Music to our ears

Dirt job makes way for amphitheater at world-class music center
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FROM THE DISTRICTS

PAGE 23
Drive through Stockton District 30, and you’ll see little bit of everything. From highway work to underground work, there are jobs big and small – and lots of them! One of the most impressive spreads can be found in Lathrop, as Independent Construction Company continues to move massive amounts of dirt constructing lakes, housing and commercial pads for the River Islands project, above. For more information on this and all the work in District 30, read on.

OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL UNION NO. 3

Russ Burns  Business Manager
Dan Reding  President
Pete Figueiredo  Vice President
Jim Sullivan  Rec. Corres. Secretary
Steve Ingersoll  Financial Secretary
Justin Diston  Treasurer

ENGINEERS NEWS STAFF

Russ Burns  Editor
Mandy McMillen  Managing Editor
John Matos  Associate Editor
Dominique Beilke  Art Director
Ian Bright  Art Director II

www.oe3.org

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Building solidarity

It has been a pleasure visiting with many of you at our District Picnics, and there are many more ahead. Local 3 sure knows how to put on a good barbecue, so if your picnic is coming up this month (see the schedule on page 25), bring your family. There will always be great food, cold beverages and something fun for your kids. I also hope to see you all at this month’s Retiree Picnic on June 6 at the Dixon Fairgrounds, another chance to come together. We will honor our 50-year members and all of our Retirees who have made Local 3 what it is today.

This union has been coming together a lot lately, and while sometimes it’s against negative forces, every time we come together, we get stronger. For instance, while the attacks against Nevada’s working people have certainly not been a positive thing, our members and staff have united against these attacks. At the time of this writing, we’ve made 6,000 calls to our members, gotten 2,200 signatures on pro-union-legislation cards, mailed out 300 letters, signed-up 200 volunteers and attended 46 different events, including rallies, phone banks and press conferences. While the outcome of those efforts is yet to be determined, that level of solidarity is a success on its own.

In Rohnert Park District 10, we’ve come together in support of Measure A, which will generate more than $20 million each year for the next five years to repair and maintain the terrible rural roads and city streets in Sonoma County. This equates to construction jobs, and at the time of this writing, it seems the opposition has nothing on us. We’ve sent letters to the membership and held many phone banks in support of this measure. Stay tuned for the results of that Special Election.

In Fairfield District 04, we helped pass the decision to write a resolution to support lowering the voter threshold from 2/3 to 55 percent for local transportation funding. This means more projects will get approved and equates to more Local 3 jobs in Solano County.

In Hawaii District 17, we are working hard to secure funding for the Honolulu Rail project, as the 20-mile segment from West Oahu to Ala Moana must be completed to meet the Federal transportation funding requirements. For more on all of the political work our districts are doing on your behalf, please see this month’s District Reports.

Our industry is utilized in good times and bad. This month’s cover story on the boom happening in Rohnert Park District 10 and the feature on the light-rail and interstate extension job in Sacramento District 80 are examples of what we can do when times are good and the economy is improving. However, when Mother Nature decides to do some crazy things, we also pick up the pieces. You’ll find an increase in recycled-water pipeline jobs, as communities try to find creative ways to deal with California’s record drought. Just recently, California Gov. Jerry Brown unveiled plans to accelerate restoration of the Delta’s ecosystem and fix the state’s aging water infrastructure, which will positively impact our work picture.

For more than 75 years, we’ve adapted. That is why we continue to be one of the largest construction trades locals in the country. No matter the political or economic circumstances, we are a necessary part of communities. Whether we are extending a major freeway to ease traffic congestion, cleaning a busy city street, maintaining a local park or managing city employees, we provide a vital service. Because of our diversity and versatility, we have survived some lean times. Now we can look ahead as times get better. (For more information on the union’s finances, please see this month’s Financial Reports.)

If you want to become more diverse or if you need to renew or update a certification, please contact the training center in your state. See the contact information below. Each training center offers the best in hands-on and classroom instruction for apprentices and journey-level operators. Enjoy these early days of summer, and I look forward to seeing you soon.

California: (916) 354-2029
Nevada: (775) 575-2729
Utah: (801) 664-6934
Hawaii: (808) 232-2001
Recognizing our Local 3 sisters

During a recent meeting, one of our members took the opportunity to remind us of the importance of our female members and the need for them to be recognized. Local 3 does value and recognize the women in our organization. I wasn’t able to further touch on this topic as the meeting advanced, but this member’s point was well-taken and I would like to address it here.

Historically, women were discouraged from entering into the trades and instead were tracked into lower-paying, so-called “pink-collar” jobs.

As our director of apprenticeship, Tammy Castillo, can tell you, Local 3 actively recruits women and encourages them to complete our Apprenticeship Program. Doing so ensures that the future of our industry reflects the diversity of the workforce, while growing our union in accordance with the values of Local 3.

Our members deserve fair treatment and fair compensation for the work they do, regardless of gender, and that is how we operate. This is why our union sisters get jobs in trades where non-union women often find themselves shut out. On the job, our sisters earn significantly higher wages than their non-union counterparts and receive better health and retirement benefits.

As for the gender pay gap, the Bureau of Labor Statistics found that union membership cut it in half, demonstrating the central role organizations like ours have in effectively addressing the issue.

You will find women throughout Local 3, whether that be as a new apprentice, an operator in the field or a member of your district staff. These women work hard, they possess the knowledge and skills our contractors come to expect from our members and they contribute to our organization just like their union brothers. In an upcoming issue of Engineers News, for example, you will meet Retiree Shirley Pitcher, one of the first female operators with Local 3. With her reputation as a good operator and the support of her fellow members, she won the respect of contractors that were soon requesting her on their jobsites. She was a talented operator and an active Local 3 member, and the fact that she was a woman was just part of the details.

Local 3 is proud of the progress our organization has made, whether that be introducing more women to the trades or securing better pay and benefits for our female members and working women generally. These are just a few of the ways Local 3 is able to demonstrate how we value and recognize our sisters. Thank you to all the women who make this union great. Let’s continue to make progress together as a union.

Public employee information

Local 3 was one of the first labor unions to represent public employees, beginning in the 1960s. We knew then what we know now, that we all benefit when workers are organized, whether that be in the private sector or the public sector. Today, Local 3’s Public Employees Division represents over 200 bargaining units with workers from a variety of different professions. If you want to learn more, or are a public employee and wish to get important information about your rights, visit the Public Employees section of the website.

Voice of the Engineer

Have you considered getting more involved in your union? The Voice of the Engineer (VOTE) program is a great way to do just that – ask Nevada District 11 Retiree Phil Busch, below. Take a moment to read more about the program, its purpose and how you can take advantage of the volunteer opportunities it provides to give back to Local 3 by clicking on the VOTE program link under the Politics section of our website.
What’s good for labor is good for all

In late April, more than 60 Local 3 volunteers stood side by side with nearly 600 other workers and members of the general public during the We Are One rally at the Nevada Legislature building in Carson City. Such a show of unity from a diverse group of working people puts anti-worker politicians in the hot seat. When this happens, politicians often try to exploit political differences between workers to weaken their impact. Our best defense against this tactic is to remind ourselves of the strength that comes from our solidarity.

History shows us what happens when labor resists to be divided. During the 1950s and 1960s, labor had enough influence to get the support of both Democrats and Republicans, liberals and conservatives. Rather than blaming workers for the failures of bad economic policies (as is common today), politicians argued over whose policies would best serve working people and the organizations that represented them. The result was that Americans thrived during this period.

“The American labor movement has consistently demonstrated its devotion to the public interest. It is, and has been, good for all America,” said Democratic President John F. Kennedy in 1960.

Republican President Dwight D. Eisenhower also looked favorably upon labor. In 1954, he noted that, “Only a fool would try to deprive working men and women of the right to join the union of their choice.”

Unfortunately, a small number of fools gained strength in the decades that followed, resulting in the anti-unionism we see from some elected officials today.

Sometimes you don’t know what you’ve got until it’s gone. While corporate lobbyists and big business groups fill the halls of government today, people are beginning to recognize that labor unions have been the only groups able to promote the concerns of ordinary Americans throughout history, regardless of who is in power. For example, studies find that being a union member increases your chances of being informed about issues, exercising voting rights and even running for office.

Research has also shown that when union membership decreases, the rich just get richer, receiving a bigger share of the wealth, while working people struggle. Whether state leaders are Democrats or Republicans, liberals or conservatives, their residents do better financially and are happier when they are unionized.

Local 3 is an organization made up of members with a variety of political opinions, but as working people, we all desire fairness and a say in the workplace. It’s important we remember that, as a union, we must maintain (and in some places, restore) the strength of the American middle-class. Some politicians, like many in Nevada today, would like to use our members’ differing political views as a wedge to divide them. The truth is our fight in Nevada and elsewhere to protect the middle-class is not about political parties, it’s about an America grounded in its working people.

Cheaters get caught on Central Valley project

Over the past couple of years, we have written about the Central Valley Broadband Infrastructure Project (CVBIP), which started in December of 2011 in California. This project was overseen and administered by the Central Valley Independent Network (CVIN) and was performed mostly by out-of-state and local non-union contractors. Local 3 was aware of this project from the very beginning and reached out to CVIN in an attempt to promote our signatory contractors that perform this work and ensure that the current contractors on the project were paying the proper prevailing wages.

Our efforts to reach out to CVIN were unsuccessful. Furthermore, CVIN representatives told their contractors that the project was not subject to California’s prevailing wage laws, even though the network received federal funding for the project. As you can imagine, this did not sit well with Local 3. Through some hard work and dedication from our Organizing Department, namely the relentless efforts of Senior Organizer Mike Pickens, we discovered that this project not only received federal funding but was partially funded by state monies and therefore subject to California’s prevailing wage laws. Through his cooperative efforts with the director of the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR), Pickens secured a coverage determination stating that the above-mentioned project was in fact subject to prevailing wage laws.

Shortly after this decision was issued, Local 3’s Organizing Department independently filed public works complaints with the Labor Commissioner’s Office. These complaints were filed on several of the contractors that performed work on the project for improper or non-payment of prevailing wages and numerous apprenticeship violations. Unfortunately, the complaints were put on hold while CVIN exhausted the appeals process over the director’s decision.

In January of this year, a final ruling was issued denying CVIN’s appeal, and the Labor Commissioner’s Office began issuing Civil Wage and Penalty Assessments (CWPA) against these contractors. So far, the largest CWPA issued to date sits at just over $840,000 in unpaid wages and penalties and was issued against just one contractor on this project. The total amount assessed against contractors on this project to date is $1,027,474, with only four of the investigations done.

In this case, the cheaters got caught!

We are confident that there will be more CWPAs issued over the next few months, as we still have several complaints being investigated. Even though this is a lengthy process, with the strategic planning of the Organizing Department and the diligent efforts of Pickens, we will make sure the contractors on this project are held accountable for their violations against workers.

Although labor compliance is not the primary focus of the Organizing Department, it is one of the many tools we have at our disposal to ensure non-union contractors are playing by the same rules as our union contractors.
After several quarters of upbeat economic news, growth in our nation’s economy during the first quarter of 2015 had a similarly weak start as that of last year’s first quarter. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) only rose 0.2 percent in the first quarter. The sluggish growth was attributed to severe weather conditions on the East Coast, port problems on the West Coast and the strong U.S. dollar consolidation. However, economists are projecting the second quarter GDP to improve based upon strong consumer spending, which rose 1.9 percent during the first quarter of 2015. Economists are projecting that 2015 will mirror last year’s growth with a healthy comeback during the second half of the year.

