

# ENGINEERS

NEWS

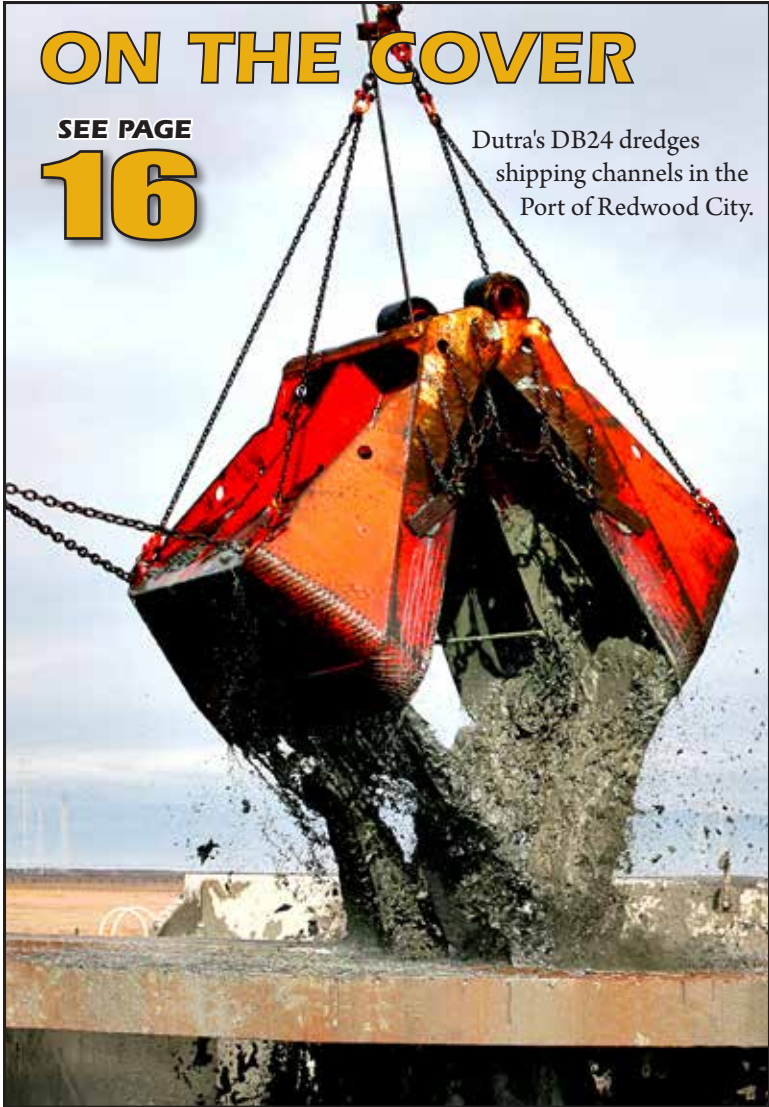
OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL 3

Vol. 74, #3/MARCH 2016



**DIE-HARD DREDGING:**  
IT'S MORE THAN A CAREER... IT'S A LIFESTYLE





# ON THE COVER

SEE PAGE  
**16**

Dutra's DB24 dredges shipping channels in the Port of Redwood City.

## FROM THE DISTRICTS



PAGE 19

The Kahuku Training Center has provided over 100,000 training hours and should increase those hours this year. This crane is at the center's entrance.



PAGE 25

It should be another great season on the Buckhorn job with Steve Manning Construction in Redding District 70.

## NEW THIS MONTH

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### OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL UNION NO. 3

- |                 |                        |
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| Pete Figueiredo | Vice President         |
| Jim Sullivan    | Rec. Corres. Secretary |
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## FOR THE GOOD & WELFARE

By Russ Burns, business manager

# Rookies and veterans

Local 3 is at a crossroads. With a more than 75-year tradition, some of our most important leaders are leaving this life, while many in our workforce are retiring. Our thoughts and prayers go to all of our families who have recently lost a loved one. And to our new Retirees, please stay involved in your union in your later years. You are in the unique position of having the time to really dedicate to union activism. Use that time wisely!

As our workforce changes, we must look to our apprentices and those who would like to be, for they will slowly become the foundation of our organization. To keep our position on the cutting-edge of technology, we must upgrade our equipment and the classes we hold on how to operate it. We must also improve the ways we communicate in order to reach the widest audience possible and draw in the finest operators in the industry.

As I recall several conversations with some of our earliest members over the years, I am always humbled by what they have seen in their lifetimes and how proud they are of our organization. I see the same pride in our apprentices at the controls of a new piece of equipment. As we say goodbye to some of our most trusted veterans, we welcome the future of Operating Engineers Local 3 with high hopes. We must reach out to the best or those who can become the best by marketing ourselves to a more diverse population, as more young people are realizing that college is not the only path to a lucrative career.

As with all challenges, we have embraced this one by completely redesigning our website at [www.oe3.org](http://www.oe3.org), which will hopefully be available to you by the end of April. Along with this new website, we will also be communicating through Facebook, which has become a part of everyday life for most of the younger generation. I won't pretend that I am up-to-date on social media (I tend to call people when I want to see how they are doing), but I do understand the value of reaching a wider audience with the benefits of our organization. We must do this in order to thrive.

To read how some of our apprentices are thriving, please see the back page in this edition on those who rose to the occasion of some serious clean-up in the aftermath of the Lake County fires in Rohnert Park District 10. To see how our Retirees are thriving, please read about 45-year member Craig Smith who operated cranes for 32 years in Utah District 12, before training dozens of operators working toward their crane certifications.

Local 3 is a powerful mix of veterans and rookies, new ideas and time-tested ones. Our longevity is a testament to our respect for what has always worked and our willingness to change when needed.

As we change some of our communication methods, I ask that you stay or get involved in this amazing organization. Get connected on our new website by logging-in to the Members Only section, and then tell some young people to check it out. Help them make the rest of their lives the best of their lives. (I cannot imagine where I would be today, if it had not been for my career with Local 3.) So many young people today are starving for someone to say, "This is an amazing career; this is what you should do!" Now is your chance to change someone's life!

And when you're done working on Local 3's future operators, work on Local 3's future, period, since this election season will have major consequences if we don't band together and get others onboard to vote the union way. In this month's

special political spread, we are highlighting union-wide congressional seats that will play an influential role on our work. If we endorse a candidate, put him or her at the top of your list. Since we take the time to research the issues with labor in mind, please take the time to read what we've presented so that you can make an informed decision.

Going forward, I want to thank our Political Action Committees (PACs) for the time and dedication they put

forth during election seasons, as it is these critical members who vet the candidates late into the night, asking them the tough questions and holding them accountable. They do this for you, so please take advantage of their hard work.

I also want to thank, in advance, those of you who will walk miles in countless precincts and call hundreds of members with our union message as a Voice of the Engineer (VOTE) volunteer. We wouldn't have High-Speed Rail (HSR), Honolulu Rail, the Carson City Bypass or the Kings Arena job without you!

Please join your fellow members, Local 3 administration and staff at this month's Semi-Annual Event on March 20 at the Solano County Fairgrounds in Vallejo, Calif. I will forecast the construction and political season and update you on our Funds and our strong future. Don't miss it.



Join us for the March 20 Semi-Annual Event.

*Russell E. Burns*





## NEWS & NOTES

By Dan Reding, president

### Youth and the future of Local 3

How is Local 3 going to look 20 or 30 years from now? This is a question our contractors are already asking, and in answering, it's important we look to our apprentices and new members, as well as future members. Whether they are in the field today or considering a career as an Operating Engineer, these individuals will one day make up everything from Local 3's leadership and staff to its instructors, Trustees and committee members.

For our contractors, it's especially important to realize that these folks will be the skilled workers on those future jobsites and shop floors, the same ones making sure jobs get done right, and within budget. Therefore, we must lift these new members up and share our knowledge and experience with them. We must show young people today the benefits of a career as an Operating Engineer and steer those who are qualified in that direction.

There is another reason we should be eager to lend a hand or point the way to a career within our union: These are the members who will be replacing us as we retire, becoming the skilled workers who will build and maintain the roads, buildings and infrastructure we rely on and the ones ensuring the public services available to us are being provided effectively and efficiently. They will also be paying into our Funds and keeping them financially secure as the rest of us enjoy our retirements.

While parents pay ever-increasing education costs and students take on crippling amounts of debt, our apprentices are developing valuable skills and earning a paycheck. By the time they finish the Apprenticeship Program, they've often laid a financial foundation for home ownership and family life. Meanwhile, their friends are holding a college degree but looking for work and cutting back in order to meet student loan obligations. A college education is a great accomplishment, but it's not for everyone, and a career in Local 3 is a great alternative.

Those embarking on a career as an Operating Engineer early in their lives can often expect a comfortable retirement even in their 50s, while many of their college-bound counterparts are considered fortunate if they can retire in their late 60s. Even the nature of our work, which often means alternating between busy and slow seasons, can be very appealing for potential members and apprentices. That's because many of our members work hard when the hours are available, and when jobs begin to shut down, they play hard: hunting, skiing, working on that classic car in their garage or even running a seasonal business. They may just spend more time with loved ones in the off-season, an option few professions offer.

There are many reasons why young people should consider a career with Local 3, but we must be able to communicate with them effectively. That is one reason why we are proudly moving forward on the redesign of our OE3 website ([www.oe3.org](http://www.oe3.org)), which we expect to roll-out in April. It is also why we are currently taking steps to establish a social media presence, with an official Local 3 Facebook page coming soon. These measures will benefit all of our membership in many ways, including getting our members to become more engaged with their union, and for those still considering a career path, to take a hard look at one with Local 3.

Expect an announcement on our website and a social media presence soon, and when these become available, familiarize yourself with them. Use them for your own benefit and for the benefit of your family, friends and fellow union members. (For some, the three are interchangeable!)

## WORTH MENTIONING

### Fire victim receives aid from International



Thirty-two-year member Glen Yahnke, pictured at left with Rohnert Park District Rep. Chris Snyder, tragically lost his house in the Valley Fire in Lake County; however, his spirits were lifted after he received a \$20,000 relief check from the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) National Charity Fund. This will help him rebuild his home in Middletown, Calif.

Our members have been helping with the clean-up efforts since the Valley and Butte fires started last year. For more on the essential clean-up roles they are playing, see page 24 and the back page in this edition.

To brother Yahnke: Our thoughts are with you during this difficult rebuilding time.

### Old website gets re-tooled

That's right. Our website, [www.oe3.org](http://www.oe3.org), which has served its purpose since the late 1990s, is getting a major facelift. You will soon find a newly designed website that is more visually appealing than its predecessor and much more user-friendly on a smartphone or tablet. Someday, you may even be able to check your employment status or pay your dues online. The new website should be available by the end of April, along with an official Local 3 Facebook page. Visit our website often for more updates and look for the new version coming soon.







**FRINGE BENEFITS**  
By Sonya Brown, director



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

# California Active Health and Welfare Plan Provisions

Our Local 3 members have excellent Health and Welfare Plans in each of our four states. Our Retirees have a separate Health and Welfare Plan that is also excellent. This month, we will discuss the eligibility provisions of our California Active Health and Welfare Plan.

### When am I eligible?

Hourly employees will become eligible for benefits on the first day of the calendar month after contributing employers report at least 360 hours during a period of three consecutive months or less. For example, if you work 120 hours in July, 110 hours in August and 130 hours in September, your eligibility would start Oct. 1. **Please keep in mind: Your hours are not reported to the Trust Fund Office until the month after they are worked; therefore, it is important for you to keep track of your hours. In the example above, the Trust Fund Office will not be aware that you have met the eligibility requirements until late October. If you need to use your benefits in October, prior to the Trust Fund receiving your hours, send copies of your check stubs to the Trust Fund Office. Trust Fund staff will verify your hours with your employer, and if the hours requirement is met, they will manually update your coverage.**

### How does your hour bank work?

Hour banks allow active members covered under the Operating Engineers Health and Welfare Trust Fund to continue coverage for themselves and their families at no additional cost during the off-season. Members can accumulate up to 990 hours (1,320 hours for members who established eligibility prior to July 1992) of coverage.

Once eligibility is established, maintaining your benefits requires 120 hours per month for most contracts. Any hours worked in excess of 120 hours is stored in your hour bank. For months in which you work less than 120 hours, hours are drawn from your hour bank to make up the difference. See the example below.

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

Hour bank requirements are different for the Hawaii, Nevada and Utah Plans. For information on those plans, please refer to your *Summary Plan Description* booklet or contact the Fringe Benefits Service Center at the following numbers:

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

# ATPA district visit schedule

Tuesday, March 1	Rohnert Park
Wednesday, March 2	Eureka
Tuesday, March 15	Redding
Tuesday, March 22	Stockton
Wednesday, March 23	Fresno
Thursday, March 24	Morgan Hill

## Fringe Benefits district visits

A representative from the Fringe Benefits Office or the Trust Funds Office will be available to meet with you and answer questions at your district office twice a month. Please refer to the schedules above and below. Contact your district office if you would like to schedule an appointment.

First Tuesday (March 1)	Redding
First Wednesday (March 2)	Yuba City
First Thursday (March 3)	Sacramento
Second Tuesday (March 8)	Stockton
Second Wednesday (March 9)	Fresno
Second Thursday (March 10)	Morgan Hill
Third Tuesday (March 15)	Rohnert Park
Third Wednesday (March 16)	Eureka - canceled
Fourth Tuesday (March 22)	Burlingame
Fourth Wednesday (March 23)	Oakland
Fourth Thursday (March 24)	Fairfield

## Pre-Retirement Meetings

**SANDY (Utah)**  
Tuesday, March 8 6 p.m.  
Operating Engineers' Building  
8805 South Sandy Parkway

**RENO (Nevada)**  
Wednesday, March 9 6 p.m.  
Operating Engineers' Building  
1290 Corporate Blvd.

**ELKO (Nevada)**  
Thursday, March 17 6 p.m.  
Operating Engineers' Building  
555 West Silver St., Ste.104

Hour bank example for California after initial eligibility is established

Work Month	Hours Reported	Eligibility Month	Hours Required for Eligibility	Hours Applied/ Deducted from Hour Bank	Hour Bank Balance
June	180	August	120	+60	60
July	200	September	120	+80	140
August	20	October	120	-100	40
September	40	Not Eligible*	120	+40	80
October	170	December	120	+50	130
November	0	January	120	-120	10
December	120	February	120	0	10

\*insufficient hours for November eligibility



Fourth Quarter 2015 Consolidated Financial Results

Growth in our nation’s economy grew more slowly during the fourth quarter of 2015, with Gross Domestic Product (GDP) increasing at an annual rate of 0.7 percent versus the revised 2.0 percent rate during the third quarter 2015. While consumer spending was still strong during the fourth quarter, much of this slowdown was due to a decline in business investments and a weak global economy. For the full year 2015, GDP increased 2.4 percent, the same rate as 2014. With strong job growth expected, lower gas prices and reduced debt, solid consumer spending, which accounts for about two-thirds of our nation’s economy, will continue to be the key contributor in our economic growth. The housing market is expected to continue to climb in 2016. The weakness overseas will be a drag on the economy, however, many economists predict the overall economic outlook for 2016 to be comparable, if not slightly better, than in 2015.

Job growth during the fourth quarter of 2015 continued with 851,000 new jobs created. The private sector added 827,000 new jobs of which 128,000 were in the construction industry and 24,000 were in the government sector. During 2015, over 2.6 million new jobs were created. The unemployment rate across the country for December 2015 was 5.0 percent, down 0.1 percent from September 2015 and 0.6 percent lower than December 2014. Within Local 3’s jurisdiction, the fourth quarter of 2015 saw California’s unemployment rate fall from 5.9 percent to 5.8 percent, Hawaii’s rate fall from 3.4 percent to 3.2 percent, and Nevada’s rate fall from 6.7 percent to 6.4 percent. The unemployment rate for Utah remained the same at 3.5 percent.

