitude toward people," he said. "I am kinder, more understanding ... a different outlook on life."

A good attitude does have healthy benefits, according to the Harvard School of Public Health. There is a proven link between attitude and longevity, and a good attitude not only lengthens your life but also improves its quality.

Several studies also suggest that a positive outlook decreases the chance of heart disease. In other words, a happy heart is a healthy heart.

Spend five minutes with Grater, and you'll see that he has both.

Grater considers his crewmembers to be like family, noting that Lund Construction, his employer for most of his construction career, is a family-run company.

"They [crewmembers] are always happy to see me," he said. "I enjoy the fellowship."

Grater explained that he never takes work from younger operators and is basically "on-hand" with Lund to provide clean-up work when needed, which is his specialty.

When asked what his advice would be for others hoping to have long, healthy careers, Grater said, "Don't give up too soon. Everything can be managed. Manage your body, keep yourself up and do go to the gym!"

The question remains: When will this guy retire?

"We'll see how the economy goes," he said with a laugh.



Thirty-four-year member Charlie Grater works on a subdivision in El Dorado Hills for Lund Construction.



By doing ball exercises and stretches that improve his core and back strength, Charlie Grater is able to keep his sciatica in check.

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. Must be 60 words or less.

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: A complete big block Chrysler 500 ci engine with a Milodon oil pump, Dan Olsen oil pan, Stage 2 max-wedge heads, Hilborn injections, Small Isky rollerream and Isky adjustable rockers with an aluminum boat flywheel. \$6,000. Serious inquiries only. (530) 301-6972. Reg# 1855418.

FOR SALE: Great 10' inflatable v bottom 2003 Maxxon dinghy. Comes with oars and two seats, fuel tank and an 8hp mercury short shaft outboard engine. Runs great. Dinghy comes with storage bag. \$1,000. (530) 301-6972. Reg# 1855418.

FOR SALE: Two 2005 Polaris ATVs, both are 700 Sportsman's, less than 50 hours time on either one, just as nice as new ones. Also included is a Triton Aluminum Trailer with a storage box. \$11,000 for the entire package. Call John at (925) 595-1164. Reg# 2249577.

FOR SALE: Ruger Red Hawk, .44 magnum, 5-1/2" barrel, stainless steel, both original wood grips and Hogue rubber grips included, like new condition, \$600 OBO. Call John at (925) 595-1164. Reg# 2249577.

FOR SALE: Legal-sized file cabinets. \$30 each. (916) 202-6198. Reg# 2396395.

FOR SALE: 22' Sunrunner Fresh 200 hp inboard with Merc cruiser outdrive. Hard

top with Cuddy cabin. Swim deck and marine radio. Dual-axle trailer with search brakes. \$3,500. (209) 823-4020 or (209) 623-9419. Reg# 1967873.

FOR SALE: Bass fishing boat, aluminum, 90 hp evinrude motor push button control at each seat, two raised seats and cock pits seat. Two fish finders, new cover. \$9,500. New tires on trailer, only 35 hours on boat. (530) 671-4485 or (530) 701-2842 or prrsharon@aol.com. Reg# 0336937.

FOR SALE: Horse trailer, four horse slant load, 5th wheel with living quarters' drop down windows. Tack room. Solar, storage on top. Set up for tether. Possible part payment for good two-horse trailer. \$14,500. (530) 671-4485 or (530) 701-2842 or prrsharon@aol.com. Reg# 0336937.

FOR SALE: 3 bd/2 ba (40-by-60) home, two-car garage on six acres surrounded by woods. Whole-house generator. Metal siding, roof, wood studs. Metal shop has overhang for recreational vehicle with two full hook-ups. Good hunting; fishing close. Low taxes, state income tax. 17 miles from town on paved road. (Driveways paved.) Close to Grand Lake in northeastern Oklahoma. \$299,000 OBO. (918) 787-8782. Reg# 1229928.

FOR SALE: 2003 27 H prowler pull trailer. North West edition, little use, air conditioning, diamond plate front, forward bedroom, inverter, slide out, awning. \$8,300 OBO. Located in Crescent City, Calif. For photos, e-mail eedfishn54@yahoo.com or call (707) 487-0773. Reg# 2407784.

FOR SALE: Iraq water-bag containers. Super insulation. Made for a 5-gallon water can inside. \$5. (510) 357-1853 or (510) 352-2167. Reg# 0477063.