Job growth remained steady during the first quarter of the year with 591,000 new jobs created. The private sector added 595,000 new jobs, and 69,000 of them were in the construction industry. The government sector reported a loss of 4,000 jobs during the quarter. As with the economy, job growth was negatively affected by the harsh weather on the East Coast. However, the unemployment rate was not affected by these factors. The unemployment rate across the country for March 2015 was 5.5 percent, with a slight increase in membership and strong work hours. First quarter 2015 revenues benefited from higher window and supplemental dues as a result of a slight increase in membership and strong work hours. First quarter 2015 consolidated revenues came in at $10.8 million – a 5.0 percent increase from the first quarter 2014. First quarter 2015 consolidated expenses were $11.8 million – a 4.8 percent increase from the first quarter 2014. Consolidated expenses were partially offset by a decrease in legal fees and expenses for the same period.

Further, the plan’s record-keeping initiative. These expenses were partially offset by a decrease in legal fees and expenses due to the timing of payments and costs associated with the union’s paperless record-keeping initiative. These expenses were partially offset by a decrease in legal fees and expenses for the same period.

As is normal, Local 3 had a relatively slow financial start to its new year, with a consolidated net loss of $995,263 for the first quarter of 2015. Some expenses rose due to a moderate increase in employment costs, higher office expenses due to the timing of payments and costs associated with the union’s paperless record-keeping initiative. These expenses were partially offset by a decrease in legal fees and expenses for the same period.

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As of March 2015, Local 3 had 34,307 members, an increase of 210 members, or 0.62 percent, from the December 2014 total.

As is normal, Local 3 had a relatively slow financial start to its new year, with a consolidated net loss of $995,263 for the first three months of 2015. First quarter 2015 consolidated revenues came in at $10.8 million – a 5.0 percent increase from December 2014 and 1.1 percent lower than March 2014. Within Local 3’s jurisdiction, the first quarter of 2015 saw California’s unemployment rate fall from 7.0 percent to 6.5 percent and Utah’s rate fall from 3.5 percent to 3.4 percent. The unemployment rate for Hawaii rose from 4.0 percent to 4.1 percent, while Nevada’s rate rose from 6.8 percent to 7.1 percent.

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So far, this is looking to be a prosperous year with first quarter work hours or 12.2 percent. On a state-by-state basis, year-over-year pension hours decreased in legal fees and expenses due to the timing of payments and costs associated with the union’s paperless record-keeping initiative. These expenses were partially offset by a decrease in legal fees and expenses for the same period.

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<th>PRESCRIPTION DRUG</th>
<th>DENTAL</th>
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Notes:
1. Medical includes regular and Kaiser medical (including Kaiser Drug), stop-loss and Medicare reimbursement.
2. Other Disbursements includes vision care, life insurance, burial benefits, hearing aids, physical exams, disability, chemical dependency and operating expenses.
3. Northern Nevada is on a fiscal year of Sept. 1-Aug. 31, so the numbers above are for the 12 months from Sept. 1, 2013-Aug. 31, 2014.

*Figures based on unaudited financial statements.
Notes:
1) Returns are preliminary and gross of fees. The 2015 return is three months, ending March 31, 2015.
2) Other Investments include operational cash.
3) Returns through Dec. 31, 2007, were not calculated by IPS.
4) The funded ratio is the value of assets used for the annual Pension Plan valuation divided by the present value of accumulated Plan benefits as provided by the actuary. The 2013 funded ratio is estimated for Pension Protection Act (PPA) certification and provided by the actuary.

Commentary First Quarter 2015

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) remains positive but at a relatively low level of approximately 2.2 percent. Interest rates remain unchanged at about zero at the short end of the interest rate curve, but rates have flattened in the longer part of the curve. Inflation, as measured by the CPI index, is near zero over the past year. The U.S. dollar continues to strengthen relative to other key currencies. The official unemployment rate dropped to 5.5 percent at the end of the quarter. Housing prices are up 4.6 percent year-over-year but have flattened during the last quarter. The S&P 500 is up 1 percent for the quarter with significant volatility. Style and capitalization mattered as small cap growth, measured by the Russell 2000 Growth, was up 6.6 percent in the first quarter, while large cap value, as measured by the Russell 1000 Value Index, was down -0.7 percent. International equities rallied from last year’s losses with the MSCI EAFE Index up 11 percent in local currency terms and 4.9 percent when translated into U.S. dollars. Bonds posted positive returns in all sectors despite a slight widening of credit spreads and lower rates in the longer part of the yield curve. The Barclays Intermediate Credit Index returned 1.3 percent for the quarter, and high yield returned 2.7 percent. Real estate continues to perform well with the ODCE Index up 3.0 percent for the quarter, and Hedge Fund of Funds posted a respectable 2.5 percent return for the quarter.

UNIT 12

More than 3,000 attend Caltrans Workers Memorial

By David Jake, business representative

On April 16, Caltrans held its 25th annual Caltrans Workers Memorial. The event honors the memory of workers who lost their lives in the line of duty. The theme for this year’s memorial was: “Flashing lights mean move over. IT’S THE LAW.” Since 1921, there have been 183 workers’ lives lost while performing their duties as highway workers. This year’s event was attended by a somber crowd of approximately 3,000 people. The past year was only the second time since 2004 that there were no fatalities, however, Unit 12 member Chris Meredith was hospitalized a week before the event when his vehicle was struck by a big-rig on I-5 in Colusa County. He was flown to the hospital with multiple broken bones and other non-life-threatening injuries.

This year’s event also had a first, the missing-man formation flyover, which was an aerial salute in memory of all the fallen workers. Please remember to pay attention to the Caltrans workers on the highways. Their jobs keep us safe; let’s keep their safety in mind too. They put their lives on the line for us everyday.

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Just politics

In April, I attended the California Labor Federation Legislative Conference in Sacramento. It was impressive to see so many different unions all in one place with the common goal of continuing to make the state of California a better place for working, middle-class people.

Some things to keep in mind when casting your next vote: There were 21 bills signed into law last year that were supported by labor. These included laws that dealt with prevailing wage, Project Labor Agreements (PLAs), preventing hospital violence and protecting firefighters from carcinogenic chemicals. There were eight bills supported by labor that were vetoed, including one that improved mediation and fact-finding and one that protected benefits for injured public safety officers. Clearly the fight for middle-class working people never ends.

Five state senators voted for labor 100 percent of the time, and 16 state senators voted for labor 90 percent of the time or better. Twenty-seven state Assembly members voted for labor 100 percent of the time, and 16 Assembly members voted for labor 90 percent of the time or better. You should know who these elected officials are and support them. While I am not a Democrat or a Republican, it is worth noting that all of these pro-labor officials are Democrats.

Among Republicans in the state Senate, two voted for labor about 30 percent of the time, seven voted for labor about 20 percent of the time and two voted for labor somewhere in the teens. One Republican senator voted for labor 76 percent of the time. (Good for him!)

Among Republicans in the Assembly, three voted for labor about 40 percent of the time, six voted for labor about 30 percent of the time, seven voted for labor about 20 percent of the time, seven voted for labor less than 20 percent of the time and one Assembly member voted for labor only twice out of 31 times. You can see where our support is. Be diligent in educating yourself as to who is going to help working people and who is not.

On another note ... he’s back! Our “good friend” and former San Jose mayor Chuck Reed, and his buddy, former San Diego city councilman Carl DeMaio, are launching a 2016 statewide ballot initiative that once again goes after public employee benefits for injured public safety officers. Clearly the city is continuing to use the bankruptcy shield to further weaken our Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) and put the hammer down on union membership.

Our members are informational picketing and speaking to elected officials and during City Council meetings. One of the bargaining groups has gone through mediation with no agreement and is headed to fact-finding. A second group has declared impasse and is headed to mediation. The third group is dealing with the city officials’ refusal to return to the negotiation table. The saga continues.

City of Stockton update

By Michael Eggener, business representative

Someone forgot to tell Stockton’s city leadership that the city is out of bankruptcy. Our members, who make up three bargaining units within the city, have paid greatly for decisions made by city management. We had a fourth unit, the Central Parking District, however, the city bargained it away during the bankruptcy process and used the parking garages to pay-off a debt. This should give you a hint as to how the management staff feels about their employees.

We have been at the bargaining table for over a year now. City officials have been extremely heavy-handed and started out demanding our members’ safety-shoe money! After extreme pressure from our bargaining team, the city withdrew that proposal. The city is self-insured for medical, but its officials have demanded that our members who choose the OE3 Health and Welfare Plan pay $33.12 a month. City officials are also refusing to remove contract language that was agreed-upon to help the city during the bankruptcy process. It seems the city is continuing to use the bankruptcy shield to further weaken our Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) and put the hammer down on union membership.

Our members are informational picketing and speaking to elected officials and during City Council meetings. One of the bargaining groups has gone through mediation with no agreement and is headed to fact-finding. A second group has declared impasse and is headed to mediation. The third group is dealing with the city officials’ refusal to return to the negotiation table. The saga continues.

City of Stockton members and their families have been joining forces by informational picketing and speaking to elected officials about the need for city employees to get a fair contract.

City of Stockton members do an informational picket to raise awareness about the city officials’ inability to bargain a fair contract with their employees.
City of Weed update
By Art W. Frolli, business representative

The city of Weed was ravaged by the Boles fire in September, which destroyed 143 homes, two churches, the community center, the library and an office building. In addition to the personal losses suffered by residents, the city has suffered financially. The current contract between the city of Weed and the public-works employees represented by Local 3 expires June 30. As of April 15, we have started negotiations with the city. Prior to negotiations, City Manager Ron Stock provided the financial condition of the city during a budget meeting.

Although some reimbursement for the rebuilding of infrastructure has been provided, much of the funding requires a 25 percent match from the city. As a result of the losses, revenues have been significantly reduced. Enterprise Funds receive funding based on services supplied. In this case, public-works employees maintain the potable water and sewage systems. In exchange for this service, the city charges the residents fees. The revenues collected are used for the systems’ infrastructure maintenance, equipment and the salaries of those working to maintain these systems. As a result of these structural losses, the city has lost revenue into these funds. In addition, there has been a loss from property and sales taxes. Currently, the city has approved 24 new home plans (six more are being reviewed by the planning department) and three mobile-home foundations. City officials predict that out of the 143 homes lost to the fire, only 60 will be rebuilt.

This is where we find ourselves at the start of negotiations. Nonetheless, our members have not had a significant increase to their salaries in years that have not been eaten up by natural disasters or the rising cost of health-care premiums. Even the city manager realizes that the salaries and benefits of city employees need to be increased. How to accomplish this under the current circumstances is the question. The city has recently lost employees to other cities able to competitively compensate their employees. Our first meeting proved to be amiable, and positive strides were made. I will keep you all informed, as I learn more.

The city of San Jose and our members
By Mary Blanco, business representative

By the time this article goes to press, I will be in negotiations with the city of San Jose. We have a very large and diverse bargaining unit consisting of environmental inspectors, mechanics, heavy equipment operators, wastewater operators, etc. Overall, the members are concerned about salary and cost-of-living increases, retirement and medical premium plan costs.

The membership informed me they were treated poorly during the reign of former mayor Chuck Reed. Reed was a strong supporter of Measure B that was voted in by the citizens of San Jose as pension reform. Measure B requires members to work longer and pay 50 percent of their pension costs. It also requires voter approval for any future increase in retirement benefits, seriously impacting the city’s ability to recruit and retain employees. With Measure B, retirement contribution costs increased, while various pay cuts were demanded by the city. Members hired on or after Sept. 30, 2012, were placed in a different tier with reduced pension benefits. Additional tiers were implemented, further reducing pension benefits for new employees.

Retiree health care is another issue that must be addressed in negotiations with the city. Members in the first and second tiers are eligible for this benefit once they have vested 15 years with the city. Currently, members are paying 8.76 percent for this benefit. I am a member of the Retiree Health Care Working Group that consists of union leaders with the city, and we have been trying to resolve this issue because of the rising cost of this benefit. Members contribute about 5 percent of the cost for their benefit, and the remaining 3.76 percent is for the Retirees. Allegedly, the Retirees did not contribute enough during their employment to cover the cost of this benefit in their retirement. I don’t blame them, as they contributed what they were told to. It is the city officials’ fault for not making the correct calculations during the Retirees’ employment. I don’t believe that the benefit is even worth what the members are paying. City officials’ only obligation is to offer Retirees the lowest-cost health plan that they offer to active employees.