During the fourth quarter of 2015, Local 3’s membership increased by 292 members, resulting in a Year-To-Date (YTD) membership gain through December 2015 of 619 members or 1.82 percent. Total membership as of December 2015 stood at 34,716.

Financially, the union’s consolidated fourth quarter 2015 results showed a net loss of \$24,366. Consolidated revenues came in at \$11.83 million, a -13.8 percent decrease over the same

period in 2014. Consolidated expenses were \$11.85 million – down 2.1 percent from the fourth quarter of 2014. For all of 2015, consolidated revenues stood at \$48.5 million – \$2,267,000 (4.9 percent) above the same period in 2014. Consolidated expenses through December 2015 stood at \$47.8 million – a \$1,847,000 (4.0 percent) increase versus 2014. For all of 2015, Local 3’s consolidated net income was \$703,104. Revenues benefited from a 6.9 percent increase in supplemental-dues hours which resulted in a 10.19 percent increase in supplemental-dues receipts, as well as a 6.0 percent increase in window dues and initiation fees. Expenses rose primarily due to increased employment costs, higher per capita tax payments to state and local building trade organizations and costs associated with the union’s paperless record-keeping initiative, which will be completed in the first quarter of 2016.

Looking back, the 2015 construction season saw another prosperous year. Overall work hours for Local 3 were up in excess of 29.9 million hours or 7.1 percent for the year. California, Hawaii and Utah pension hours for 2015 were up 7.9 percent, 17.2 percent and 3.1 percent, respectively, versus the same period in 2014, while 2015 pension hours for Nevada were down 10.9 percent. By industry, Local 3’s 2015 construction hours and surveyor hours were up 9.9 percent and 9.3 percent, respectively, versus 2014, whereas rock, sand and gravel hours were down 2.9 percent.

Fund Balances (\$ in millions)		
	12/31/15	12/31/14
General	\$33.9	\$34.7
Hardship, Strike, Lockout	\$6.1	\$5.7
Emergency	\$16.3	\$15.7
Defense	\$6.6	\$6.4
Capital Maintenance	\$1.1	\$0.7
	\$63.9	\$63.2

4th Quarter 2015 Consolidated Financial Report

(Unaudited; in thousands)

Profit & Loss Statement  
(December 31, 2015 - Year-to-Date)

Membership Revenue	\$42,325
Other Revenue	\$6,178
Total Receipts	\$48,503
Salaries, Benefits & Taxes	\$30,132
Per Capita Taxes	\$6,814
Office & Operations	\$3,875
Depreciation	\$1,573
Professional Services	\$1,155
PACs & Fund Allocations	\$1,150
Admin & Public Relations	\$3,102
Total Expenses	\$47,801
Net Income/(Loss)	\$702

Balance Sheet  
(As of December 31, 2015)

Cash, Investments & Deposits	\$57,708
Employee Funded 457 Plan	\$1,823
Automobiles	\$3,625
Office Furniture & Equipment	\$1,726
Computers & Software	\$11,038
Communications Equipment	\$858
Print Shop Equipment	\$1,012
Less Accum. Depreciation	(\$12,037)
Total Assets	\$65,753
Liabilities	\$2
Employee Funded 457 Plan	\$1,823
Consolidated Fund Balances	\$63,929
Total Liabilities & Fund Balance	\$65,754



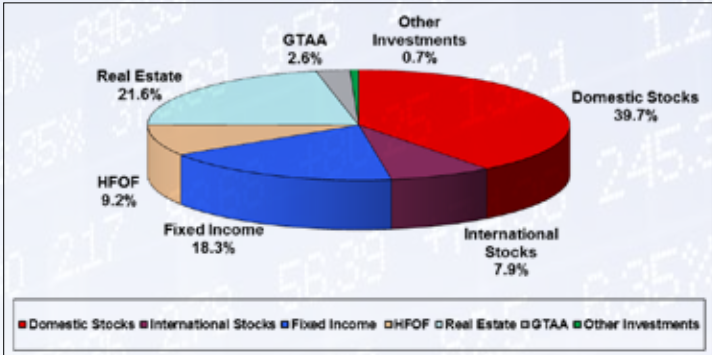
# Pension Trust Fund for Operating Engineers 12/31/15

FROM THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY  
By Steve Ingersoll



## Plan Assets

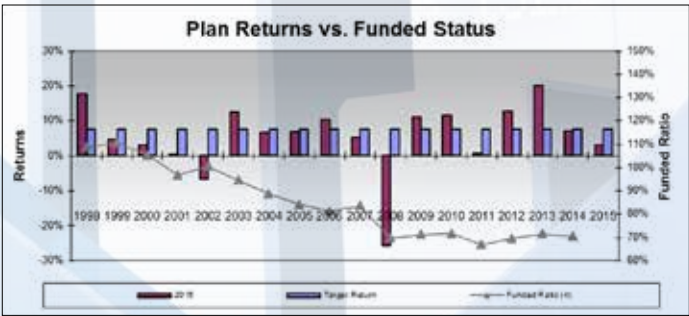
Total Investments	\$ 3,405,661,948
Domestic Stocks	1,350,552,622
International Stocks	268,141,593
Fixed Income	625,883,190
Hedge Fund of Funds	313,621,591
Real Estate	736,393,820
GTAA	88,764,093
(2) Other Investments	22,305,039



### Notes:

- 1) Returns are preliminary, gross of fees, and do not include a significant percentage of the Fund's 4Q real estate returns. The 2015 return is 12 months ending 12/31/15.
- 2) Other investments include operational cash.
- 3) Returns through 12/31/2007 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. 2014 Funded Ratio is estimated for PPA certification and provided by the actuary.

Plan Returns / Funded Status			
Investment Return (3)	Target Return	Funded Ratio (4)	
1998	17.8%	7.5%	108.9%
1999	4.8%	7.5%	110.4%
2000	3.2%	7.5%	105.4%
2001	0.4%	7.5%	96.9%
2002	-6.6%	7.5%	100.6%
2003	12.5%	7.5%	94.5%
2004	6.7%	7.5%	88.7%
2005	6.9%	7.5%	84.0%
2006	10.5%	7.5%	81.3%
2007	5.2%	7.5%	83.5%
2008	-25.7%	7.5%	69.7%
2009	11.1%	7.5%	71.2%
2010	11.5%	7.5%	71.7%
2011	0.7%	7.5%	66.9%
2012	12.7%	7.5%	69.5%
2013	20.2%	7.5%	71.5%
2014	7.0%	7.5%	70.4%
(1) 2015	3.0%	7.5%	N/A



### Commentary Fourth Quarter 2015

The Federal Reserve increased rates for the first time in seven years, as they believe that the economy is showing sufficient signs of a broad and continuing recovery. Gross domestic product is growing at a moderate pace of about 2.1% year over year and unemployment has declined from 5.7% at the beginning of 2015 to 5.0%. CPI is rising at a very modest 0.4% due to the continuing decline in oil prices to under \$30 per barrel, and lower food prices due to low commodity prices. Excluding oil and food, CPI is still under 2% per year. The S&P 500 return was positive, up 1.4% in 2015, due to a few megacap stocks, labeled by Wall Street as the FANG stocks: Facebook, Amazon, Netflix and Google. Without the FANG stocks, the S&P 500 would have actually declined by 0.7% during the year. With few exceptions, non-US equity markets fared worse in 2015 than US markets. The developed countries as measured by the MSCI EAFE index were down 0.8%, while the broader MSCI All Country World ex-US index was down 5.3% as emerging markets suffered disproportionately to developed markets. The Barclays Intermediate Government/Credit index was up 1.1% for 2015, with the longer-dated Barclays Aggregate up only 0.5% for the year. In high yield, the Merrill Lynch 1-3 Year BB index was up 1.2% despite widening spreads. Real estate continues to be in the "sweet" part of the cycle, with slow economic growth leading to higher occupancy and higher rents. The ODCE equal-weighted index rose 3.5% for the 4Q and 15.1% for the year. The HFRI Hedge Fund of Funds Composite index posted a modest 0.7% gain in 4Q, but lost 0.3% for the year, as artificially-dampened volatility and a high correlation/low dispersion environment for stocks continue to be headwinds for hedge fund managers.

## Just cause

Anyone who has worked non-union knows how hard job security can be to come by, especially working in the trades. For the most part, non-union employers can (and often do) discipline or terminate employees on a whim. Maybe the employer has a nephew who really needs a job and yours is the best option, or it could be that your supervisor just doesn't like you. Either way, non-union employees are left with little in the way of protection from getting cut-off from a paycheck and what little benefits they may enjoy if their employer decides they want them out, no matter the reason.

Compare that to working under a union contract with one of our signatory contractors, where our members have protections of what is known as a "just cause" clause. "Just cause" means employers must have legitimate reasons and meet certain requirements for being fair if they discipline or terminate an employee.

Was the employee forewarned of the consequences of his or her actions? Are the employer's rules related to the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA)? Do the rules deal with things the employer might reasonably expect from employees? These are questions that are common under contracts with a "just cause" clause, but they are also plain common sense.

Of course, common sense has never prevented opponents of organized labor from making ridiculous claims. When it comes to "just cause," it's no different. Anti-union extremists try to paint a picture of union workers getting away with murder before they can be terminated from employment. Not only is this far from the reality, but a lot of times, the opposite is true. Without a "just cause" clause, our members are vulnerable to the abuses of power that can creep into the workplace. That is why we make every effort to get "just cause" clauses into the contracts we negotiate.

To experience growth, we must have vision and work hard to fulfill it. That is why I thank our members at Newmont Mining who stand up every day for the rights of all miners, and the Newmont negotiating committee in Elko for making huge changes in the last agreement that demonstrate the benefits of membership in Local 3. I urge each and every one of you to be courageous. Get involved in your union and join us in our quest to build our membership for a better today and a better tomorrow!

When it comes to fairness and job security, just as with wages and benefits, Local 3 has your back.



Newmont negotiating committee members include, front row, from left, Justin Willer, Noel Aguirre, Financial Secretary Steve Ingersoll and District Rep. Rod Young. Back row, from left, Business Rep. Allen Strong, Lyman Hatfield, Stan Hughey, Business Rep. Bill Bodin, Ernie Lopez and Chuck Andrae.





## PUBLIC EMPLOYEE NEWS

By Rick Davis, director

# Members, fee-payers and the famous benefit fairy

There is a case before the United States Supreme Court, *Friedrichs versus California Teachers Association (CTA)*, that could negatively affect the future of public employee unions. Friedrichs is a teacher in Anaheim, Calif. who doesn't want to pay her portion of bargaining costs, known as "fair-share fees." She simply wants all the benefits and protection the union provides ... for free.

If you can believe it, Friedrichs said, "When the unions push for higher salaries, it often means larger class sizes, which is a problem in the school in which I teach." Let me see if I understand this: Your union negotiated more pay for you, and as a result, the school district made the classes larger. This is the fault of the union? The school district made that choice, not your union. Have you ever looked at the top-heavy school district administrations? That might have something to do with why there is not as much money for smaller class sizes. You're really going to complain about a higher salary? Give me a break!

Let's say the Supreme Court rules in favor of Friedrichs. Unions are then no longer able to collect member/fair-share fees to cover the cost of representation. What is next? It will be interesting to see who chooses to become a freeloader. Obviously, Friedrichs and other like-minded public employees

believe the pay and benefits they received came from the pay and benefit fairy. In the 18 years I have been working in this job, I have seen employee disciplines mitigated, higher pay for public employees, better retirements and better working conditions all because of the union! Not the pay and benefit fairy, and obviously not because of people who are looking for a free ride while reaping the benefits and pay the unions have negotiated and fought for.

The next question will be, if union members are not required to pay fair-share fees, does the union have to represent them? I hope to hell not! Depending on how the court rules in the above case, representation could be the next debate. I think of the hundreds of times I have seen non-union members represented simply because the union represented the whole unit. These non-union members then reap the additional pay and benefits that dues-paying members pay for. All I will say to the freeloaders who let dues-paying members carry the load, "Be careful what you wish for."

There is much more to come over the next several months on this fee-payer issue. Until next month, be careful out there and take the time for friends and family and what is really important.

## Observations from District 80 public employees

By Van Riviere, business representative

I joined the OE3 staff last December with a belief that workers whose needs are met are more productive and loyal, and that service through leadership promotes high-performing individuals and organizations.

I retired from a satisfying 20-year fire-service career with the city of Stockton. As the second largest municipality to file for bankruptcy in the history of the United States, Stockton provides a revealing case study in terms of labor/management relationships and just how tough things can get. As a Battalion Chief and member of the union's negotiating team, I was at the center of the conflict. City of Stockton employees lost an average of 38 percent in wages and benefits, while retirees were stripped of lifetime medical benefits that had been guaranteed by contract with the city. The boundaries of what is vulnerable in terms of pay and benefits have been redefined as a result.

Regarding the members I serve, below are a few helpful tips based on some observations:

- Read and understand your agencies' personnel rules and your Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), and if you work for a charter city or county, become familiar with the provisions of the charter
- Know and understand your rights as they pertain to coaching, counseling and discipline, and understand the distinction between them
- If you are notified that you are subject to an investigation, contact your union representative immediately
- If you are being asked questions that you believe could result in disciplinary action, request union representation immediately
- Disciplinary proceedings are not the forum to air grievances, complaints or any other "dirty laundry"

Today, most public agencies are recovering from the economic crisis and enjoying increased revenues, and in some cases, reinstituting services that were cut or eliminated during

the recession. Foreclosure rates are down, the real estate market is stable and there is some limited growth taking place. In some agencies, capital projects are being undertaken to repair failing infrastructure and expand or update facilities. Achieving positive outcomes at the negotiating table can be an illusive goal, however, and workers, in many cases, have taken significant cuts in pay and benefits, with no positive change for five to seven years.

This situation rises from a combination of factors and influences, and the best strategy is to stay the course, remain visible to community leaders and understand that this situation is going to be slow to change. Often, we are negotiating with managers who either survived the economic crisis or were hired to replace someone who did not. In many government agencies, the crisis was made more severe by optimistic projections and poor fiscal management. Today's decision-makers are sensitive to these recent events and reluctant to agree with anything that could be perceived as creating risk. This election year, fiscal conservatism is one of the core values in virtually every candidate's campaign. This thinking presents an obstacle to securing additional pay and benefits at the negotiating table.

Many workers have gone without any increase in compensation for the better part of a decade, and patience is wearing thin. The solution? Develop sustained political action groups that will interact with both elected officials and those vying for office. Educate decision-makers about your plight and your needs. Avoid the tendency to blame the union for the realities of negotiations. Get involved and stay involved; your representative can't be successful without your assistance and support. Most importantly, if you hear rumors about the union or how you are being represented, please contact your business rep. and ask questions. Don't take information that is seldom complete or accurate at face value. Almost every situation is improved with communication; give it a try!



# A rocky road to Madera is smoothed

By Fred Klingel, business representative

Last year, I learned that my office partner had left our group and I would be taking all of his units. "No problem," I thought. I've never shied away from handling extra work. Besides, Business Rep. Greg Ramirez had agreed to help me for a while on one lingering issue: The city of Madera General Bargaining Unit was in the middle of some not-so-friendly negotiations for a successor agreement. After meeting with some of the members of the negotiations team, we soon realized that we needed to move forward and correct some of the issues that seemed to derail this train.

The big issues were the total compensation survey that the city had contracted for, change in medical providers and some other financial benefits. Surveys always cause problems, especially when workers believe their positions have not been adequately addressed and that the results are inaccurate. Ramirez took on the survey company about the faulty assumptions its staff used to come-up with the results, and I took on the other benefits wants, language changes and the relationship with our membership. Unfortunately, the survey company reps. took their time, since they had already been paid by the city and had taken on other clients. Also, city officials balked at the other items, because they believed their offer had adequately addressed the areas

that our membership wanted to be changed. After all, two other bargaining units had already signed their contracts.

