ELECTION COMMITTEE NOTICE

See page 27 for important information regarding the election of the Election Committee members, who will conduct the 2015 election of Officers and Executive Board Members.
FROM THE DISTRICTS

PAGE 21:
Private work has fully arrived in Stockton District 30. Just ask Heavy Duty Repair (HDR) mechanics Dion Doll and Josh A. McCulley, above. They’ve been happily working through the winter on a big dirt-moving job, River Islands, which is a subdivision in Lathrop. Get some more information on this project, as well as a special company spotlight on one of the district’s stationary units.

PAGE 24:
NTK Construction has been busy in Burlingame District 01! The company’s jobs include work on a storm-water management system in Mission Bay and a rehab job on 16th street with Operator Miguel Briseno, above. Find out who else is working for NTK and see the other big jobs in the Bay Area.

NEW THIS MONTH

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7 From the Financial Secretary
14 Scholarship success

EVERY MONTH

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OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL UNION NO. 3

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Jim Sullivan
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A Local 3 education pays off

This year, the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) is focusing on apprenticeship, and since our four-state training program is considered to be one of the most progressive, diversified and advanced programs in the country, it’s certainly worthy of being in the spotlight. We recently purchased new training property in Sacramento County to train our apprentices in California year-round, and this is just one of the ways we are constantly improving and expanding our training program.

As college tuition rises and the job market grows increasingly more competitive (just ask your local gas-station attendant; chances are, he or she has a four-year degree), the overall opinion of trade schools and apprenticeship programs is changing. Kids are being directed to these more and more because it is getting harder to afford college and because an expensive degree doesn’t necessarily equal a good-paying job anymore. Did you know the average cost of an in-state public college is estimated at $22,826 per year? That doesn’t even cover books, meals or any recreational activities! What is the average cost of going through Local 3’s Apprenticeship Program? It’s free! Once an applicant is accepted, all that’s required is the time necessary to complete the eight-week Probationary Orientation Period (POP) training program and two weeks of Supplemental Related Training (SRT) per period. Once an apprentice successfully completes the POP training, he or she can start working in the field and getting paid right away. The great thing about our Apprenticeship Program is that it’s the only “free” university you can attend. And once you graduate, we can get you to work. No four-year university can say the same thing. For more on our Apprenticeship Program, check out page 11, and to see photos from our Northern Nevada Apprenticeship graduation, see page 32.

I was reminded of the value of being an Operating Engineer, as I introduced IUOE General President James T. Callahan at this year’s Instituto Laboral de la Raza award dinner in San Francisco last month. Callahan received the prestigious National Labor Leadership Award for his lifetime commitment to labor. He is the perfect example of someone who worked his way up, starting his career in 1980 as a shop mechanic in Local 15 in New York City and eventually becoming the union’s business manager in 2003. In 2013, Callahan was elected IUOE general president. Callahan was one of the Operating Engineers who immediately responded to the Sept. 11 tragedy, working through the entire recovery effort at Ground Zero. He is a third-generation Operating Engineer and encompasses the true meaning of the phrase “union member.”

This is what is so powerful about our industry. As an Operating Engineer, you can learn, grow and become what you want to be. You can gain all the certifications and credentials possible, and you can also sit on union committees, attend union meetings, vote in upcoming elections and consider a job on staff. You could even one day become the IUOE general president. We honor our members’ commitment to their craft and their union, and in turn, they are grateful for the protections and benefits the union provides. This is evidenced by the many multi-generational members we have. We are often most influenced by our family, and when your dad or mom operates equipment and puts dinner on the table for you as a child, you grow up understanding unionism in a way some never can. I am a third-generation Local 3 member, and respecting this union and working hard for it was something that was important to my grandfather and my father, and they obviously instilled this importance in me. Now my sons, fourth-generation Operating Engineers, also understand what being a Local 3 member is all about.

Local 3 is many things: It is a family, a way of life and a philosophy. But first and foremost, it is a career. You can earn a respectable wage working in this industry, and when you’ve worked your last hour, you can retire with dignity. A degree on paper cannot always promise that!

Of course, Local 3 understands the value of higher education too, which is why we have such a wonderful Scholarship Program set up for the sons and daughters of our members who have their sights set on college. For more information on how to apply for these valuable scholarships, see page 25 or visit us online at www.oe3.org. This is the last month to apply!

Don’t forget to attend our Semi-Annual Event this month, on March 15. I urge you to come and see what Local 3 is all about at the Solano County Fairgrounds in Vallejo. If you attend these events regularly, you’ll probably run into some old or new friends from the field. If it’s your first time, you won’t be disappointed. See you there.

Attention District 20 members: There is a Special Election on March 17 for those of you who live in state Senate District 07, which encompasses the eastern half of Contra Costa County and Alameda County. Make sure you are registered to vote and vote union. (The last day to register to vote in this election is March 2.) If you vote by mail, your ballot should have already arrived by the time this goes to press. For more information about the Special Election, including who we’ve endorsed, visit our website. Register, vote and participate!
Start the conversation

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, union membership across the country was 14.6 million in 2014, which is down from the year before by 0.2 percent. While that’s not a huge decline, it still illustrates that we are going in the wrong direction, and that wrong direction indicates why the economy is still considered stagnant for a majority of Americans.

Sometimes I wish we could take a few big non-union advocates and place them smack-dab in the middle of the 1900s in the industrial era before there were any workers’ rights at all. After they worked 14- and 16-hour days, seven days a week, for sometimes only one meal a day, breathing in hazardous chemicals and watching their co-workers die before the “ripe” old age of 40 because of such deplorable conditions, these “right-to-work” types might change their minds. The only reason these conditions improved, which literally saved people’s lives, was because of unions. These gains certainly didn’t happen because of the generosity of wealthy, private business owners left to their own capitalistic devices. Workers’ protections, overtime pay, benefits and sick time were as foreign to company bosses in the industrial era as Smartphones would have been. Unfortunately, without the laws governing companies today because of unions, many CEOs might consider profit over people again. Working Americans enjoy many of the benefits that are considered common today because of the brave who banded together and organized others, gaining the strength that comes with numbers.

If you are reading this column, chances are you are already convinced. Hopefully you participate in Local 3 by coming to union meetings and events. Maybe you even sit on a negotiating or grievance committee. Of course, you may just pay your dues and collect your check and that’s enough for you. Either way, if you want to continue reaping the rewards that others long ago worked very hard to achieve, you have to work on the other 285 million or so people in this country. The decline of unionism has to stop. Your wages and benefits will improve if you get others to jump on board. There is power in numbers. Isn’t that the foundation of organizing? If every shop and every company was unionized, imagine the power unions would have at the bargaining table? Imagine how the politicians would treat us, if the majority of Americans were unionized and voted the union way. They would throw money at us and at infrastructure left and right. While such things may seem like an impossibility, we can shift the momentum.

Start small. Watch your jobsites and make note of non-union workers. Talk to your agents about them but consider talking to them too. You can influence others around you by talking casually about what the union has done for you. If you are bolder, you can start talking about unions in the grocery aisle or at the gas station. Start the conversation and share the facts. If you want to continue reaping the rewards that others long ago worked very hard to achieve, you have to work on the other 285 million or so people in this country. The decline of unionism has to stop. Your wages and benefits will improve if you get others to jump on board. There is power in numbers. Isn’t that the foundation of organizing? If every shop and every company was unionized, imagine the power unions would have at the bargaining table? Imagine how the politicians would treat us, if the majority of Americans were unionized and voted the union way. They would throw money at us and at infrastructure left and right. While such things may seem like an impossibility, we can shift the momentum.

It’s easy to just go on about our lives – business as usual. We punch the time card and get paid our wage, but is that enough? We have to end the trend so that next year, we can say union membership across the country is growing. It starts with you!

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**Fix the roads!**

There’s no question that California’s roads are in serious need of repair. The state ranks 48th out of 50 states in terms of pavement conditions, mainly because its roads were not designed to carry 38 million residents and the goods associated with the world’s eighth largest economy. But the funding to maintain and repair these rough roads is just as inadequate. Along with steadily diminishing tax receipts, the end of the Proposition 1B bond program has dramatically reduced the amount of money available for funding infrastructure, which creates jobs for us. Visit our website to watch a video illustrating just how poor California’s roads really are. Scroll to the “Fix the roads” headline and click the video link below. There you will also find a link to the California legislators you should contact about this problem. Urge them to fix our roads now, since investment in infrastructure not only benefits the traveling public but also our industry.

**Hot-button political issues this year**

It may be a “non-election” year, but that doesn’t mean non-union groups are sleeping. Senate Bill 119 in Nevada, authored by some of labor’s biggest foes, will eliminate prevailing wage on any school project, if passed. This would open the door for non-union, out-of-state contractors to bid on these projects without paying the area standards. There is also a Special Election on March 17 for our District 20 members living in the eastern half of Contra Costa County or Alameda County. To learn more about these political items, including which legislators to call about SB 119 and who Local 3 is endorsing for the Special Election, visit our website.

**A few belt buckles still left**

You heard right, you can still order some of our Limited Edition 75th Anniversary belt buckles, and you can get the order form and see the styles available online. (Only the oval bronze with silver and gold plating ($100) and the rectangle sterling with gold plating ($125) are left.) Click on the belt-buckle icon on the left-hand side of our website to check them out.
More on income inequality

It may be 2015, but when it comes to wealth inequality in the United States, it’s starting to look a lot like 1929. This should come as no surprise to anyone who has been paying attention to current affairs over the past several years. Wealth inequality has been discussed here a number of times. The Occupy Movement was initially started to bring attention to this very issue. It has been the subject of studies, books, movies, songs, etc. for several years now, and it cannot be denied.

To set the stage, let’s ask, what is wealth? Wealth is considered the current market value of all assets owned by households, minus debt.

In the late 1920s, the top 10 percent of Americans possessed 84 percent of the country’s wealth. Since then, wealth inequality in America has followed a U-shaped trajectory, declining through the Great Depression until the mid-1980s, then suddenly and steadily increasing ever since. It is not by coincidence that this shift in the direction of wealth-concentration exactly coincides with the tax reforms enacted during Ronald Reagan’s second term as president. His attacks on organized labor coupled with “trickle-down economics,” which deliberately favored the very rich, are at the heart of the shift. Today, the richest Americans have a share of the country’s wealth almost big enough to rival those in the late 1920s, according to a new study by Emmanuel Saez of the University of California, Berkeley and Gabriel Zucman of the London School of Economics.

According to their estimates, almost all of this increase is due to the rise of the share of wealth owned by the 0.1 percent richest families, from 7 percent in 1978 to 22 percent in 2012, a level comparable to that of the early 20th century. The top 0.1 percent is a small group of about 160,000 families with net assets of more than $20 million. From 1986 to 2012, the average real growth rate of wealth of all families in the United States has been 1.9 percent, but this is deceiving, as the bottom 90 percent of Americans’ wealth has not grown at all during those years. During that same timeframe, wealth has risen 5.3 percent per year for the top 0.1 percent, which translates to almost 50 percent of the overall wealth growth. Another interesting fact is that despite the population aging, the rich are younger today than half a century ago. Much of that is attributed to inheritance. Think Paris Hilton! In the 1960s, the top 0.1 percent wealth-holders were older than average.

It’s important to understand the dynamics of the bottom 90 percent wealth-share. There is a widespread view that a key structural change in the U.S. economy has been the rise of middle-class wealth since the beginning of the 20th century because of the rise of pensions and home-ownership. The results of the Saez and Zucman study show that the bottom 90 percent wealth-share did gradually increase from 20 percent in the 1920s to a high of 35 percent in the mid-1980s because of pensions and home-ownership. But in a sharp reversal of past trends, the bottom 90 percent wealth-share has fallen since the mid-1980s to about 23 percent in 2012. Pensions have grown fast since the 1960s and now account for a third of total household wealth. However, although pension-wealth has continued to increase, it has not grown fast enough to compensate for a surge in consumer credit and mortgage and student-loan debt. Further clouding this aspect of the accepted view of wealth is that since many regulations prevent high-income earners from contributing large amounts to their tax-deferred-retirement savings, pension-wealth accounts for only 5 percent of the wealth of the top 0.1 percent today. The key driver of the declining bottom 90 percent share is the fall of middle-class savings. (Pensions are considered savings.) This drop may be partly because of the low growth of middle-class income, due to financial deregulation leading to some forms of predatory lending.

The study concludes three things:

1. Wealth inequality appears to have followed a U-shaped evolution since 1913, with a marked increase since the 1980s and virtually all the increase in the top 10 percent and top 1 percent shares over the last three decades. This is predominantly due to the rise in the top 0.1 percent share, from 7 percent in the late 1970s to 22 percent in 2012.

