

ENGINEERS *news*

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For The Good & Welfare

By Russ Burns, business manager

New ideas, positive changes

Let me begin by wishing each of you and your families a new year filled with peace and happiness. I also want to say thanks to the rank-and-file and all of our Local 3 staff for being so dedicated and involved in your union in 2006.

2007 has a lot in store for us at Local 3, beginning with new year's resolutions (see this month's *Health News*), a new union administration and new clout across our jurisdiction. You will see new faces in our district halls, new ideas brought forth from the field and new challenges to overcome. We also have an enormous amount of new public works projects ahead of us as a result of the \$36 billion mega-bond package approved in California.

As we move forward into 2007, we must maintain our voice in the **POLITICAL** arena. This is the voice of the Local 3 Operating Engineer – the voice that carried us through the November election. As this election and the many before it have taught us, we must adapt to current market trends and work together to be proactive, not reactive.

For the sake of a stronger union, we must keep the lines of communication open among our officers, staff and rank-and-file. And we must maintain our competitive edge with a strong focus on apprentice and journey-level **TRAINING** to meet the current and future demands of our industry. The officers and I have made a strong commitment to our training centers and the Local 3 Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC) since taking office in September. We have to make improvements in our technology and in the classes offered at our training centers in order to better serve you.

For those of you looking to upgrade your skills, I encourage you to call your district hall to find out more about the schedule of winter training classes. Training improves our skills, and our skills are the union's most important asset. Operating Engineers who are proud, skilled, productive and committed allow our contractors to finish their projects on-time and on-budget.

Our commitment to training is just as strong as our commitment to **ORGANIZING**, which is also a top priority for us in 2007. That old slogan "organize or die" is true, brothers and sisters. We have to organize to maintain and grow our market share.

In addition to training and organizing, Local 3's top priority in the new year is **SERVICING THE MEMBERSHIP** to the best of our ability. To do this, we are training our new district representatives and staff, continually monitoring our progress and doing everything we can to address your problems and concerns in the most efficient and effective way possible.

The new year also marks the beginning of our work with the **BYLAWS COMMITTEE**, which meets for the first time this month. Committee members were elected during this last round of first-quarter district meetings. The committee's first order of business will be to review the current dues structure – an issue I know many of you are interested in seeing addressed.

Other exciting changes at Local 3 include a redesign of the *Engineers News*, similar to the magazine-style format of the International's *Operating Engineer*. This change has been a long time in coming, one that will allow us to save money by printing the paper in our own print shop in Sacramento.

Along with the design change, we will be including a **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR** section in which you will be allowed to write in with questions, suggestions and comments. We heard from a number of members who feel including a letters section in the *Engineers News* is not only important but vital to the transparency of our union.

Also in the works is a complete overhaul of the Operating Engineers Community Action Team (OE CAT), with new and improved gifts for participating in the program – gifts you all will want and use on the jobsite (such as Carhartt jackets), as well as a new, more fitting name for our program: VOTE, which stands for **VOICE OF THE ENGINEER**. Changing the name of our program to VOTE is more appropriate to what this program is all about, and the new name seems to resonate well with the members we've talked to.

As I've said, this is an exciting time for our union. I believe the new ideas, opportunities and positive changes – all of which are a direct result of feedback from members in the field – will take this union to the next level. I look forward to the journey in getting there and hope you do too. Here's to a prosperous 2007.



Excavator Operator Jess Baker readies a bucket so Crane Operator Randy Fisher can begin lifting debris from below the Englebright Dam.9

Contents

Joint Apprenticeship Committee	4
Rancho Murieta	5
Safety	5
Fringe Benefits	6
Teaching Techs	7
Organizing	7
Credit Union	8
News & Notes	8
Englebright Dam	9
Contractor of the month	10
Tech News	12
Freeman-Sondgroth	12
District Reports	13
Meetings and Announcements	15
Swap Shop	18
District Reports	19

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In the News

Members picket Oakland City Walk Project

More than 150 Operating Engineers, Carpenters and union activists from the Alameda County Building and Construction Trades Council picketed in the rain last month at the site of a \$65 million housing project in downtown Oakland.

The protest took place on the City Walk Project at 14th and Jefferson streets for the undermining of wage standards and conditions against general contractor UPA California and project developer Olson Company.

"This is an area-standards picket," said Barry Luboviski of the Alameda County Building and Construction Trades Council. "Oakland residents expect profitable developers to respect community-wage standards and also respond to the need for affordable housing."

The five-story project, which is part of Mayor Jerry Brown's initiative to attract 10,000 new residents to the downtown area, includes 252 units over two stories of parking. The units will include lofts, flats and live/work spaces. About 2,400 square feet of retail space is planned for the ground floor.