Once some of the issues of the survey and language changes were addressed, we needed to present the offer to the membership for a vote. Unfortunately, time was not on our side, since the deadline for retro-pay had passed by the time we took over and were held up by the necessary changes in the survey.

The important parts of the offer were that the city would bring those classifications, which were below the median of comparable cities, up to the median level. After that, all members would receive a 5 percent increase in base pay. Additionally, there would be a 3 percent increase for each of the next two years. Also, the city would pay 100 percent of the medical premiums.

Although a last-ditch push was made to get the retro-pay or a one-time non-PERSable payment, the City Council declined to do so. However, the membership voted on Dec. 15, 2015 to accept the city's offer for a new three-year contract by a large margin. This resulted in a better showing than most agreements in the Central Valley in the past few years.

Thank you to Greg for his help, the negotiations team for their valiant efforts and our voting members for their patience and the good turnout.

## City of Stockton update

By Michael Eggener, business representative

Even though the Great Recession has ended, it continues to be the excuse the city of Stockton uses as the reason its employees have suffered wage and benefit cuts and is better known by our Stockton membership as the "Great Deception." The Public Employee Division represents three bargaining units within the city of Stockton, the Stockton Trades and Maintenance Unit; the Municipal Utilities Department, Operations and Maintenance Unit, and the Supervisor Unit. All three felt the full weight of the city's madness before and after the bankruptcy. City officials continue to spend an ungodly amount of money for attorney fees, rather than pay a sustainable living wage to its employees, active and retired. It took over 18 months to obtain a contract with the city, and at the end of the day, our members were not even status quo, while the law firms made millions of dollars.

The city has been under investigation by the Civil Grand Jury and the California Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Cal-OSHA), and employees are leaving daily. City officials continue to blame the past leadership for giving employees such lavish pay and benefit packages. Yet, according to Transparent California, in 2014, City Manager Kurt Wilson's total pay and benefits amounted to \$308,640, compared to a Heavy Mechanic III, who made

\$113,034 in total pay and benefits. Now, you tell me who will cost the city more in the future?

During past negotiations, city officials wanted our members to give up safety shoe money, which is between \$170 and \$200. The city's negotiation team (attorneys) was told the only way to a man's boots is when he is dead. City officials did eventually remove this item from the negotiations table, but this is just another example of how low this employer will go in the treatment of loyal employees.

So how do we move forward? Involvement in the political arena is the answer, not only for our Stockton membership, but union-wide. I must give credit to our city of Stockton membership, because they organized informational picketing, attended City Council meetings and spoke. Stockton District Rep. Nate Tucker attended meetings and assisted in picketing, showing solidarity union-wide. This unity needs to move on to the next level. Attendance at the upcoming District Meetings and involvement in the election process needs to be a priority if we want to see change in leadership, as the city of Stockton moves forward. If you are OK with the current city leadership in Stockton, then don't get involved, but if you are, remember: If you do things the same way that you have always done

them, you always get what you already have. In this case, it equals zero.

### *City of Oakdale*

In the city of Oakdale at Dorada Park, there is a children's play area with a massive wooden structure built by volunteers in 1993 that began showing its age last year.

The citizens of Oakdale, including our members, rallied its volunteers to rebuild and replace the structure. (Local 3 represents two employee groups in the city of Oakdale: The Oakdale Miscellaneous Employee Bargaining Unit, which consists of the Parks, Recreation, Clerical and Public Works employees, and the Police Officers Association.) Oakdale Miscellaneous Employees Bargaining Unit Executive Officer Rolando Avila and Recreation and Facilities Department/Local 3 member representative Linda Royalty were very involved in this project. Funding for the project and the majority of the work was done by volunteers at no extra cost to the city of Oakdale. While the city provided no money for the project, it did provide staffing and some planning. The volunteer committee was able to raise its goal of \$100,000 for materials, labor, equipment and more. Once again, this is another example of the involvement of Local 3 members in the communities they live and work in.





## CREDIT UNION

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

# The best choice for your financial future

Today, it may seem like banking is a crowded industry. With so many options to choose from, it's difficult to know who to trust and where to keep your hard-earned money. It's best to figure out what is most important to you before you decide where to deposit your money. There are many things to consider. For example, should you choose a bank or credit union? Are electronic services a must, or is a branch close to your home or work more important? Maybe it's the institution with the most ATMs? If an institution that understands its members and creates products and services specifically to meet their needs is at the top of your list, then OE Federal is the organization for you.

Created in 1964, OE Federal was built to serve the unique needs of the union brothers and sisters of Operating Engineers Local 3, and for over 50 years, our focus has not changed. At OE Federal, we recognize your job is not the typical 9 to 5. We understand you might have multiple jobs and multiple employers in one work season, and your financial needs may be somewhat different than what banks have to offer.

OE Federal is committed to our member-focused philosophy of putting your goals first, not just boosting our bottom line. That is why we are proud to offer low-cost loans and low-cost/no-cost services to our members, even when

they are between jobs (most banks would turn them away). It is why we created a Visa STEEL credit card program with strike relief, union rebates and loyalty dividend features specifically designed for our union members. It is also why we partnered with two prominent ATM networks, Allpoint and CO-OP, so our members could enjoy 60,000 surcharge-free ATMs across the country.

OE Federal is a 100 percent union credit union, which supports the labor movement and the principles unions stand and fight for. Becoming a member of OE Federal is exclusive, and not just anyone can join. Just as you would pass down a valued family tradition, we hope you will pass along the value of OE Federal Credit Union to your family. Once you are a member, your immediate family can join and benefit just as you do.

We know you have a choice when it comes to banking, and we'd love to be a part of those big financial milestones from the very beginning: your child's first youth savings account, a loan for their first car or even the purchase of a new home. If you or a family member would like to join, visit [www.oefcu.org](http://www.oefcu.org), stop by a branch or give us a call at (800) 877-4444. We are proud to serve you.

## ADD SOME STEEL TO YOUR LIFE

The OE Federal Visa STEEL and STEEL Rewards Credit Cards are tailor made for Local 3 members and their families offering **Union only benefits**:

**Strike Relief<sup>1</sup>:** This benefit will defer payments on your Visa account for up to three months, if you go out on a Union sanctioned strike or lockout.

**Union Rebate<sup>2</sup>:** To support the Union movement, a rebate of 1% of the annual interest paid on your Visa account will be donated to the Local 3 Scholarship Foundation. Feel good knowing the more you use your card, the more you support the Scholarship Foundation.

## Visa STEEL



**0% APR**  
on new purchases and  
balance transfers for the  
first six months.<sup>3</sup>

## Visa STEEL Rewards

**10,000  
BONUS  
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when you spend \$1,000 in  
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<sup>1</sup> To be eligible for Strike Relief, you must meet the following requirements: (1) you must have worked at least 20 hours per week during the 30-day period before the official strike; (2) you must be a cardholder for at least one year; (3) your account must be in good standing; (4) you must be on strike or lockout for 30 or more consecutive days within the last six months. Strike relief will defer your monthly minimum payment for up to 3 months from when you begin your strike.

<sup>2</sup> OE Federal will return 1% of the gross interest you pay annually on your VISA account(s) to a charity selected by your Local Union. Your Union (including members & family members) must accumulate \$50 or more in benefits each calendar year for a donation to be made. Individual members and Unions do not receive a tax benefit from the donations made by the Credit Union through this program.

<sup>3</sup> APR=Annual Percentage Rate. 0% APR on new purchases and balance transfers only; does not include cash advances. After the first six billing cycles of your account opening, the APR for purchases and balance transfers will revert to your default APR and will vary based on the Prime Rate. Visit [www.oefcu.org](http://www.oefcu.org) for details.

<sup>4</sup> To earn 10,000 Rewards Points you must make a minimum of \$1,000 in new purchases within the first 3 billing cycles of your account opening. Does not include balance transfers or cash advances. Rewards Points promotion ends when you reach \$1,000 or after your first 3 billing cycles, whichever comes first.

<sup>5</sup> UChoose Rewards is a registered trademark of Fiserv, Inc.







## OE3 JOURNEYMAN AND APPRENTICE TRAINING CENTER

By Tammy Castillo, director of apprenticeship



# Journeyman-upgrade training information

Want to learn a new skill, refresh an existing one or master the latest technology?

If so, the Operating Engineers Local 3 Journeyman and Apprentice Training Center (OE3 JATC) may have a class for you.

Signing up for training has never been easier!

### Requirements

You must meet the following minimum eligibility requirements to qualify for journeyman-upgrade training:

1. Be an active member in good standing with OE3
2. Worked a minimum of 350 hours for a company that pays into the California Training Trust Fund during the current or previous year
3. Be ready and available to attend a training class (If you are unavailable at the time of the scheduled class, you must call to re-register.)

Training classes are held Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the OE3 JATC in Sloughouse (Rancho Murieta), California. Journeyman-upgrade classes last one to two weeks, depending on the type of training/equipment.

### How to sign-up

Simply call the OE3 JATC Registration Department at (916) 354-2029. Your name will be placed on a waiting list, and you will be contacted when your desired class is scheduled. *Classes fill up fast, so get your name on the list soon!*

### Questions?

Contact the OE3 JATC Registration Department.







OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL UNION NO. 3

# SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION<sup>®</sup>

## Academic Scholarships

Two scholarships of \$10,000

Two scholarships of \$7,500

Two scholarships of \$5,000

## Merit Scholarships

25 scholarships of \$1,000

- Children (including stepchildren and foster children) of Local 3 members may apply for the scholarships.
- OE3 Academic and Merit Scholarship applications are available at the local's district offices, OE Federal Credit Union branches and online at [www.oe3.org](http://www.oe3.org).
- See full rules online.
- If you have any questions, please call the Recording-Corresponding Secretary's Office: (510) 748-7400.



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# Face<sup>to</sup>Face

with . . .

## KELLY RICHARDS



## Apprentice gives back on an international level

By John O. Matos, associate editor

"I am definitely getting out of my comfort zone," said Apprentice Kelly Richards, referring to his trip to the west coast of Africa. In January, Richards flew to Ghana to work as a volunteer, teaching English to young children. It's one of the more stable countries on the continent, but a huge gap exists between rich and poor, with many in need and little in the way of a middle-class.

This opportunity to serve was one Richards specifically sought out. Although this particular assignment is different from anything he has done before, Richards is no stranger to volunteer work. He has provided community service through his church and has volunteered at the Veterans Administration (VA) Hospital at Mather Field.

"I have a couple of friends that have served overseas doing humanitarian work, building fishponds, working on construction projects, building homes," he said. "Having conversations with them, I just kind of decided that was a good fit for me."

After making the decision to get involved, he researched different humanitarian organizations and decided on UBELONG.

"They do humanitarian work throughout the world, and they have opportunities for people to serve in education, health and construction projects," he explained.

Richards makes a conscious effort to extend himself. It's even one of the reasons he sought a career as an Operating Engineer.

"It can be intimidating running a big piece of equipment," he said. "That's one aspect of working as an Operating Engineer that I really enjoy. It can be intimidating getting up on a 37 surrounded by 11 other 37s. You can't mess up, and that stretches you mentally and physically."

There are other connections between Richards' career choices and his desire to serve others. For one thing, he takes the idea of community seriously, and being a union member is just as much an expression of that sentiment as is his desire to volunteer on the other side of the world.

"Union, to me, is about a community," he explained. "I try to expand that to other parts of my life. I try to give back to other communities that I am in, and that means giving back to the community in a world sense."

"The world is going crazy, and I think that getting out there and trying to give of your time and your skills, whatever they might be, is a great way to foster a little bit more of a feeling that we are all in this together," he continued. "That's one thing I like about the union too. We realize we are all in it together and try not to do us versus them, but try to find a way to get what we can and get everyone as satisfied as possible."

Richards is obviously altruistic, but he admits he has an ulterior motive for going to Ghana. He enjoys surfing, another part of his life that gets him out of his comfort zone. His interest in Ghana was piqued when he saw a movie about two men who traveled the world, surfing in various locations.

"One of the places they went surfing was Ghana," he said. "While I'm there, I'm going to go surfing in the same spot they went surfing at."

Whether it be volunteering to help the children in Ghana or catching the waves on the coast of Africa, one thing is certain, it's not a bad way to spend the winter!

Check back here for more updates on Richards.



Apprentice Kelly Richards takes a selfie with his students in Ghana.



# Picture(s) of progress

District 17 members score BIG on West Oahu's Ka Makana Ali'i

**Problem:** While the population of Kapolei and the surrounding area has nearly tripled in the past decade, more than 1.4 million square feet of empty space in West Oahu at Kualaka'i and Kapolei Parkway has sat dormant for years.

**Solution:** Build Ka Makana Ali'i on the site, a mixed-use center that includes a giant canopied mall with a movie theater and 80,000 new homes, creating 3,000 construction jobs during the three-phase project and 6,500 permanent full-time jobs upon completion.

**Players (first phase):** Main contractor Nordic PCL and subcontractors Royal (parking lot), Koga (theater), and Swinerton and Jayar (Macy's).



Royal Gradesetter Steve Fernandez.



Royal Roller Operator Mika Ane and Royal Apprentice DePaul Tellis provide backfill.

William "Hawaiian" Keliikoa II works for Jayar excavating the footings and removing the spoils.

Loader Operator Jerome Kupuka'a is a second-generation Operating Engineer who is currently working on the utilities for Royal.





Royal Operator James Woodard works on the footings for the parking lot of Ka Makana Ali'i.



Twenty-year member John Bareng works for Jayar.



Paul Soquena works for Swinerton on the Macy's portion of the Ka Makana Ali'i in Kapolei.



Kaipo Tilton Sr. has a son who is currently an apprentice.



Nordic Crane Operator Darryl Correa unloads steel on the Ka Makana Ali'i project in Kapolei.



Eleven-year member David Clay works for Jayar.



Ricarte Ramiscal works for True Line.



From left: Willy Roman, Keoki Telles, James Atwater, Larry Carmac and Business Rep. Sam Spencer.





By John O. Matos, associate editor

Deckhand James Faas has many tattoos, but two of the most prominent ones are of a bucket dredge on his right hand and a cutter-head on his left. He's worked on rigs using both during his 14-year career in dredging, as they are used to deepen shipping channels and remove underwater debris. However, the tattoos are more than just body art; they are an outward symbol of how working in this trade becomes so much a part of those who do it.

"I can't think of doing anything else," said Leverman Steven Pryor. He's been an Operating Engineer working on dredging rigs for 29 years. Living on the coast of Eureka, he was only eight years old when he decided he was going to work on the water. Today, he has no regrets in making that career choice.

"I didn't get a college degree, but I've had a great career that fed my family," he said. His family includes "two-and-three-quarters grandkids" (one was still on the way when he spoke with *Engineers News* late last year), and two sons, one of which, like Pryor, works on the water for Dutra.

Not only do dredgersmen travel and work long hours to support their families, but many work alongside family members. Even when there are no direct family connections, there is a distinct family feel on these rigs. Crewmembers often gather in the kitchen or around the grill to prepare lunch and jokingly argue about who's been raiding the food in the pantry.

They poke fun at each other the way siblings do, a sign of how

comfortable they become on these floating jobsites.

Being comfortable around your fellow crewmembers doesn't just make going to work on a dredge easier; it's vital to the safe functioning of the rig. The dangers of working on the water, such as climbing up wet steps and ladders, being around moving parts and equipment, stepping over gaps between rigs and boats or over lines and ropes, means crewmembers have to constantly be mindful of their own safety and that of their coworkers.

For crews working in the yard, there are different dangers and challenges, including those that come with welding, working with electrical lines and having to fabricate parts in the shop for equipment built decades ago.

"Some of these rigs are World-War-II-era, built in the 1940s," said Master Mechanic Greg Wright who works in the Manson Yard in the Port of Richmond. "You can't just go out and buy the part; you have to make it yourself."