2. The wealth-share of the bottom 90 percent has followed an inverted U-shaped evolution, from a low point of 15 percent in the late 1920s and during the beginning of the Great Depression. The wealth-share steadily rose to 35 percent in the mid-1980s, thanks to rising pension and housing wealth but then dropped to 23 percent in 2012 because of an increase in mortgage and other debts.

3. The increased concentration of wealth at the top seems driven by surging top incomes. The combination of increasing income-inequality with increasing savings-rate inequality is fueling wealth-inequality.

What is not recognized in this study that has impacted the bottom 90 percent is a manufactured pension crisis. This comes as no surprise, but when we begin to understand the vastness of what has and what continues to take place, it is surprising. All of these elements seem very fragmented and complicated, but that is by design. More and more working people – that bottom 90 percent – find themselves drawn in to fighting each other over a smaller and smaller slice of the pie that is the American Dream. Until we collectively recognize that our common interests are more important than our differences, these trends will continue to snowball.

Until next time, the battle continues.
Growth in our nation’s economy eased during the fourth quarter of 2014, as Gross Domestic Product (GDP) increased at an annual rate of 2.6 percent. This increase was slightly below economists’ 3.0 percent growth expectations and sharply lower than the revised 5.0 percent rate during the third quarter of 2014. Consumer spending, which accounts for nearly 70 percent of our nation’s economy, was the main engine of growth during the fourth quarter. It increased 4.3 percent – its strongest showing since the first quarter of 2006. Negatively impacting fourth quarter results was a sharp deceleration in nonresidential fixed investment (think business investment in structures and equipment), a downturn in federal government spending and higher imports. On an annual basis, 2014 GDP increased 2.4 percent as compared to 2.2 percent in 2013. Nationwide, construction spending for 2014 increased 5.6 percent versus 2013. Looking forward, continued strong employment growth and low gasoline prices should lead to greater consumer-purchasing power and more than offset any softening in business investment and exports due to weak overseas markets.

Job growth continued its strong pace during the fourth quarter of 2014, with 973,000 new jobs created. The private sector added 952,000 new jobs, which included 84,000 jobs in the construction industry; the government sector added 21,000 jobs. During 2014, job growth increased at the fastest rate in more than 10 years, with more than 3.1 million new jobs created. Nationally, the unemployment rate for December 2014 fell to 5.6 percent, down 0.3 percent from September 2014 and 1.1 percent lower than in December 2013. Within Local 3’s jurisdiction, the fourth quarter of 2014 saw California’s unemployment rate fall from 7.3 percent to 7.0 percent, Hawaii’s rate fall from 4.2 percent to 4.0 percent and Nevada’s rate fall from 7.3 percent to 6.8 percent. Utah’s rate was unchanged at 3.5 percent.

During the fourth quarter of 2014, Local 3’s membership increased by 57 members, resulting in a Year-To-Date (YTD) membership gain through December 2014 of 16 members or 0.05 percent. Total membership as of December 2014 was 34,097.

Fourth Quarter 2014 Consolidated Financial Results

Financially, the union’s consolidated fourth quarter 2014 results showed a net income of $996,044. Consolidated revenues came in at $12.4 million – a 7.2 percent increase over the same period in 2013. Consolidated expenses were $11.4 million – up 4.7 percent from the fourth quarter of 2013. For all of 2014, consolidated revenues stood at $46.2 million – $2,555,000 (5.8 percent) above the same period in 2013. Consolidated expenses through December 2014 stood at $46.0 million – a $2,028,000 (7.8 percent) increase versus 2013. Local 3’s consolidated net income was $283,073 in 2014. Revenues benefited from a 4.1 percent increase in supplemental-dues hours, which resulted in a 6.8 percent increase in supplemental-dues receipts. Initiation fees were higher by 29.0 percent. Expenses rose primarily due to increased employment costs, higher per capita tax payments to state and local building trade organizations and costs associated with the union’s paperless record-keeping initiative.

The 2014 construction season proved to be prosperous, with overall work hours up 1.7 percent and surpassing the 27.8 million hour-mark for the first time since 2008. California, Hawaii and Nevada pension hours for 2014 were up 1.6 percent, 8.6 percent and 4.2 percent, respectively, versus the same period in 2013, while 2014 pension hours for Utah were down 5.0 percent. By industry, Local 3’s 2014 construction hours were up 2.3 percent versus 2013, whereas rock, sand and gravel hours and surveyor hours were down 4.4 percent and 1.5 percent, respectively.

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<th>Fund Balances ($ in millions)</th>
<th>12/31/14</th>
<th>12/31/13</th>
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<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>$34.7</td>
<td>$35.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hardship, Strike, Lockout</td>
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Fourth Quarter 2014 Consolidated Financial Report
(Unadited; in thousands)

Profit and Loss Statement (Dec. 31, 2014, Year-To-Date)

| Membership Revenue          | $40,101 |
| Other Revenue               | $6,136  |
| Total Receipts              | $46,237 |
| Salaries, Benefits & Taxes  | $28,501 |
| Per Capita Taxes            | $6,478  |
| Office & Operations         | $3,596  |
| Depreciation                | $1,470  |
| Professional Services       | $1,065  |
| PACs & Fund Allocations     | $1,107  |
| Admin & Public Relations    | $3,737  |
| Total Expenses              | $45,954 |
| Net Income/(Loss)           | $283    |

Balance Sheet (As of Dec. 31, 2014)

| Cash, Investments & Deposits| $57,207 |
| Employee Funded 457 Plan    | $1,823  |
| Automobiles                 | $3,469  |
| Office Furniture & Equipment| $1,614  |
| Computers & Software        | $10,155 |
| Communications Equipment    | $842    |
| Print Shop Equipment        | $1,012  |
| Less Accum. Depreciation    | ($11,096)|
| Total Assets                | $65,045 |

PACS & Fund Allocations $1,107

Liabilities ($4)

Employee Funded 457 Plan $1,823

Consolidated Fund Balances $63,226

Total Liabilities & Fund Balance $65,045
From the Financial Secretary

Tell politicians NO on SB 119

I recently attended the Nevada Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC) graduation in Reno, and it is always a pleasure to see our future succeed. I have watched Nevada’s training program grow from trainings held at a local landfill with rented equipment to the purchase of our new 150-acre site at Wadsworth. Today, the program has more than 40 apprentices and 39 pieces of equipment. It continues to grow and fulfill the increasing demand of skilled operators. For more on the graduation ceremony, see the back page.

Unfortunately, while our apprentices gear up for work, some anti-union politicians are doing everything possible to keep them unemployed. At the time of this writing, Nevada’s 2015 legislative session is underway and Senate Bill (SB) 119, which recently passed out of the Government Affairs Committee, would eliminate prevailing wage on any school project. If passed, this bill would open the door for non-union, out-of-state contractors to bid on these projects without paying the area standards, consequently driving down the wages of workers and the quality of work, while increasing the overall cost of the project. If SB 119 passes, it will hurt the middle class. Please do your part and put pressure on the politicians in the Senate who support this job-killing bill.

Call or e-mail as many of the senators below as you can. Tell them the construction economy is just starting to recover, but this bill will lower wages and the quality of work on school projects, while driving up costs overall.

Greg Brower – (775) 684-1419; Greg.Brower@sen.state.nv.us
Patricia Farley – (775) 684-1445; Patricia.Farley@sen.state.nv.us
Pete Goicoechea – (775) 684-1447; Pete.Goicoechea@sen.state.nv.us
Don Gustavson – (775) 684-1480; Don.Gustavson@sen.state.nv.us
Scott Hammond – (775) 684-1442; Scott.Hammard@sen.state.nv.us
Joe Hardy – (775) 684-1462; Joe.Hardy@sen.state.nv.us
Becky Harris – (775) 684-1421; Becky.Harris@sen.state.nv.us
Ben Kieckhefer – (775) 684-1450; Ben.Kieckhefer@sen.state.nv.us
Mark Lipparelli – (775) 684-1475; Mark.Lipparelli@sen.state.nv.us
Michael Roberson – (775) 684-1481; Michael.Roberson@sen.state.nv.us
James Settelmeyer – (775) 684-1470; James.Settelmeyer@sen.state.nv.us

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You and your union

Early in the year is always a good time to remind members what they get for their dues. What does being a union member mean, and is it all worth it? I could write pages on the reason you should be a union member and what unions have done for working people, but I’ll try and condense it here.

As a dues-paying member, first and foremost, you get representation in the form of an OE3 business representative. He or she performs all aspects of negotiations for your labor agreement and any meet-and-confer issues. Your business agent will represent you on disciplinary actions, starting with the initial interview through the appeals process. If necessary, you will also be provided legal counsel from the OE3 Legal Department or an attorney from a well-established labor firm. Your OE3 business representative will also represent you on a grievance or any violations of your Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), personnel rules, regulations and policies. As a union member, you have support and a voice that will speak on your behalf regarding wages, hours, Pension, Health and Welfare and conditions of your employment.

If there is a problem in your workplace, how would you prefer to handle it? Would you like to voice your displeasure of a policy or workplace issue to a supervisor, mid-manager or administrator or would you rather have your OE3 business representative go in and discuss it? As a member, it’s nice to have that buffer in case there is any backlash. We take it for you. That is one of the things your membership dues pay for.

Other benefits of belonging to OE3 include membership to the OE Federal Credit Union, access to OE3 Health and Welfare, which includes vision and dental benefits; a burial benefit; and the AFL-CIO’s Union Plus program, which provides low-interest, no-annual-fee credit cards, mortgage and real estate programs, educational loans, car rentals and discounts on personal legal services. Your Local 3 dues pay for many services, which, in most cases, you cannot put a price tag on.

Next month, I will remind all of you what this union and unions in general have done for you and your family in the past and present and what they will do for you in the future.

I want to take a little time to say goodbye to Business Rep. Dave Gossman, who is retiring. You can read his final column on the opposite page. Gossman was with the Local 3 Public Employee Division for 10 years, representing our members from Golden Gate Bridge, Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District, San Francisco Institutional Police Supervisors, city of San Francisco Operating Engineers, San Francisco Supervisory Probation Officers, the city of Santa Rosa, Ukiah Miscellaneous Employees and Sausalito/Marin Sanitation District.

Before coming on staff, Gossman had a successful career as a police officer with the Los Angeles Police Department, where he first began union work representing police officers from the Los Angeles Police Protective League. Gossman was one of the few agents on staff who could and would do an arbitration from start to finish. Normally, arbitrations are done by the Legal Department, but Gossman was very good at doing them himself. Dave, good luck and much health. Enjoy your retirement, your family and especially your grandkids. Thank you for your hard work and your service to Operating Engineers Local 3.

Gaining leverage today

By Gregory C. Ramirez, business representative

Last year was probably one of the busiest and most difficult negotiation years I have experienced in the 16 years I have been involved with labor representation.

Negotiations were protracted for many reasons, including skittish board members’ reluctance to restore (even partially) concessions made by employees in salary and benefits. Even with agency-conducted and paid-for salary and classification studies demonstrating employees being paid well-below the median for comparable positions and evidence of a revolving door of new employees who get trained and then quickly leave for higher wages elsewhere, elected officials and their management functionaries continued to ask for concessions in exchange for modest salary increases and zero benefit enhancements.

A key factor was the small amount of leverage public employees have, especially those in the mountain counties.

Every budget and negotiation is about priorities, which makes contract negotiations a good barometer of agency priorities. Unfortunately, employees have fewer and fewer ways to make themselves a priority and exert leverage. State laws have slowly eroded the bargaining power of public employees by allowing agencies to ultimately implement their contract demands after lengthy and expensive processes.

What types of leverage do we have to make positive outcomes more likely?

Contract enforcement: Union members should read through their negotiated contract, agency policies and procedures, and county ordinances concerning employees at least once to familiarize themselves with the content and understand that they have an obligation to abide by and enforce these documents. Union members and their representatives gain respect from management officials by not tolerating abuses or violations of the contract or rules that the agency has agreed to and/or implemented. Knowing we will credibly enforce these “conditions of employment” provides leverage; smart managers will ensure their directives are in compliance so as not to be burdened with defending their decisions and the public scrutiny that may result.

Politics: Union members can become politically active and support candidates who are employee-friendly, fair, intelligent and honest. An employee group’s ability to turn-out voters for a particular candidate and build a relationship with elected officials pays dividends by providing leverage in the future to address concerns and issues. Building an ongoing relationship of communication and support with elected officials provides a mechanism for employees to address attempts at privatizing/contracting-out bargaining-unit work. Time after time, members have pointed out faulty privatization schemes that cost the taxpayer more money and robbed the local community of good-paying union jobs.

Public relations: Union members can be ambassadors with the public-at-large by explaining the public services they provide to their family, friends and business communities. For example, the general public often has no idea how much work is involved with ensuring that clean, healthy water comes out of the kitchen faucet. This type of conversation is a great opportunity to explain the difficulties members may be experiencing and build leverage by turning public opinion more toward the union/employee position.