As you can see, the team and I have several issues to address with the city. I hope my next article will be about how these issues were successfully resolved.

Keep up the battle, Nevada
By Scott Fullerton, business representative

Despite an incredible amount of work by so many of you, at the time of this writing, most of the bills attacking our middle class have made it out of committee. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed, however, as they are having an impact and affecting votes.

For example, Assemblymen Glenn Trowbridge and Stephen Silberkrause, both House Republicans, have taken notice and have been breaking party lines as they begin to understand the impact many of these bills will have on their middle-class constituents. Silberkrause voted against many bills attacking public safety and collective bargaining, resulting in unfair criticism from his own party members. Trowbridge voted against Senate Bill (SB) 119, the prevailing wage bill, and other bills against collective bargaining. Since Trowbridge was a “swing” vote on the Government Affairs Committee, he was quickly moved to another committee and replaced by Assemblyman Jim Wheeler. (For clarification, Wheeler did say that in August of 2013.). These actions in Carson City are only a small demonstration of the mentality of certain members of our Legislature. (If you don’t believe me, please look up Assemblywoman Michelle Fiore’s Assembly Bill (AB) 408, a land-grab bill of the Cliven Bundy camp that was declared unconstitutional by the Legislative Council Bureau.)

I don’t have enough room to thank all of you who have been working for this cause. From card-signing and e-mailing to phone banking and walking, your voice is being heard. From Incline Village, Sparks, Fallon, Lovelock, Winnemucca, Battle Mountain, Elko and Ely, you have stated your position and let your legislators know, but remember that our battle does not end there. Our legislators need to be constantly reminded that you are the middle class, and it is your way of life they are trying to reduce. We will not stand for it. Keep fighting in solidarity.
Union Proud

We’re halfway through the year, and what a year it’s been! As many of our members are hard at work, so too is OE Federal. We are committed to provide the best financial services to our members and their families.

The reasons we are here today are always in the forefront of our minds. We were created by Local 3 members to serve them and their families. Our very existence is because of brothers and sisters like you.

This Credit Union believes in its members, and we stand tall and proud to serve the union movement. We are a strong financial institution because of members like you who put your trust in us. The more you use the Credit Union for your financial needs, the more you support the union movement.

As the weather heats up, many people look for new vehicles, boats, RVs and watercrafts. If you are in the market for a new vehicle, see us first! We offer low rates, easy financing and pre-approvals. When you get pre-approved, you can shop like a cash-buyer at the dealership. Knowing what you can afford before you talk to a salesperson puts you in the driver’s seat!

With the hint from the Federal Reserve about increasing interest rates, many people who have entertained the notion of buying a home are now acting on it. Whether you’re looking for a home for yourself, or your child or grandchild is looking for their first home, your real-estate options are endless with our low rates. You can refinance, purchase another home or get a Home Equity Line of Credit (HELOC) for repairs around the house. Whatever your needs, OE Federal has the right real-estate product to meet them. Give us a call at (800) 877-4444 and speak to a Real Estate Specialist today.

Remember, the Credit Union doesn’t just serve you. We are also here for your entire family. If your child or grandchild wants to open a checking account, please refer them to OE Federal. We’ll show them the same great service we’ve shown you over the years! To learn more about the Credit Union, give us a call or visit our website at www.oefcu.org.

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JULY 18TH & 19TH

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Union Proud
**Fringe Benefits**  
*By Charlie Warren, director*

**Surviving spouse medical plans**

If you die while covered by the Pensioned Operating Engineers Health and Welfare Plan, your surviving dependents may continue their eligibility for benefits. The specific benefits involved and the payments due will depend on the situation.

If you were a Retiree, including all cases involving owner-operators, your spouse will be able to continue eligibility for all benefits except chemical-dependency benefits by making monthly payments in an amount determined by the Board. Your spouse can continue benefits for your children, until they cease to be eligible dependents, by paying the applicable premiums for them.

If you are an active Operating Engineer and you die after becoming eligible for a Pension but before your Pension effective date, your surviving spouse will be eligible for benefits under the Pensioned Operating Engineers Trust Fund if a lifetime Pension benefit is selected. Coverage would begin after your hour bank is exhausted and can no longer provide benefits under the Active Plan. To begin and maintain coverage under the Pensioned Operating Engineers Trust Fund, your spouse will need to make the required monthly payments. Your spouse will also need to pay the required premiums for any eligible dependent children he or she wants to cover.

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

**District visits**

First Tuesday (June 2)  Redding  
First Wednesday (June 3)  Yuba City  
First Thursday (June 4)  Sacramento  
Second Tuesday (June 9)  Stockton  
Second Wednesday (June 10)  Fresno  
Second Thursday (June 11)  Morgan Hill  
Third Tuesday (June 16)  Rohnert Park  
Third Wednesday (June 17)  Eureka  
Fourth Tuesday (June 23)  Burlingame  
Fourth Wednesday (June 24)  Oakland  
Fourth Thursday (June 25)  Fairfield

**ATPA district visit schedule**

Tuesday, June 2  Rohnert Park  
Wednesday, June 3  Eureka  
Tuesday, June 9  Burlingame  
Wednesday, June 10  Oakland  
Thursday, June 11  Fairfield  
Tuesday, June 16  Redding  
Wednesday, June 17  Yuba City  
Thursday, June 18  Sacramento  
Tuesday, June 23  Stockton  
Wednesday, June 24  Fresno  
Thursday, June 25  Morgan Hill

**ATPA**  
*By Bob Miller, ATPA senior account executive*

**District visit program remains popular**

In his constant quest to provide the best member service, Business Manager Russ Burns implemented a monthly district visit program throughout Northern California several years ago, and it has proved very popular. Twice a month, a professional is assigned to visit your district (see the schedule below) and is available to meet one-on-one with you and your spouse regarding any Trust Fund or benefit issues you might have. Members can simply drop in or make an appointment by calling their district office.

**Retiree Picnic this month!**

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the upcoming Retiree Picnic and Benefits Fair held at the Dixon Fairgrounds on Saturday, June 6.

Come up Friday at noon and stay until noon on Sunday, if you wish. There is plenty of parking for your self-contained motor homes and trailers. We’ll see you there!
Members develop career-advancing skills at Rancho Murieta Training Center

The more everybody is involved in the union, the more people understand what the Rancho Murieta Training Center (RMTC) has to offer.

This can range from basic equipment training for those new to the trades, to specialty training, such as drilling, pipelining or crane-examiner accreditation.

This spring, RMTC instructors, signatory companies and the Association of Drilled Shaft Contractors (ADSC) came together to offer a three-day foundation drilling course. Students were able to train on equipment representative of what they would encounter in the field with help from signatory companies Case and Malcolm.

Malcolm Joint Field Superintendent Dave Lamont explained that the course prepares members for everyday field work, such as shoring pits, doing major excavation and foundation drilling, dewatering a site and being an oiler. Most importantly, he pointed out, it trains members on staying safe and ensuring the safety of others on the jobsite when drilling is taking place.

“It’s a very hard, very dirty job,” said Lamont. “It’s also very, very fun.”

Malcolm General Superintendent Wayne Broughton noted some of the safety concerns operators must be aware of, including moving swing arms, blind spots, cave-ins and proper tie-off procedures.

Instructor Jimmy Boswell, who has worked in California, Montana, Washington and Utah, said there is lots to look forward to once these students complete their drilling training.

“You’re always doing something different,” he said. “You move around a lot, and there is a lot of variety.”

During the same time as the drilling class, union staff had the opportunity to participate in the practical examiners’ mobile crane workshop, which gets them accredited to be practical examiners for our operators.

Part of the training includes an obstacle course, in which students use the crane to move a weight within set parameters and time limits. Touching, moving or knocking over the course’s guide poles (a tennis ball sits atop each to indicate the slightest bump) leads to deductions.

Apprenticeship Coordinator Catherine Lytle was particularly talented on the course, according to Retiree/Instructor Archibald Headley.

“Not one tennis ball, not one pole,” he said, holding a clipboard in one hand and a stopwatch in the other. “She smoked it.”

While scoring is done by the instructors, the National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO) determines whether a student passes or fails.

Unaware of Headley’s comment, Lytle sat in the crane, smiled and pretended to wipe her brow with an exaggerated gesture.

“It is such a good program,” she said, referring to what the RMTC offers. “It gives people all the training they need, and a lot of people just don’t know [about it].”

A third training held at the RMTC in early spring was conducted by the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) for sideboom operators seeking to become pipeliners. Four-year Instructor Scott Twoey from Local 66 in Pennsylvania explained that the three-week program includes classroom and hands-on training.

“We teach pipelining from beginning to end,” he said, as Local 3 members Monica Balderrama and Larry Lovelady worked together on two separate sidebooms to carry a section of pipe around a designated track.

Ten-year member and pipeline student James Bryant stood nearby and admitted the class was difficult at first but became easier as he learned more.

All Local 3 members are encouraged to utilize the training and coursework available to them at the RMTC, as it adds value to their trade, their employers and their union. Call us at (916) 354-2029 to see what classes are available for you.
CIFAC’s investigations total more than $700 million in 2014

By Cathryn Hilliard, CIFAC executive director

Public Contract Code compliance results in more opportunities for our contractors to bid on new public works construction jobs. This is how we get the work that would otherwise never go to bid. For example, all general law cities are supposed to bid all new construction jobs that are over $5,000 in value, and counties have a $4,000 or $6,500 threshold, depending on whether their population is more than 500,000. But when finances get tight, some public agencies are tempted to violate the rules by keeping projects in-house and hiring new staff to do all the work.

That’s where the Construction Industry Force Account Council (CIFAC) comes in. We monitor public agencies to make sure they comply with bidding laws.

What happens when a public agency refuses to follow the rules? The case against Ross Valley Sanitary District is a great example. They must bid all work over $15,000. CIFAC sued to prevent the district from hiring 11 new employees to replace 12 miles of pipelines and won the case in Marin Superior Court. (That case is now in the Court of Appeals.)

In 2014, CIFAC’s progress in creating job opportunities included 183 investigations with an approximate value of $711.5 million. In just over a decade, the value of all projects CIFAC has investigated is nearly $7.5 billion.

CIFAC also influenced 20 jurisdictions to change their bidding methods to comply with the laws in fairness to contractors and their workers and to become more transparent to public agencies. We also influenced scores of agencies to become signatory to the California Uniform Construction Cost Accounting Act, which is a win-win situation for both the public and private sectors. Public agencies immediately get a bump-up in their force account limit. In exchange, they must agree to follow rules that require them to format their cost accounting as prescribed by the State Controller’s Office so there can be a straight-across comparison of contractors’ costs with public agencies’ costs.

The act also sets up the California Uniform Construction Cost Accounting Commission (CUCCAC) to settle disputes between the industry and public agencies, preventing or forestalling the need to take legal action. The CUCCAC is made up of 14 members, half of whom represent the public sector and half of whom are from contractor associations and labor unions.

CIFAC victories at the state commission include winning two complaints filed against the counties of Sacramento and Sonoma. Sacramento County exceeded its force account limit on roadwork on National Boulevard, which is very close to the Local 3 District 80 office. Sonoma County reconstructed and remodeled a sewer line and kitchen at the adult detention facility that was not competitively bid. County officials called it an “emergency” without going through the required procedure to declare it as such. When sanctions are issued, there must be a public hearing to explain why they were in violation and how they intend to keep it from happening again. CIFAC represented the industry at both hearings.