Yard crews consist of Heavy Duty Repairers (HDRs), but as Apprentice Remy Trifforiot pointed out, work on dredging rigs "is a totally different world" from what he learned working on loaders and dozers. That's why HDR Fred Baca makes it a point to clarify that he is a *Marine* HDR.

Though the work is often hard and dangerous and involves long weeks and long hours, it's impossible to miss the die-hard enthusiasm members in this line of work have for their jobs. Part of that is because they understand the importance of what they do in the larger scheme of things.

"What we do is important," said Pryor, as he pointed to a large ship being unloaded in the Port of Stockton. "Look at that ship and consider all the jobs that one ship is tied to. If we weren't here doing this, those ships couldn't get in here and those jobs wouldn't exist."

"Our work keeps the cost of shipping and the price of goods down," added Deckhand Jason Shanahan. "What we do supports our whole economy."

It's obvious that what our dredgersmen do creates close camaraderie and provides the satisfaction of skilled and challenging work, a sense of purpose and an understanding of the value of their job. It's no wonder, then, that die-hard dredgersmen like Faas would be willing to wear their pride on their (tattooed) sleeves.

At top: Dutra deckhand Jason Shanahan, Capt. Craig Haufler, Deckhand Albert Apodaca and Deckhand James Faas.



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FOR MORE PHOTOS!





The crew aboard R.E. Stait's DB Palomar includes, from left, Deckhand David Koue, Deck Engineer Fritz Fields, Deckhand Felix Castro, Leverman Bill Kombrink and Capt. Greg Center.



Leverman Steven Pryor removes material and debris from berth 16 at the Port of Stockton.



A Dutra crew aboard the DB 24 dredges shipping channels at the Port of Redwood City.



Capt. Craig Hauffler and Deckhand Jason Shanahan work at the Port of Stockton.



Members working from the Manson Yard in Richmond include, from left, HDR Rich Brown, Apprentice Remy Trifforiot, HDR Fred Baca, Master Mechanic Greg Wright and HDR Chris Sieweke.

The crew aboard Dutra's DB 24 includes, from left, Site Safety and Health Officer (SSHO) Karen Maples, Deckhand Cody Mana, Deckhand Kenny Hasbrouck, Deck Engineer Mike Davis and Capt. John Boykin.







From left: Senior Capt. Todd Gilbert, Deckhand Tandy Morrison, Capt. Steve Frost, Deckhand Doug Vieira, Deckhand Joe Correia, Mate/Operator Josh Peterson, Capt./Operator Jon Peterson and Deckhand Luke Smith pause for a rare photo during a shift change.

# The Sarah Reed: A force to be reckoned with

By Mandy McMillen, managing editor

Though her name implies “lady,” there’s nothing dainty about Dutra’s Sarah Reed tugboat or her skilled crew.

Bonded like fraternity brothers, the Sarah Reed crew has grown close not by any initiation ritual but by the necessity of survival through six-day-long shifts and the sea that both calls and haunts them.

They cannot perform their jobs without acting as one cohesive unit, since the combined weight of the Sarah Reed and the barge she pushes is often 9,000 tons – a true heavy-weight on the water.

According to Jon Peterson, a third-generation sea captain, whose son, Operator Josh Peterson is also a crewmember, there have been countless close calls during his time at sea. He recalls wrestling rogue waves and surviving a recent storm that struck the crew on their way to a Shamrock staging yard along the Petaluma River. Lightning hit the Sarah Reed, causing the electricity to go off for about 20 to 30 minutes. Peterson continued captaining the ship in the dark without any electronic devices.

Unlike conventional employees, these crews can never just “leave it at the office.” They can’t blow off some steam at the gym or relax at a favorite restaurant during off-hours.

Their office is their home for six days, and consequently, their crewmates become family members by sheer proximity and constant exposure.

According to Senior Capt. Todd Gilbert, a 30-year member, this crew navigates about 1,000 miles of waterways inside the Golden Gate, offloading materials from barges onto staging areas, while working closely with dredge crews.

When asked about the rigorous work schedule, he said, “I work half a year and get half a year off. This is family.”

Capt. Steve Frost views the work schedule similarly, noting that he is able to spend quality time with his family for six days at a time before returning to his work family, which is one that also cooks and cleans together on a rotating schedule.

Inside the wheelhouse, there is a tattered copy of a book about pirates, but all joking aside, these men are cautionary about the nature of their work.

“People romanticize this work, but it’s very hard,” said Frost, whose son and father are also union members.

He wouldn’t trade it for the world.



The Sarah Reed is docked at a staging yard for Shamrock in the Bay.



Using a port crane, fourth-generation Operator Josh Peterson unloads the materials from the barge at the Shamrock staging yard along the Petaluma River.



## Owner is union proud

Thirty-five-year member **Louie Avila** is the owner of **Avison Construction** and is proud of both his company and his membership in Local 3.

He knows that with Local 3's training and minimum qualifications testing, the operators he sends out can efficiently run all the equipment on a jobsite and get the project completed.

"Local 3 is doing it right," he said.

**Avison Construction** has had different names throughout the years, but no matter the name, Avila says it has the right combination of operators and is here to stay. Employees include foremen **Judd Bretz** and **Alfonso Juarez**, and operators **Robert Aguilar**, **Sean Avila**, **Steve Avila**, **Robert Broome**, **Frank Minatta Jr.**, **Joe Seaborn** and **Nick Shikaloff**, just to name a few.

"Treat them fairly; treat them with respect," said **Louie Avila**.

**Avison Construction** is currently working on the \$1.1 million Riverwalk Drive project for the city of Madera. The project, which consists of roadway grading; asphalt paving; curb, gutter and sidewalk improvements; water system improvements, and storm drainage improvements, started in January and will continue through May.



*Avison Foreman Judd Bretz stands with Operator Steve Avila.*

Other projects in the district include a \$1.5 million transportation yard and site improvements for the Sanger Unified School District. The project bid in December, and **Emmett's Excavation** was awarded the project. **Northwest Paving** has been awarded a \$1.9 million seal coat project in the Tulare/Springville area. Ongoing projects include High-Speed Rail (HSR) and various solar sites.

After the New Year's holiday, prep-work began for HSR, which involved the demolition of the Tuolumne Street bridge. The bridge between Broadway and F Street will soon be torn-down as well. Right now, it has clearance for Union Pacific Railroad, but it needs to be higher for HSR. Crews are preparing for the demolition, which should take about three months. The new bridge will provide two-way traffic and is expected to be in place by November.

Be sure to mark your calendars for our upcoming District Picnic on Saturday, May 14 at the Fresno County Sportsmen's Club. Late night for the district office will be on Wednesday, March 23, with hours from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Please note:

Local 3 proudly endorses **Dr. Joaquin Arambula** for Congressional District (CD) 31. The Special Election for this race is on April 5. Mail-in your ballots now!

**HAWAII** | 2181 Lauwiliwili St., Kapolei, HI 96707 ■ For all branches, call (808) 845-7871  
District Rep. Pane Meatoga Jr.

## Apprentices are our future

We are moving into the work season with the Hoopili project starting up and other projects getting notices to proceed. We started to prepare for this momentum four years ago, and a skilled workforce is going to be key to our growth. Supplying contractors with the best operators around is our goal.

Under the direction of Apprentice Administrator **Mitchell Kealoha Jr.**, the Kahuku Training Center was tasked with two things: 1) provide training for members on the out-of-work list and 2) schedule new apprentice classes as needed. On the union side, we encouraged members to utilize the training facility to upgrade their skills and enforce the apprentice ratio with our contractors.

Since those tasks were made known, the Kahuku Training Center has provided well over 100,000 training hours and journeyed out over 60 apprentices. This year, we plan to increase the classes offered and the class sizes and estimate that with the amount of journey-level members working, we should have over 140 apprentices!

Our apprentices are the future of our industry and will keep our union strong for generations to come. Eventually, operators currently in the field will retire, and that is why we need to pass along the skills of our trade. This year, Oahu will start processing applications for 2017, and the list will be good for two years.

Thank you to the crew at Kahuku for the countless hours they put into securing our future workforce, and thank you to our journey-level members out in the field who take the time to teach and share their skills to these apprentices.

Contact the Kahuku Training Center at (808) 232-2001 for more information on apprentice applications, journeymen-upgrade training and safety classes.



*Office Clerk David Unyuen works at the Kahuku Training Center.*



## Underground utility work a constant in San Francisco

Near San Francisco General Hospital on Potrero Avenue, **P & J Utility Company** is replacing old water mains with Operator **Jose G. Castro**. On the corner of 8th and Harrison, new apartment units are being built, and lift operators **Berry Singletary** and **Rawneesha Roy** are keeping things moving for **Roberts Obayashi Corp.** Near the same intersection, **Mitchell Engineering** must go 14 feet below three big water pipes to tie-in a new sewer pipe that will service the new construction. Working Foreman **Earl Williamson** awaits shoring designs to continue night work and prevent major traffic jams.

In the Bayview District, more underground utility work is being done. **PG&E** subcontracted a lot of work to signatory **ARB**, which is installing new gas lines to replace the old ones. Job Steward **Dave White** is onsite with Operator **Jared Hohenwarter**.

Other small infrastructure work in the city includes a retaining wall project near the Mariposa exit off I-280, which was recently awarded to **Hoseley Corporation**. The company has some demolition to do first, and Working Foreman **Thomas Atkinson** is site-prepping for the task.

The long-range work picture in the city continues to look positive with the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) sewer system improvement program, the second phase of the Hunters Point Shipyard redevelopment and the Treasure Island development all about to start. Each of these multi-billion-dollar projects will provide work for the next 10 years and beyond.

In San Mateo, operators **Craig Woolworth**, **Tokemoa Vehikite** and Heavy Duty Repairers (HDRs) **Andrew Garcia**, **Austin Lagrange** and **Chris Darman** are enjoying some hours with **West Valley Construction**. The company started the year off with maintenance work for California Water Service Company (Cal Water), the largest investor-owned American water utility company west of the Mississippi. **West Valley Construction** not only performs the maintenance for Cal Water, but also handles emergency water leaks during all hours of the day and night.

In Millbrae, **Peninsula Crane and Rigging** has Operator

**Casey Wardel** and Oiler **Michael Guerrera** running a 210 Grove crane. At the new San Francisco International Airport (SFO) Fire Station, **Foundation Constructors** is driving 96 piles with operators **Ellis Cutburth** and **Greg Williams**. Excavator Operator **Julio Viveros** is working for **Seton Pacific Construction** digging trenches for new communication cables.

We hope to see you all at the Solano County Fairgrounds for our Semi-Annual Meeting on March 20.



Job Steward Dave White works for ARB.



Excavator Operator Julio Viveros works for Seton Pacific Construction in Millbrae.

## New vent shaft to increase mine production

*From Reno*

Winter brought a steady stream of storms to Northern Nevada, leaving us with some wet, muddy and often frozen conditions. The weather also brought delayed start dates and lost hours on projects throughout the region. Spring begins this month, however, and some of the projects kicking-off the work season include the \$30.7 million Pyramid and McCarran intersection located in Sparks, which was awarded to **Granite Construction**. This is a widening project that began in 2015 with a two-phase demolition of 70 homes. The first phase was done by **Aspen Developers**, and the second was done by **Q&D Construction**. When completed in 2017, the project will bring much-needed relief from numerous congestion and safety issues.

**Ames Construction** is ramping up for the \$75.9 million USA Parkway project linking I-80 just east of Sparks to Hwy. 50 near Silver Springs. **Sierra Nevada Construction** was awarded the North Virginia/North McCarran pavement rehab project, which we hope starts soon. Some notable ongoing projects include the final phase of the I-580 Carson City Bypass. This \$42 million project is being performed by **Road and Highway Builders**. **Granite** is continuing with work on the \$150 million South East Connector project as well.

With the busy season ahead, please make sure your contact information, registration, credentials and certifications are current. Our first quarter District Meeting is on March 17 at 7 p.m. at the Hall in Reno. We hope to see you there.

*From Elko*

Last year, **Newmont Mining Corporation** delivered 1.34 million ounces and 48,000 tons of gold and copper. With the completion of Leeville's underground turf vent shaft, which improves ventilation and helps cut mine costs, annual production is expected to increase by approximately 100,000 to 150,000 ounces. The expected life of Leeville is 11 years. Gold prices remained over \$1,000 per ounce in 2015 and are expected to remain stable or increase this year.

Elko is holding a Retiree Meeting on March 17. Lunch will be served at noon, with the meeting starting at 1 p.m. The Pre-Retirement Meeting is on the same day at 6 p.m. The Elko Picnic will be June 18, a little earlier this year, so watch for further information.

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



## Resurgence of housing and commercial markets continue

The Stockton District has had an incredible amount of work the past two years, and 2016 looks to be another strong year.

**R&L Brosamer-Walsh** is in the final phase of the I-5 project through Stockton. **Myers & Son Construction** and **Granite Construction** are continuing with the reconfiguration of overpasses, connector ramps and surface streets of the Hwy. 99/Mariposa interchange. **Teichert Construction** has a paving project on Hwy. 4 at Victoria Island.

**O.C. Jones'** Hwy. 12 pavement rehabilitation/bridge construction project will be continuing into the summer months. **Brosamer & Wall, Inc.**'s work on the extension of Hwy. 4 from Fresno Avenue west to Navy Drive has continued through the winter. This spring, **DeSilva Gates Construction** will be starting a \$14.3 million grade separation project in the city of Lodi.

Private work has spread in our district, as the cities of Tracy, Mountain House, Lathrop, Lodi, Manteca and Ripon all currently have subdivisions under construction. Underground work has been steady due to local projects and the resurgence of the housing and commercial markets.

Paving will continue to be plentiful and steady this year, with many state, county and city paving projects breaking ground this spring. The local plants have felt the surge in demand for materials being used for projects in the area.

Mark your calendars for the upcoming Stockton District Picnic, which will be on Sunday, May 1 at Micke Grove Park (11793 N. Micke Grove Road in Lodi.) We look forward to seeing you all there!

## **SACRAMENTO I** 3920 Lennane Drive, Sacramento, CA 95834 ▪ (916) 993-2055 District Rep. Rob Carrion

### Strength in numbers

This is an election year, and our work hinges on the election of politicians who have our members' best interests at heart. For example, in order for public works projects to continue and new infrastructure to be funded, we have to do our part to elect politicians who will help fund these projects. We also have to do our part to protect the laws that govern our work, such as those protecting prevailing wages. Your union is here to keep-up on the politics that directly affect your livelihood. For years, Local 3 has fought against backdoor deals and propositions that would hurt your back pocket. This year, we need your help.

Strength in numbers is what our union is about, and that means every election cycle, we ask for our members to step-up and help with things like phone banking and precinct walking. All too often, however, it's the same folks volunteering over and over again, and that needs to change. If you've never volunteered, we are talking to you. Do yourself a favor: Get active in your union! Ask what you can do and how you can make a difference. Call the district office today!

**Bay Cities Paving** was awarded phase two of the \$20 million Hazel Avenue widening project. We anticipate between 15 and 20 members will be working on this project, which will include an almost complete rebuild from Curraugh Downs Development to just past Sunset Avenue. It's about a three-mile job and should last about two years. The third phase is already in the planned document stage.

**Teichert Construction** was awarded the \$7.3 million Hwy. 65 and I-80 overlay project in Roseville, which should keep 12 to 15 hands busy. The project involves Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) overlay from I-80 and Hwy. 65 just past Twelve Bridges Drive.

**Granite Construction** was awarded the \$31.5 million Widen Eastbound Roadway project from Long Ravine underpass to just past the Magra Road overcrossing. Although the project was slated to start around the first of the year, it has yet to begin. Once it does, we anticipate it will put 15 to 20 members to work.

Our Caltrans members continue to keep the roads clear and safe for all of us.

If you have not been working, remember to check your registration on the out-of-work list, as it is your responsibility to update your registration before it expires. Also, make sure your contact information (address and phone number) is current.

Our Semi-Annual Meeting is coming up, and we hope to see you there at the Solano County Fairgrounds on Sunday, March 20.