REMEMBRER: Every now and then I hear, “I don’t know what’s going on with the union.” The best way to resolve that is to stay informed. Please send me an e-mail from your personal e-mail address with the following information: Your full name, job title, agency/employer name, worksite location (name and address), cell-phone number and home-phone number. This information will only be used by me to keep you informed about what’s happening with your unit or if I need to contact you for information or support.
Golden Gate Bridge shines again
By Dave Gossman, business representative

The fight for fair wages and health care has ended. After 10 months of ferocious battling with Golden Gate Bridge District representatives and dealing with public-news broadcasts, addressing politicians and striking on the bridge, the coalition of labor unions representing workers at the Golden Gate Bridge has prevailed. Our members will receive a 9 percent wage increase over the three-year contract and other benefits. District officials initially offered a 3 percent wage increase over three years, but that wouldn’t have even covered the cost of inflation!

Golden Gate Bridge District service operators received an additional 10 percent wage increase effective January. Operators were retrained to operate the new mobile barrier that changes traffic-lanes on the bridge to meet the needs of traffic-flow. Now their classification is similar to a heavy-equipment operator’s. The Golden Gate Bridge shines again, as our members are back to work making the bridge sparkle and keeping the roadways running smoothly for commuters and tourists.

Welcome, Sausalito-Marin Sanitary District

The contract for the Sausalito-Marin Sanitary District has been ratified and agreed to. The unit will have its first Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and is looking at a three-year contract. Members will receive an 8.75 percent wage increase over the next three years. A special thanks to Vince Pasquini, Rob Schmidt and Omar Arias for their participation in negotiations. They brought combined dedication and experience to establish a great MOU for our members.

A goodbye

Lastly, I bid farewell to all the union members I have met over the last 10 years. It has been a wonderful journey. I have developed lifelong friendships and will forever remember the victories in contract negotiations, disciplinary cases and arbitrations.

I was looking forward to working for Local 3 and its members for several more years, however, health concerns have forced me to retire and spend my energy on wellness.

I wish everyone the best of luck in the future. Be safe and healthy! Again, it was a pleasure serving all of you.

ECCID gets successful first agreement
By Allen Dunbar, business representative

Members from the East Contra Costa Irrigation District (ECCID) joined OE3 in mid-2014 because they had no voice at the workplace and were tired of being treated unfairly. After joining the union, workers received their first Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) with a 4.2 percent increase that started in January.

The three-year agreement includes:
- An urban cost-of-living plus an extra wage adjustment of 1 percent in January 2016
- An urban cost-of-living plus an extra wage adjustment of 1 percent in January 2017
- An extra incentive program that includes bonus hours that can be cashed out or added to vacation on the employee’s anniversary date (five years equals 20 hours; 10 years equals 40 hours; 15 years equals 60 hours; and 20 years equals 80 hours)
- The possibility of a Merit Award (up to a 5 percent wage adjustment) for personal growth, exceptional performance, outstanding improvement or achieving goals during evaluations

New language was agreed to that covers seniority, compensation, earned time-off, overtime, sick-leave, shift-changes, other operators, vacation-requests and many other topics.

I would like to thank John Mendoza and Brian Baker for being part of the bargaining team that achieved a good first OE3 contract for ECCID. Congratulations to our new members.

News and politics from the San Jose area
By Mary Blanco, business representative

There have been many changes in the city of San Jose. Sam Liccardo was elected mayor in November. He will be replacing Chuck Reed, who was responsible for Measure B, which dealt with pension reform in 2012. Since Reed supported Liccardo, most city employees and labor unions were not expecting much of a change. However, Liccardo did make a point of meeting with all the labor-union representatives for their input on the bargaining process. This may mean he is willing to work with labor unions to resolve our differences.

Tam Nguyen, Charles “Chappie” Jones and Raul Peraldez were elected to the San Jose City Council. Peraldez was a former San Jose police officer and was endorsed by OE3. He was personally affected by Measure B, so his position on the City Council is a positive for city employees. Alex Gurza, the lead contract negotiator for the city of San Jose, was removed from his position as deputy city manager on Dec. 11 and reassigned to an analyst position for the Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services (PRNS) division. A few days later, San Jose City Manager Ed Shikada informed everyone he will be retiring. I am not sure how these changes will impact our future negotiations with the city, but I promise to keep you informed.

Currently, the San Jose Public Employee Office is busy negotiating a successor agreement with San Mateo County for our Building and Construction Trades Council (BCTC). This bargaining unit has about 74 members ranging from electricians to wastewater operators. The negotiation team consists of Joe Foster, Kurt Frank, Chris Geary, Vernon Jones Jr. and Fred Ponce. I am the chief negotiator. The chief negotiator for San Mateo County is Kelly Tuffo from Liebert, Cassidy & Whitmore. This bargaining unit received a 3 percent Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) for a 15-month contract that expired last month. Prior to that contract, the members said they had not received a salary increase since 2008. Negotiations are progressing well, and the bargaining unit is hoping to come to an agreement soon.
Continue the Credit Union legacy

Our members know we are a credit union, but what makes us different? If you compare us to other financial institutions, we appear the same. We offer some of the same products and services, but there's something a little different about us. Just like you, we are also union. It's true! We began in the union halls of Operating Engineers Local 3, and we believe in the union movement. In fact, all of our staff members are union members. And because we’re union and only serve union members, OE Federal is in a place all its own; we’re an exclusive credit union, and not just anyone can join. When your financial institution is union and was built to serve you, your family and no one else, why would you want to bank anywhere else? Bank with us; bank union!

OE Federal knows you. We understand your needs. That’s why we create our products and services specifically with union members in mind. We offer great savings and checking accounts; the latest technology, including mobile apps and mobile deposit; and competitive loan rates. You’ll be hard-pressed to find a financial institution that offers more ATMs than we do – our members have access to more than 60,000 surcharge-free ATMs nationwide.

We know you pass down a lot of life lessons to your children and grandchildren. You show them the value of hard work and the meaning of family. With that in mind, don’t forget to pass down the financial institution that’s always been at your side – OE Federal Credit Union.

OE Federal understands union members and their families better than anyone else, so start early! Open a savings or checking account for the little ones. If they’re grown, refer them to us. We’re not just any financial institution. We’ve been around for 51 years helping union members like you. Give your family the opportunity to continue your legacy in being part of a 100 percent union-owned credit union. You can have peace of mind knowing that when you refer those who matter most to you to OE Federal, they’ll gain access to the types of financial products and wonderful service they deserve.

If you are not currently a member or one of your immediate family members would like to join our Credit Union, call (800) 877-4444, visit us online at www.oefcu.org or contact your local branch. It is our pleasure to serve you.

OE Federal has partnered with Love My Credit Union Rewards to provide you with an exclusive member only tax preparation discount from TurboTax®.

For more info. visit us at www.oefcu.org.

"Tax discount is provided by Intuit Inc. The Love My Credit Union Rewards and TurboTax® logos are either trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective companies."
We are moving forward with the first two phases of development at the new training property, and it is just as exciting for the apprentices as it is for us. We have the cuts made for the first phase, and to finish moving dirt in the second phase, per design, we must remove about 400 cottonwood trees. For the mining permit we’re working under, we must mitigate some property to re-plant native trees at a ratio of 5:1. Environmentalists performed a tree survey of the existing trees and provided geographic data to relocate the planting of new trees. Our GPS class was able to take the environmentalists’ data and use our Trimble GPS to locate the areas identified in their tree survey.

This new property gives our apprentices and journey-level operators more opportunities to learn as they build, providing real job-scenario training. We are happy to move forward with our goals for the property with such great teamwork from our staff, apprentices and journey-level operators.

Simple planetary gear sets are designed so that each component is allowed to rotate or be held. For power flow to occur in a simple planetary gear set, one member is the input, one member is held and the remaining member is the output. The amount of torque, speed and direction of rotation depends on which member is driving (input), which is held and which is driven (output). Refer to the chart below for the eight possible combinations.

The picture at right is an example of the operation of a planetary transmission with multiple gear sets stacked together when the first gear/reverse is selected.

Input power from the engine is connected to the sun gear of the first planetary gear set. If the carrier is held, the ring gear becomes the output with a maximum speed reduction, an increase of torque and a directional change from rotation to reverse.

The ring gear of the first planetary gear set is now the input to the second planetary gear set and, as the example illustrates, drives the sun gear. If the ring gear is held, the carrier is the output with a maximum speed reduction and torque increase. With the carrier being the output of the transmission, the drive lines turn and the machine move in first gear in a reverse direction.

Planetary transmissions allow for many variations in a small assembly. Because the gears are in constant mesh, this provides smoother power transfer and the loading on the gears is balanced. However, everything comes at a cost, because planetary transmissions are heavier and more expensive than other drive systems.

1. Sun gear – the smallest gear positioned in the center of the assembly that is in constant mesh with the planetary pinions.
2. Planetary pinions – held in position with the planetary carrier. The number of planetary pinions is determined by the expected load that will be placed on the gear set. Light-duty applications will have three planetary pinions, while heavy-duty applications consist of five planetary pinions with the possibility of seven being used. The carrier and planetary pinions are thought of as one unit and the largest gear-member in the set. Along with being in constant mesh with the sun gear, the planetary pinions are also in constant mesh with the ring gear.
3. Ring gear (annulus) – internally toothed, holds the gear set together and provides strength to the unit.

The use of planetary gear sets in transmissions has several advantages: It eliminates grinding of gears during a shift, as the gears are in constant mesh; they are very compact and extremely versatile; and there are seven combinations of speed and torque that can be achieved with a single planetary gear set (eight if neutral is considered).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Combination</th>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Carrier</th>
<th>Ring</th>
<th>Speed</th>
<th>Torque</th>
<th>Direction of Rotation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Input</td>
<td>Output</td>
<td>Held</td>
<td>Max Reduction</td>
<td>Increase</td>
<td>Same as Input</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Held</td>
<td>Output</td>
<td>Input</td>
<td>Min Reduction</td>
<td>Increase</td>
<td>Same as Input</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Output</td>
<td>Input</td>
<td>Held</td>
<td>Max Overdrive</td>
<td>Reduction</td>
<td>Same as Input</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Held</td>
<td>Input</td>
<td>Output</td>
<td>Min Overdrive</td>
<td>Reduction</td>
<td>Same as Input</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Input</td>
<td>Held</td>
<td>Output</td>
<td>Max Reduction</td>
<td>Increase</td>
<td>Reverse of Input</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Output</td>
<td>Held</td>
<td>Input</td>
<td>Max Overdrive</td>
<td>Reduction</td>
<td>Reverse of Input</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Held</td>
<td>Output</td>
<td>Input</td>
<td>Max Reduction</td>
<td>Increase</td>
<td>Reverse of Input</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Output</td>
<td>Held</td>
<td>Input</td>
<td>Max Overdrive</td>
<td>Reduction</td>
<td>Reverse of Input</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Any two members held, speed and direction are the same as input – direct drive

No member is held, result is neutral – no power transfer
Establishing eligibility in the California Active Health and Welfare Plan

Hourly employees are eligible for benefits on the first day of the calendar month after contributing employers report at least 360 hours during a period of three consecutive months or less. For example, if you work 120 hours in July, 110 hours in August and 130 hours in September, your eligibility would start Oct. 1.

Please keep in mind that your hours are not reported to the Trust Fund Office until the month after they are worked; therefore, it is important to keep track of your hours. In the above example, the Trust Fund Office will not be aware that you have met the eligibility requirements until late October. If you need to use your benefits in October, prior to the Trust Fund receiving your hours, send copies of your check stubs to the Trust Fund Office. The staff will verify your hours with your employer, and if the hour requirement is met, they will manually update your coverage.

If you have any questions, contact the Trust Fund Office at (800) 251-5014 or the Fringe Benefits Service Center at (800) 532-2105.

Eligibility requirements are different for Hawaii, Nevada and Utah. For information on those plans, please refer to your Summary Plan Description booklet or contact the Fringe Benefits Service Center there:

- Hawaii – (800) 660-9126
- Nevada – (775) 857-4440
- Utah – (801) 596-2677

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**New location for Retiree Picnic**

Mark your calendars! The Retiree Picnic will be held Saturday, June 6 at a new location – the Dixon Fairgrounds in Dixon. More details to come.

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**Fringe Benefits**

By Charlie Warren, director
Fringe Benefits district visits

A representative from the Fringe Benefits Office or the Trust Fund Office will be available to meet with you and answer questions at your district office twice a month.