Because of the companies' refusal to utilize skilled labor on the job, City Walk's first completed units will not come online this year as planned.

Picketing workers are concerned for good reason – first and foremost is their bounced paychecks; however, the extent of the bad check-writing is unclear at this time.

"We are also concerned about the health and safety conditions on the jobsite and the fact that the building's elevator operator is non-union," said Oakland District Rep. Pete Figueiredo.

The unions filed unfair labor practice charges with the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) and have been on the picket line a full week at the time of this writing.

Nearly 150 picketers, including Local 3 members and staff, are holding the line in hopes the two companies will face up to their wrongdoings and resolve these unacceptable, outstanding issues.

Stay tuned to *Engineers News* in the coming months for an update on the developments of this picket.



Local 3 members and staff joining 150 other picketers at the Oakland City Walk Project include members Roderick Braz, Brady A. Mem, Martin Simien, Richard Valentine and Armando Zapata, Oakland District Rep. Pete Figueiredo, business agents Luis Arias, Ken Burns, John Cullen, Ken Edgcombe, Abraham Fontanilla, Chris Snyder, Michael Strunk, Organizing Director Bruce Noel and Organizer Richard Marshall.



Talking Points

By Fred Herschbach, president

Including your input in 2007

Ever since we took office in September, I've felt like it's been the beginning of a new year already and definitely the start of a new OE3. Now that it's official, I can't help but look back on the past with excitement about what's happened so far and what's still ahead. All of it is good and will be good, brothers and sisters.

First and foremost for us all is the work, and the last-quarter work picture was sound. The winter hasn't been too harsh on us, and before you know it, spring will be here.

I've really enjoyed visiting with and listening to the members in the field, because it reminds me that just as large and great an organization as OE3 is, it is still built on every single member. As I return to my roots out in the field where I began and take the time to really listen to what members have to say, I identify with Local 3 on a very personal level, from the retirees, such as Alexander Bryce in Yuba City, who can't get enough time in the seat at 83-years old, to apprentices, such as James Brunson (see the JAC column on page 4) who has so much OE3 in his family, he had no choice but to join up. Because you see, it is each one of you, the individual member, who bands together to make the whole. And I am excited to work with you, to listen and learn from you.

I am also excited to be working with the members of our Bylaws Committee, which meets for the first time this month. More details to follow about their essential input.

Just as all of you are, I am getting educated on every aspect of the Trust Fund, including the pension, health and welfare and retiree health and welfare funds. We have had positive returns on our investments already, and things are moving in the right direction.

Many a retiree will tell you when they remember a time without any pension at all. I visit with them, and they have stories fit to fill novels about how the original pension was funded with a nickel. Their eyes light up when they talk about it, and it's important we listen to them and remember and honor where it is we came from, so we can appreciate where we're going. The retirees have a wealth of knowledge about the many layers of OE3, and I am tapping into their history and ideas with open ears.

That is one of many skills I hope to sharpen for the new year, and so far, I think this administration has done a good job of just that – listening. The *Engineers News* has long been a forum for what we can share with you about events, dates and ideas, but part of our transparency platform will soon include a Letters to the Editor section in the paper, so that the forum can now include your input.

As I mentioned, a new year makes people look back at what they've achieved or endured, but it also makes them look ahead with hope and anticipation of what's ahead. We can't get too proud of ourselves or too comfortable with the good things in life that we grow complacent and forget to dig in and move forward. I know we make many allusions to moving this union forward in a positive direction, and I think we've been successful so far, but I can assure you we will not sit back in contentment, for there is still much work to do and as a new year reminds us, time goes by quickly.

On a quarterly basis, we will be featuring news from the Local 3 Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC). Stay tuned for more JAC news in April.

NEWS FROM THE UTAH JAC

Spotlight: James Brunson

James Brunson is an eighth-period Heavy-Duty Repair (HDR) apprentice who has worked for Granite Construction since he was indentured. James has a good attitude and a great work ethic. He comes to work early, is eager to follow instruction and wants to learn.

James knew nothing about Operating Engineers until he met his wife, since his father-in-law, Shawn Craig, is an HDR Operating Engineer and a graduate of the apprenticeship program. His grandfather-in-law, DeVerl Craig, is also a retired



From left: Eighth-period HDR Apprentice James Brunson and HDR Mentor Jeremy Sisson.

Operating Engineer and HDR. Clearly, James' career decision was easily influenced!

Along with 60 hours a week of on-the-job training, James attends night school for his related training at Salt Lake Community College, four hours a session, twice a week during the months of September through April. Some of his completed courses include Diesel Engines, Basic Electrical, Basic Hydraulics, Power Trains and Preventive Maintenance. James credits his mentor, Jeremy Sisson,

for his success. Jeremy is a 12-year Operating Engineer and believes journey-level operators should take a big stake in helping train apprentices, for they are the future of this union. According to Jeremy, "If an apprentice wants to be successful, they have to have a good attitude, willing to work long hours, weekends, night shift and holidays, work in all types of weather and get their hands dirty."