*Correction: Twenty-five-year members **Daniel Hanson** and **Kevin McBride** were misidentified in February's edition. Congratulations to these pin recipients on their many years of service.*

Daniel Hanson,  
25 years



Kevin McBride,  
25 years





## Retiree enjoys successful career after overcoming challenges

Times were tough for Retiree **Juan Balderrama** growing up as a kid in Mexico during the early 1950s. His father was off at war, and to keep from going hungry, he and his siblings had to go door-to-door asking for food. Balderrama’s grandfather, **Francisco**, lived in San Jose and wanted a better life for his family, so he went to Mexico in 1954, packed the family into a 1953 Chevy Bel Air and brought them to San Jose.

“We were stacked up like a can of sardines,” said Balderrama. Once in the U.S., his family did well picking prunes and was able to buy their first home in 1957.

Balderrama met his wife, **Lorraine**, in 1962, when they were still in high school. They started dating the following year. At the time, she used to come to his family’s home to visit him, but his mother saw that his work suffered whenever his mind was on Lorraine, so she told her, “If you want to come over and see Juan, you will have to work with us in the field.”

In 1966, Balderrama joined the Army and soon left for Vietnam, where he worked as a crew chief. On the ground, he was a mechanic, and in the air, he was a door gunner. He came back in 1969 and married Lorraine. They have been married 46 years and have three kids and six grandkids.

After getting married, Balderrama was accepted into the Apprenticeship Program and was the first amputee to graduate. “If there are people out there with handicaps, and they want to enter into the program, they can do it,” said Balderrama. “It’s all in the mind. Give it your best, and you will succeed.”

During 10 weeks at the training center, Balderrama learned how to run the screed, scrapers, compactors, rollers and bobcats and how to be a lube technician. He still has the belt buckle he received at the completion of the program, and he plans to pass it on to his daughter when she becomes a journey-level operator.

The first company Balderrama worked for was **Wattis Construction**, where he ran the backhoe, compactor and roller.

He later went to work for **Top Grade, RGW, Granite, Pavex and Kiewit**. He loved running the compactor and building pads, and spent the last eight-and-a-half years of his career running an elevator, which he also enjoyed.

Now that he is retired, he stays very active in Veterans Helping Veterans Brotherhood, a group that assists homeless and hungry veterans and also helps veterans with their benefits. The group started with just seven people and now has over 140 members.

Balderrama has a 1958 Chevy, which he drives for special events like Armed Forces Day and other veterans’ parades. He also shows the car at fundraisers to help charitable causes like the Wounded Warrior Project.

Balderrama is thankful for everything the union has done for him.



Retiree Juan Balderrama was a helicopter crew chief during the Vietnam War.

## Mudslides mean rehab projects

Spring is here, and it looks to be a good year for our district. Due to the fires in the North State and the hard wet winter, there have been many slides, so we can expect a lot of rehab projects.

We hope everyone had a good time at the Seafood Feast. It

was great to get together with old friends, make some new ones, sit around and tell stories of days gone by and plan for new ones in the future. Thank you to all who helped make this an event to remember and one we look forward to each and every year.



Caltrans Maintenance Worker Carlson Kaine is part of the crews clearing roads after recent slides.



Caltrans Construction Equipment Operator (CEO) II Jeff Smith uses a loader to clear the road after a slide.



Member Jerry Jordan carries one of approximately 200 loads of dirt as he clears the highway.



Lead Worker Jaime Kelly is part of the Willow Creek Caltrans crew.



Kim Herkert, wife of member Harry Herkert, was a winner during the donation drawing at January’s Seafood Feast.



Cindy Roman, wife of member Ron Roman, sits with one of the coveted Redwood bears carved by Jack Birdwell at January’s Seafood Feast.



## Retiree gives back throughout his career and retirement

We had our annual Utah Apprentice Meeting in January, and the apprentices learned how our union, the Apprenticeship Program, their Fringe Benefits and collective bargaining work. The meeting was very interactive, and many questions were answered. Nearly 50 apprentices attended, and breakfast was provided through a partnership with the Workers Compensation Fund (WCF) of Utah. This year, we also had Utah Job Services' **Darci Burnett** explain how to file for unemployment benefits during time spent in training. We were also joined by Rec.-Corres. Secretary **Jim Sullivan** and OE Federal Credit Union Branch Manager **Marianne Hurst**. Both spoke to our apprentices and answered their questions. Former apprenticeship graduate **Hunter Longhurst** and recent Retiree **Glenn Smith** told the apprentices what the union and the Apprenticeship Program has done for them and their careers since becoming journeymen operators.

It looks like it's going to be a busy year in Utah. Our annual Town Hall Meeting is April 5, when our staff will be at the Davis Conference Center in Layton. The next ones are on April 6, at the High Chaparral in Spanish Fork, April 7, at the Ramada Inn in Price and April 9 at the Washington Historical Museum in Washington. We look forward to seeing you at one or more of these events.

Remember to get in contact with the Joint Apprenticeship Training Center (JATC) at (801) 664-6934 and schedule your Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA), MSHA Refresher, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 10, First Aid/CPR or any equipment training. This is a good time to learn new skills or get on some different equipment.

### *Retiree spotlight: Craig Smith*

Before joining Local 3, 45-year member and Retiree **Craig Smith** was working as a laborer for **Poulson Brothers Construction**, which also owned **Acme Crane Rental Company**. His talents and work ethic were noticed by some of the crane operators, and in September of 1970, with the help of **Acme** employee **Mace Johnson**, he got his first dispatch as an oiler. He quickly moved up to operating the smaller cranes and eventually operated lattice boom cranes. He is quick to point out how fortunate he was to work with experienced crane operators who were willing to share their knowledge with him. Some of

those crane operators included **Blaine Hall**, **Ralph Hamlin**, **Dick Stam** and **Claude Lish**.

Smith went on to operate cranes for the next 32 years, working for **Acme**, **Shurtleff & Andrews** and **Olsen & Beal**, and is one of those rare individuals who makes it look easy to operate any crane. He is known for bringing out the best in people, and everyone enjoyed working with him. He would gladly share any knowledge he had with less-experienced operators, and those who were lucky enough to work with him became better prepared for the responsibility of operating cranes and doing so safely.

Smith is proud of his Local 3 membership and says it's been good to him through the years. To show that appreciation, he has always stayed active in the union. He served as District 12's Executive Board member from the mid '90s until his retirement in 2002 and trained dozens of our National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO) candidates after his retirement. From 2002 to 2013, he conducted written study classes and administered practical exams, always making the new candidates feel comfortable in a stressful situation.

Smith enjoys hunting in the Intermountain West and has also traveled to Alaska and Canada on hunting trips. He also enjoys fishing, camping and riding his Polaris Razor every chance he gets. He and his wife, Sue, have been married for 33 years. The two of them have been going on cruises every two years since 1997 and plan on going even more now that she is also retired.

We hope Smith and his wife enjoy many more trips together and want to thank him for his service and dedication to our union. We honor him as a highly respected leader in the field who always led by example.



*Retiree Craig Smith.*

## Candidate interviews underway

Work is still going even though the rain is here, and this year is looking very promising for our hard-working members in Napa and Solano counties.

**Hess Construction** is nearing completion on the \$1.7 million Soscol recycled water pump station's north-south split project, which should double deliveries of recycled water from the Napa Sanitation District's recycled water plant. The company is rebuilding a new pump station, adding to the existing one and putting in a 24-inch pipeline for recycled water, new pumps and new electric controls. Once completed, water will be pumped in both directions: north for the Napa side of town and south for American Canyon. Work began last July and is expected to finish in March. However, this is just one part of this big project.

Our members with the Napa-Solano Central Labor Council (CLC) have started interviewing candidates running for elected office within our district. In these interviews, candidates are asked strategic questions so we can know where they stand on

the issues affecting our membership and labor generally. The process helps Local 3 determine which candidates deserve our endorsements, as this year is packed with many different races that could impact us as union members. We ask that all members get involved at one level or another and take advantage of volunteer opportunities with our Voice of the Engineer (VOTE) program. You can earn prizes for hours donated. Phone banking is one good way to work alongside your Local 3 brothers and sisters who care about the direction politics could take us. There are also precinct walks, which bring our message to the public's doorsteps. However you choose to help, your involvement will get the right people in office.

We offer a great big thank you to **William "Bill" Pursel** for his 10 years of service as a Political Action Committee (PAC) member and his work as a gradesetting instructor for our district. Congratulations to him on his recent retirement!



## PLA signed for work at The Geysers

Cleanup after the Valley Fire is winding down ahead of schedule and without incident. This is due, in large part, to the many years of experience that **Pacific States Environmental** and our members working for the company have in the field. At the peak of the job, over 20 apprentices and 180 Operating Engineers were onsite, spread out from where the fire started to where the firefighters stopped it. After finishing cleanup on the Jericho Fire, another devastating fire in Lake County, members working for **A. J. Diani Construction** joined crews with longtime signatory contractors **Ghilotti Bros.** and **Engelke Construction**. New signatory contractor **Dutch Contracting** also contributed.

A large part of the workforce was provided by local contractors **Coleman Construction**, **Fossa's Backhoe Service**, **Machado Brothers**, **Pluim Environmental** and **Richter Construction**, just to name a few, that had signed with Local 3 for this cleanup. For many of them, this was their first experience with the union, and we made every effort to make it a good one.

The cleanup effort was also a chance for Hazmat-certified apprentices to go to work, and that they did. From first-step to fifth-step, apprentices came from almost every district in Local 3's jurisdiction. For more on this, see the back page.

In the aftermath of the Valley Fire, the Building Trades and Operating Engineers Local 3 have entered into a Project Labor Agreement (PLA) with **SPX Cooling Technologies** for the rebuild of Calpine's cooling towers at The Geysers, which were destroyed in the fire. The work covers the following units: Sonoma (Unit 3), Quicksilver (Unit 16), Socrates (Unit 18) and Grant (Unit 20). These projects are located in Lake and Sonoma counties, and the work will go through the end of this year. This project is another example of the important contributions our members make in the ongoing rebuild efforts after the devastation.

The Valley Fire cleanup required Hazmat-certification, and

that raises the questions for next work season, "What's in your wallet?" and, "Do you have the right certification for the job?" The Operating Engineers Local 3 Journeyman and Apprenticeship Training Center (OE3 JATC) in Sacramento County offers classes for many of the certifications that are needed for today's Operating Engineer. Call the Hall for more information.

Outside the burn zone, the work picture is looking strong for our district. Our signatory contractors are reporting a large backlog of work, both public and private. Here are just a few projects in the pipeline: **Ghilotti Construction** is preparing to break ground on a large subdivision in Rohnert Park, **Terracon Pipeline** and **Team Ghilotti** have been awarded street infrastructure replacement projects in Santa Rosa and Rohnert Park, and **Argonaut Constructors** has a mix of street jobs and subdivision work throughout Sonoma County.

Politics are a very important part of what the Operating Engineers do, as evidenced by the Santa Rosa Junior College Bond Issue (Measure H) and Santa Rosa High School Bond Issue (Measure I). Your Political Action Committee (PAC) supported these measures, worth over \$500 million, with the result being that now the work picture for schools is looking strong. Please take the time to look at your district's recommendations when they come out. Measures you vote for fund the very jobs you work on.

Remember that our union brothers and sisters working for Caltrans have been busy throughout the district keeping us all safe and dealing with road-flooding, mudslides and downed trees. Please take their safety into consideration in return. Slow for the Cone Zone and Move Over.

*Correction: In December's edition, Ghilotti Bros. was misidentified in this District Report.*



After the devastation of the Valley Fire, the cleanup effort created a strong demand for our highly trained, Hazmat-certified members.

OAKLAND

1620 South Loop Road, Alameda, CA 94502 ▪ (510) 748-7446  
District Rep. Mike Croll

## Get ready for a big year

There are big changes coming as we head into spring. Last year, we had record-lows on the out-of-work list and high numbers of dispatches, setting the stage for this year, which is predicted to be one of our busiest on record.

This is also an election year, and election season is going to be tough. Not only do we have a presidential election, but we have congressional, senate and local elections as well. Most of you have seen the Republican and Democratic debates with all of the candidates fighting hard to get into office. Local 3 and District 20 will also be working hard to get the right people, those who will support our union and our membership, into office. We want

these people to have our interests, goals and values in mind. We want candidates to rebuild America's greatness the way it was done before, with strong unionism. Therefore, we are calling on all of our members, family and friends to come out and give their support this year. We need all hands on deck.

Remember to utilize our training center to upgrade your skills and knowledge during these early spring months, as there is a lot of new technology out there.

Have a great spring, and we hope to see you at the next District Meeting on May 19. The meeting begins at 7 p.m. at Plumbers Local 159, 1304 Roman Way in Martinez.



## A farewell from our district rep. and union brother

The following is a letter from District Rep. **Ed Ritchie**:

Thank you, organized labor, and thank you, Operating Engineers Local 3! I could never say that enough or to all those deserving of my thanks. The opportunities that I have enjoyed were won and maintained by the involvement of so many working people, standing together to preserve and better the middle-class of this great country. I'm hoping it doesn't sound too dramatic, but I can't help wondering: Will the opportunities I enjoyed be there for my grandchildren?

Every day, the fight goes on to silence the voice of unions, as does our fight to keep being heard. I know, after being on the front line, that Local 3 is only as strong as its membership makes it, either through action or the lack of it.

The experience and privilege of working for this union and its membership has been, beyond any doubt, one of the most fulfilling jobs of my lifetime. It has given me an outlet to work on behalf of others and an understanding of unions, politics and people, with a focus on the good side of things while acknowledging the bad.

Thank you to Business Manager **Russ Burns** and the officers of Local 3. Thank you to the members of Yuba City District 60. Thank you to the old-timers for making this possible, and a special thank you to our district staff.

This year's work picture looks even better than last year, and many projects have been bidding throughout the final quarter of 2015 and the first quarter of this year.

Buckle up and be safe!

Sincerely and always union proud,  
Brother Ritchie



Some of District Rep. Ed Ritchie's best union memories.

## **REDDING** | 20308 Engineers Lane, Redding, CA 96002 ▪ (530) 222-6093 District Rep. Bob Vanderpol

### Jobs lining up for work season

It's been a long, wet winter, and our construction hands are ready to go back to work. The weather has kept many of our Unit 12 members busy plowing snow and clearing slide debris, and we thank them for the work they do keeping our roads open and safe to travel on.

We should have a good amount of work to start the work season. **Steve Manning Construction** will be going "gang-busters" on the \$27 million Buckhorn project. Last year, crews moved over a million yards of material on the project. **Tutor Perini** has been busy all winter working on the \$125 million Antlers Bridge project, and with the projected finish date being this year, it will surely be all hands on deck.

**J. F. Shea** will be starting its \$25 million paving project on I-5 near Weed. The company has been working through the winter on a \$4.5 million bridge replacement project in Hilt and will also be starting a \$2 million paving job on Hwy. 299 near Ingot. **Meyers Earthworks** is performing site-work preparations for the Karuk Casino Project in Yreka. **C. C. Myers** has a little work left on the \$5.6 million Thomes Creek Bridge replacement project. **Knife River Construction** is doing the approach and paving work on the project.

As of this writing, **Golden State Bridge** is the apparent low bidder on a \$25.5 million bridge replacement project on I-5 south of Lakehead. **Tullis, Inc.** will be performing dirt work and paving on the project.