Please refer to the Fringe Benefits schedule below. Contact your district office if you would like to schedule an appointment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Tuesday (March 3)</th>
<th>Redding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Wednesday (March 4)</td>
<td>Yuba City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Thursday (March 5)</td>
<td>Sacramento</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Tuesday (March 10)</td>
<td>Stockton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Wednesday (March 11)</td>
<td>Fresno</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Thursday (March 12)</td>
<td>Morgan Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Tuesday (March 17)</td>
<td>Rohnert Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Wednesday (March 18)</td>
<td>Eureka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth Tuesday (March 24)</td>
<td>Burlingame</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth Wednesday (March 25)</td>
<td>Oakland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth Thursday (March 26)</td>
<td>Fairfield</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Correction

The calculation for determining your Pension benefit in last month’s edition was incorrect. The following is the corrected calculation. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

\[
\text{HOURS} \times \text{CONTRIBUTION RATE} \times \text{BENEFIT FACTOR} \times \text{PERCENT} = \text{BENEFIT}
\]

**Example**

- Hours: 1,000 hours worked
- Contribution rate: $7 hourly contribution rate
- Benefit factor: 1.25 percent
- Benefit: $88 per month at full retirement

Refer to the *Summary Plan Description* booklet for more details.

Pre-Retirement Meetings and district visits

At the time of this writing, we are wrapping up our yearly round of Pre-Retirement Meetings, and, as usual, the visits have been full of appreciative, prospective Retirees and their spouses. Many of the attendees have taken advantage of the district visit program implemented several years ago by Business Manager Russ Burns and subsequently scheduled a one-on-one session for a more personal consultation.

Remember, twice a month, a representative from the Associated Third Party Administrators (ATPA) or the Fringe Benefits Office visits the district offices in Northern California. Appointments are scheduled on an hourly basis, and walk-ins are encouraged. This is the opportunity for you and your spouse to work directly with a professional on any Fringe-Benefits-related issues you may have. Simply call your district office to sign up. See this month’s schedule below.

ATPA district visit schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>March</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Redding</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Yuba City</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Sacramento</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Stockton</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Fresno</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Morgan Hill</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Stockton District members and their spouses attend a recent Pre-Retirement Meeting.

Members in the Fresno District listen attentively during a recent Pre-Retirement Meeting.
Unit 12

Hit the road

By David Jake, business representative

We have some State Bargaining Unit 12 members who work for the Prison Industry Authority (PIA) at California State Prison (CSP) Solano and are in the Heavy Truck Driver classification.

PIA is a self-supporting customer-focused business that provides productive work and skill-development opportunities to offenders to reduce recidivism and increase public and prison safety.

These Heavy Truck Drivers deliver a variety of goods that are manufactured or processed at CSP Solano to many locations around the Bay Area. Their biggest job is providing commercial-laundry service to correctional facilities, such as San Quentin and the Juvenile Justice Facility in Alameda. These drivers pick up the dirty laundry and return it to the facility once it has been laundered at CSP Solano. These members also provide laundry service to hospitals and developmental centers.

In addition, these drivers deliver prescription eyewear to those associated with the California Medical Assistance program, as the glasses are manufactured at CSP Solano.

CSP Solano also provides Caltrans with reflective metal road signs as well as dump boxes for trucks and plow blades for grading and snow removal. These items, including the “One Lane Road,” “Shoulder Closed” and “Road Work Ahead” signs, are manufactured in the metal fabrication shop and delivered to different locations in Sacramento.

These drivers also ensure the handicap placards that are produced at CSP Solano are delivered to the Department of Motor Vehicle’s (DMV’s) main Sacramento warehouse. From there, they are shipped to DMV offices throughout California.

Keep up the good work.

Scholarship success!

Retiree Bob Federighi has five kids, so when his youngest, Caroline Federighi, won Local 3’s first-place Academic Scholarship in 2010, he was thrilled to say the least!

“She’s the youngest of five, so the money tree got smaller,” he said, referring to the funds available for college. “All of this [scholarship money] helped. She applied for it with no idea if she would win. When she got first place, we were so surprised and happy.”

Local 3 is also pleased, after receiving a letter of appreciation from Caroline thanking the union for the support and updating us on what she’s been up to. Turns out, Caroline not only graduated from the University of Oregon last year summa cum laude with a bachelor of science in human physiology, a minor in chemistry and a cumulative GPA of 4.07 but she was also a standout scholar athlete. In other words, “as my dad would put it,” she wrote, “Your money was well spent!”

While at Oregon, Caroline was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa, the nation’s oldest academic honor society, and played Division I women’s lacrosse for four years. She was her team’s starting goalie for 3-½ years, served as team captain her junior and senior years and was elected by her teammates as MVP her sophomore, junior and senior years. But “my proudest academic honor and athletic achievement was when I became the first Oregon women’s lacrosse player ever to earn Capital One Academic All-America, third team honors my senior year, an endeavor I spent all four years working toward,” she wrote.

“All this was accomplished in part for your belief in me when I was a high school senior,” she wrote in her letter to Local 3. “I want to thank you for choosing me and supporting me throughout my college career. I hope that this letter does not come across as me ‘tooting my own horn,’ but I really wanted to showcase what your trust in me allowed me to accomplish. … I would not have had the same experience if not for your support, and so I wanted you to know how much I appreciated your scholarship contribution to my academic career.”

While Bob is obviously very proud of his daughter, and rightfully so, Caroline is not the only Local 3 success story in the Federighi family. One of her older brothers, Ryan Federighi, was Local 3’s Apprentice of the Year in 2009 and currently works as a drill operator for Condon-Johnson. His brother Adam is also a Local 3 drill operator and works for Malcolm Drilling. (Bob and his wife, Carol, also have daughter Lerin and son Bobby.)

Bob, a 40-year member who retired from Local 3 in 2007 yet still works for Condon-Johnson as the company’s corporate equipment manager, was both an operator and mechanic in his active days and has spent the last 28 years of his career with his current employer. His brother Dave is also a Local 3 member, retiring in 2004, as was his brother Tom, before he passed away.

Local 3 is proud to have the Federighis on board and is very thankful for Caroline’s letter. Congratulations to the entire family!

A total of $70,000 up for grabs

Are you a Local 3 Operating Engineer and have a son or daughter looking at college? See page 25 for information on how your child can apply for a Local 3 scholarship, then print out an application from our website at www.oe3.org and apply! It’s that easy. In addition to the six Academic Scholarships, which are based on academic accomplishments, Local 3 also awards 25 Merit Scholarships, which are chosen solely by a raffle drawing. For more information on the Scholarship Foundation, visit our website or call the Recording-Corresponding Secretary (RCS) office at (510) 748-7400. This is the last month to apply!
Regardless of whether you’re a John Deere, Komatsu, Volvo or Caterpillar fan, if you’re a Local 3 technician/Heavy Duty Repair (HDR) mechanic, you love machines, motors and engines – the big stuff. As a kid, instead of riding your bike, you probably took it apart to see how it worked and whether you could put it back together again. And once you were old enough to drive a car, you probably spent most of your time underneath its hood, making sense of the engine; appreciating the way it worked and its power that is both complex and simple.

The mechanics industry is hardly simple today, however. According to District 20 Business Rep. Brian Lester, “The term ‘mechanic’ doesn’t quite fit today,” he said. “Today, these are technicians. They are required to not only troubleshoot and repair mechanical systems but also to troubleshoot and repair complex electrical systems (computers).”

For Technician Trainee Jon Perakis (Team John Deere), those complex systems are actually much better to work on than cars. “The customer doesn’t care if their tractor has scratches,” he said with a grin, while servicing a skid-steer.

Most of the union’s technicians/HDR mechanics grew up around equipment. Just ask Rec. Corres. Secretary Jim Sullivan, a second-generation member. He worked in the field as an HDR mechanic for 19 years and grew up watching his father do the same.

“It’s something I wanted to do my whole life,” he said. Now two of his sons are also Local 3 HDR mechanics.

Trainee Dan Maslowski had a similar childhood, since his first word was “backhoe.”

“I love working with my hands,” he explained.

This is a love that never seems to fade. Just ask Component Shop Foreman Anthony “Skip” Quinn. He’s been a Local 3 member since 1985 and says that what he does is more than just a job. It’s a career.

“It’s been a great career for so many reasons,” he said. “It’s provided for my family, my kids. I’ve built a retirement. And there’s a sense of accomplishment when you finish a job, seeing it through its completion. It comes in broken and goes out good.”

Technician Steven Richards (Team Caterpillar), who was working on a load bank for testing generators when we caught up with him in Oakland District 20, explained that his love of machinery started in high school.

“I messed around with cars … the Fremont Dragstrip,” he said. “Wednesday nights, we’d race whatever we were driving.”

Now, he makes sure machines can drive.

Not all mechanics grew up loving machines, however. Eddie Thoits worked for 15 years in Wall Street firms. Today, he’s working on the coolant pack of a 966 in San Leandro. And he’s happier than he’s ever been.

continued on page 16
Machinist Jeremy Mills is also happier than ever. Spend a few minutes with him, and his enthusiasm for everything that has to do with fabrication is contagious, as he points to different mills and drills like a kid showing off his favorite toys.

He met his true love, a lathe, inside his dad’s old shop building. He was just a kid when he discovered it - something curious covered in canvas. He read its operating manual cover to cover and then started using the machine to whittle. Now, he’s an expert lathe and mill operator.

“It’s an obsession that never relented,” admits Mills. “It’s an occupation, a preoccupation …”

He must make parts with a tolerance of + or - .002 of an inch! Nothing is “close enough,” in this line of work. It must be perfect!

Technician Jonathon Nolen (Team Komatsu), a two-year member, started his career working on equipment while he was in the Marines.

Field Technician Kevin Petersen (Team Volvo) also had a career in the military. He was a Navy machinist and also worked as a mechanic on the Oakland Airport.

Of course, repairing, servicing and selling machines requires the teamwork of more than just the technicians and machinists. The parts experts are the first point of contact at the equipment shops, greeting customers who walk through the door or taking their orders over the phone.

Parts Lead Melissa Hanna-Lasso has worked more than 10 years in the world of parts.

“I always liked heavy equipment, but I don’t particularly want to repair or operate them,” she said. So she fits perfectly behind the counter, helping customers with their orders.

Will Padilla, her counterpart, has been working in parts for 19 years, and he always knew this was what he’d do.

“When I was dating my wife, I told her, I’m going to sell parts for tractors,” he said, and he was right!

Inside repair shops, everyone involved is part of a team, and for those who have spent their entire careers on the same team, the members have become like family.

Counter Partsman Adan Molina has been a Local 3 member for 31 years and said his career has been “wonderful.”

“I’ve learned a lot … met a lot of good people.”

Branden Carpenter, who works in the warehouse, is a former Lucky’s grocery store employee. He is much more content immersed in parts.

Fourteen-year member Ray Pacheco, otherwise known as the “credit guy,” has the complicated task of processing all credit orders and filling emergency back-orders. He also performs inventory, calling his career “fantastic.”

Journey-level Partsman Gregory McCulley can get nostalgic about his career as well. In his 30th year, he explained that it’s been quite a ride, as he started in the stock area for the night shift and worked his way up.

“I’ve come full circle, and I’m mentoring the younger kids,” he said.

While the patchwork of people involved in equipment shops is as varied as the equipment they service and provide parts for, they share one thing in common.

“They have the ability to see the finished product and how it works,” said Sullivan.

It works because everyone works together, regardless of which brand of equipment they prefer.

“We’re all Local 3,” said Lester.
From left: Trainees Kyle Barnard and Jon Perakis reseal a cylinder.

Field Service Technician Andy Bortolussi works on a control panel.

Parts Lead Melissa Hanna-Lasso works in Newark.

Ray Pacheco works in shipping and receiving.

Steven Richards works on a load bank for testing generators.

Technician Ben Schluchter.

Technician Jon Pimentel works on Volvo equipment.

Tool Room Regional Manager Pete Miller.

Dan Graham works in parts/counter sales.

Technician Jeremiah Figueroa is a second-generation member, as his father, Larry Figueroa, is also a member.

Four-year member James Jimenez works in the parts department.

Technician Howard Borgeson works on the planetary gears of a D11-R differential.

Sean Cottriel processes some remanufactured cores.

Elton Teixeira, a 13-year member, pulls an order from the warehouse.

Seventeen-year member Anthony Destefano rebuilds a 988 wheel-loader and installs a new power train.

Partsman Will Padilla.

Tommy Pacheco works in shipping and receiving.

Steven Richards works on a load bank for testing generators.

Technician and five-year member Fernando Landaverde.

Parts Lead Melissa Hanna-Lasso works in Newark.

Ray Pacheco works in shipping and receiving.

Steven Richards works on a load bank for testing generators.

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Sean Cottriel processes some remanufactured cores.
**Sacramento**

**District Rep. Rob Carrion**

**Billions of dollars in work coming in multiple phases.** More information

Sacramento County Regional Sanitation District has $2 billion worth of work coming in multiple phases. The Mormon Island Dam auxiliary project, the Folsom Dam Phase IV project, the Cosumnes Boulevard extension project and the Silva Valley Parkway overpass and interchange project.