Thanks to Business Manager Russ Burns and all the Local 3 members and staff, including CIFAC President Steve Harris and newly elected CIFAC Board member/Sacramento District Rep. Rob Carrion for their support in ensuring public works construction projects go out to the private sector.

We sincerely value your input and are ready to provide quick action on complaints. Contact us with questions or comments at (800) 755-3354 or go to our website at www.cifac.org.
In a 10-mile radius between I-5 and Hwy. 99 in south Sacramento, there is lots of action for Local 3 members. Crews with Teichert Construction on the Cosumnes River Boulevard extension and interchange project at I-5 and with Balfour Beatty/Teichert Joint-Venture (JV) on the south Sacramento corridor light-rail project worked steadily through the winter and will continue through the rest of the year.

“This is a hot job,” said 10-year member Juan Manuel Martinez about the light-rail project for Balfour Beatty. While working for subcontractor Fontenoy, Martinez has been opening a trench for the utility pipes on the project that will extend the Sacramento Regional Transit Light-Rail service from its existing Meadowview Station to Cosumnes River College.

For Martinez and a busy crew of about 10 to 12 operators, this job has been a good source of employment for local District 80 members. This consistency has been particularly nice for fifth-step Apprentice Dmitriy Okunev, who welcomed a new baby in April.

“College students will be smiling too, once the $89.5 million project is finished. “They will be able to take light-rail from downtown to the college,” said District 80 Business Rep. Greg Dornback. “The college has really grown.” Alongside this project, the $82 million Cosumnes River Boulevard extension and interchange at I-5 job is also happening with the same kind of steadiness, as operators provide the underground support, often working around busy traffic and sensitive fiber optics.

“Stressful,” was how member Kevin Ross described the fragile nature of his excavation near utilities and traffic.

But according to John Henry Cotter III, a veteran excavator operator with Teichert, the company prides itself on an impeccable safety record. “They [Teichert] run a good safety program,” the 27-year member said. “Everybody around you is conscious of being safe.” Cotter also noted that even though California needs the rain, without it, work has been better than expected this season.

The Cosumnes River Boulevard extension project has been featured in news reports as one of Sacramento’s largest public-works projects ever and is a result of Measure A funding — another example of the importance that politics plays in our livelihoods!

These projects mean big things are happening in terms of Sacramento’s infrastructure and economy, as both will improve traffic congestion and the overall aesthetics of the area. The extension project will ultimately create access to a future housing development, the 800-acre Delta Shores, which will mean even more work for our members down the road.

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Story and photos by Mandy McMillen, managing editor

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Excavator Operator Randy Cox puts a 60-inch, split-steel casing over a 36-inch water main on the Cosumnes River Boulevard extension job with Teichert.

Gradesetter Allen Packer stakes out the signal poles on the south Sacramento corridor light-rail project in District 80.
Excavator Operator John Henry Cotter III works for Teichert on the Cosumnes River Boulevard extension project.

Fifth-step Apprentice Dmitriy Okunev works for Balfour Beatty on the light-rail station from Meadowview to Cosumnes River College.

Operator Alvin McGarvin.

Operator Jaime Nieto.

Backhoe Operator Jaime Nieto crosses Cosumnes River Boulevard while working on its extension in South Sacramento.

Juan Manuel Martinez.

Juan Manuel Martinez opens up the trench for Fontenoy Engineering, a subcontractor for Teichert.

Loader Operator Alvin McGarvin readies materials on the second phase of the south Sacramento corridor light-rail project.
Dirt job makes way for amphitheater at world-class music center

By John O. Matos, associate editor

“This is one of the few dirt jobs here,” said Dale Mahoney, as he pointed to the work going on at the Green Music Center in Rohnert Park, where an outdoor amphitheater will soon be built. Mahoney is an area manager for Ghilotti Construction and doesn’t expect this to be the only dirt job for long, as projects are going up for bid, being awarded or getting started all over the North Bay.

Across the street from the Green Music Center, work on a residential project has recently broken ground as part of ongoing development of the University District around Sonoma State University.

The Green Music Center, with its new amphitheater, will be a big draw for future homebuyers wanting to live here and take advantage of the arts, culture, climate and beauty of the area.

“This is a world-class music center,” said Mahoney. “It draws performers from all over the world.”

He went on to describe the interior of the facility, which includes immaculate woodwork and expansive patios with unobstructed views of the surrounding hills. Once completed, the amphitheater will only add to the prestige of the music center and will feature terraced seating and a stage amidst the natural beauty of the region.

Turning the vision for this project into reality will require 35,000 yards of cut and fill and 35,000 yards of import. To get started, Ghilotti Construction has Foreman John Cole on the job with scraper operators Kevin Olsen and Ruvim Sonnik, Dozer Operator Aaron Bowman and Compactor Operator Frank Estepa. Olsen, who usually works as a gradesetter, is operating one of the scrapers on this project.

“I can operate whatever is needed,” he said, and explained how the high-profile job requires the dirt crew to work 10 hours a day until the work is completed.

Bowman, following the scrapers in the dozer, said he always wanted to operate heavy equipment. He can still recall how he looked up to operators as a kid and said being a member of Local 3 has made it possible for him to make a good living doing what he likes, “moving dirt and meeting new people.”

Estepa also noted what he enjoys about his career as an operator. “I’m not stuck in a building,” he said, gesturing to the view, “I’m outside and going to different places.”

Estepa said this job is slightly different for him, as he normally works as part of a soil-stabilization crew. He has worked from
Boonville to San Jose and said he appreciates the variety of work he encounters as an operator, which, like this project, occasionally takes him away from what he is accustomed to.

“I just like to be kept busy,” he said.

Sonnik can normally be found working as part of a soil-stabilization crew as well, and like the rest of this crew, he can operate a variety of equipment doing whatever is needed. He came to the United States in 1999 from Moldova, in Eastern Europe, where he worked with his father in construction. He stayed in the industry when he came to the states but worked non-union initially. It didn’t take long for him to realize, however, that he wanted the stability and strength of union membership. He located the Hall in Sacramento and joined Local 3 in 2005, bringing valuable experience, knowledge and skills to our organization. Today, Sonnik supports his wife and five children with the pay and benefits his union membership provides.

Like Sonnik, Area Superintendent Rick Cohn knows the advantages of being a Local 3 member, advantages that not only benefit himself, but also his fellow members and the industry. Having taken notice of the increased work around Rohnert Park, he is enthusiastic about the prospects for Local 3 in the area. As he took a moment to pose for a photo, he and Business Agent Randy Bryson discussed how Local 3 can secure more work for members and attract more quality workers to the industry and the union.

Excitement over future prospects for work in the area is widely shared by staff, members and employers alike. Whether making way for the amphitheater at the Green Music Center or doing underground work for the residential development nearby, everyone seems to feel these current projects are just the tip of the iceberg for the North Bay. An indicator of that sentiment is the sound of construction work taking place at the Green Music Center, a sound our members applaud long before the first performers take the stage there.

-Stay tuned for more work in this area-

The University District in Rohnert Park is an ongoing and extensive development around Sonoma State University, which will keep our members employed for quite some time. The area covers 260 acres and will include 12 neighborhoods with over 1,200 single-family homes. This is in addition to a seven-acre commercial center, 13 acres of public parks and over three miles of trails. Stay tuned for more information on this development with mainline work being done by our members with Argonaut as well as underground work being done by our members with Ghilotti Brothers.
Local 3 loses a beloved brother

It is with a heavy heart that the Operating Engineers bid farewell to a great union man loved throughout the North Bay and Local 3’s jurisdiction. Jim Killean was a 44-year member who was one of the most effective business agents in District 10 history. He worked tirelessly as a member on staff for 11 years, raising the standard of living for the working men and women of Local 3. He was widely respected by both employers and the membership.

“Jim brought many men and women into the union, improving not only their lives but also the lives of their families,” said Business Manager Russ Burns, who worked with Killean as a special crane rep. and district rep. in Rohnert Park. Stories about Killean abound. He brought great energy, humor and passion to every task he set himself to. Everyone seems to have a “Killean” story and even talking about him brings back a bit of that high-octane energy that seemed to burst out of him. To Killean, Local 3 was his family, and to all of us he was a one-of-a-kind brother who will be greatly missed. We are all better for his being here, and the Rohnert Park District staff sends our gratitude and appreciation to his wife, Barbara, for sharing him with Local 3.

Solidarity forever, Jim.

From left: Jim Killean is pictured with Business Manager Russ Burns during a Rohnert Park District Picnic in 1999. At the time, Killean was a business agent and Burns was a special crane rep.

Hawaii Hours up from this time last year

The first half of the year has been challenging as well as promising for our district. We started off with our 2014 work-hours up by 9 percent from the year before. In January, we came in with a positive 28 percent compared to the previous January, and February came in with a positive 30 percent when compared to the previous February. This gives us an annual percentage of positive 29 percent. (March hours were not available at the time of this writing.)

J.W. Fowler, sub-contractor for Southland, started its portion of the $5.4 million Kalua Kaneohe Sewer Tunnel. Landon Construction, a new signatory, started the $422,760 Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Facility. Hawaiian Dredging is working on the New Day Work Program (NDWP) taxi-lanes at the Honolulu Airport worth $42.7 million. The company is also building the $309 million Kaanapali Ocean Resort on Maui. S.T. Rhoades, another new signatory contractor, is on the Hilo side of the Big Island working on the $4.3 million emergency escape truck ramps on the Daniel K. Inouye Highway (Saddle Road). Garner Construction is providing the tower cranes and operators for the Hilton Grand Vacations (HGV) Grand Islander in Waikiki on a time and material contract. Nordic PCL started the $79 million Kamakana Alii (DeBartolo) Shopping Center, which is designed to be bigger than the Ala Moana Shopping Center, $79 million Kamakana Alii (DeBartolo) Shopping Center, which is designed to be bigger than the Ala Moana Shopping Center.

Private work, energy efficiency keeps members employed

Private work has continued to be strong throughout most of Contra Costa and Alameda counties with Independent, Teichert, DeSilva Gates and Top Grade heading up much of the work on hundreds of house pads. J&M Pipeline, Preston Pipelines, Platinum Pipeline and Sanco Pipelines are doing all the underground work for sewer and main water feeds. This translates into our members getting lots of hours toward another good year.

Blattner Energy, Inc. is geared up for the Golden Hills Wind Project, also known as the Altamont Windmill Project. Blattner Energy, Inc. is taking down 740 of the old windmills and replacing them with 48 new ones, which will create more electricity than all of the old ones combined and provide steady work for months to come. Hwy. 4 is still going strong and expected to finish in 2017 with BART trains running from Pittsburg at Bailey Road to Lone Tree in Antioch. A few schools in West Contra Costa County are nearing completion, and more should be starting up soon. The $128 million Balfour Road project at Hwy. 4 is set to start at the end of the year.

Local 3 would like to thank everyone who volunteered to come out for phone banking and precinct walking. We continue to need volunteers and would appreciate seeing some new faces willing to help out. Business Rep. Ken Burns is our district’s Voice of the Engineer (VOTE) coordinator, so contact him at the Hall regarding upcoming elections and City Council meetings. Let’s fight the fight together.

With summer here, work is in full stride, so be sure you stay current on the out-of-work list and get dispatched correctly to the right employer. As temperatures continue to rise, stay hydrated and safe out there in the field.

We would also like to remind everyone about the upcoming District Picnic in Martinez on Sunday, June 24. It is being held in Martinez Waterfront Park at North Court Street located on Joe DiMaggio Drive. See you out there!
Update your records as work picks up

The summer heat is upon us, so stay hydrated while you’re on the job, take your breaks and lunches in a cool shaded place and watch for signs of heat exhaustion or possible heat stroke in yourself and your coworkers.

Work has picked up, and many of you have been called back to work. If that’s the case, please remember to call your district office and speak to your dispatcher. He or she can either recall you to your previous employer or dispatch you according to your eligibility to that employer. Your name is then taken off the out-of-work list, which prevents you from violating Section 04.10.09 of the Job Placement Regulations.