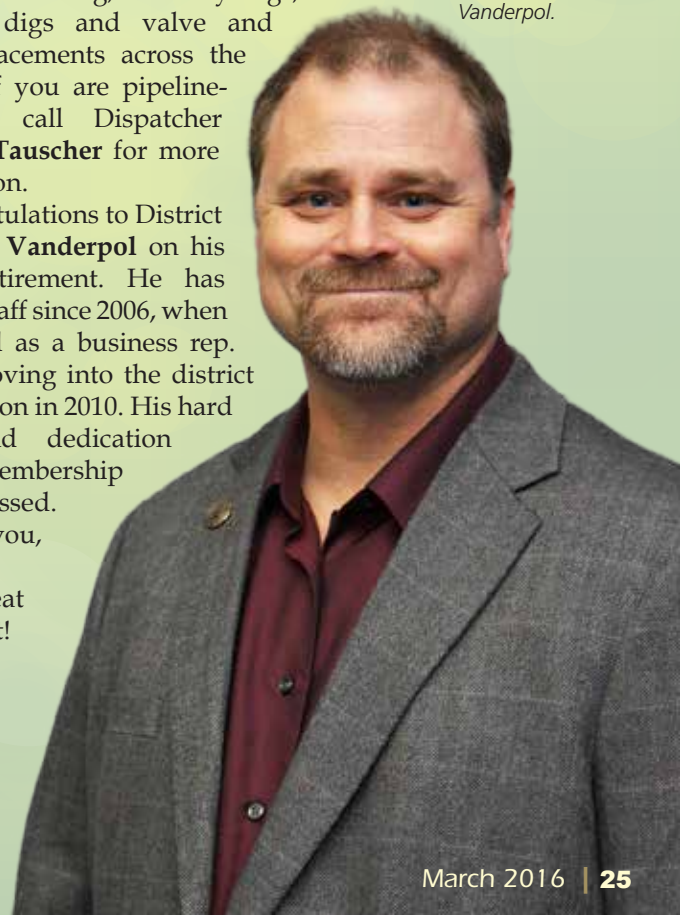
PG&E will be performing a fair amount of work this year

with hydro-testing, anomaly digs, integrity digs and valve and pipe replacements across the district. If you are pipeline-qualified, call Dispatcher **Michael Tauscher** for more information.

Congratulations to District Rep. **Bob Vanderpol** on his recent retirement. He has been on staff since 2006, when he started as a business rep. before moving into the district rep. position in 2010. His hard work and dedication to our membership will be missed.

Thank you, Bob, and have a great retirement!

Congratulations to new Retiree Bob Vanderpol.







# POLITICAL

We've done the research for you: YOU decide.

## CALIFORNIA U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Primary Election:  
June 7



### California Congressional District (CD) 17

**Congressman  
Mike Honda**

*Our endorsed  
candidate*



*"As the son of a sharecropper whose father was a member of the postal workers' union, and as a member of the teachers' union myself, I believe that protecting the rights and safety of working people is equivalent to protecting the well-being of our families and ultimately our future."*

– Congressman Mike Honda

*"Congressman Mike Honda has always been good to us, and we are behind him 100 percent!"*

– District Rep. Manny Pinheiro, Morgan Hill District 90

Congressman Mike Honda has represented his district well, as voters have repeatedly elected him to Congress since 2001. There is a good chance you are currently working on or have worked on projects that were made possible because of his support.

Local 3 endorses Mike Honda for Congressional District CD 17 because he:

- Has a pro-union AFL-CIO lifetime score of 98 percent
- Secured \$900 million in Federal funding for the Bay Area Regional Transit (BART) extension project, creating 13,000 jobs throughout Silicon Valley
- Supported all transportation measures backed by Local 3
- Voted in favor of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, a transportation infrastructure bill
- Voted to protect public employees' collective bargaining rights
- Voted in favor of the Water Resources Development Act
- Voted against efforts to prohibit funding for jobs done under Project Labor Agreements (PLAs)
- Supported the Employee Free Choice Act



### California Congressional District (CD) 20

**Jimmy Panetta**

*Our endorsed  
candidate*



*"I am devoted to serving the diverse people in our communities... and I will work to preserve the quality of life we enjoy on the Central Coast."*

– Jimmy Panetta

Monterey County Deputy District Attorney Jimmy Panetta, like his father (former Congressman and Director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Leon Panetta), has a long record of service to his community and his country. In the military, he served as an Intelligence Officer with the United States Navy Reserve and on a Special Operations task force deployed to Afghanistan. He was awarded a Bronze Star for his service and was the 2015 Veteran of the Year.

Local 3 endorses Jimmy Panetta for CD 20 because he:

- Will use \$305 billion of federal money coming in the next five years to pay for local road maintenance and construction
- Backed a half-cent sales tax to pay for Hwy. 1 auxiliary lanes and local road maintenance
- Wants construction projects around area transit hubs to increase affordable housing along the Central Coast
- Will ensure developers receive federal tax credits to increase housing development



**ON THE ISSUES**



**How do the current presidential candidates really feel about unions?**

**Hillary Clinton:** "When I'm president, we're going to stand up for unions. We're going to make sure they can organize for fair wages and good working conditions."



**Ted Cruz:** "Gov. Walker... bravely took on the unions to pass important right-to-work legislation."



# PERSPECTIVE

## UTAH U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Primary Election:  
June 28



**Utah  
Congressional  
District (CD) 4**

**Doug Owens**  
*Our endorsed  
candidate*



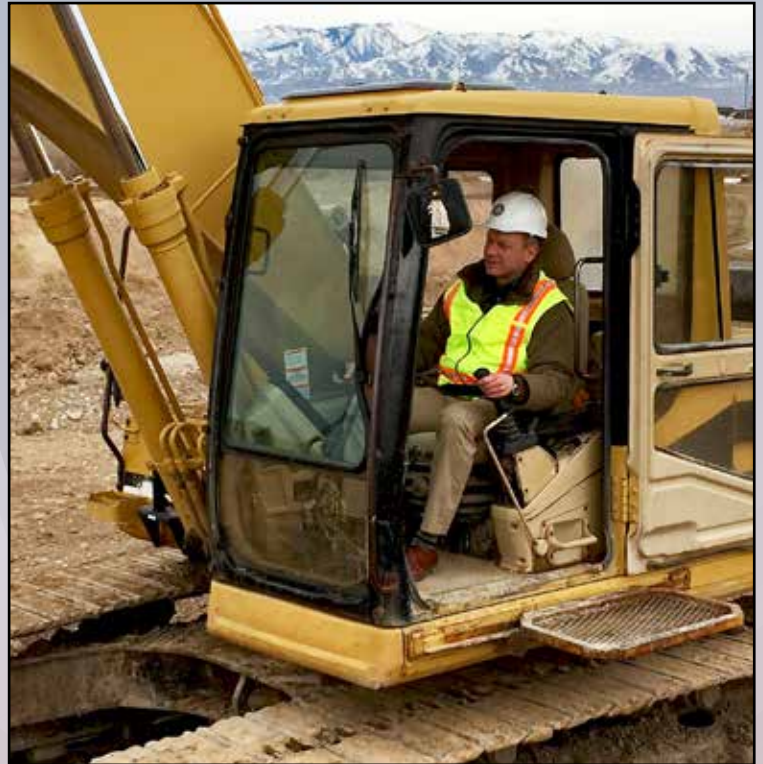
*"Creating good jobs and strengthening our economy is central to restoring the American Dream."*

– Doug Owens

With more than 25 years of experience as a highly respected member of the community, Doug Owens understands what role those in elected office can play in ensuring the creation of good jobs. He is a sixth-generation Utahn and the son of Congressman Wayne Owens, who represented Utah in the '70s, '80s and '90s. Having learned from his father's public service and his own experience raising his family in Utah, he understands how important it is that division and extremism give way to true concern for the working people of Utah. Operating Engineers Local 3 endorses Doug Owens for Congress because, unlike his opponent, former actress and current Congresswoman Mia Love, he is not seeking the national spotlight through divisive party politics but is truly interested in representing his local district.

Local 3 endorses Doug Owens for CD 4 because he is committed to:

- Strengthening our economy by investing in our nation's crumbling infrastructure
- Putting Utahns back to work repairing and upgrading our highways, bridges, airports and mass transit systems
- Addressing the decades-long stagnation of middle-class wages as a serious problem that impacts all of us



**Bernie Sanders:** "We understand that when unions grow, the middle class grows, and when the middle class grows, America does well."



**Marco Rubio:** "I oppose card check and any efforts like the Employee Free Choice Act (EFCA) to tip labor law in favor of unions ..."





# POLITICAL PERSPECTIVE

## CALIFORNIA STATE ASSEMBLY

### Fresno Area Special Election: April 5



**California State  
Assembly District  
(AD) 31**

**Dr. Joaquin  
Arambula**

***Our endorsed  
candidate***

*"Every day, the people of my district show unbreakable optimism, a strong work ethic and a commitment to make a better life for their children. I will be their champion, make certain our voices are heard and fight tirelessly for a healthier Valley."*

- Dr. Joaquin Arambula, Emergency Room physician, medical director

A Special Election for Assembly District (AD) 31 will be held April 5 to fill the unexpired term of former Assemblyman Henry T. Perea. Early voting is happening now, so be sure to mail in your ballot as soon as possible!



Local 3 endorses Dr. Joaquin Arambula in the April 5 Special Election because he:

- Is committed to protecting pensions and defending unions from anti-labor legislation
- Will invest in infrastructure for water storage and retention, including projects to recharge our aquifers and build dams
- Supports High-Speed Rail (HSR)
- Will create jobs by investing cap and trade dollars locally

## NEVADA

Information on the Nevada races will be available in the coming weeks and months. Keep reading here, and check our website at [www.oe3.org](http://www.oe3.org) for the most current information.

## HAWAII

Hawaii's Primary Election is Aug. 13. Closer to election time, we will have more comprehensive information about the candidates and their positions. We will keep you up-to-date as the election approaches. Keep reading here, and check our website at [www.oe3.org](http://www.oe3.org) for the most current information.





# Making the crossing

By David Jake, business representative

Our Unit 12 members with the Department of Transportation (DOT) are responsible for the operation and up-keep of two ferries, the J-Mack and the Real McCoy II, located in the Sacramento Delta. Both ferries operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and are free to the traveling public.

The J-Mack ferries cars and farm equipment across Steamboat Slough, connecting Grand Island to East Ryer Island. This 400-foot crossing is considered an extension of Hwy. 220 and takes approximately three minutes to cross. The cable-drawn J-Mack is 92 feet long, 32 feet wide and capable of carrying six vehicles. It leaves the dock as soon as cars and passengers are loaded.

The Real McCoy II operates like the J-Mack but provides services crossing Cache Slough from Ryer Island to Rio Vista, a crossing considered to be an extension of Hwy. 84. The Real McCoy II is 88 feet long, 38 feet wide, powered by a hydraulic propulsion system and has 360-degree propellers for steering. The ferry can carry up to eight vehicles and makes a crossing

every 20 minutes. At the time of this writing, the Real McCoy II was in dry dock for maintenance and upgrades.

If you are ever out driving in the Sacramento Delta, take advantage of the J-Mack or the Real McCoy II. It's free!

Crewmembers from the J-Mack include, from left, Brian Barbarick, Al Perez and Nick Duncan.



## OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL UNION No. 3

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

Recording-Corresponding Secretary James K. Sullivan

Dear brothers and sisters:

As you all know, our local union is large and encompasses four large states. All official union business will be conducted at each district's quarterly District Meeting, as approved by the Executive Board.

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

If you are interested in becoming a PAC member or subcommittee member, the business manager strongly encourages you to attend your first quarter District or Town Hall Meeting (see page 30 for meeting dates and locations), so that you may be nominated and then elected.

Fraternally yours,

Jim Sullivan  
Recording-Corresponding Secretary

## Proof of Voter Registration for all Political Action Committee (PAC) Nominees

To be eligible to hold office, all Political Action Committee (PAC) nominees must bring a copy of voter registration proof to the District Meeting at which nominations take place. You can obtain this proof by going to your county Registrar of Voters' or county clerk's office. If you are unable to bring it to the District Meeting, you may fill out a voter registration card at the meeting, before it begins. You may also fill one out online prior to the meeting (and print a copy of it) by finding your state's voter-registration link on our website at [www.oe3.org](http://www.oe3.org).

## 2016 Political Action Committee Election

Rec.-Corres. Secretary Jim Sullivan has announced that in accordance with Article X, Section 9 of the Local Union Bylaws, the election of Political Action Committees (PACs) will take place at the first District Meeting of 2016 in each respective district. No Member shall be eligible for election, be elected or hold the position of PAC Member:

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

The schedule of meetings at which these elections will be held can be found on page 30.



# REMINDERS MEETINGS

## 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 84<sup>th</sup> 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 84<sup>th</sup> 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.

## 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.

## 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.

## SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING

Rec.-Corres. Secretary Jim Sullivan has announced that the next Semi-Annual Meeting of the membership will be held on Sunday, March 20, 2016 at 1 p.m. at the following location:

**Solano County Fairgrounds**  
900 Fairgrounds Dr.  
Vallejo, CA

## DISTRICT MEETINGS

*All meetings convene at 7 p.m.*

### MARCH 2016

7<sup>th</sup> District 17: Laie  
Laie Courtyard Marriot  
55-400 Kamehameha Highway

15<sup>th</sup> District 12: Sandy  
Operating Engineers' Building  
8805 South Sandy Parkway

16<sup>th</sup> District 11: Reno  
Operating Engineers' Building  
1290 Corporate Blvd.

### APRIL 2016

No meetings scheduled.

### MAY 2016

10<sup>th</sup> District 11: Reno  
Operating Engineers' Building  
1290 Corporate Blvd.

10<sup>th</sup> District 40: Eureka  
1330 Bayshore Way, Ste. 103

11<sup>th</sup> District 70: Redding  
Operating Engineers' Building  
20308 Engineers' Lane

12<sup>th</sup> District 12: Sandy  
Operating Engineers' Building  
8805 South Sandy Parkway

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

17<sup>th</sup> District 50: Clovis  
Veterans Memorial District  
453 Hughes Ave.

17<sup>th</sup> District 80: Sacramento  
Operating Engineers' Building  
3920 Lennane Drive

18<sup>th</sup> District 04: Suisun City  
Veterans Memorial Building  
427 Main St.

18<sup>th</sup> District 90: Morgan Hill  
Operating Engineers' Building  
325 Digital Drive

19<sup>th</sup> District 01: Burlingame  
Machinists Local 1781  
1511 Rollins Road

19<sup>th</sup> District 20: Martinez  
Plumbers Local 159  
1304 Roman Way

24<sup>th</sup> District 10: Ukiah  
Hampton Inn  
1160 Airport Park Blvd.

24<sup>th</sup> District 30: Stockton  
Operating Engineers' Building  
1916 N. Broadway Ave.

## TOWN HALL MEETINGS

### MARCH 2016

8<sup>th</sup> District 17: Kauai  
Meeting: 6 p.m.  
Kauai Beach Resort  
4331 Kauai Beach Drive, Lihue

9<sup>th</sup> District 17: Hilo  
Meeting: 6 p.m.  
Hilo ILWU Hall  
100 W. Lanikaula St.

10<sup>th</sup> District 17: Kona  
Meeting: 7 p.m.  
Sheraton Kona Resort and Spa  
at Keauhou Bay  
78-128 Ehukai St.