The Mormon Island Auxiliary Dam project is picking back up with **Suulutaag, Fisher Industries and Granite Construction.** Members continue to mine and process aggregates for the $95 million overlay of the existing dam.

**Kiewit** and Granite continue to work on the $380 million combined-value Folsom Dam Phase IV project constructing cutoff walls, an upstream approach channel, a spillway control structure and a spillway chute. **Myers and Sons** is still moving earth on the $29 million Silva Valley Parkway project. Tasks include working on the interchange, signalization, parkway improvements and bridge and culvert construction.

Some up and coming projects include a hotel that will be built downtown near the Sacramento Entertainment and Sports Center. In Winters, a PG&E training facility will be constructed, built downtown near the Sacramento Entertainment and Sports Center (Kings Arena), the Mormon Island Dam auxiliary project, the Folsom Dam Phase IV project, the Cosumnes Boulevard extension project and the Silva Valley Parkway overpass and interchange project.

The District 12 staff is busy getting ready for all of the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT). Work will continue on some ongoing projects that have been slowed down or put on hold during the winter months, and hopefully our signatory contractors will prevail on some upcoming bids.

Crane companies should be busy this year with several refinery shutdowns in late spring and ongoing taxi work around the state. Concrete plants have also seen a significant rise in production last season that should carry into this season after a long winter. Several of our signatory contractors have a backlog of work, with more bids coming out from the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT). Work will continue on some ongoing projects that have been slowed down or put on hold during the winter months, and hopefully our signatory contractors will prevail on some upcoming bids.

The District 12 staff is busy getting ready for all of the Utah Crane and **Geneva Rock Products** contracts coming up this year. We will be visiting these units and urging members to get involved in upcoming pre-negotiation meetings and negotiating committees and take the time to vote on their contracts.

**The Utah Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC) has a mandatory apprentice meeting every year in January at the Hall, when apprentices are educated about all the aspects and benefits of being a member of this great local. Topics include work ethic, upcoming jobs, Fringe Benefits, the importance of politics/Voice of the Engineer (VOTE) program, union pride, organizing, training and contracts. Apprentices are invited to ask questions to staff as well as Rec. Corres. Secretary **Jim Sullivan**. This is a great event for everyone involved, as it has promoted the engagement and participation of our apprentices.**

**District Reports**

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**Utah**

**District Rep. Brandon Dew**

**Annual apprentice meeting another success**

In Utah District 12, we look forward to working starting this season after a long winter. Several of our signatory contractors have a backlog of work, with more bids coming out from the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT). Work will continue on some ongoing projects that have been slowed down or put on hold during the winter months, and hopefully our signatory contractors will prevail on some upcoming bids.

**The Workers Compensation Fund of Utah recently sponsored a breakfast for District 12, and we would like to thank the fund’s representatives for their continued support.**

**Annual apprentice meeting another success**

In Utah District 12, we look forward to working starting this season after a long winter. Several of our signatory contractors have a backlog of work, with more bids coming out from the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT). Work will continue on some ongoing projects that have been slowed down or put on hold during the winter months, and hopefully our signatory contractors will prevail on some upcoming bids.

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Getting it done on Hwy. 101

Granite Construction has been busy in District 10 with another slide-repair on Hwy. 101 going up the grade. Region Superintendent Joe Pomilia along with Foreman Lorne Chase have been overseeing our members as they excavated and placed 7,500 tons of 1-ton rock to repair the storm damage done to the highway. This means they gutted out more than 4 feet and needed to pave back 4 feet of asphalt. Kevin David Jr. and John Schlegel supplied 9,000 tons of asphalt from Granite’s North State Street facility in Ukiah. Paver Operator Deno Dogali worked with screedmen Matt Schoenahl and Kevin Brown. Breakdown Roller Operator Marty Carr was also onsite with Finish Roller Operator Calvin Tolman.

Mark your calendars for our annual breakfast/car show being held at the Veterans Building in Santa Rosa on May 31!

New vent shaft at Leeville Mine

With the exception of a handful of projects, in true Northern Nevada fashion, this past winter was slow. However, weather permitting, the spring season looks positive with several projects scheduled to resume and several more to begin. Granite Construction will resume work on Hwy. 93 near Lages Junction, worth $9.9 million. Q&D Construction is currently hard at work on its $12.1 million project at McCarran Boulevard between Mira Loma and Greg Street. The company is also on the $7.5 million I-580 rehab project between Moana Lane and the Truckee River. Road and Highway Builders will be resuming its work near Elko on state Route 225, 227 and 535, which will include paving, drainage and needed repairs ($19.7 million). The company will also begin highway work on Hwy. 93 near Currie worth $7.9 million. Sierra Nevada Construction continues to employ our operators at the Lemmon Valley warehouses. There are also several smaller projects in our area.

The mining industry has seen its share of slowdowns due to several factors. Weather is usually not one of them, because, for the most part, mines are able to work year-round. Ames Construction has stayed busy at several mine sites between Carlin and Crescent Valley. Granite Construction is hard at work on its leach-pad project at the Barrick Cortez Mine near Crescent Valley. N.A. Degerstrom can be found keeping operators busy at the Rossi and Slaven mines near Battle Mountain.

We are seeing bid requests being posted for many upcoming construction projects throughout Northern Nevada, which is a good indicator that 2015 may be a promising year.

Let’s keep our work union! We appreciate – and hope we will continue to receive – calls from you, our brothers and sisters, regarding information on non-signatory contractors, their projects and any violations you see. This is a great way to help us all in our organizing efforts.

Please remember to renew your registration on the out-of-work list at least every 84 days and keep your contact information current. You can do this by calling the Hall. Now is also a great time to renew or obtain any certifications you need or want from our training site.

From Elko

We expect some long-awaited payoffs at Newmont this year. Although gold prices are projected to remain soft for some time, two major projects are expected to offset some of the capital concerns. Newmont has added a new vent shaft at its Leeville location that will hit its target depth of 2,050 feet in the first quarter. Creating this new shaft will increase the airflow for the production activities at Leeville and provide continued growth-potential over the next 10 years for this key element of Nevada operations.

Long Canyon, located in the Pequop Mountains between Wells and Wendover, is Newmont’s largest exploration project in the state. The property acquired in 2011 has reached the construction stage of its development, and a request for construction-funding was expected to be made last month. Although there is still some permitting work to be done, if all goes as planned, production will be on target for early 2017. The Long Canyon project could provide economic benefits to the Wendover and Wells communities, adding 300 to 500 full-time jobs and 300 to 400 construction jobs that will establish a new mining district in the state for Newmont.

Newmont negotiations will begin sometime in the fall, so now is the time to start making a list of your wants and needs for the upcoming contract. Make sure we have your current e-mail address on file. With this information, we can keep you informed on upcoming meetings and events.

Construction Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of every month, and Newmont Mining Membership Meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of every month.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call our Elko office at (775) 753-8761 or stop by our new location at 555 W. Silver St., Ste. 104.
Dispatches up 40 percent

We are starting 2015 off with a bang. Dispatches are up 40 percent over this time last year in District 20! The Golden Hills Altamont Pass windmill project is starting in early spring and will put several members to work. Negotiations for Peterson Power Systems started in December, and after two months, we are happy to have ratified the contract. Pipeline projects in the district look to be just as strong this year as in 2014. We have had senior steward training and new steward training for the upcoming season. Also in the district, the private housing sector is coming back strong, with Independent Construction, DeSilva Gates and Teichert Construction heading up jobs. A/S Pipelines, J&M, Platinum Pipelines and Garney Construction are some of the signatory contractors leading the underground work. Our brothers and sisters at the quarries and cement and asphalt plants are reporting good hours. As you can tell by all the K-rail on the highways, the public sector is still booming. Tullis, Inc. is also keeping members busy.

Please remember to re-register on the out-of-work list at least once a month, so you don’t fall off. Keep in mind, you can pay your union dues over the phone via credit or debit card. However, no suspended reclassification dues can be paid over the phone. It’s going to be a busy year, so keep an eye on who is working in the field. If you see any issues, please don’t be afraid to contact your business agents, so we can handle it.

The District 20 staff would like to congratulate former business rep Jerry Hunt on his many years of service and long-awaited retirement. He did a great job for the district and union hands working in the field. We are happy to welcome Rich Krimm, who will replace Hunt and cover the same territory.

Farewell to a legend
Harold D. Puckeylow - 1926-2014

District 20 Retiree Harold D. Puckeylow recently passed away from leukemia. The 69-year member, ham-radio operator and active pilot attended more consecutive Local 3 events than probably any other Retiree, often flying his plane in and creating quite the stir! Local 3 meant as much to him as his family did, and it was important to him to stay informed about union news and to make sure others were too.

“You have to pay attention to this stuff,” he said, often sending newspaper clippings to the Public Relations Department with handwritten notes and research on labor events in the Bay Area.

His love of life and varied interests will be missed by all. Our condolences to his family, especially his wife, Donnalea.

SIX TOWER CRANES IN DOWNTOWN SAN JOSE

With almost no winter weather worth mentioning, District 90 continues to be busy with every agent in our district reporting new projects popping up and existing projects still going strong.

In our northern area, there are many big jobs, including the Apple 2 Campus project in Cupertino. Operators have started erecting the iron on the main building with Bragg Crane, Maxim Crane and Bigge Crane hanging the steel. The building is so large that while operators hang the steel on one side, they pour concrete on the other side. Conco’s four pump trucks are working long hours. Cabrillo Hoist is also onsite with two double-sided lifts. (More are to be installed later.) Top Grade/Goodfellow is busy moving dirt onsite. Located in the same area is DeAnza College, where Guerra Construction is doing the grading for a new library. At West Valley College, Rosendin Electric is busy on the project that thankfully has a Project Labor Agreement (PLA) in place. In the Santa Clara area, there are several big jobs going on and some that have recently finished. Tucker Engineering recently completed a large demo and mass grading job, and right across the street, Joseph J. Albanese also completed a demo and grading job. Down the road on Hwy. 237, Tucker Engineering is doing another grading job.

Top Grade/Goodfellow broke ground on an 800-unit housing tract located off Santa Teresa Boulevard in Gilroy. The company also started working again on the Hwy. 152/Mt. Madonna project. On Hwy. 101 southbound and northbound, St. Francis is still busy installing metering lights. Mountain Cascade is working on the Almaden Expressway replacing an existing sewer line with a larger line. This will help satisfy the increased demand due to all the new housing.

Top Grade and Pacific Underground Construction are busy working in downtown San Jose on the $114 million Santa Clara-Alum Rock Bus Rapid Transit (BRT). This bus will provide limited-stop rapid-transit service from the Eastridge Transit Center to the area station in downtown, using Santa Clara-Alum Rock and turning on Capitol Expressway. This is going to be a big year for downtown San Jose, since at least half a dozen tower cranes are being erected in the area. Silvery Towers, AC Hotel and Parkview Towers are just a few of the many high-rise jobs happening this year.

In the southern part of our district, there are a few jobs working toward completion. These include the Red Barn project that Granite Construction is hoping to finish this year and the old Fort Ord job in Marina with Sanco Pipelines. Papich Construction is working on Hwy. 101 in Greenfield, and Granite Rock is working on the Monterey Airport runway extension.

The District 90 staff would like to remind you to call the Hall or your business agent, if you see something on the jobsite that doesn’t seem right. If you are not working, please make sure to keep your registration on the out-of-work list updated. It is already very busy in our district, and we will need everyone working. If you need any training, please call the Rancho Murieta Training Center at (916) 354-2029 and see what classes are available. If you have any other questions, call the Hall and we will try to help you.

Attention District 20 members: If you live in the eastern half of Contra Costa County or Alameda County, then you live in state Senate District 07, and there is a Special Election coming up on March 17. Make sure you are registered to vote. The last day to register to vote in this election is March 2. If you vote by mail, your ballot should have already arrived by the time this goes to press. For more information about the Special Election, including who we’ve endorsed, visit our website at www.oe3.org. Register, vote and participate!

MORGAN HILL

Six tower cranes in downtown San Jose

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Welcome, Northwest Demolition

We hope you’re ready to start work next month, as we head into the end of winter and the beginning of the busy season. Have you had a chance to meet new District Rep. Dave Kirk? If not, be sure to come to the March 10 District Meeting at the Best Western Bayshore Inn (3500 Broadway) in Eureka. This is the best opportunity to find out what’s going on in your union. We are only as strong as our membership. Your voice is what makes our union, so come and be heard.

We know our Retirees enjoy our annual District Picnic in February, so give us your input. We have to make some changes to the event because of the increases in the price of crab and availability issues, and we can’t do it without you. Please come to the March 10 Retiree Meeting at 2 p.m. at the Labor Temple (840 E St.) in Eureka. We want to make the picnic more enjoyable for all and appreciate your ideas.

It’s winter out there, so drive safely, especially in construction zones. Our Caltrans brothers and sisters are out there rain or shine, and we need to support them. We’ll be starting negotiations on behalf of Caltrans Unit 12 this month, and we will keep you informed of the progress.