The JAC sends special thanks to Jeremy Sisson for his extra efforts in helping James Brunson.

More news: The Moab Area Tailing Project is expected for release this spring. We encourage everyone to obtain their 40-hour Hazmat card.

Journey-upgrade training is available for dozer, scraper, loader, blade and grade-reading.

2007 Utah classroom-training schedule (please call for location)

40-hour/8-hour Hazmat	Jan. 29-Feb. 2	7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
40-Hour Gradesetting	Jan. 15-19	7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
GPS: Blade, Dozer and Hand-Rover	Jan. 29-Feb. 2	7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
24-hour Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA)	Jan. 31, Feb. 1 and Feb. 2	7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

March class dates available at www.oe3.org. Please call (801) 596-7785 to schedule your hands-on winter-training classes located in the Geneva Products West Valley pit. Enter the site at 5400 South and 6400 West.

NEWS FROM THE NEVADA JAC

Spotlight: Ken Gordo

Ken Gordo is a 32-year member of Local 3 and a third-generation Operating Engineer. His career in Local 3 began in June 1974 when he was dispatched to his first job as a new apprentice. He was working out of the Laborers Local 169 at the time while waiting for his number to come up on the Local 3 applicant list. The following is an account in his own words:

In June of 1974, I was 24-years old and single. I had a nice Harley Davidson motorcycle, and my older brother had a Corvette. We would swap vehicles on the weekends depending on the circumstances. Life was good and getting into Local 3 and being dispatched to a nice, little job here in Reno or maybe Lake Tahoe for the summer was going to be the icing on the cake.

My coordinator called me on Friday and told me to get down to the hall and get my dispatch before it closed. That way I could report to my new job bright and early on



Thirty-two-year member Ken Gordo

Monday morning in Elko – a town 300 miles northeast of Reno (for those who have never been there). I have to admit that it crossed my mind to turn this opportunity down. Essentially, I would be leaving what was shaping up to be the best summer of my life to go 300 miles away to work on a rock crusher. As I said earlier, I'm a third-generation Operating Engineer as are both of my brothers. If not for them, I might have made the wrong choice.

My apprenticeship was short but good. It was a 4,000-hour program then, and I made Apprentice of the Year at the beginning of my fourth period and graduated early. There was something of a log-jam of apprentices

coming up behind me, so our coordinator, Gail Stewart, gave three or four of us the boot. It was sink or swim time now! Actually, I was looking forward to being an apprentice for a while longer.

I suppose anyone who has made a career in Local 3 and began as an apprentice has had a few mentors – most notably of which for me is my father, Earl C. Gordo Sr. He has been a Local 3 member since 1958. His encouragement and example have been great assets to me. Another mentor is Ted Contri, the owner of Contri Construction Company. I worked for Ted as an apprentice, journeyman, foreman and superintendent for 21 years. He told me early on that you never learn anything from easy lessons. Also, Joe Krompotic, a pipe foreman, is another mentor I worked

for during my apprenticeship and early days as a journeyman. Joe was a great pipe man and the toughest leader I've ever known. I learned a lot from these people.

I've been in the Operating Engineers Community Action Team (OE CAT) program since it started. I've worked on political campaigns and was Volunteer of the Year in the Nevada District in 2003 and am currently on the District 11 Grievance Committee. I'm scheduled to retire in March 2007. If there is one word that I would leave with the young members coming behind me, it's INVOLVEMENT.

I love the work, the people, the dirt and diesel, and I'm going to miss them. Now, it's time to move on to the next phase of what has been a good life.

2007 Nevada apprenticeship/journey-level upgrade class schedule

Laser-blade (eight students maximum)	Nevada Training Site	Jan. 6, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Forklift Certification	Nevada Training Site	Jan. 10, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
GPS Dozer	Nevada District Hall	Jan. 11, 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.
	Nevada Training Site	Jan. 13, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Jan. 20, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Roadway Safety	Nevada Training Site	Jan. 20, 8 a.m. – noon
GPS Rover	Nevada District Hall	Jan. 24, 6 p.m. – 9 p.m., Jan. 27, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Feb. 3, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
10-hour OSHA	Nevada District Hall	Jan. 27, 7 a.m. – 5 p.m.
MSHA	Nevada District Hall	Feb. 3, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
40-hour Hazmat	Nevada Training Site	Feb. 5-Feb. 9, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
GPS Rover	Nevada District Hall	Feb. 7, 6 p.m. – 9 p.m., Feb. 10, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Feb. 17, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
First Aid	Nevada Training Site	Feb. 8, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
8-hour Hazmat Refresher	Nevada Training Site	Feb. 10, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
First Aid	Nevada Training Site	Feb. 24, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Commercial Drivers' License (CDL) training		(ongoing, call for details)

The Nevada District Training Site is located near Wadsworth, Nev. (26 miles east of Reno). For more information on Nevada District 11 apprenticeship/journey-level upgrade classes, including March and April classes, call (775) 575-2729. The complete class schedule is also available at www.oe3.org.