If you have recently completed a journey-level upgrade class, renewed and/or received a certification or gotten your Class A license, take a moment to call the district office to verify this information has been added to your credentials. This is especially important if you took the class or certification online.

A few new projects have started this year along the Hwy. 50 corridor. DeSilva Gates started on the $5.26 million Natoma overhead project at Folsom Boulevard and Hwy. 50. Viking Construction is in Placerville working on the $6.9 million Green Valley Road and Weber Creek Bridge replacement project. Teichert Construction is working on Hwy. 89 at Meeks Bay inTahoma providing $4 million worth of paving and storm-drain improvements.

Thanks to everyone who came out to our District Picnic. More photos of the event are available online at www.oe3.org.

As a reminder, our second quarter District Meeting is on June 1, at 7 p.m. and will be held at the Hall at 3920 Lennane Drive in Sacramento. We look forward to seeing you there.

EUREKA

Welcome, summer, to Humboldt and Del Norte counties! It has been slow coming, and we welcome the work season.

As many of you know, prevailing wage is under attack in many states. Don’t think for one minute that California is out of the sights of those who would like to undercut the working class of this country. We need to do all we can to help our fellow workers in these other states, as they are under fire. If you would like to volunteer your time and help precinct walk or phone bank, please contact the Hall and we will find a place where you can help.

There are many bills before our legislators to help labor stand united, so please take the time to become familiar with them. There are a few bills that are not in our favor that may appear as if they are. If you have any questions, please call the Hall, and we will go through them together.

As members of Local 3, we have an obligation to protect our work. We are a small district with a small staff, so we need your help being our eyes and ears out on projects. If you see anyone other than an Operating Engineer on any piece of equipment, call and let us know. Your call will remain anonymous.

The work picture is looking up a bit. Mercer-Fraser is working on the slide project in Bimbo, and Wahlund Construction is working on the Bear River Wastewater Treatment Plant in Loleta. North Coast Fabricators is going strong at the PG&E decommissioning project, along with Drill Tech and North West Demolition. Cascade Drilling is also working on the project under a Project Agreement.

Please remember: Working people stand together, and Operating Engineers stand together as working people.
Facebook Campus job wraps up with news of another extension

One of the largest developments in San Francisco is about as far away from downtown as you can get in a the old Hunters Point Shipyard and Candlestick Point neighborhoods. In the shadow of the Candlestick stadium, as demolition is being performed by Silverado, the new Alice Griffith housing project is in full-swing with general contractor Townsend Management, Inc. utilizing surveyors Rich Reza and Justin Evans from F3 Land Surveying. They are providing the lay-out for 400 drilled piers and will also be laying-out streets and underground. Foundation Constructors, Inc. is drilling the 90-foot deep piers and driving piles with Drill Operator Nelson Chinchilla and Oiler Louie Shuckahosee. Also onsite is Evans Bros., Inc., which is doing most of the grading and digging the footings with operators Luis Torres, Brad Loyles, David Turknett and Lynetta Westbrook. Anvil Builders is nearby on Carroll Avenue beefing up the underground utilities to support the new development with Excavator Operator Alvaro Lopez installing a new 12-inch waterline. Ranger Pipelines is on Gilman Street putting in a 54-inch storm and sewer main with Excavator Operator Demar Smith.

Alberto Marquez runs the excavator for Anvil Builders, as the company works on the new Lennar housing development that will include new parks, tot-lots and open areas with an outlook structure that overlooks the former naval yard and Bay. Operators are installing 400 feet of 12-inch High Density Polyethylene (HDP) fusion storm-drain pipe that will drain the streets on top and run through the landscaping area to a bubbler below.

Also in San Francisco, Roberts/Obayashi has a new job at the corner of 6th and Howard. You may remember it as the old Hugo Hotel with all the furniture climbing around on the outside. Silverado performed the demo with Frank Sanchez, Bertin Fierros and Clyde Cola. Granite Excavation prepped the site for Raito, Inc. by installing slurry walls, and J Flores Construction will install any tie-ins down the road. Bigge Crane and Rigging will have a tower crane and outside hoist to help get the job finished during the next year-and-a-half.

In San Mateo County, work is strong. The original Facebook Campus project in Menlo Park is wrapping up, with news that the social media giant purchased another 56 acres next door and is planning another all-union construction project. On the Caltrain right-of-way at Hillsdale Mall, Pitcher Drilling has Mike Sevilla and Elvis Calderon doing geotechnical soil investigation for a future grade-separation project. In the north, Ranger Pipelines is starting a $50 million groundwater storage and recovery project for the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC). It will encompass Daly City, Colma, South San Francisco, San Bruno and Millbrae, and will keep many of our members working for the next three years.

In Redwood City, Malcolm Drilling is working on the foundation for the new Courtyard Marriott Hotel. Operators for Malcolm include Rob Moran, Edward Looney, Michael Boswell, Curt Cutshaw and Mikael Johnston. Also onsite, Pacific Coast Excavating operators Dennis Martinez and Darel Sheets are providing dirt work.

We look forward to seeing you all at the District Picnic on June 14 at Coyote Point from noon to 3 p.m. Come out for the best tri-tip in the union, and don’t forget your sunscreen.
District Picnic is on June 13

We have plenty of dispatches to prove that things have really picked up so far this season. Some projects that were recently awarded or are continuing include J.F. Shea Construction’s $5.4 million bridge replacement project on I-5 Hilt near the Oregon border, a $2.7 million road construction Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) overlay job on Hwy. 44 near Shingletown and a $1.2 million HMA overlay on Hwy. 89 near Bartle.

Mercer- Fraser will be working on Hwy. 299 in Weaverville on a $9.4 million HMA project. American Pavement System, Inc. has a $1.8 million rubberized chip-seal job on Hwy. 3 in Etna. Northwest Paving will also be working on a chip-seal project on Hwy. 3 valued at $2.8 million. Omni Pipelines, Inc. has been working on an underground job at the new Walmart in Red Bluff as a subcontractor for Knife River Construction. Darren Taylor Construction has many jobs performing grinding and dig-outs throughout the district.

S T Rhoades, Inc. is working in Salyer on a roadway/high-wall project on Hwy. 299 with Steelhead Constructors, Inc. On C.C. Myers’ Hwy. 99 Thomas Creek Bridge replacement in Richfield, EP Jarrett has been doing some foundation work along with Cal-Neva Construction Services doing demo work.

Ongoing work continues with Beebe Diversified employing our members on the Tehama County Courthouse job and Breneman, Inc. keeping our members working on the Safe Routes to School job in Cottonwood. Tullis, Inc. added the $2 million Shasta County overlays to a long list of projects that the company has on the books for this year. Crystal Creek Aggregate has been busy supplying many loads of rip-rap for several projects on Hwy. 299 West, including the Buckhorn project with Steve Manning Construction. Our in-district rock, sand and gravel operations have been working a fair amount of hours to provide the needed materials to support all the aforementioned projects.

Please mark your calendars and make sure you can attend the following events this month: Our District Meeting is on Wednesday, June 3, at 7 p.m., our Retiree Picnic is on Saturday, June 6, at the Dixon Fairgrounds and our annual District Picnic is on Saturday, June 13, at Anderson River Park. Tickets for our District Picnic are on sale at the Hall or can be purchased at the event. Hope to see you there!

Yuba City

Where’s the fairness?

If not for the requirements of Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPPs) we probably wouldn’t have noticed winter this year at all and would have worked straight through it. Employer hour reports for the first part of the year were above average, and our job board is still showing plenty of work to be done this summer.

There was a shortage of rain this year with only traces to measure in some areas, no snow pack and reservoirs that are only half-full. You have probably heard much about this in light of the politics surrounding water, water rights and water projects.

Politics affect us in every way. Consider SWPPPs and their impact on shortened construction seasons and part-time work. Many California Air Resource Board (CARB) regulations have had terrible effects on our employers, while unfair red tape that lacks common sense has delayed construction projects of all types, including Sites Reservoir. Add to this bad free-trade agreements that result in good American jobs being sent overseas, and you see how costly politics can be for our industry when we don’t make our voice heard.

Where’s the Fairness (WTF) in our politics today? We have politicians all around us bent on attacking working people. They tell us it’s not working people they’re after, it’s unions, but make no mistake about it, unions are working people! Unions are created by working people, run by working people and exist for working people. Prevailing wage, collective bargaining rights and union security are in the crosshairs of politicians today. Every employer wants to define what constitutes “fair compensation,” and most would prefer to do it without your input. They don’t want to have to sit at the table and negotiate what is fair and reasonable and will use politics to take that right away. Don’t let it happen. Get involved and stay involved!

This includes being involved in safety. Doing our jobs on California highways is always a dangerous duty, and this awareness makes us committed to public safety. We must prepare for both our own safety and the safety of others while maintaining California’s infrastructure. So, thank a Caltrans member today for protecting our roads and ensuring our safety.
Work season officially begins

Thank you to those who attended the District Picnic in May. It’s always a good time for all. Pictures of family, friends and activities will run in an upcoming edition of Engineers News, as well as on Local 3’s website at www.oe3.org. Next year, the picnic will be at a new location, and we will keep you informed once all the details are in place.

No matter what the work picture may look like, the real work season always seems to begin in June, and here we are. Full speed ahead!

Asphalt/concrete paving is a hot topic in our district. Security Paving is performing two of these projects in our area. One is a $14 million project on I-5 and Panoche Road, and another is a $5.2 million project in Lemoore. Granite Construction was awarded asphalt projects in Goshen and Coalinga, and Emmett’s Excavation, Inc. has work in Tulare County. All of this work is possible because of good Local 3 operators.

Our condolences to the family and friends of members Kenneth Palmer and Austin Wisener. Palmer was an Honorary Member with almost 65 years of service and a true oiler for Operating Engineers. Wisener, a 37-year member, worked as a mechanic and on the well-known Helms project.

Preparation for negotiations continue

From Reno

Despite bad news from the Nevada Legislature this year, contractors in our district are getting our members plenty of work. The Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) has received the long-awaited permits for the South East Connector project in Reno, which has been awarded to Granite Construction. Q&D Construction was awarded the Virginia Street Bridge project in downtown Reno, and the company continues work on McCarran Boulevard in Reno, sewer rehab in Dayton and other projects around the area. Sierra Nevada Construction is working on sewer rehab/street-patch rehab for the city of Reno and was the low bidder on several slurry seal projects. The company is also finishing work on a couple of warehouse projects. Road and Highway Builders won the bid to finish the last section of the I-580 Carson bypass in Carson City and should be starting soon.

Thank you to everyone who helped phone bank, walked precincts on weekends and traveled to meetings at the Legislature in Carson City.

NEVADA I 1290 Corporate Blvd., Reno, NV 89502 ■ For all branches, call (775) 857-4440
District Rep. Rod Young

Preparation for negotiations continue

From Reno

Work in the Elko area started earlier than expected due to the mild spring weather. R.H.B. has made good progress on the Lamoille/Mountain City Highway job in Elko and on Hwy. 93, while also picking up work at the Elko Regional Airport. Ames Construction and N.A. Degerstrom are working at Newmont’s Long Canyon Mine east of Wells. Granite Construction, N.A. Degerstrom, Ames Construction and Canyon Construction continue to pick-up work in the northeastern mines. Sterling Crane and Mountain Crane are keeping busy in the northeast, with most of their work at the local mines. Q&D Construction is finishing the Dunphy Bridge job.

As for our Elko Town Hall Membership Meetings, Construction Membership Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month, and Newmont Mining Membership Meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month.

Newmont contract time is upon us, and we will be taking nominations and voting for the negotiations committee. We are still making a list of possible proposal ideas. Now is the time to have your voice heard. Come by our office at 555 W. Silver Street, Ste. 104 or e-mail Business Agent Bill Bodin at wbodin@oe3.org.