We recently signed Northwest Demolition to the Master Agreement, and the company is a great addition to our local signatory companies at the Humboldt Bay PG&E Power Plant. Work continues there with North Coast Fabricators leading the way, as several major phases of the project have been completed.

Wahlund Construction continues to work through the slow season, keeping a few operators busy. As the work season begins to slowly gear up, we’ll be making a huge effort to sign new contractors to Local 3.

Peterson continues to provide service for local companies all around District 40. Mercer-Fraser hasn’t started paving yet, but the company should be starting soon.

Don’t forget! The Fringe Benefits Department is available at the Hall on the third Wednesday of every month. If there are any issues you need to discuss, call the Hall and make an appointment to speak to one of their knowledgeable representatives.

River Islands project is booming

The Stockton District has had an incredible amount of work the past 15 months, and work continues to be strong. R&L Brosamer/Walsh is nearing the final phase of the I-5 project through Stockton. Myers & Sons Construction and Bay Cities Paving and Grading continue reconfiguring overpasses and connector ramps and modifying surface streets. This work will continue through the year along Hwy. 99 from the Hwy. 4/cross-town freeway south to Lathrop Road. Bay Cities Paving and Grading also continues widening Hwy. 4 from Bacon Island Road to South Roberts Road in Stockton. O.C. Jones’ Hwy. 12 pavement rehabilitation/bridge construction project will continue through the summer. Brosamer/Wall, Inc. is working on the extension of Hwy. 4 at Fresno Avenue, and this project should continue through the winter.

Private work is here! The construction of subdivisions has spread in the Stockton District, as Tracy, Mountain House, Lathrop, Lodi, Manteca and Ripon all have subdivisions under construction. Independent Construction Company has been moving dirt all winter in Lathrop at the River Islands project. Work started late last year and has continued with the construction of lakes, housing pads and building pads.

Underground work has been steady in the district due to the resurgence of the housing and commercial markets along with local projects improving underground facilities.

Paving work continues to be plentiful and steady this year, with many large paving projects breaking ground this spring.

These include the $40 million I-5 job, which includes 50 miles of bi-directional paving, and Teichert Construction’s $23 million Hwy. 99 super-pave project from Hammer Lane north to the Sacramento County line at Dry Creek Bridge.

Local rock, sand and gravel plants have felt the surge in demand for materials being used for projects in the area.

We look forward to seeing you all at the Stockton District Picnic on Sunday, May 3, at Micke Grove Park in Lodi. Stay tuned for more details.

Company spotlight: Wolverine Services, LLC

Wolverine Services, LLC is one of many stationary units employing Local 3 members in different capacities. Wolverine maintains the Tracy and Sharpe depots, which are fully self-contained units with a combined area of 1,070 acres – similar to small cities! Members with Wolverine operate the water-treatment and sewage-treatment plants, storm-drain pumps and water-retention basins. They also provide warehouse and building maintenance from HVAC to roll-up doors, including all electrical, plumbing, onsite irrigation and landscape maintenance. Wolverine has an equipment-repair shop that maintains equipment for the depots, including gas, diesel and electric forklifts. Members also maintain and repair the fleet trucks, vans and a few pieces of heavy equipment at the two locations.
Apprenticeship Program coming to Maui, Kauai, Big Island

As the first quarter comes to an end, it is a good time to make sure your information is correct with the Hall and Trust Fund Office and that your dues are up-to-date. Also, make sure your beneficiaries and dependents are correct and check on your Health and Welfare benefits are up-to-date. Also, make sure your Trust Fund Office and that your dues information is correct with the Hall and it is a good time to make sure your information is correct with the Hall and Trust Fund Office and that your dues are up-to-date. Also, make sure your beneficiaries and dependents are correct and check on your Health and Welfare benefits are correct.

This year, the Apprenticeship Program will be coming to Maui, Kauai and the Big Island, and we’ll be taking applications. Contact the Kahuku Training Facility at (808) 232-2001 for more information on when and where representatives will be on your island. Oahu will be taking apprentices next year.

At the time of this writing, we report a 9 percent increase in hours for November 2014 as compared to the same time last year, bringing our year-to-date hours up to 7 percent. Watts Constructors, LLC is working on the Army Support Facility worth $32.63 million. Paradigm Construction has two jobs – the fourth phase of the Mehana Arterial Roadways worth almost $7 million and Mehana Parcel 7 for $6.14 million. New contractor Landon Construction is in Pearl Harbor working on the P-320 Submarine Production Support Facility for $422,760. Penhall Company dba Concrete Coring is working on Block B for $462,700. Hawaiian Dredging is working three projects – the NDWP Taxilanes for $42.7 million, 7000 Hawaii Kai worth $80 million and Salt Block F for $16 million. NAN, Inc. is working on the relocation of underground utilities for the Honolulu Rail project from the stadium to the airport worth just over $28 million. Frank Colluccio is working on the sewer tunnel from the San Island Wastewater Treatment Plant to Pier 1.

From left: Hydraulic Monitor Operator Harry Au, Crane Operator Daniel K. Kahumoku, Welder Raika Euiltt and Oiler John W. Kahoonei III work for Frank Colluccio on the sewer tunnel from San Island Wastewater Treatment Plant to Pier 1.

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

The union difference

According to The New York Times, people who belong to unions are happier, so if you want to be happy, join a union. Studies conducted by the University of Arizona and the University of California found that union membership has more than just an independent effect on income, meaning union members aren’t happier just because they earn more money. The study also took into account education, gender, age, marital and employment status, self-reported health and church attendance. Researchers concluded, “We find union members are more satisfied with their lives than non-members.” They just figured out what we already knew! Maybe we haven’t been telling enough friends and neighbors.

This year’s work is very similar to last year’s, and we hope everyone gets plenty of hours. Tune your cars and trucks, because travel may be necessary! One project worth mentioning is the work being done on the Sutter Buttes Flood Control Agency Levee with Teichert.

We have tracked 69 projects so far this year for work in the upcoming season. Fourteen projects worth at least $400,000 have bid since we began tracking them in the fourth quarter of last year. The total of all projects is estimated at more than $63 million, but not all of these were won by union contractors. We do well in heavy-highway work but building construction and associated infrastructure or site work, like parking lots, underground and landscaping, brings out every contractor in the North state. The Chico area seems to be seeding many of these non-union contractors, and they are beginning to challenge and win jobs from our signatories.

At the time of this writing, 55 more projects are listed to bid during the first quarter of this year. Business agents Jeff Hunerlach and Duane “Flip” Imhoff and Organizer Ron Roman will be at pre-bids and job-walk meetings with union and non-union contractors, but they need your support and jobsite “Intel” to help grow this union and make more happy people.

Do you know someone who works for a contractor performing prevailing-wage work and just doesn’t seem to get paid all the hours they work or has to pay back some of the prevailing wage? Make someone happy, and organize his or her company!

Please don’t forget these important District 60 dates: Our District Meeting is Thursday, March 12 at 7 p.m. at the Yuba City Fairgrounds Flower House on Franklin Road. Our District Picnic is April 26 at the Gridley Fairgrounds. (Turn east off Hwy. 99 at Hazel Street.) Dickey’s BBQ of Yuba City will be catering the picnic. It will be good food and great fun. Hope to see you there!
Solar projects heat up

What a great way to kick off the 2015 work season! The official ribbon-cutting ceremony for the High-Speed Rail project took place in January, and several projects have been awarded to contractors. Some of the projects include a $14 million HMA/reinforcement concrete job for Security Paving south of Santa Nella, AC/overlay projects for Granite Construction in Kettleman City ($14 million) and Lemoore ($4.5 million) and construction of the Santa Fe Trail grade separation in Tulare ($5.5 million) with Emmett’s Excavation.

The majority of work in District 50 continues to be for solar projects. The next possible one is the Wright Solar project near 1-5 and Hwy. 152 in Los Banos, west of the California Aqueduct on Billy Wright Road. This 2,700-acre, 200-megawatt project could begin as early as mid-summer and continue for about a year. An estimated 600 jobs are expected to be created on this project, including many for Operating Engineers, Ironworkers and electricians.

For more information, mark your calendars for the upcoming meetings this month at the Clovis Veterans Memorial District (453 Hughes Ave). Our Retiree Meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 9, at 2 p.m. and the District Meeting will be held the same day at 7 p.m. Elections for the Political Action Committee (PAC) will take place during the District Meeting, so, if interested, be certain to attend to be nominated and elected. Hazmat Refresher course will be held at the Hall on Saturday, March 28, from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and includes a half-hour lunch. Please bring your current Hazmat card if you are scheduled to attend.

We offer our condolences and prayers for strength to the family and friends of our brothers Paul Dixon Sr. and Henry Hightower. Dixon was an Honorary Member of Operating Engineers with more than 40 years of service. Prior to retiring in 2004, he worked as a plant operator for Teichert Materials. His two sons, Paul Jr. and Scottie, are active members.

Hightower had more than 10 years of service with Operating Engineers as an excavator and loader operator and finished his career with Preston Pipelines. Both will be missed.

FAIRFIELD

‘Fair of the Future’ will employ thousands

Joint efforts are underway with Solano County, the city of Vallejo and the Solano County Fair Association to develop a flexible, long-term framework for the redevelopment of the Solano County Fairgrounds. The 149-acre county-owned property is about to get more than a facelift by becoming the “Fair of the Future.”

The Solano County Fair Association was founded in 1949, and since then, the fairgrounds have fallen into a state of disarray. But now the property is going to take a 360-degree turn, thus the project’s namesake: Solano360. The Solano360 project plans to integrate a public entertainment zone and the “Fair of the Future” as the heart of the project. There are plans for waterside pedestrian trails, restaurants, public art displays, shops, terraced seating and water-related activities, among other things. Six Flags Discovery Kingdom attracts more than 1.5 million visitors per year and is adjacent to the fairgrounds. The planners want to take advantage of those visitors and have them stay awhile and partake in all of the new opportunities available.

After 66 years, the annual Solano County Fair will continue its traditions but with some new flair, including a world-class exhibition hall, a demonstration farm, an exploration island, multi-use sports fields and an arena for special events and concerts. Operators will help build bridges, new roads, solar parking, private housing and all the infrastructure to go along with it. The entire plan will incorporate sustainable and green aspects as a prerequisite of the development. And let’s not forget about the jobs! This project will provide 2,000 to 2,500 permanent jobs and another 5,700 temporary jobs. And the best part about this whole extravaganza is that the county has an agreement with the Building Trades that requires any public-works project at the $2.5 million threshold to be done under a Project Labor Agreement (PLA)!
Tullis, Inc. keeps operators busy on several projects

The first day of spring is just a couple of weeks away, and our construction hands are ready to work. Steve Manning Construction is getting started on the $27 million Buckhorn project west of Redding and will be moving more than 1 million cubic yards of dirt. Tullis, Inc. is working on the $7.8 million Lancs Gulch (first phase) and the $4.4 million (second phase) projects in Trinity County at Weaverville. Tullis, Inc. also has a $5 million paving/rehab job from just east of Palo Cedro to Bear Creek. J.F. Shea is working on a $4.9 million curve-correction in Trinity County near Burnt Ranch. Darren Taylor Construction will be grading in several locations throughout the district.

Knife River Construction has a $3 million curve-correction and truck-climbing-lane project on Hwy. 32 in Tehama County northeast of Forest Ranch.

Our Unit 12 brothers and sisters have been busy through the winter plowing snow, clearing and trimming trees near the roadway, repairing shoulders and performing road-maintenance projects to keep our highways safe to travel on. Please Slow for the Cone Zone!

Also, don’t forget to join us at the Semi-Annual Meeting on March 15 at the Solano County Fairgrounds. This is where you will get the most current information about Local 3. More information is also available at our District Meetings. The next District Meeting is March 11 at the Hall. We will have a Retiree Meeting/Luncheon on the same day at 1:30 p.m. at the Frontier Senior Center in Anderson. If you are getting ready to retire, call Secretary Heather Sanford to set up a meeting with one of our retirement specialists from the Fringe Benefits Service Center or the Associated Third Party Administrators (ATPA). They are a wealth of information and will make sure you get set up right the first time.

District 70 is getting ready to kick off its work season, so make sure your registration on the out-of-work list and your equipment experience is current. We are looking forward to a productive, hour-filled work season in 2015, and, as always, if you have any questions or concerns, don’t hesitate to call or stop by the Hall so we can get them resolved as quickly as possible.