11<sup>th</sup> District 17: Maui  
Meeting: 7 p.m.  
Maui Arts and Cultural Center  
One Cameron Way, Kahului

### APRIL 2016

5<sup>th</sup> District 12: Layton  
Dinner: 6 p.m.; Meeting to follow  
1651 N. 700 W., Layton, UT

6<sup>th</sup> District 12: Spanish Fork  
Dinner: 7 p.m.; Meeting to follow  
High Chaparral (Rodeo Grounds)  
475 S. Main St., Spanish Fork, UT

7<sup>th</sup> District 12: Price  
Lunch: noon; Meeting to follow  
Ramada Inn  
838 Westwood Blvd., Price, UT

9<sup>th</sup> District 12: Washington  
Lunch: noon; Meeting to follow  
Washington City Historical  
Museum  
25 E. Telegraph Road,  
Washington, UT

### MAY 2016

No meetings scheduled.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## UPCOMING PICNIC INFORMATION

*District 60: Yuba City Picnic Details*

Sunday, April 24, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Butte County Fairgrounds, 199 E. Hazel St., Gridley

Menu: Chopped brisket, pulled pork, barbecue beans, potato salad, rolls, coleslaw, water, soda and beer

Cost: Retirees: \$5; Adults: \$10; Children 10 and under: Free

\$10 presale (\$12 at the door)

## DISTRICT PICNIC SCHEDULE

Burlingame District 01:	Sunday, May 15
Fairfield District 04:	Sunday, May 15
Rohnert Park District 10:	Saturday, May 14
Nevada District 11 (Sparks):	Saturday, June 4
Nevada District 11 (Elko):	Saturday, June 18
Utah District 12 (Riverton):	Saturday, June 4
Hawaii District 17 (Big Island):	Saturday, June 18
Hawaii District 17 (Kauai):	Saturday, July 30
Hawaii District 17 (Oahu):	Saturday, Sept. 24
Hawaii District 17 (Maui):	Saturday, Oct. 1
Oakland District 20:	Saturday, June 4
Stockton District 30:	Sunday, May 1
Fresno District 50:	Saturday, May 14
Yuba City District 60:	Sunday, April 24
Redding District 70:	Saturday, June 18
Sacramento District 80:	Sunday, May 15
Morgan Hill District 90:	Saturday, May 21

## HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

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

The following Retirees have 35 or more years of membership in Local 3 as of January 2016 and have been determined eligible for Honorary Membership effective April 1, 2016.

Ronald G. Hansen	1870337
District 80: Sacramento	
Edward D. Johnson	1872460
District 99: Out of Area	
Scott Keene	1858310
District 12: Utah	
Bret H. Lyons	1829311
District 90: Morgan Hill	
Raymond J. Mangini	1872319
District 01: Burlingame	
Ismael Ochoa	1447133
District 30: Stockton	
David E. Phillips	1855319
District 11: Nevada	
Edward L. Pruett Sr.	1750433
District 99: Out of Area	
Joseph White	1487927
District 04: Fairfield	



Your participation benefits the  
OE3 Scholarship Foundation.

Prices are per person, cruise-only, based on double occupancy. Air is additional. All categories subject to availability at time of booking. Blackout dates, restrictions, fees, taxes and other terms may apply. Princess ships' registry: Bahamas CST#2079194-10



Operating Engineers Local 3

## 2016 Cruise

Join us on an unforgettable voyage along Alaska's famed Inside Passage, sailing roundtrip from San Francisco.

10-night Alaska Cruise

Grand Princess | August 29 2016

Sail roundtrip from San Francisco to Haines, Sitka, Juneau, Ketchikan and Glacier Bay National Park.

Fares from \$1249 per person

For more information or to book, contact:



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(650) 373-4406  
gail.gomes@frosch.com

*Your choice for today –  
Your legacy for tomorrow*

OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL UNION NO. 3  
**SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION**

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](http://www.oe3.org/about/scholarship/donation.html)



# Your Bylaws Committee members

**Burlingame District 01: Daniel Rosas**

**Years of service as a Local 3 member:** 39

**Experience:** Former Construction Equipment Operator (CEO), Heavy Duty Repairer (HDR), foreman and superintendent at an asphalt plant, Cement-Treated Base (CTB) plant and rock crushing plant

**Reason for being on this committee:** "I can do an honest job."

**Fairfield District 04: Mark Burton**

**Years of service as a Local 3 member:** 37

**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; Retiree Chapter Chair; Bylaws Committee member (District 04); served on Solano County Civil Service Commission

**Reason for being on this committee:** "To stay active with the union and make sure any changes to the Bylaws work for all of the membership of this local union."

**Rohnert Park District 10: Patrick O'Halloran**

**Years of service as a Local 3 member:** 40

**Experience:** Former CEO for 29 years; served on Geographic Market Area Committee (GMAC), Grievance Committee and Political Action Committee (PAC); was an Executive Board member and business rep.

**Reason for being on this committee:** "To ensure that any change to the Bylaws is to the benefit of the members of Local 3."

**Nevada District 11: Daniel Venters**

**Years of service as a Local 3 member:** 26

**Experience:** Former business rep.; attends union meetings regularly; Election Committee/ Bylaws Committee member

**Reason for being on this committee:** "I have always been, and still remain, interested in the welfare of our great union, so as a Retiree, this is one way to serve my brother and sister members and at the same time stay active in the union."

**Utah District 12: Kit Morgan**

**Years of service as a Local 3 member:** 27

**Experience:** Former HDR, business rep., senior rep., Utah Joint Apprenticeship Committee member (JATC), Utah JATC/Operating Engineers Health and Welfare Fund Trustee; served on the Executive Board for Utah American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) and Governors Advisory Board for Workforce Services

**Reason for being on this committee:** "As a longtime member, I want to stay involved in this organization and represent its members."

**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/ Bylaws Committee member; Voice of the Engineer (VOTE) volunteer

**Reason for being on this committee:** "I was involved with the union a lot before I retired. I continue to be involved in whatever way I can contribute service to this great union."

**Stockton District 30: Tacho Zavala**

**Years of service as a Local 3 member:** 50

**Experience:** Former CEO, gradesetter and foreman; PAC/Executive Board member

**Reason for being on this committee:** "It is a privilege and honor to serve the members of District 30 in any way that I can."

**Oakland District 20: Roy Petrini**

**Years of service as a Local 3 member:** 43

**Experience:** Former PAC member (District 20); studied technical writing and political science

**Reason for being on this committee:** "I am always ready to serve my union."



**First row, from left:** Daniel Rosas, Randy Stage and Kevin Brown.  
**Second Row, from left:** Roy Petrini, Dan Venters and Jerry Lee White.  
**Third row, from left:** Pat O'Halloran, Mark Burton and Richard Lacar.  
**Back row, from left:** Larry Braden, Tacho Zavala, Kit Morgan, Brian Bishop and Del Surette.



**Eureka District 40: Brian Bishop**

**Years of service as a Local 3 member:** 44

**Experience:** Former plant apprentice, crusher operator, dispatcher, business rep., safety director, district rep. and Bylaws Committee member

**Reason for being on this committee:** "Giving back to Local 3, to whom I owe a lot."

**Fresno District 50: Larry Wayne Braden**

**Years of service as a Local 3 member:** 51

**Experience:** Former dirt hand, job steward, Grievance Committee/Election Committee/Bylaws Committee/Executive Board member

**Reason for being on this committee:** "I think it's important that if there are changes, it's for the benefit of the membership."

**Yuba City District 60: Randy D. Stage**

**Years of service as a Local 3 member:** 31

**Experience:** Former ready-mix batchman, dispatcher, Retiree Association Chapter Chairman (District 60), Selection and Bylaws Committee member

**Reason for being on this committee:** "To continue to help our union to be as responsive to the members as possible and help continue the transparency of the governing process."

**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 training center and chairman of the Yuba County Democratic Central Committee; Bylaws Committee member

**Reason for being on this committee:** "To help my union in its struggle to protect its members!"

**Sacramento District 80: Del Surette**

**Years of service as a Local 3 member:** 38

**Experience:** Former HDR; instructor at International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) Job Corps.; HDR apprentice instructor; PAC/Bylaws Committee member; four-time VOTE Volunteer of the Year for District 80; Retiree Volunteer of the Year and 2012 Grassroots Volunteer of the Year; member of Democratic Party of Sacramento County Central Committee and four-time Democratic Assembly delegate. Served on Committee On Political Education (COPE) panels

**Reason for being on this committee:** "Unions are strong because members participate in this very democratic process. I want to participate."

**Morgan Hill District 90: Kevin Brown**

**Years of service as a Local 3 member:** 29

**Experience:** Former HDR, batchman, loader operator and Bylaws Committee/Election Committee member

**Reason for being on this committee:** "I owe so much to the union and to all the past work done by our brothers and what we stand for."

## Departed Members

Ako, Reynold  
Kailua Kona, HI  
District 17  
10-15-15

Blagg, Robert  
Sacramento, CA  
District 80  
12-19-15

Brown, James  
Escalon, CA  
District 30  
11-23-15

Debenedetto, Frank  
Fresno, CA  
District 50  
12-10-15

Dockter, Reuben  
Sacramento, CA  
District 80  
11-12-15

Etter, Raymond  
Honeydew, CA  
District 40  
12-04-15

Farner, Robert  
Tucson, AZ  
District 99  
11-23-15

Huston, Stanley  
Oroville, CA  
District 60  
12-02-15

Juarez, Manuel  
Provo, UT  
District 12  
10-22-15

Melson, Donald  
Novato, CA  
District 01  
12-14-15

Props, Royce  
Lavaca, AR  
District 99  
11-16-15

Strosnider, Dennis  
Dayton, NV  
District 11  
11-15-15

Viarengo, Mario  
San Mateo, CA  
District 01  
11-20-15

Wayman, Eugene  
Oroville, CA  
District 60  
10-22-15

## Deceased Dependents

Branscum, Zenaida.  
Spouse of Branscum,  
Erned  
12-29-15

Bruce, Leta Mae.  
Spouse of Bruce,  
Robert (dec)  
11-21-15

Bueno, Bernadad.  
Spouse of Bueno,  
Antonio  
12-10-15

Caumiant, Norma  
Jean.  
Spouse of Caumiant,  
James (dec)  
12-05-15

Cook, Marguerite.  
Spouse of Cook, Leroy  
(dec)  
12-17-15

Crosswhite, Sydney.  
Spouse of Crosswhite,  
Ed (dec)  
12-02-15

Crowson, Julie.  
Spouse of Crowson,  
Ronald (dec)  
12-08-15

Dennis, Clydene.  
Spouse of Dennis,  
James (dec)  
12-05-15

Dunbar, Kaisaun.  
Son of Dunbar, Allen  
12-12-15

Duncan, Dorothy.  
Spouse of Duncan,  
Bryan (dec)  
11-12-15

Eychner, Deborah.  
Spouse of Eychner, Jim  
11-29-15

Farwell, Jacquelyn.  
Spouse of Farwell,  
Edward (dec)  
12-05-15

Fox, Annabell.  
Spouse of Fox, Ted  
(dec)  
12-18-15

Hicken, Josie.  
Spouse of Hicken,  
Grant (dec)  
11-30-15

Hutchison, Margaret.  
Spouse of Hutchison,  
Robert  
12-08-15

Johnson, Bonnie.  
Spouse of Johnson,  
Edward  
12-27-15

Kekua, Angeline.  
Spouse of Kekua,  
Peter  
12-05-15

Morris, Barbara.  
Spouse of Wagner,  
Delmar (dec)  
11-17-15

Ortiz, Ramona.  
Spouse of Ortiz, Juan  
(dec)  
12-02-15

Riser, Hazel.  
Spouse of Riser,  
Martin (dec)  
11-26-15

Robbins, Jewel.  
Spouse of Robbins,  
Denzel  
11-21-15

Russell, Wynona.  
Spouse of Russell,  
Lloyd (dec)  
12-03-15

Sierra, Shirley.  
Spouse of Sierra,  
Richard (dec)  
11-18-15

Stanfield, Winona.  
Spouse of Stanfield,  
Phil (dec)  
11-19-15

Stever, Velma.  
Spouse of Grater,  
Charles  
11-27-15

Trapp, Peggy.  
Spouse of Trapp, John  
(dec)  
11-12-15

Tripp, Barbara.  
Spouse of Tripp,  
Ronald (dec)  
12-06-15

Wacenske, Pamela.  
Spouse of Wacenske,  
David (dec)  
11-21-15

Whitson, Marie.  
Spouse of Whitson,  
Ollie (dec)  
12-13-15

Yasutake, Ellen.  
Spouse of Yasutake,  
Haruo (dec)  
12-05-15

Young, Lucille.  
Spouse of Young,  
Bertus (dec)  
10-25-15





## Spring is here; get healthy!

As the days get longer and the weather gets better, it's a great time to think about what you can do to get healthier. If you're having trouble coming up with some ideas, here are a few for your consideration:

- **Get outside and move.** Get off the sofa, go outside and get some fresh air and sunshine. Take a walk with your spouse, friend or by yourself. Go for a hike or a bike ride. The important thing is to get moving!
- **Diet before exercise.** One of the easiest ways to start getting healthier is to start improving your diet. It's fairly easy to add some fruits and veggies, for example, and cut back on some sweets. Remember, if you start exercising, don't let that be an excuse to eat whatever you want; it's easy to negate the benefits of your activity with a donut and that sugary coffee drink!
- **Add healthy ingredients to your meals.** If you don't want to change your entire diet, start adding some healthy stuff to your usual meals. You can add finely-diced kale and carrots, or flaxseed to many recipes. For more ideas, visit [www.eatingwell.com](http://www.eatingwell.com).
- **Find a workout partner.** Get your spouse, friend or coworker to go on walks or runs with you, or meet you at the gym or a workout class. Having someone do it with you makes it fun and much easier, and you're more likely to show-up.
- **Have a checkup.** Take advantage of the Health Dynamics (HD) Unify Program. Call your Primary Care Physician (PCP), and schedule an annual physical. Call HD at (866) 443-0164, ext. 1, and request a program packet. Once you have your physical, HD will send you a personal health report via mail and help you set-up an appointment for a phone consultation with an expert health coach. Shortly after the consultation, you will receive a \$250 medical debit card in the mail. Not bad!
- **Drink red wine.** A glass of red wine can be healthy and add some pleasure to your new healthy lifestyle. A healthy lifestyle should be one that you enjoy, so add healthy foods you love, activities you enjoy and maybe an end-of-the-day wine ritual.

(See, it's not all bad!)

Visit the Trust Funds' website, [www.oe3trustfunds.org](http://www.oe3trustfunds.org) for information about health and Pension benefits. Visit [www.oe3.org](http://www.oe3.org) to get online copies of Engineers News you might have missed. Check both websites out today.

## You can get healthy and save money too!

The following services and tips can help both you and the Fund save money on health-care expenses for 2016.

### Watchdog

The Operating Engineers Health and Welfare Trust Fund, the Pensioned Trust Fund and the Utah Trust Fund have partnered with Anthem Blue Cross to create the Watchdog Service, which can help you locate the best doctors and facilities in your area and track the costs they charge.

Anthem Blue Cross representatives will provide you with the quality measures and costs of over 400 different medical and surgical procedures. They will also help determine your basic benefits and estimate any out-of-pocket costs, and you'll have all of this important information before you decide which steps to take next. All you have to do is call the toll-free numbers below.

- Operating Engineers Health and Welfare Trust Fund and Utah – (855) 279-2128
- Pensioned Operating Engineers Trust Fund (Non-Medicare members only) – (855) 229-7822

### Having surgery? Being referred to a specialist?

When you make an appointment to see a surgeon or specialist, ask if he or she participates in the Anthem Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) network. You can also call the Trust Fund Office at (800) 251-5013 or (510) 433-4422 to confirm that any provider is in the network, or visit Anthem's website at [www.anthem.com/ca](http://www.anthem.com/ca) to locate a participating network provider. Click on "Find a Doctor" and select the provider and location you're looking for.

If your doctor recommends care that requires the services of several different providers, specialists or facilities, make sure they're all in the Anthem PPO network.

Before any surgery, find out if an assistant surgeon, anesthesiologist or certified registered nurse anesthetist will be involved. If so, call the Trust Fund Office to see if the assistant surgeon's involvement is necessary and if any additional out-of-pocket expenses may result.

### Need lab work?

When you need laboratory or pathology tests performed, ask your doctor if you can use a Quest Diagnostics, Inc. (Quest) or Laboratory Corporation of America (LabCorp) facility.