Elko is preparing for our District Picnic on July 25. It will be at the VFW Hall at 731 VFW Drive in Elko. You may purchase tickets at the Credit Union or at the Hall. If you have any questions, please call us at (775) 753-8761.

Members and their families taking part in April’s Walk to Protect Working Families organized by the AFL-CIO include, from left, Lucy Mares, Judy Humphrey, Sal Mares, Kolton Hunter (boy in front), Public Employee Business Agent Scott Fullerton, Retiree Barbara Ayon, District Rep. Rod Young, Maurice Olmes, Political Coordinator Jane Lea, Political Action Committee (PAC) member Kevin Porter, Jeff Kent, PAC member Robert Mack, Nevada Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC) Coordinator Brian Prather, Dakotah Mack and Ian Gregory.
Work continues to be plentiful

Our district has had an incredible amount of work the past two years, and work continues to be plentiful.

On Hwy. 99, Myers & Sons Construction, Granite Construction and Bay Cities Paving and Grading continue the reconfiguration of overpasses and connector ramps, as well as the modification of surface streets. This work is expected to last through the year. Bay Cities Paving and Grading also continues widening Hwy. 4 from Bacon Island Road to South Roberts Road in Stockton.

O.C. Jones’ pavement rehabilitation and bridge construction project on Hwy. 12 will continue through the summer. The extension of Hwys. 4 (Crosstown Freeway) west of I-5 is still providing work with Brosamer & Wall, Inc. The company’s construction of the Navy Drive Burlington North Santa Fe (BNSF) grade separation project will last through the summer.

R.L. Brosamer/Walsh is nearing the final phase of the I-5 project through Stockton.

The construction of subdivisions has multiplied in our district with projects under construction in Lodi, Manteca, Lathrop and Mountain House. In Lathrop, Independent Construction has been moving dirt all year constructing lakes, housing and commercial pads for the River Islands project. The work started last November and has continued through this year.

Underground work has been steady due to the resumption of the housing and commercial market, as well as local projects needing improvements on existing underground facilities.

Paving work is plentiful and steady this year, with many large projects underway. These include $43 million worth of bi-directional paving on I-5 at Teichert's $23 million Hwy. 99 Superpave project from Hammer Lane north to the Sacramento County line. There is also paving work being done on various San Joaquin County and other city projects.

Local rock, sand and gravel plants are in demand with all the material being used on projects in our district.

Thank you all for attending the Stockton District Picnic this year!

Friends, family and union membership make enjoying retirement possible

Retiree Spotlight

Jerry Comer began his career as an Operating Engineer in 1968, working as a mechanic for Peter Kiewit Sons in Echo, Utah. He also worked for MK, Industrial, Gibbons & Reed and Granite. Comer spent the majority of his career as a supervisor and is considered a great mentor who had a positive influence on many Heavy Duty Repairers (HDR).

Comer retired in December of 2006 and likes to use the knowledge and skills he learned during his career to “tinker and build things.” He takes great pride in doing things the old-school way. One of his projects is Ole Red Eye, a truck that was once his daily driver and service truck, but has since transformed into a competition pulling truck. Comer doesn’t buy many parts off the shelf, preferring to fabricate, modify or build his own with a craftsmanship that is readily apparent.

Comer and his wife, Genie, spend the summers traveling to and competing in truck-pulling events across the West. He credits the support of his wife and family, as well as his career with Local 3 for making it possible for him to do all the things he enjoys in his retirement.

Company Spotlight: David T. Price, Inc.

David T. Price, Inc. is an agricultural company based in Escalon that employs many of our brothers and sisters in the district in a variety of capacities.

The company is an outstanding contractor and has been a signatory with OE3 since 1956. Today, the company operates a fleet of D10s and D11s for slip-plow and deep ripping, all of which are operated and maintained by our members. A tremendous amount of effort from local members is also poured into operations requiring the fleet, as every location move requires a crane to break down the dozer and ripper for transport, which must then be reassembled again before the tractor can be put back to work.

In other news

Work is looking good for the summer. Geneva Rock has a concrete paving job on I-80 from Silver Creek Junction to Wanship and is back at Powder Mountain Resort doing utility, grading and paving work for a new housing development. The company will be keeping several grading and paving crews busy this summer as well. W.W. Clyde has work across the state, including adding a climbing lane on I-15 south of Beaver, mining and stripping work at Materion Resources west of Delta and ongoing work at I-15 in South Davis County. Granite is still keeping crews busy at the refineries in North Salt Lake and will keep paving crews busy with work across Utah. The company is also keeping some smaller crews working at Kennecott. Ames will be adding a climbing lane on I-15 north of Beaver and reconstructing the Hill Field Road interchange at I-15 in Layton.

We encourage all members to build lasting relationships, establish deeper community bonds and strengthen each other by getting more involved in their union. Start by attending your District Meetings and Town Hall Meetings and participating in the Voice of the Engineer (VOTE) program.

Our second quarter District Meeting will be on Monday, June 8, at 7 p.m. Our District Picnic will be held Saturday, June 13, at 9 a.m. at Draper City Park’s North Pavilion. We look forward to spending time with you and your family.
Renew your crane certification credentials

Three large jobs in Solano County include the Fairfield/Vacaville Train Station, the I-80/I-680 interchange and the new Dixon Wastewater Treatment Facility. Combined, they account for an estimated $103 million worth of work. In addition to these projects, Keith J. Gale General Engineering has broken ground on the North Bay Cancer Treatment Facility in Vacaville, and Mountain Cascade nears completion on a pump station in Vacaville. Ghiolotti Construction has broken ground on the 80-lot Seeno Homes project, Garibaldi 6, in Cordelia.

Work is underway on a $1.7 million project replacing a 24-inch waterline with a 42-inch line, with California Trenchless, Inc. for the city of Vallejo. The city plans to increase water flows from the Putah South Canal Terminal Reservoir in Cordelia to the city’s water treatment plant. The county expedited the entire $5.2 million project, which draws water from Lake Berryessa, because of the uncertainty of the Sacramento River supply. This increased source will help Vallejo avoid water shortages due to the drought. The first phase is an installation of a 4,000-foot, 42-inch line expected to be finished with a 360-foot bore under Hwy. 12 this month. The second phase is another 4,000-foot section and will be put out to bid next February.

In Napa County, Ranger Pipelines, Inc. is busy replacing a sewer in downtown Napa with 1,000 feet of 10-inch pipe, 10,000 feet of 8-inch pipe and a small amount of 6-inch pipe.

Caltrans Unit 12 members Jim Hyatt, Terry Brister and Charles Smith rode their motorcycles to the state Capitol on April 15 in support of fallen fellow-workers. They do this ride annually and invite other riders to join them.

The North Bay Apprenticeship Coordinators Association (NBACA) recently hosted a construction career fair at Solano Community College. More than 600 people attended. Thanks to all who participated.

Cranes operators, please keep your National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO) credentials up to date, since you can’t operate a crane without it. You must also have a current medical card to go with it. Call the Rancho Murietta Training Center (RMTC) at (916) 354-2029 to schedule a refresher and a test date. You can also renew your NCCCO at a computer testing facility. If you choose this option, just bring your new card to the Hall so we can get it entered into our system.

Refinery Safety Overview (RSO) and Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) cards must also be current. (You will need a TWIC card to work at Bay Area refineries and ports.)

We congratulate three-year member Curtiss Kelley, proud new father of Faith Elizabeth Kelley. We are happy to report that wife Rochelle and baby Faith are doing great.

Retiree celebrates 100th birthday

Retiree George Bernal’s family gathered in April to celebrate a tremendous milestone, his 100th birthday! While he occupied a prominent seat at the table that day, he also occupies a place of honor as the head of a large, ever-growing family tree, with roots firmly grounded in Local 3.

Bernal is the father of 14 children, eight girls and six boys, and has over 100 grandchildren, great grandchildren and great-great grandchildren. Raising such a large family takes loyalty and commitment, qualities which he has never lacked. He and his wife Nora, who passed away in 2005, were married for 63 years, and this last year, he celebrated 51 years of membership in OE3, as did his brother and fellow Retiree Carmen Bernal.

It was 1963 when George and Carmen became Operating Engineers. Another brother, Richard Bernal, had already been a member of Local 3 since 1954. Each of them made a career with Local 3, supported their families through union labor and retired with the union. (Richard passed away in 2010 at the age of 90.)

Union membership was always important to George and his family and is something he continues to take pride in.

“He just thinks being a union member is something to be really proud of,” said his daughter, Nora Sanchez. “He is proud to be in the union, because they stand behind you.” She said her father still attends Local 3 picnics and noted that he proudly displays his service pins on hats, jackets or his suit.

“I couldn’t stress enough that Operating Engineers has been a great union, and it’s helped the family throughout the years,” said Ernestine Bernal, George’s sister-in-law and wife of Carmen. “We are just very fortunate.”

Being the head of the household had its challenges, but George made it work. Thanks to Local 3, he was always able to provide for his wife and kids.

“My dad was the only one that worked, but we always had plenty,” said Sanchez. “We didn’t always have everything we wanted, but we always had what we needed.”

Sanchez points out that beyond being a provider, George has always been a great father.

“He would ask for each and every one of us when he came home. He’d take off his work boots and want to see every one of the kids,” she said. “As tired as he was, as many kids as he had, I still remember he’d take us camping all the time. He was a very good father.”

These days George lives in San Jose with his daughter Delores. He maintains his good health by riding a stationary bike while watching sports and taking walks in the neighborhood.

“He is very friendly. All the neighbors know him, and they will say ‘Hi George!’ and he waves,” said Sanchez. “Everywhere he goes, even staying with his kids, everyone knows him.”

George Bernal, center, stands with other Honorary Members after receiving his 50-year pin last year, along with Stockton District Rep. Nate Tucker, IUEC Western Regional Director Carl Goff and Rec. Corres. Secretary Jim Sullivan.
Upcoming picnic information

District 12: Utah (Draper) Picnic Details
Saturday, June 13, 9-11 a.m.
Draper City Park (North Pavilion), 12450 S, 1300 E, Draper
Menu: Eggs, bacon, sausage, hash browns, donuts, fruit, juice and coffee
Cost: Retirees: Free; Family: $10; Individual adults: $5
Other information: Raffle tickets will be for sale at an additional cost.

District 17: Hawaii (Big Island) Picnic Details
Saturday, June 13, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
ILWU Hall, 100 West Lanikaula St., Hilo
Menu: Okazuya items, macaroni salad, rice, desserts and pupus
Cost: Free
Other information: There will be popcorn, shave ice, games and prizes for the children.

District 70: Redding Picnic Details
Saturday, June 13, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Anderson River Park (BBQ #1 Area), 2800 Rupert Road, Anderson
Menu: Tri-tip, chicken, beans, pasta salad, green salad, garlic bread and ice cream
Cost: Retirees: $6; Adults: $10; Children ages 6 to 12: $4; Children 5 and under: Free
Other information: Entertainment will include a raffle, band, dancing and face painting for the children.

District 01: Burlingame Picnic Details
Sunday, June 14, noon to 3 p.m.
Coyote Point Recreation Area (Eucalyptus Picnic Areas 1 and 2), 1701 Coyote Point Drive, San Mateo
Menu: Tri-tip, salad, hot dogs, cake, soda, beer and lots more
Cost: Retirees: Free; Adults: $12.50; Children 10 and under: Free
Other information: There will be a $6 parking fee per car.

District 20: Oakland Picnic Details
Sunday, June 28 (date changed), 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Waterfront Park, North Court Street at Joe Di Maggio Drive, Martinez
Menu: Tri-tip, hot links, hot dogs, Caesar salad, garlic bread, beans, corn on the cob, watermelon, desserts, soda, beer, wine and other beverages
Cost: Retirees: Free; Adults: $10 presale or $12 at the door; Children 10 and under: Free
Other information: There will be a bounce house, raffle and piñata.