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

Bridge-replacement project in San Mateo

In San Francisco, there are buildings going up everywhere you look as well as the infrastructure-upgrades needed to support them. In Potrero Hill, HDD Directional Drilling is working with PG&E to install power lines with operators Chris Crough and Martin Ferrer. In Hayes Valley and the lower Haight areas, Apadana Engineering started street renovations that will include new sewer tie-ins, handicap-ramp upgrades and new pavement. Operators Ryan Dale, Shane Ramey and new member William Mares are onsite. In West Portal, Cal State Constructors is installing a giant water cistern for emergency firefighting following an earthquake or other disaster. Member Kiu Maafu operates the excavator. In Mission Bay, NKT Construction has been working on a storm-water management system with Malcolm Drilling. The company has also rehabbed 16th Street from Third to Owens with operators Miguel Briseno, Luis Ruiz, Rob Allen and Johnny Santiago, among others. Phoenix Electric installed new light poles on that block with operators Omar Noriega and Fred Magana. At the Central Subway Launch Box, Proven Management is working on the ramp from Bryant Street and rebuilding the road deck. Forklift Operator Chuck Mantor is supporting the rebar crew, while Juan Rodriguez and Luis Montes from Montes Bros, are performing demo and fill work.

On the vertical side, luxury apartment building 399 Fremont is providing work for Cabrillo Hoist’s elevator operators Ronnie Robinson and Delynn Ridle and Clipper International’s tower Crane Operator Carlos Bardmess. In Pacific Heights, residential redevelopment at the old Dugoni building and dental school has Silverado doing the demo work with operators David Zoleczynski, Jon Felock, Gustavo Sandoval and Victor Cook. Clipper International’s tower Crane Operator Craig McNaught is also onsite along with Sheedy Dryage’s Elevator Operator Joe Perry and Mechanic Amarjit Singh. In Hunter’s Point, Ghilotti Brothers and Anvil Builders are working on the first HUD project of the Hunter’s Point/Candlestick Point redevelopment that will keep union labor busy for the next 20 years. GBI operators include Joe Silva, Tim Lomax and Apprentice Ian Wells. Anvil has Felipe Briseno pulling trench.

In San Mateo, Proven Management started a $38 million bridge-replacement project for Caltrain, replacing four bridges from Poplar Avenue to Tilton Avenue. The two-year project ensures that the bridges are safe and equipped to meet the region’s future transportation needs, including new electrified rail service and improved traffic-flow on city streets. GL Engineering will be performing the clearing and grubbing, track-removal and tie-replacement. The city of Hillsborough has Half Moon Bay Grading and Paving working on a street-improvement project. Operators include Dave Talo, Gary Giovannoni, Gary Giovannoni Jr. and John Giovannoni. In South San Francisco, ARB, Inc. will be working two shifts installing 2,500 feet of 24-inch gas main for PG&E. In Millbrae, Snelson Companies has operator Randy Plantage working on another phase of valve-replacement for PG&E. Underground Construction continues its pipeline project on Hwy. 280 throughout San Mateo County.
Six academic college scholarships will be awarded:
- Two scholarships of $10,000
- Two scholarships of $7,500
- Two scholarships of $5,000
- Twenty-five Merit Scholarships of $1,000

These scholarships can only be used for study at an accredited college or university located in the United States.

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

See full rules online.

Pick up an application today

Applications accepted from 1/1/15 to 3/31/15
Applications available at Local 3’s district offices Credit Union branches www.oe3.org
Application questions (510) 748-7400
DISTRIBUTION MEETINGS
All meetings convene at 7 p.m.

MARCH 2015
2nd District 12: Sandy
Operating Engineers’ Building
8805 South Sandy Parkway

2nd District 17: Hau’ula (Date changed)
Hau’ula Elementary School
54-046 Kamehameha Highway

9th District 04: Suisun City
Veterans Memorial Building
427 Main St.

9th District 50: Clovis
Veterans Memorial District
453 Hughes Ave.

9th District 80: Sacramento
Operating Engineers’ Building
3920 Lennane Drive

10th District 30: Stockton
Operating Engineers’ Building
1916 North Broadway Ave.

10th District 40: Eureka
Best Western Bayshore Inn
3500 Broadway St.

10th District 90: Morgan Hill
Operating Engineers’ Building
325 Digital Drive

11th District 10: Rohnert Park
Operating Engineers’ Building
6225 State Farm Drive

11th District 20: San Leandro
Sheet Metal Workers
1720 Marina Blvd.

11th District 70: Redding
Operating Engineers’ Building
20308 Engineers Lane

12th District 01: Burlingame
Transport Workers Local 505
1521 Rollins Road

12th District 11: Reno
Operating Engineers’ Building
1290 Corporate Blvd.

12th District 60: Yuba City
Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds
Flower House Building
442 Franklin Ave.

APRIL 2015
No meetings scheduled.

MAY 2015
No meetings scheduled.

TOWN HALL MEETINGS
MARCH 2015
3rd District 17: Kauai (Date and location changed)
Meeting: 6 p.m.
Courtyard Marriott
650 Aleka Loop, Kapaa

4th District 17: Maui
Meeting: 7 p.m.
Maui Arts and Cultural Center
One Cameron Way, Kahului

5th District 17: Hilo
Meeting: 6 p.m.
Hilo ILWU Hall
100 W. Laniakaula St.

6th District 17: Kona
Meeting: 7 p.m.
Courtyard Marriott
King Kamehameha Hotel
75-5660 Palani Road, Kailua-Kona

11th District 11: Elko
Construction Meeting: 6 p.m.
Silver Crest Business Center
555 W. Silver St., Ste. 104

25th District 11: Elko
Mine Meeting: 6 p.m.
Silver Crest Business Center
555 W. Silver St., Ste. 104

APRIL 2015
8th District 11: Elko
Construction Meeting: 6 p.m.
Silver Crest Business Center
555 W. Silver St., Ste. 104

21st District 12: Layton
Dinner: 6 p.m.; Meeting: 7 p.m.
Davis Conference Center
1651 N. 700 W.

22nd District 11: Elko
Mine Meeting: 6 p.m.
Silver Crest Business Center
555 W. Silver St., Ste. 104

22nd District 12: Spanish Fork
Dinner: 7 p.m.; Meeting: 7:30 p.m.
High Chaparral (Rodeo Grounds)
475 S. Main St.

23rd District 12: Price
Lunch: 1 p.m.; Meeting: 2 p.m.
Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites
838 Westwood Blvd.

25th District 12: St. George
Lunch: Noon; Meeting: 1 p.m.
Staheli Family Farm
3400 S. Washington Fields Road
Washington, Utah

MAY 2015
13th District 11: Elko
Construction Meeting: 6 p.m.
Silver Crest Business Center
555 W. Silver St., Ste. 104

27th District 11: Elko
Mine Meeting: 6 p.m.
Silver Crest Business Center
555 W. Silver St., Ste. 104

SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING
Rec. Corres. Secretary Jim Sullivan has announced that the next Semi-Annual Meeting of the membership will be held on Sunday, March 15, 2015 at 1 p.m. at the following location:
Solano County Fairgrounds
900 Fairgrounds Drive
Vallejo, CA 94589

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.

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

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP
The following Retirees have 35 or more years of membership in Local 3 as of January 2015 and have been determined eligible for Honorary Membership effective April 1, 2015.

Donald Aman
District 30: Stockton
1737274

Mark A. August
District 20: Oakland
1832625

Harold Clark
District 70: Redding
1710946

Daniel E. Ferrero
District 10: Rohnert Park
1808646

Chuck L. Gilliam
District 80: Sacramento
1774370

Rodger M. Gordo
District 30: Stockton
1800606

William L. Henwood
District 60: Yuba City
1837518

Ken Julian
District 99: Out Of Area
1837524

Larry C. Kirkwood
District 12: Utah
1555677

Steven P. McDonald
District 80: Sacramento
1837537

Rod Meyer
District 99: Out Of Area
1742513

James W. Schwartz
District 20: Oakland
1829157
MEDICARE NOTICE
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.

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 hire status is good for only 84 days. After the
registration on the out-of-work list before it expires!

BUSINESS HOURS
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, please call the Hall to confirm available late nights.
Office hours:
Monday-Friday: 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Designated late nights: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

REMINDERS
Proof of voter registration for Election Committee and 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 Election Committee and 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.)

Election Committee Notice
Jim Sullivan, Recording-Corresponding Secretary of Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3, announces that in conformity with Article XII, Section 3(b), Elections of the Local Union Bylaws, elections for Members of the Election Committee will be held in March at each district’s regular quarterly District Meeting. The Committee will conduct the 2015 election of Officers and Executive Board Members.

ARTICLE XII, SECTION 3, ELECTIONS:
(a) The election of Officers and District Members of the Local Union Executive Board shall be held during the month of August by mail referendum vote of the Membership of this Local Union under the supervision of the Election Committee and a firm of Certified Public Accountants, selected by the Executive Board, with such other technical and legal assistance as may be provided.

(b) The election shall be conducted by a committee known as the Election Committee, composed of one (1) Member from each District in which nominations will be made. The Member shall be nominated and elected by secret ballot at the regular quarterly or specially called District Meetings by vote of those Members present whose last known address, as shown on the records of the Local Union ten (10) days prior to the first such District Meeting in March preceding the election, was within the area covered by the District. Each nominee shall be a registered voter in the District in which he or she is nominated, shall have been a Member of the Parent Local of Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3 for five (5) years next preceding his or her nomination and election, and shall not be a candidate or nominator of a candidate for any Office or Position.

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

The schedule of the meetings at which these elections will be held appears on page 26 under “District Meetings.”

2015 Political Action Committee Election
Rec. Corres. Secretary Jim Sullivan has announced that in accordance with Article X, Section 9 of the Local Union Bylaws, the election of Political Action Committees (PACs) will take place at the first District Meeting of 2015 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 the Parent Local Union for the two (2) years preceding nomination and not suspended for nonpayment of dues during those two years 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 to the 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 page 26 for the schedule of meetings at which these elections will be held.
Upcoming picnic information

District 12: Utah (St. George) Picnic Details
Saturday, April 26, noon to 3 p.m.
Staheli Family Farm, 3400 S. Washington Fields Road, Washington
Menu: Pulled pork, salad, drinks
Cost: Free

District 60: Yuba City Picnic Details
Sunday, April 26, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Butte County Fairgrounds, 199 E. Hazel St., Gridley
Menu: Chopped brisket, pulled pork, barbecue beans, potato salad, rolls, coleslaw, soda, water, beer
Cost: Retirees: $5; Adults: $10 presale or $12 at the door; Children 10 and under: Free

District 80: Sacramento Picnic Details
Sunday, April 26, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Mather Regional Park (Rotary Grove), 4111 Eagle’s Nest Road, Mather
Menu: Tri-tip, chicken, hot dogs, hot links, salad, beans, ice cream
Cost: $5 parking fee per car

District Picnic schedule for 2015

Burlingame District 01: Sunday, June 14
Fairfield District 04: Sunday, May 31
Rohnert Park District 10: Sunday, May 31
Nevada District 11 (Sparks): Saturday, May 30
Nevada District 11 (Elko): Saturday, July 25
Utah District 12 (St. George): Saturday, April 25
Utah District 12 (Draper): Saturday, June 13
Hawaii District 17 (Big Island): Saturday, June 13
Hawaii District 17 (Kauai): Saturday, July 25
Hawaii District 17 (Oahu): Saturday, Sept. 26
Oakland District 20: Sunday, June 28
Stockton District 30: Sunday, May 3
Fresno District 50: Saturday, May 30 (Date Changed)
Yuba City District 60: Sunday, April 26
Redding District 70: Saturday, June 13
Sacramento District 80: Sunday, April 26
Morgan Hill District 90: Saturday, May 16

Give life to a dream
Support Local 3’s Scholarship Foundation

Benefiting: The sons, daughters, stepchildren and foster children of Local 3 members.
Contribute with: Cash gifts in any amount; Merit sponsors and memorial and honor gifts; Bequests; Securities.
Visit us online: www.oe3.org/about/scholarship.
Anyone who donates $20 or more will receive a scholarship pin.