Services at these labs can cost 70-75 percent less than the same services provided by hospital-based facilities and non-network labs. This means you can save the Fund \$75 for every \$100 worth of lab tests your doctor orders just by asking for Quest or LabCorp. For help finding the nearest facility, visit [www.anthem.com/ca](http://www.anthem.com/ca). You can contact Quest or LabCorp directly by phone or visit their website at:

- Quest: (800) 377-7220, [www.questdiagnostics.com](http://www.questdiagnostics.com)
- LabCorp: (888) 522-2677, [www.labcorp.com](http://www.labcorp.com)

### Generic medications – what a great idea!

Using generic medications instead of brand-name drugs will not only save you money, but will also help the Fund control the cost of prescription drug coverage. Generic medications must meet the same standards for safety, purity and effectiveness as brand-name medications, and on average, they can cost up to 50 percent less than their brand-name equivalent.

If you are taking a brand-name medication, find out if it has a generic equivalent. Talk to your doctor about the benefits of switching. You'll be glad you did!



Swap Shop ads are offered free of charge to members in good standing for the sale or trade of personal items and/or real estate. Please notify the office if your item has been sold. Business-related offerings are not eligible for inclusion in Swap Shop. *Engineers News* reserves the right to edit ads. Ads received by the 1st of the month will run the following month. Limit two ads per issue. Must be 60 words or less.

To place an ad, type or print legibly and mail to:

Operating Engineers  
Local Union No. 3  
3920 Lennane Dr.  
Sacramento, CA 95834  
ATTN: Swap Shop\*

Or call:  
(916) 993-2047, ext. 2506

Or fax ads to: Swap Shop  
(916) 419-3487

Or e-mail to:  
jmatos@oe3.org

\*All ads must include  
Member Registration  
Number.

FOR SALE: Retired Holt of California service technician mechanic's tools and tool boxes. For details and information call Ron at (209) 367-1142 or (209) 224-7697. Reg# 1737629.

FOR SALE: 40 acres w/1500 sq. ft. house. Two story, all fenced, 2 barns, 2 car garage, all haying equipment. 3 cows, 1 bull, live spring, bailer, swatter 3 hay sheds, \$270,000. Ready to ranch. (509) 486-0830. Reg# 1770647.

FOR SALE: 1980 Cadillac Seville sedan. Passed smog, has 100,000 miles. Asking \$1,500 or best offer. Call Willie at (559) 846-7411. Reg# 2335142.

FOR SALE: 2005 Alumaweld Stryker, 19'6" with 90 hp Honda outboard, 160 hours. Two brand new, in-box Scotty electric downriggers. Trolling bar holds 4 rods. Many extras and clean as a whistle. \$17,500. Call (707) 725-9610. Reg# 2335142.

FOR SALE: 2014 Wildwood 28' travel trailer with 4'X 12' slide out, built-in microwave, am/fm radio with CD player and built-in speakers, TV antenna, cable ready and still under warranty. Asking \$15,800. Call Don at (775) 772-2028. Reg# 2286014.

FOR SALE: 2001 Subaru Outback, all-wheel-drive, power windows and seats, 6 cd multi-player, cassette player, AM/FM radio - premium sound, luggage rack, new tires, extra clean, one owner, 2.4-liter engine, 187K miles, \$3,400 OBO. Call (209) 948-4060. Reg# 1768795.

FOR SALE: CAT D7 cable dozer w/BeGe pump, angle blade and rippers Double sheep's foot, \$2,000 obo. Single sheep's foot, \$700 obo. 6-foot cross-cut disc w/ new cutting blades, \$500. 500-gallon dual axle diesel fuel tank, \$2,000 obo. Call Randy (408) 316-3890. Reg# 1797514.

FOR SALE: 2 homes on 1 acre in the middle of hunting and fishing country in Montana. Each has 2 bedrooms and 1 bath. 1 large shop. Call (559) 977-7847. Reg# 1070212.

FOR SALE: 1988 21-foot Galaxy weekender with V-6 motor. \$3,800 or best offer. Call Rick at (209) 470-0959. Reg# 2487038.

FOR SALE: Pilates, Performer Exerciser. Three cord, on stand with chart, etc. Excellent condition, like new, in box. \$125. Call (209) 931-2058. Reg# 1022395.

FOR SALE: Dell laptop, 1.7 Intel Core 2 Duo, Windows Vista Premium with keyboard, 4GB, 800 MHz, 6X slot BluRay Combo DVD drive, 2.0 pixel web camera. HP Photosmart C7250 all-in-one printer included. Both come w/pamphlets, etc. Excellent condition, like new. Both \$400. Call or text (209) 931-2058. Reg# 1022395.

WANTED: 2000 to 2007 Chevy Silverado 4X4, no extra cab. (707) 442-5165. Reg# 1620480.

WANTED: Rifles, shotguns, pistols and ammunition. From one to a whole collection. (559) 351-6615. Reg# 2123273.

FOR SALE: Pair of loading ramps. 14" X 9' reinforced aluminum. Good for loading Bobcats, autos, tractors, etc. \$750. Call (510) 541-9183. Reg# 1155463.

FOR SALE: American Bulldog mix (not a pit bull!). 80 lbs. Female. Spayed, has shots and is house broken. HATES cats but good with other dogs and loves people. She is a sweetheart. Call Jane at (775) 401-1479. Reg# 1932952.

FOR SALE: Tahoe Beach & Ski Timeshare. FREE. 1 bedroom deluxe right on the lake. We don't use it anymore. E-mail brose1@netzero.com for details. Reg# 2077203.

FOR SALE: Behlen power steering unit for CAT motor grader, \$200. Track hookup tool, \$40. Metal strap banding tools, \$50. Call (530) 346-2918. Reg# 1271053.

FOR SALE: Colt Mustang XSP pistol, 2.75" barrel, 380 cal. semi-auto, MKIV Series 80, single action, brand new, \$600. Call Doug at (916) 899-0309. Reg# 1589193.

FOR SALE: 2013 enclosed 10' X 6' 1-axle trailer. Like new. \$2,300. Call Vic at (530) 923-4878. Reg# 1276105.

FOR SALE: 2010 39 ft. Montana Keystone travel trailer. Has 5 slide outs, washer and dryer, 12 gal. hot water heater, upgraded toilet, fireplace, flatscreen TV and can accommodate a king size mattress. \$45,000. Call (775) 217-0211. Reg# 2346457.

FOR SALE: Two 8' X 20' containers, one has a person door \$2900, \$2800 for the other. They are painted and in excellent condition. Call (775) 217-0211. Reg# 2346457.

FOR SALE: Tandem tow HD dolly/trailer, 5,000 lb. axle, (GAWR) 8,000 lb. towing capacity and ability to carry a larger car or truck and still carry a golf cart or ATV and a Harley or Gold Wing. Hydraulic brakes. Cost over \$5,000, selling at \$2,400. Call David at (209) 267-9331. Reg# 947078.

FOR SALE: 1964 2DR Chevy Impala Super Sport. Unfinished restoration. Must sell due to poor health. Has 1956 330CI DeSoto Hemi and 700R automatic transmission, but can be converted back to stock. Clean title. Needs interior finished. Asking \$17,000 as is. Price negotiable. Call Jim at (530) 357-3696. Reg# 1950181.

FOR SALE: 1996 Correct Craft Ski Nautique. 400 hours, wakeboard tower, bimini top, tandem trailer. Excellent condition! Ran in fresh water only and stored inside. \$10,800 or best offer. Contact Joe at (650) 400-6005. Please call after 5:30 pm on weekdays, or anytime on weekends. Reg# 2545548.

FOR SALE: 1988 Lincoln Mark VII LSC. Does not run. Excellent body, no dents or dings. Good for parts or could be restored. \$500 or best offer. Call Cedric at (916) 261-2952. Reg# 1840410.

FOR SALE: Home in Hayden, Idaho, 4,256 sq. ft. Upstairs: 3 bed, 2 bath, large kitchen, breakfast bar, forced heat & wood & gas, rock fireplace reaches tongue and groove ceiling. Downstairs: 2 entrance, 2 bed, 1 bath, office/exercise room, kitchen, forced heat and gas. 5.04 acre. Equestrian arena, barn, shop, orchard, RV parking, 2 car garage. (208) 755-0256. Reg# 1812603.

FOR SALE: Approx. 26 acres of bare land in Amador Co. (has an old building on it). Excellent location with easy access to Sac. & Lake Tahoe, Placerville, Jackson. Nice hideaway for camping or opening your own campground. (208) 755-0256. Reg# 1812603.

FOR SALE: 2001 Raptor 660 for \$2,500. 2004 TRX 400 EX for \$1,500. Call Robert at (559) 674-0721. Reg# 1709978.

FOR SALE: 18" Entek compaction wheel for cat backhoe. \$2,500. Call Alan at (209) 479-5146. Reg# 1774292.

FOR SALE: Diving board for in-ground pool deck. 10 ft. fiberglass board with 1/2 meter metal iron frame mount. Excellent conditions. \$400. Call or text (209) 931-2058. Reg# 1022395.

FOR SALE: 2003 Tahoe 5th wheel travel trailer toy hauler. Self-contained, has generator, gas station, microwave, air conditioning and three-year-old tires. Asking \$11,500 or best offer. Call Jack at (559) 906-8051. Reg# 4054478.

FOR SALE: Record collection, 93 boxes (50 in each). Lots of double picture albums, lots of country, rock and roll, blues, instrumental, soul, jazz, hard rock and party albums. Over 50 years of collecting. (530) 510-1534. Reg# 0827031.

FOR SALE: 1965 GMC 4000-series V6 with low wheel base, good body and new tires. Runs good. \$3,500 or best offer. Also selling Sears riding lawnmower with 42" cut. Good condition. \$500. Call Lonnie at (916) 991-1530. Reg# 0486196.

FOR SALE: Two Elite Traveler Go-Go scooters for the handicapped. Almost new! Regularly costs \$1,300. Asking \$300 for each or \$500 for both. Call William at (925) 699-0687. Reg# 1199157.

FOR SALE: 2 studed M&D new mounted aluminum 8 lug LT 16, \$300. KC SlimLite, new and in box, \$150. Cobra Pro 8000 GPS w/7" screen, \$250. 2 dash cams, \$25 each or \$30 for both. In Auburn area. Call (408) 672-8092. Reg# 2049636.

FOR SALE: 1.1 acres Rancho Tehama, Ca. west of Corning. Lot 373, 17127 Antelope Drive. Oak trees. Power pole in front. Paved roads & improved dirt roads. Area for mobile home/structure. Runway for small aircraft. Fishing/hunting. \$11,500 cash or trade half value and half cash. Call (530) 676-7063. Reg# 1697158.

FOR SALE: 1972 Ford F-100, 360 2bbl. 4-speed, long bed, power steering, two gas tanks. Solid. Owned for 32 yrs. Great for hauling, towing, farm, general truck use. Heavy duty bumper w/hitch, full-size tool box. Receipts for shocks, radiator, clutch, valve job, electronic ignition, like-new tires. \$2,300 (925) 899-2161. Reg# 2233664.

FOR SALE: Border collie; male, neutered, 4 years old, indoor/outdoor, family friendly, with shots. Needs new home; previous owner died. (209) 642-2064. Reg# 4048047.

FOR SALE: Records 33. 28 rock albums, '60s, '70s. \$90. 53 late '50s, '60s, '70s. Judy Garland, Frank Sinatra, Herb Alpert, big band. \$165. Black walnut slab natural edge 5' x 18" x 3" \$550 obo. (916) 725-8303. Reg# 2161164.

FOR SALE: 2004 R6 Yamaha motorcycle. 57,000 miles. Tune up and oil change done recently. Asking \$2,500 or best offer. Call (510) 224-7909 and ask for Kurt. Reg# 1866534.

FOR SALE: Thunderbird boat. Older 60s model, fiberglass tri-hull with 40 horsepower engine. Needs work. \$300 obo. Call Randy at (408) 316-3890. Reg# 1797514.

FOR SALE: Tractor parts. Three-point hookup, subsoiler, ripper and cultivator from \$250 to \$500. Call Lonnie for details at (916) 991-1530. Reg# 0486196.

FOR SALE: 1939 65-ft Charter fishing boat. Located in Moss Landing. V12-71 Detroit 1,000 gallons fuel, 8-ton hoist, lots of deck space. Must sell or trade. Call Mike (831) 801-4865. Reg# 2412455.

FOR SALE: Snowbird's park model w/Arizona room in Parker, AZ. Cleanest park on Colorado River. Rec. hall, pool, 2 hot tubs, pool tables. Fully furnished turn key, loft, new furniture & appliances, dual pane windows, 2 queen beds & bed in couch. Photos on request. \$105,000. Call (530) 877-3378. Reg# 1130324.

FOR SALE: Pool cleaner parts. Fits Zodiac Baracuda G3 or G4 - 3 diaphragms, 1 foot pad, 1 dual durometer disc. Most new, all \$40. Call (209) 931-2058. Reg# 1022395.

FOR SALE: 2003 Craftsman rider mower. Six speed, 42" deck, 18.5 ohv LT2000 Briggs and Stratton engine. Asking \$1,000. Cash only please. E-mail plessfamily4@sbcglobal.net or call (510) 224-7909 and ask for Kurt. Reg# 1866534.

FOR SALE: 2000 Ford Explorer XLT 4X4. Well maintained with new tires, new brakes front & back. Clean record. All maintenance services up to date. Has sunroof, power seats, air condition, keyless entry, cd player. Reliable transportation. 153,000 miles. \$3,500. Call (801) 423-6400 or text (702) 556-3523. Reg# 2603805.

FOR SALE: Two five-acre lots with water and power on half acre of property. Has septic tank permit and is ready to build on. Located on North Shore of Lake Camanche. Asking \$30,000. Call (209) 274-0249. Reg# 1087730.



# Apprentices kicking ash

A devastating fire swept through Clear Lake last year that destroyed over 1,000 homes, creating debris and disaster in its path. To combat its effects and provide essential clean-up, at least 20 apprentices joined hundreds of journey-level operators, once they received their Hazmat certification. They came from all over Northern California to provide help, including from Burlingame District 01, Fairfield District 04, Rohnert Park District 10, Stockton District 30, Fresno District 50, Redding District 70, Sacramento District 80 and Morgan Hill District 90. These apprentices include Brandon Magnussen, Jacob Ewert-Heckman, Danny Batterton, Robert Moreno, Alex Finau, John Griswold, James Walters, Samuel Barrett, Antonio Vega, Nicole Stephenson, Mathew Gibber, Damon Brown, Zachari Zinkovich, Domingo Holguin, Chris Boblitt, Musaqoi Young, Estefan Ramirez, William Talbot, Robert Carrillo and Joshua Yarnal.

Pacific States Environmental has had as many as 10 apprentices onsite, and A. J. Diani employed many apprentices, as well.

Second-step Apprentice Josh Yarnal was dispatched to the clean-up site in October and has a personal connection to the effort, as some of his family lives or has lived in the areas most affected.

"I'm glad to help and bring these places back to normal," he said.

Yarnal operated the skid-steer for A. J. Diani to remove ash and debris in the places the excavator couldn't reach. He finished in January and noted how rewarding the work was – just another reason why he enjoys his career.

"I love it," he said. "I haven't had a job I liked so much before – so many different places to work and so many different things to do."

Fourth-step Apprentice Chris Boblitt, a Santa Rosa native, was out on disability with a torn ACL when he signed up for a Hazmat class to be ready to help when he healed. His house was very close to the fires but thankfully wasn't affected. When he was dispatched to the clean-up site for Pacific States, he couldn't believe what he saw.

"There was nothing there; houses were just to the ground," he recalled.

One homeowner cried and hugged him for helping out – a memory he won't forget.

Boblitt also won't forget the day he was accepted into the Local 3 Apprenticeship Program. He was about to start working as an electrician, when he got the call after being on the waiting list for three years.

Today, he tells people all the time that they should join.

"I'm proud of it," he said, about his career and the work he has done on the fire clean-up.

We're proud of our apprentices for digging their heels in and kicking some ash.

*From left: Chris Boblitt, Jacob Ewert-Heckman and Matt Gage.*



*From left: Mathew Gibber, Danny Batterton, Damon Brown, Domingo Holguin and Joshua Yarnal.*