District 11: Elko Picnic Details
Saturday, July 25, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
VFW Hall, 731 VFW Drive, Elko
Menu: Tri Tip, barbecue Pork, paella, green salad, fruit salad, ice cream and refreshments
Cost: Retirees: Free; Adults: $5; Families: $10 (two adults and two children under age 18)

District 17: Kauai Picnic Details
Saturday, July 25, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Lydgate Beach Park, 4470 Nalu Road, Kapaa
Menu: Hawaiian local food – kailua pig, shoyu and hulihuli chicken, baked fish, ribs, rice, vegetables, long rice, cake and fruit
Cost: Free

District Picnic schedule for 2015
Burlingame District 01: Sunday, June 14
Nevada District 11 (Elko): Saturday, July 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
Hawaii District 17 (Maui): Saturday, Oct. 3
Oakland District 20: Sunday, June 28 (DATE CHANGED)
Redding District 70: Saturday, June 13

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

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.

NOTICE
Due to the timeline of the election of Officers and Executive Board Members, the July Engineers News may be delayed.

MORE DISTRICT PICNICS THIS MONTH!
Financial Secretary Steve Ingersoll serves some hungry guests at the recent Yuba City District Picnic at the Butte County Fairgrounds. Check the District Picnic schedule here for the picnics near you!
**TOWN HALL MEETINGS**

**June 2015**

9th District 17: Kauai  
Meeting: 6 p.m.  
Kauai Beach Resort  
4331 Kauai Beach Drive, Lihue

10th District 11: Elko  
Construction Meeting: 6 p.m.  
Silver Crest Business Center  
555 W. Silver St., Ste. 104

10th District 17: Maui  
Meeting: 7 p.m.  
Maui Arts and Cultural Center  
One Cameron Way, Kahului

11th District 17: Kona  
Meeting: 6 p.m.  
Courtyard Marriott  
King Kamehameha Hotel  
75-5660 Palani Road, Kailua-Kona

12th District 17: Hilo  
Meeting: 6 p.m.  
Hilo LEWU Hall  
100 W. Laniakea St.

24th District 11: Elko  
Mine Meeting: 6 p.m.  
Silver Crest Business Center  
555 W. Silver St., Ste. 104

**July 2015**

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

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

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**HONORARY MEMBERSHIP**

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

- Darrell Anderson 1290995
- District 99: Out Of Area
- Gerald L. Armstrong 1829202
- District 30: Stockton
- Milton W. Camara 1697014
- District 17: Hawaii
- Claude C. Carter 1832903
- District 20: Oakland
- John Henry Casey 1845829
- District 20: Oakland
- Richard Clayton 1413852
- District 30: Stockton
- Sanders Davis 1578411
- District 99: Out Of Area
- Edward John De La O 1781999
- District 80: Sacramento
- Joseph Denurra Jr. 1829244
- District 01: Burlingame
- Joel Ikler 1774407
- District 50: Fresno
- Fred Kalaukoa 1414271
- District 17: Hawaii
- Steve Lopez 1845857
- District 30: Stockton
- Steven J. Mackey 1845560
- District 10: Rohnert Park
- Richard G. McCoid 1492870
- District 90: Morgan Hill
- Kris Morgan 1845860
- District 12: Utah
- Buddy Pilling 1309034
- District 12: Utah
- John Romero 1840419
- District 70: Redding
- Anthony J. Rubio 1606894
- District 90: Morgan Hill
- Paul Saragina 1610009
- District 10: Rohnert Park
- David Silva 1181926
- District 99: Out Of Area
- Gary A. Storts 1785924
- District 10: Rohnert Park
- Richard Whitman 1826326
- District 11: Nevada

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**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.

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**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.

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**MEETINGS**

**DISTRICT MEETINGS**

All meetings convene at 7 p.m.

**JUNE 2015**

1st District 04: Suisun City  
Veterans Memorial Building  
427 Main St.

1st District 50: Clovis  
Veterans Memorial District  
453 Hughes Ave.

1st District 80: Sacramento  
Operating Engineers’ Building  
3920 Lennane Drive

2nd District 30: Stockton  
Operating Engineers’ Building  
1916 North Broadway Ave.

2nd District 40: Eureka  
Labor Temple  
840 E St.

2nd District 90: Morgan Hill  
Operating Engineers’ Building  
325 Digital Drive

3rd District 10: Ukiah  
Hampton Inn  
1160 Airport Park Blvd.

3rd District 20: Martinez  
Plumbers 159  
1160 Hampton Inn  
Airport Park Blvd.

3rd District 30: Stockton  
Operating Engineers’ Building  
1160 Hampton Inn  
Airport Park Blvd.

3rd District 50: Clovis  
Veterans Memorial District  
453 Hughes Ave.

3rd District 80: Sacramento  
Operating Engineers’ Building  
3920 Lennane Drive

3rd District 90: Morgan Hill  
Operating Engineers’ Building  
325 Digital Drive

3rd District 99: Out Of Area  
Elco Co., 1160 Airport Park Blvd.

4th District 01: Burlingame  
Transport Workers Local 505  
1521 Rollins Road

4th District 11: Reno  
Operating Engineers’ Building  
1250 Corporate Blvd.

4th District 60: Yuba City  
Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds  
Flower House Building  
442 Franklin Ave.

5th District 12: Sandy  
Operating Engineers’ Building  
8805 South Sandy Parkway

5th District 17: Kailua  
Kailua High School  
451 Ulumanu Drive

**JULY 2015**

No meetings scheduled.

**AUGUST 2015**

No meetings scheduled.
Rec. Corres. Secretary Jim Sullivan, in compliance with the Local Union Bylaws, Article XII, Section 2(b), publishes the following notice:

• **NOTICE OF RIGHT TO NOMINATE:**
  Bylaws Article XII, Elections, Section 2(j)

Eligibility of Members to Nominate: Every Member of the Parent Local Union and its Subdivisions (except Subdivision R Registered Apprentices) and (except for Owner-Operators of an entity that employs Operating Engineers), who is not suspended for nonpayment of dues preceding the first nominating meeting shall have the right to nominate.

• **NOMINATION FORMS**
  Bylaws Article XII, Elections, Section 2(e)

Nominations shall be in writing and signed by one or more nominators giving the last four (4) digits of each nominator’s Social Security Number and complete Register Number in the form following: (Note: Election Committee shall not count any nominators whose information is incomplete.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Print Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Register No. XXX-XX-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SS# (last 4 digits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Register No.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The minimum number of nominators required for an Office, other than District Member of the Executive Board, is two-hundred (200) or two percent (2%), whichever is less, of the Members of the Local Union and its Subdivisions (except Subdivision R Registered Apprentices), who are not suspended for nonpayment of dues as of the first nominating meeting.

Bylaws Article XII, Elections, Section 1(c)

The number of nominators required for District Member of the Executive Board is five (5) Members of the District.

• **NOTICE AND ACCEPTANCE OR DECLINATION OF NOMINEE**
  Bylaws Article XII, Elections, Section 2(g)

The Recording-Corresponding Secretary of the Local Union must notify each candidate of his or her nomination to Local Union office or position, and the candidate must return a written acceptance of the nomination on the Acceptance of Nominee form to the Recording-Corresponding Secretary, which acceptance must be received by the Recording-Corresponding Secretary within ten (10) days of the date the candidate was notified of the nomination.

Bylaws Article XII, Elections, Section 2(i)

In the event no statement is received by the Recording-Corresponding Secretary on or before twenty (20) days from the date of mailing of the notice provided for in Article XII, Section 2(g), the nominee shall be deemed for all purposes to have declined all nominations for the Offices or Positions for which he or she has been nominated.

NOMINATIONS WILL TAKE PLACE AT YOUR QUARTERLY DISTRICT MEETING IN JUNE. (ALL MEETINGS WILL CONVENE AT 7 P.M.)

The date and location of the regular District Meetings where nominations will be made can be found on page 26.

Vote right: Check your mailing label for your registration number

In 1997, the Local 3 Election Committee voted to add members’ registration numbers to the address labels on the Engineers News. This makes it easier for you to properly fill out nomination forms and return the election ballot with the correct information.

Your gift to the Local 3 Scholarship Foundation will help build the strength and future of the fund and allow you to experience giving the gift of a lifetime. There are a variety of ways to contribute: Cash gifts in any amount; merit sponsors and memorial and honor gifts; bequests; and securities.

The Scholarship Foundation helps Local 3 families pay for college.

To learn more about the Scholarship Program and how you can give, call Rec. Corres. Secretary Jim Sullivan at (510) 748-7400 or visit us online at www.oe3.org/about/scholarship/donation.html.
OE Federal President/CEO Mike Donahue, center, presents Business Manager Russ Burns, far right, and Rec. Corres. Secretary Jim Sullivan with a generous donation to the Scholarship Foundation.

Scholarship Foundation donations

The OE3 Scholarship Foundation would like to thank OE Federal Credit Union for their generous donation of $34,079.12 to the Scholarship Foundation.

DEPARTED MEMBERS

Adams, C Homer
Sebastopol, CA
District 10
03-23-15

Barnes, Joseph
San Ramon, CA
District 20
03-15-15

Basso, Daniel
District 99
03-12-15

Bogle, James
Littleton, CO
District 99
03-09-15

Campos, Antonio
Modesto, CA
District 30
03-19-15

Chena, Teimei
Honolulu, HI
District 17
08-22-10

Clark, Gordon
Merced, CA
District 50
02-10-15

Conner, William
Redwood City, CA
District 01
03-27-15

Cook, John
Concord, CA
District 20
03-18-15

Couture, Claude
Montpellier, France
District 99
01-19-15

DECEASED DEPENDENTS

Bowman, Joanne.
Wife of Bowman, Wesley (dec)
02-24-15

Burkhart, Joanne.
Wife of Burkhart, Lewis (dec)
03-17-15

Calhoun, Marilou.
Wife of Calhoun, Alvin
11-15-14

Carmen, Sheila.
Wife of Carmen, Philip (dec)
03-20-15

Contreras, Josephine.
Wife of Conterras, Manuel
10-06-14

Cope, Gladys.
Wife of Cope, Lloyd (dec)
03-14-15

Copeland, Margaret.
Wife of Copeland, Herbert (dec)
03-20-15

Davis, Helen.
Wife of Davis, James (dec)
03-01-15

Edwards, Marrian.
Wife of Edwards, Harvey (dec)
03-04-15

Grimshaw, Eleanor.
Wife of Grimshaw, Fred (dec)
03-06-15

Hatton, Darlene.
Wife of Hatton, Ralph
03-10-15

Haughen, Diane.
Wife of Haughen, Gerald (dec)
02-28-15

Krites, Marijo.
Wife of Krites, Ronnie
09-26-14

MacIsaac, Nancy.
Wife of MacIsaac, Rod
03-11-15

Mattie, Joann.
Wife of Mattie, Jerry
01-04-15

McCold, Virginia.
Wife of McCold
03-26-15

Milliora, Ruth.
Wife of Milliora, Robert (dec)
03-12-15

Mitchell, Betty.
Wife of Mitchell, Emil (dec)
02-19-15

Parsons, Doris.
Wife of Parsons, Delbert (dec)
02-08-15

Phipps, Jean Ann.
Wife of Phipps, Larry
03-06-15

Shaw, Kelli.
Wife of Shaw, Daniel
03-18-15

Shephard, Martha.
Wife of Shephard, Cy
09-12-14

Smith, Gloria.
Wife of Smith, Robert (dec)
03-06-15

Stefanni, Linda.
Wife of Stefanni, Steven (dec)
03-16-15

Virtudes, Patty.
Wife of Virtudes, Gordon
03-22-15

Cowham, Anthony
Geneva, OH
District 99
03-12-15

Dias, Albert
Brentwood, CA
District 20
02-28-15

Dicho, Pepito
Wiamanalo, HI
District 17
02-25-15

Dunham, M
Laytonville, CA
District 10
03-04-15

Fernandez, George
Honolulu, HI
District 17
03-24-15

Goldsmith, Frank
Turlock, CA
District 30
03-06-15

Gordillo, Dario
Tucson, AZ
District 99
03-16-15

Howen, Harold
Laughlin, NV
District 99
02-27-15

Hudgins, Jerry
Orland, CA
District 60
03-12-15

Hunter, Monty
Castella, CA
District 70
03-09-15

Ige, Seikich
Waipahu, HI
District 17
02-10-15

Jeffries, M
Galt, CA
District 80
03-14-15

Lee, Robert
Placerville, CA
District 80
02-28-15

Linn, Marion
Dameron Valley, UT
District 12
02-28-15

Long, Paul
North Plains, OR
District 99
03-19-15

Lutes, Gary
Elk Grove, CA
District 80
02-07-15

Moody, Michael
South Weber, UT
District 12
03-19-15

Moore, Gerald
Kahului, HI
District 17
03-11-15

Olson, Thomas
Tovele, UT
District 12
03-25-15

Perez, Ernest
Salinas, CA
District 90
03-13-15

Sheets, William
Yuma, AZ
District 99
03-16-15

Strand, Marlin
Petaluma, CA
District 10
02-20-15

Thompson, Elmer
Acampo, CA
District 30
03-24-15

Walters, Rodolph Jr.
Bingham Canyon, UT
District 12
02-19-15

Wisener, Austin
Clovis, CA
District 50
03-14-15
Face-to-face with...
...your Election Committee members