Clip out and mail to:
Jim Sullivan, Recording-Corresponding Secretary
Operating Engineers Local 3
1620 South Loop Rd.
Alameda, CA 94502

Enclosed is my contribution in the amount of: $________

Name: ____________________________________________
Phone: ____________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________
City: __________________________ State: ________ Zip: _______

DEPARTED MEMBERS
Allen, Oliver
San Martin, CA
District 90
11-04-14

Austin, Vernon
Montello, NV
District 11
12-26-14

Cologna, James
Ogdin, UT
District 12
12-23-14

Diaz, August
Fowler, CA
District 50
10-31-14

Elanson, Rodger
Meadow Vista, CA
District 80
12-29-14

Fieguth, Robert
Greenview, CA
District 70
12-15-14

Kahooni, Ralph
Waianae, HI
District 17
12-29-14

Kawaa, Peter Jr.
Honolulu, HI
District 17
01-05-15

Kay, John
San Pablo, CA
District 20
01-03-15

McMahon, Edward
Seaside, CA
District 90
12-09-14

Mestek, Edward
Antioch, CA
District 20
12-05-14

Monroe, Donald Jr.
Pahrump, NV
District 99
12-29-14

Patton, Nicholas
Stockton, CA
District 30
12-17-14

Sarasota, Justin
Kapolei, HI
District 17
12-10-14

Scott, Ted
Spanish Fork, UT
District 12
12-11-14

Sharp, Vernon
Condon, MT
District 99
11-30-14

Spencer, William
Minden, NV
District 11
01-03-15

Tavares, Larry
Waianae, HI
District 17
11-04-14

Torres, Felix
Shasta, CA
District 70
12-10-14

Vandenberg, George
Cedar City, UT
District 12
12-19-14

Wright, Bob
Carson City, NV
District 11
12-25-14

Deceased Dependents
Beatty, Barbara.
Wife of Beatty, James (dec)
12-17-14

Beier, Lilbeth.
Wife of Beier, Edward (dec)
12-01-14

Berg, Barbara.
Wife of Berg, Mel (dec)
12-16-14

Berriochioa, Irene.
Wife of Berriochioa, Victor
12-08-14

Campbell, Flavia.
Wife of Campbell, Clifford (dec)
08-14-14

Donald, Donna.
Wife of Donald, David
12-27-14

Delia, Jewell.
Wife of Delia, Anthony (dec)
11-19-14

Estacado, Oliven.
Wife of Estacado, Donald
11-26-14

Goode, Barbara.
Wife of Goode, Donald
12-04-14

Hickey, Tonja.
Wife of Hickey, Dennis
12-14-14

McClellan, Joy.
Wife of McClellan, W (dec)
12-03-14

Morton, Masae.
Wife of Morton, Edgar (dec)
08-24-14

Olund, Shirley.
Wife of Olund, Gary (dec)
11-18-14

Sohn, Carol Ann.
Wife of Sohn, Rodney (dec)
12-19-14

Springer, Roger.
Husband of Springer, Debra
10-03-14

Tapias, Cruz.
Wife of Tapias, Jose
11-19-14

Terry, Lorene.
Wife of Terry, Leo (dec)
12-17-14

Toma, Haruko.
Wife of Toma, Clark (dec)
12-11-14

Welsh, Dorothy.
Wife of Welsh, Thomas
09-21-12

Wyman, Wanda.
Wife of Wyman, Forrest (dec)
12-13-14

Yakovich, Elaine.
Wife of Yakovich, John
03-10-14

Yamanashi, Hiroshi.
Wife of Yamanashi, Aiko
11-24-14
How did you hear about Local 3?
I was unemployed and looking for a job in the newspaper. I started pumping concrete and joined the union.

What’s the hardest part about your job?
When the concrete sets up – when it gets hard. This happens if you don’t keep it moving.

What’s the best part about your job?
Seeing different jobsites all the time and the travel.

Do you have any family members in the union?
Yes, I do. My younger brother, Juventino Moran, is an operator also. I helped get him in.

What does it take to be a good operator?
You have to be able to get along with the crew on the job. You have to know your job and know the type of mix you’re pumping.

What does UNION mean to you?
It helps people save for their retirement. It [the union] backs you up when you’re in trouble with your employer.

What’s your favorite pastime?
Coaching little league baseball. I have two sons that play. They are 16 and 9. My daughter’s going to try out soon. She’s almost 4.

Any secrets of the trade?
You have to stay ahead of the game. Be one step ahead always.

What’s your favorite sports team?
Raiders.

What would you say to someone who is thinking about joining Local 3?
Go for it!

What’s your favorite movie?
“Con-Air.”

What’s in your lunchbox today?
A banana, an apple, a Gatorade, a water and some ham sandwiches.

What’s your favorite holiday?
The Fourth of July. We celebrate big and it’s nice to see the fireworks and all the kids smiling.

What’s the best advice a mentor gave you about being an operator?
Show up on time or early even, so you can see what the job is like and set-up.

I remember when … we had to live in camps for the Hell Hole project … French Meadows … in trailers. Northern camps. It was kind of interesting to stay up there and work there. You’re a young kid, out in the middle of nowhere. I was working on equipment I had never seen – big shovels and stuff, large cranes, Caterpillars. Quite a variety.
Getting the most out of your benefits for the least amount of money

Spring is approaching, the weather’s getting better and our thoughts are continually focused on how to get our participants to take advantage of some of the unique programs offered throughout the year. Check out some of these below.

Watchdog – it’s free … and it’s going to save you money

Watchdog is a one-of-a-kind service that helps you make health-care decisions easier, while saving you significant out-of-pocket costs. Watchdog locates the best doctors and facilities in your area for planned elective procedures and tests, and tracks the precise costs they charge. Watchdog representatives then share this information with you to help you receive the lowest-cost, highest-quality experience possible.

To get started, visit www.anthem.com/ca and click “Register Now.” Follow the instructions and soon Watchdog will be part of your team! To learn more, Operating Engineers Health and Welfare Trust Fund members should call (855) 279-2128. Pensioned Operating Engineers Health and Welfare Trust Fund members should call (855) 229-7822 (non-Medicare members only).

Value-based care – there are limits on certain procedures

In January 2014, the Trustees and Anthem Blue Cross introduced a program designed to better manage costs for certain surgical procedures. Because the costs for these procedures vary greatly at different locations, we wanted you to receive the same quality care from facilities that can achieve equally successful results in performing them without the overhead and administrative costs that come with hospitals.

Ambulatory Surgical Centers (ASC) specialize in procedures such as colonoscopies, arthroscopies and cataract surgeries. These facilities and their staff have outstanding records in performing thousands of these procedures each year at an often lower cost than at hospitals that perform them as outpatient procedures.

We want you to take advantage of the quality care and cost-savings we all achieve when we use an ASC. You should discuss this with your doctor if he/she recommends such a procedure for you.

Important! If you have one of these procedures performed in an outpatient hospital instead, the Fund will reimburse you up to these amounts:

- Colonoscopy – $1,500
- Arthroscopy – $6,000
- Cataract surgery – $2,000

You will be responsible for any amount over this. If your surgeon believes it is medically necessary to have one of these procedures done in an outpatient hospital setting, an exception may be granted and the payment limits waived.

Total hip and knee replacements – $34,000 limit!

In addition to the limits described above, hip and knee-replacement surgeries have a limit of $34,000 for a single hip-joint replacement or a single knee-joint replacement. This includes all inpatient facility costs but does not include professional fees, such as those for the anesthesia or surgeon. Call Watchdog for more information on available facilities.

Bottom line: We all save money when you use a recommended facility.

Health Dynamics’ Preventive Care Program – what a great idea!

Don’t forget about Health Dynamics’ Preventive Care Program. In addition to a health-risk assessment and a free physical, you and your spouse can receive $250 each when you complete the program requirements.

Step One: Call Health Dynamics at (866) 443-0164, ext. 1 and request a program packet.

Step Two: Make an appointment for an annual preventive-care exam with your doctor. Take the packet, including the completed and signed questionnaire, and ask the doctor to complete the necessary information and mail it to Health Dynamics.

Step Three: A Health Dynamics representative will enter your questionnaire and exam information into a secure database, send you a personal health report via mail and help you set up an appointment for a phone consultation with an expert health-coach.

Shortly after the consultation, you will receive a $250 medical debit card in the mail from Associated Third Party Administrators (ATPA). Don’t wait another day!

Top five things to do before seeing a specialist, having surgery or getting lab work done:

1. Always confirm whether providers are in the Anthem Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) network, so you don’t have to pay more for non-network providers.

2. When you make an appointment to see a surgeon, ask if he or she participates in the Anthem PPO network. Call Watchdog at the numbers listed above to confirm. You can also call the Trust Fund Office at (800) 251-5013 or (510) 433-4422.

3. If your doctor recommends care that requires the services of several different providers or that you receive services from another provider or facility altogether, be sure to ask whether the provider is in the Anthem PPO network.

4. Find out if an assistant surgeon, anesthesiologist-physician or certified registered-nurse anesthetist will be involved. If yes, call the Trust Fund Office to see if this involvement is necessary and if any additional out-of-pocket expenses may incur if the provider’s billed charges exceed the Plan’s allowance.

5. Ask your doctor if you can use a Quest Diagnostics, Inc. (Quest) or Laboratory Corporation of America (LabCorp) facility for laboratory or pathology tests. Services at these labs can cost 70 to 75 percent less than at hospital-based facilities and non-network labs.

Be smart! Get quality care and save yourself and the Fund money in 2015!

FOR SALE: Mini Mite Sawmill. 52 hp Volkswagen motor. Mill is in good shape and runs well. $1,100. (707) 943-3330. Reg# 6496.


FOR SALE: Knack Tool Box 5x2x2 on roller with five trays. $450 ($800 new). New Stowmaster 3000 Tow Hitch. $250 ($600 new). EZ Lift Swing Bar for Penthouse Trailers. Call Bill at (532) 277-4497. Reg# 1054933.


FOR SALE: 2012 power wheelchair. Never used. Two years ago, was worth around $5,000, asking $1,500 OBO. (520) 648-3266. Reg# 0782948.

FOR SALE: 20 acres legal ranch in Southern Utah. 60 minutes to St. George; 45 minutes to Cedar City. Great soils, 360-degree mountain views. 1 acre-foot of water rights at 200% average, on end of county-maintained road with power and phone at front. Near BLM, hunting! $27,500/possible trade for good pickup/travel trailer. (435) 887-0155. Reg# 2070086.

FOR SALE: Eight 16” heavy duty horse (bighorn) pens. Make one or two pens, two with ride thru gates, 4” walk thru gates and 10’ non climb gates. (Other horse gear.) 10 horse gates and 10‘ non climb gates. One pair full factory rebuilt. $225; other pair used but in excellent condition: $125. New, these cost $423 per pair plus tax and shipping. $1,150. (925) 487-2211. Reg# 2233664.


FOR SALE: HDPS. 7,000 kw, heavy duty, low noise, diesel generator. New, never used. 1000 horse hydraulic or gas. $4,500. (530) 384-1427 or (530) 586-1194. Please leave message. Reg# 2443716.

FOR SALE: TA-011 gas air compressor, Kohler motor, duel torapo tanks 6-1/2 hp, on board air, 70 psi, $1,699; asking $1,000. (530) 384-1427 or (530) 586-1194. Please leave message. Reg# 2443716.

FOR SALE: 3½ ton Wright come-along plus 40 feet of wire, 1000 horse hydraulic or gas. $4,500. (530) 793-4004. Reg# 0867016.


FOR SALE: Bass boat, 90 horse Evinrude motor, two raised seat, push button. All three seats to lower and upper. Has about 34 hours on it. Two fish finders, nearly new covered. Yuba City. $6,500. Also: 2007 27’ RV trailer with heat, AC, open floor plan, 34’x12’ inside, $6,000. (530) 671-4485, (530) 701-2842 or (208) 520-2155. Reg# 0336092.

FOR SALE: Beautiful one-owner, 2,466-square-foot home in gated 55+ neighborhood, you own the land. Better than new triple has block foundation, oversized two-car garage, porch, patio, easy-care landscaping. Nice clubhouse with swimming pool, much more. $800 monthly dues. Roseburg, Ore. $262,000. (541) 784-2261. Reg# 0895973.


FOR SALE: Lots of tools from retired heavy-machinery equipment. Too much to list. In Modesto. (209) 521-7422 or (209) 499-6330. Reg# 1137677.

FOR SALE: T2-black drain black Snap-on roll-away toolbox with wheels. Only $35.00. Call Jeff at (707) 319-7622. Reg# 1742672.


For more tool sets visit the Swap Shop.
Surrounded by Local 3 representatives, Trustees, committee members, employers, journey-level operators and family, eight Northern Nevada Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC) apprentices graduated on Friday, Jan. 30, at the Grand Sierra Resort in Reno. Congratulations to the following members on becoming journey-level operators.

**Grading and Paving**
Charles A. Bates
Duane W. Davisson
Eamon R. Grady
Gerald K. Reil
Terry D. Teninty
Mitchell L. Van Ronk
Daniel S. Watson

**Lubrication Technician**
Drew C. Ivey

Special honorees included Apprentice of the Year Daniel S. Watson, Apprentice Employer of the Year Granite Construction and Supervisor of the Year Loren Allen, also from Granite Construction.

Watson was chosen for his responsible and trustworthy nature, as well as the great reviews he received from his employers.

Granite Construction has been recognized as the Apprentice Employer of the Year eight times in Northern Nevada since 1982, investing much in the training of our future operators, mechanics and lubrication technicians.

Allen was honored for his patience, strong mentoring skills and ability to recognize the complex and different learning-levels of apprentices. He has worked for Granite Construction since 2007 and is highly respected by his colleagues.

Thanks to all the supporters of the program and congratulations to our graduates and honorees. Here’s to the future of Local 3!