FOR SALE: Ranch-style home on 0.90 acre in Keizer, Ore. Grow all the garden you will ever need and enjoy the privacy and towering trees, hardwood floors, plus tile in kitchen and baths. Easy-care home has metal roof, private well, 50-by-16 RV storage plus oodles of storage space everywhere. Perfect for Snow-birds. \$269,999 (down from \$299,999). (503) 428-8488 or lloydph@johnlscott.com. Reg# 1235519.

FOR SALE: 2012 Camaro RS convertible. Jet black, leather

interior. Less than 5,000 miles. 3.6L V-6. Six-speed auto trans. Rear back-up camera, navigation system, premium audio, Bluetooth, LoJack, much more. Mint condition, interior and exterior protection. Custom California car cover! Purchased last February for \$44,000; asking \$35,000. Contact Mike at (925) 366-7378 or skyhook03@live.com. Reg# 2417899.

FOR SALE: 16' fiberglass unsinkable canoe, made in 1952. Includes anchor and paddles. \$525 OBO. (925) 922-1797. Reg# 1977117.

FOR SALE: Portable 225 amp stick welder on trailer. Hobart. Powered by two-cylinder inline gas engine. Leads and stingers included. \$600. (415) 488-9515. Reg# 0702375.

FOR SALE: 1998 Lincoln Town Car with leather seats. Power windows. \$4,000. (209) 339-8049 or (209) 401-7997. Reg# 2292849.

FOR SALE: Gas stove. 80 to 100 years old. Three-burner. Everything is there. Has a porcelain back on it and a small overhang over the burners. Works. Small. About 3' long and 1-1/2' wide. \$450. (209) 339-8049 or (209) 401-7997. Reg# 2292849.

FOR SALE: 1992 GMC half-ton pickup. 8,000 original miles. Custom Corvette rear end. All leather interior. Beautiful sound system. Too much to list. \$12,500 OBO or trade. (707) 495-4415. Reg# 4061768.

FOR SALE: 1/2-acre lot with septic-system permit and water available in Camanche, Calif. (209) 274-0249 or (209) 419-3014. Reg# 1087730.

FOR SALE: 2003 gulfstream Sun Voyager 8329 Ford class A motorhome. 6,776 miles, two slideouts. Sleeps six. Lots of extras. \$53,000. Motivated to sell. Call Shellyne at (707) 484-8484 or Sandy at (707) 552-6458. Reg# 0939949.

FOR RENT: 2 bd/2 ba ocean-front newly remodeled condo in Maui. Condo is right on the ocean at Sugar Beach in Maalaea Bay. Full kitchens, laundry. Sleeps six. (707) 480-4121. Reg# 0939949.

FOR SALE: 1978 Tiga Formula Ford Race Car Low time engine, fuel cell, fire system, spares. Track Day, Vintage Race, Auto Cross or SCCA. Second owner Log books from new. \$8,500. Call Don at (707) 367-0498. Reg# 2042022.

FOR SALE: 1961 Studebaker pickup, six cylinder, three speed with overdrive. Good condition. \$4,800. 1970 Honda Trail 90 complete, ready to restore. \$800. 1963 Harley Davidson Skat - 175 cc motorcycle partially restored. \$2,100. (209) 984-3970 or (209) 770-3980. Reg# 0899391.

ESTATE SALE: 2584 N. Valentine Ave., Fresno: Two fishing boats with motors, furniture, beds, kitchen appliances, refrigerator and business office equipment. Wood chipper, hand and power tools, TVs with movies and music. Call Marin at (559) 287-9871. Reg# 1524186.

FOR SALE: Custom-built wheelchair. It was priced at \$11,494.30; asking \$1,500 OBO. Have the seat to go with it. Brand new; never been used. (520) 648-3266. Reg# 0782948.

FOR SALE: A set of very good proto combination wrenches from size 1-15/16 up to 2-1/2 inches. Total of 22 wrenches. (530) 477-1782. Reg# 1446503.

FOR SALE: Even Brake by Road Master. This is for putting on your tow-care behind your motorhome. It works off the car's 12-volt battery. Includes all books and attachments. Used only three times. (530) 477-1782. Reg# 1446503.