Burlingame District 01: Joe Galicia
Years of service as a Local 3 member: 37
Experience: Former Heavy Duty Repairer (HDR)/Construction Equipment Operator (CEO), paving instructor at Rancho Murietta Training Center (RMTTC), business agent (District 20), apprenticeship coordinator/organizer (District 01), Northern California Joint Apprenticeship Committee (NCJAC) member, and OES Fair Industry Strike Training (FIST) member
Reason for being on this committee: “To ensure our OES members of a fair election.”

Fairfield District 04: Mark Burton
Years of service as a Local 3 member: 36
Experience: Crane operator, steward and foreman for 22 years; Local 3 staff member for 13 years, including business agent (District 20) and district rep., crane rep. and dredge rep. (District 04); Local 3 auditor; on Bylaws Committee (District 04) and Solano County Civil Service Commission
Reason for being on this committee: “The union elections are a very important part of this great union. I have voted in all the elections in my 36 years as a member. As a Retiree, it is with great pleasure and loyal support that I oversee the Election of Officers and Executive Board Members.”

Rohnert Park District 10: George Steffensen
Years of service as a Local 3 member: 34
Experience: Former heavy equipment operator; Local 3 staff member for 21 years, including dispatcher, apprenticeship coordinator, business agent and district rep.; Cotati/Rohnert Park Unified School District (USD) Trustee for 12 years, board president twice; on Sonoma County Workforce Investment Board, Santa Rosa’s Board of Public Utilities and Sonoma County Youth Council
Reason for being on this committee: “This position gives me the opportunity to give back to my union. I have a lot of knowledge of the union and its operations. By serving on the Election Committee I will be able to put my knowledge to work and serve the membership.”

Morgan Hill District 90: Kevin C. Brown
Years of service as a Local 3 member: 29
Experience: Former HDR, batchman, loader operator and Bylaws/Election Committee member
Reason for being on this committee: “My way of giving back to members of Local 3.”

Hawaii District 17: Richard Lacar
Years of service as a Local 3 member: 48
Experience: Former tower crane operator; Political Action Committee (PAC), Executive Board, Election Committee and Bylaws Committee member; VOTE volunteer
Reason for being on this committee: “I have been involved with the union a lot before I retired, and I continue to be involved in whatever way I can contribute service to this great union.”

Utah District 12: Michael L. Holliday
Years of service as a Local 3 member: 36
Experience: Former superintendent, pipeliner, crane operator, foreman; has five family members who are Local 3 members; Grievance and Political Action Committee (PAC) member (2008-2012); current Bylaws Committee member and Voice of the Engineer (VOTE) volunteer
Reason for being on this committee: “I owe a lot to this union for what I have, including the way I think and my work ethics. I want to give back to help keep the union strong. Our future depends on it.”

Yuba City District 60: Randy D. Stage
Years of service as a Local 3 member: 31
Experience: Former ready-mix batchman, dispatcher, president of Delta Youth Soccer League, recording secretary for the Antioch Youth Sports Complex and Bylaws Committee member
Reason for being on this committee: “I want to help our union continue to be as great as it can be. I hope to also help continue our new tradition of transparency.”

Nevada District 11: Dan Venters
Years of service as a Local 3 member: 26
Experience: Business rep. (1996-2010); attends union meetings regularly; Election Committee member (2012); Bylaws Committee member
Reason for being on this committee: “I am interested and concerned about the welfare of my union and desire to know the election is handled according to the rules.”

Eureka District 40: William Burns
Years of service as a Local 3 member: 51
Experience: Election Committee member (2006 and 2009); Bylaws Committee member (2006 and 2007); Local 3 staff member (1989-2002)
Reason for being on this committee: “Chance to pay back the union that has been very good to my family and me.”

Redding District 70: Jerry Lee White
Years of service as a Local 3 member: 44
Experience: Former dispatcher, business rep., apprenticeship coordinator, HDR instructor at RMTC and chairman of the Yuba County Democratic Central Committee; Bylaws Committee member
Reason for being on this committee: “To help Local 3 with the election and assure District 70 has proper representation.”

Oakland District 20: Roger Chavesin
Years of service as a Local 3 member: 42
Experience: Former gradesetter, instructor/foreman at RMTC, Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC) member and Bylaws Committee member
Reason for being on this committee: “It has been a privilege to be a member of Local 3, and it’s an honor to serve and represent District 20 on the Election Committee.”

Sacramento District 80: Owen Owens
Years of service as a Local 3 member: 34
Experience: Former rock plant and asphalt plant mechanic, crane operator, hydrolift operator, special projects foreman and contract negotiation committee member for rock, sand and gravel and materials
Reason for being on this committee: “They asked, and I said yes.”

Stockton District 30: Tacho Zavala
Years of service as a Local 3 member: 49
Experience: Operated bobcats, D-10 dozers, loaders, asphalt rollers and paving machines; former gradesetter, foreman
Reason for being on this committee: “It is imperative that the Election of Officers and Executive Board Members be kept above reproach for the good of the membership of Local 3.”

Fresno District 50: John Prichard
Years of service as a Local 3 member: 17
Experience: Former equipment operator, business agent (District 50), Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC)/contract negotiation committee member
Reason for being on this committee: “Wanted to stay involved with the union and give back to members of Local 3.”

June 2015 | 29
Summer’s here – what kind of shape are you in?

Now that it’s getting warmer and we’re enjoying longer days and planning for some after-work or vacation activities, it’s a good time to take stock of our physical fitness and overall health.

Here are some sobering statistics about America’s obesity crisis:

» More than one-third (34.9 percent or 78.6 million) of U.S. adults are obese.
» Obesity-related conditions include heart disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes and certain types of cancer, some of the leading causes of preventable death.
» The estimated annual medical cost of obesity in the United States was $147 billion in 2008, and the medical costs for people who were obese were $1,429 higher than those of normal weight.

Obesity affects some groups more than others:

» Non-Hispanic blacks have the highest age-adjusted rates of obesity (47.8 percent), followed by Hispanics (42.5 percent), non-Hispanic whites (32.6 percent) and non-Hispanic Asians (10.8 percent).
» Obesity is higher among middle-age adults ages 40-59 (39.5 percent) than among younger adults ages 20-39 (30.3 percent) or adults 60 or older (35.4 percent).*

Being obese increases your risk of diabetes, heart disease, stroke, arthritis and some cancers. If you are obese, losing even 5-10 percent of your weight can delay or prevent some of these diseases. (That means losing 10-20 pounds, if you weigh 200 pounds.) If you are overweight, what should you do?

Before you start any weight-loss process (or just want to better understand your health status and related risks), take advantage of the Health Dynamics Unify Program.

1. Call your Primary Care Physician (PCP), and schedule an annual physical.
2. Call Health Dynamics at (866) 443-0164, ext. 1, and request a program packet.
3. Take the packet, including the completed and signed questionnaire, and ask the doctor to complete the necessary information and mail it to Health Dynamics.
4. Health Dynamics will enter your questionnaire and exam information into its 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.
5. Work together with your PCP and health coach and come up with an action plan that includes exercise, nutrition and lifestyle recommendations.

Shortly after the consultation, you will receive a $250 medical debit card in the mail from the Associated Third Party Administrators (ATPA).

Below are some recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for healthy weight-loss.

**Step 1:** Make a commitment to yourself. Many people find it helpful to sign a written contract committing to the process. This contract may include the amount of weight you want to lose, the date you'd like to lose the weight by, the dietary changes you'll make to establish healthy eating habits and a plan for getting regular physical activity.

**Step 2:** Take stock of where you are. Examine your current lifestyle, and identify things that might pose challenges to your weight-loss efforts. Does your work or travel schedule make it difficult to get enough physical activity? Do you find yourself eating sugary foods because you buy them for your kids? Do your coworkers frequently bring high-calorie items, such as doughnuts, to the workplace to share with everyone? Think about what you can do to overcome these challenges.

**Step 3:** Set realistic goals. Focus on two or three goals at a time. Effective goals are specific, realistic and forgiving (less than perfect). For example, "exercise more" is not a specific goal. However, "I will walk 15 minutes, three days a week for the first week," is specific.

**Step 4:** Identify resources for information and support. Find family members or friends who will support your weight-loss efforts. Making lifestyle changes can feel easier when you have others you can rely on for support. If you have coworkers or neighbors with similar goals, you can share healthy recipes and plan group exercise. Joining a weight-loss group or visiting a health-care professional, such as a registered dietitian, can help.

**Step 5:** Continually "check-in" with yourself to monitor your progress. Revisit the goals you set for yourself (Step 3) and evaluate your progress regularly. See which parts of your plan are working and which ones need tweaking. Then rewrite your goals and plan accordingly. Reward yourself for your successes! Recognize when you’re meeting your goals, and be proud of your progress.

It’s about creating a better life, and you can do it!

*These statistics and more are available at www.cdc.gov/obesity/data/adult.html.

Visit the Trust Fund’s website at www.o3trustfunds.org for information about health and Pension benefits or call the Trust Fund Office at (800) 251-5014 or (510) 433-4422.


WANTED: Rifles, shotguns, pistols and ammunition. From one to a dozen. Collection, 23,400 items. Too many extras to list. Must see. $9,800. Call Russ at (916) 761-7501. Reg# 1825969.


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Bring on the new pumps!

Associated Concrete Pumping utilizes state-of-the-art equipment

Besides being able to tell the operator the average pour of the day electronically, Associate Concrete Pumping’s new 56-meter and 38-meter Putzmeister pumps have what is called a “rolling z,” which means the configuration of the boom is more adaptable to different conditions, explained Mechanic Shane Walthers. The 17-year member is the sole mechanic of the fleet in Sacramento, where some 20 concrete pumps are utilized. (The company is also located in Reno, Nev., where about eight concrete pumps are used.)

Beyond their sophisticated specs, the new pumps, which have only been in operation since March, just look cool – ask pump operators John Escobedo and Oscar Alferez Jr. Escobedo, a member since 2004, and Alferez, a member since 2006, have been operating the new 56-meter and 38-meter pumps on various housing projects and water treatment plants throughout the Sacramento area.

Walthers explained that from a mechanical standpoint, the new pumps may be more electronically driven, but “they have the same heart as the old pumps.” Look for these flashy pumps on a concrete pour near you!