FOR SALE: 2008 Harley Davidson Electra Glide FLHT. 2,000 miles. Showroom condition. Burgundy. Extras include backrest for driver and passenger, cargo rack, security system and cruise control. \$15,500. Call Don

at (530) 637-5784. Reg# 1189100.

FOR SALE: New ST 185/80 R-13 Goodyear radial trailer tire. Paid \$90; will sell for \$60. Waterfall 27" high, volcanic rock with pump. Paid \$450; will sell for \$200. Garmin Map GPS 76 with mount. Paid \$350; will sell for \$175. Composite decking 1"-by-6"-by-16' long. Sixteen pieces. Gray. Paid \$600; will sell for \$300 with screws. (831) 637-2464. Reg# 1586184.

FOR SALE: Thompson Contender pistol with two barrels - #1: Colt 45/410 shotgun; #2: 44 mag. 45 is octagon barrel. \$995. Located in Arizona. Like new condition. (209) 969-7690. Reg# 0782724.

FOR SALE: 1992 Chevy extended cab Silverado. Has 6" lift, Borla headers, Rino bed liner, 350. \$4,500 OBO. Also: 1994 full-size Blazer. 350 V8. On non-op. Nice. \$5,000 OBO. (916) 961-0923 or (916) 612-3724. Reg# 1192222.

FOR SALE: 2011 North Ridge 340DBQ fifth-wheel trailer. 37' length with four slide-outs. 2 bd/1-1/2 ba, two ACs, Cummins Onan 5.5 LP Gen, washer and dryer, central vacuum, lots of extras. Fully self-contained. Also: 2005 GMC, SLT 1-ton dully. 75,000 miles. Duramax Diesel 6.6 L, Allison transmission, four-door long-bed, fifth-wheel hitch. Loaded. Will sell trailer separate or together for \$72,000. (209) 890-7777. Reg# 1963705.

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and take all the credit

Looking to make a year-end charitable donation and get a tax break? Donating to the Local 3 Scholarship Foundation may fit the bill! Use our convenient donation link at www.oe3.org to donate quickly and easily online! Click on the "Scholarship" link, and then find the "Donations Online" link.

For more information about the Scholarship Program and how you can give, call Rec. Corres. Secretary Jim Sullivan at (510) 748-7400 or visit our website. You should also consult your financial advisor for tax advice.

DONATE TODAY

Giving thanks

This Thanksgiving, many of us will sit around a dinner table, nearly hidden behind plates of food, and explain somewhat shyly what we are thankful for this year. We decided to ask a few operators the same question.

According to first-step Apprentice Musaqoi “Hollywood” Young, there is plenty in her life to be thankful for, especially her ability to do what she loves – operate equipment – and she’s not at all shy to discuss it.



Apprentice Musaqoi “Hollywood” Young couldn’t be more thankful for her career.

“I bleed this stuff,” she said. “It’s my life; my career. I want to do this forever. ... I am living out my dream.”

From the time she played in the dirt with those cool park shovels, she knew she wanted to be an Operating Engineer. After serving in the Army, which included an 11-month tour in Iraq and some seat time on equipment, she earned her certification as an equipment operator and then joined the Local 3 Apprenticeship Program earlier this year. She currently works for C.C. Myers in the Stockton District.

According to Apprenticeship Coordinator Jesse Vasquez, Young’s qualities should take her far.

“She has the drive,” he said.

After all, “Musaqoi” is a term from West Africa meaning “hard-working woman.”

Her nickname is also appropriate. “Hollywood” came about because no one could pronounce Musaqoi, she explained, so a fellow apprentice said she was like “somebody who’s famous.” Like the name, her personality is larger than life, with a smile to match and a thankful joy that is contagious.

Young is the only Operating Engineer from her family, and for them, she is also thankful.

“I wouldn’t be here if it wasn’t for the support of my friends and family,” she said. “They keep me motivated.”

She is also thankful for God.

Along with Young, other operators commented on things they were thankful for this year. What will you share around the Thanksgiving table?

This year, I am thankful for ...



“The economy getting better.”

– J.J. Morris,
13-year member



“Work getting better; slowly coming out of the recession. I hope the trend continues!”
– Ryan Whitehead,
14-year member



“A lot of overtime.”

– Charlie Lovato,
13-year member



“Working these hours – seven days a week – this time of year.”
– Tyler Steck,
eight-year member



“A good winter.”

– Dan Aira,
31-year member