RANCHO MURIETA TRAINING CENTER

for Apprentice to Journey-level Operators
By Curtis Brooks, director

Making the grade

Many times our district representatives and business agents face the issue of others trying to do the work of the Operating Engineer – Carpenters on equipment, Laborers checking grade, etc. This is not acceptable.

The Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC) is focusing on the solution to this issue rather than the problem. A Carpenter wanting to run cranes, forklifts and what they call “tools of the trade” was a driving force behind ensuring all apprentices have appropriate forklift-training safety cards when they leave the training center.

Laborers setting grade on pipe, and in many cases, setting sub-grade is unacceptable. This is why the apprenticeship program is addressing the issue of making gradechecking an individual craft. While gradechecking is and has always

been a part of Construction Equipment Operator (CEO) training, we will now offer it as a career direction – similar to the lube and service-technician program.

I want to extend a big thank you to Rancho Murieta Training Center (RMTC) Asst. Director Tammy Castillo and Executive Secretary Karie Sutter for their diligence and hard work with the Division of Apprenticeship Standards (DAS) in preparing the proposal for gradesetting.

As we continue to address the issues of training and apprenticeship, we welcome the comments and concerns brought to us from the field. Being aware of the problem puts the solution in motion. Whenever possible, we will address the solution rather than the problem.

See you on the next one.

CCO PRACTICAL TEST

New CCO candidates and candidates who have passed the written portion of the CCO exam should contact Pauline McCullough at (916) 354-2029, ext. 225, to schedule an appointment or obtain CCO information on the Practical Test.

<i>Exam</i>	<i>Deadline for application</i>
Feb. 11, 2007	Dec. 29, 2006
April 29, 2007	March 16, 2007
June 24, 2007	May 11, 2007
Aug. 26, 2007	July 13, 2007
Oct. 21, 2007	Sept. 7, 2007
Dec. 9, 2007	Oct. 26, 2007



SAFETY

By Guy Prescott, director

Make safety personal in 2007

Happy new year to all! I wish each of you and your families the safest of years in 2007. I would like to tell you we made it through 2006 without any work-related accidents. Unfortunately, this is not possible.

It is the employer's responsibility to ensure you have the proper safety equipment and training. It is the employer's responsibility to comply with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations, to have written programs and to inspect the jobsite for hazards and correct them when found. This all sounds good, right? However, it is a little too easy to think the employer is responsible for safety, because the truth is, every time I look in the mirror, I am looking at the person who is most responsible for my safety. I must report unsafe equipment or conditions to the employer. I must follow the safety training and safety rules. I must ask questions when a situation or jobsite does not seem safe. I will be responsible for my safety today.

When I make safety personal, I will have a safe day. I ask each and every one of you to join me this year in making safety personal. Take responsibility for the safety of your work area. Report unsafe conditions. When something does not feel safe, ask questions. Be sure it is safe first and foremost. If you do not get any resolution about your safety concerns from the employer, talk with your agent. We are here to help.

Please join me in making 2007 the safest year on record for all our brothers and sisters in Local 3. Let's all go home safe, each and every day.

Please note: The winter training safety schedule for all states is available at www.oe3.org/safety/safety_dept.html, or call your local district dispatcher for class dates.

Upgrade your skills in 2007

2007! Can you believe it? Time must have picked up speed. Spare time? What's that? It's hard to think about adding more to the hustle and bustle of our lives, but we all need to keep upgrading our skills.

As mechanics, technology is going through the roof. New systems are all around us, as teams of engineers develop new ideas into systems and machines every day. These teams design a system, and if it fails, there you are as an Operating Engineer mechanic (many times by yourself) having to figure out what the design engineers did, what went wrong and how to fix it – all with a foreman breathing down your neck. Fun, huh?

Most troubleshooting starts with the basics. The fundamentals of electricity, hydraulics, engines and mechanical devices remain the same, but how the engineers manipulate the fundamentals can be baffling.

We have a tough road ahead of us. I encourage all heavy-duty repairers (HDRs) to upgrade their skills and get more training. Your local apprenticeships offer basic to advanced training. Also, check out the community or junior colleges in your area – they're fairly inexpensive (about \$20 a unit), and if you buy used books (which are usually in good shape), you can save money. I recently found a mechatronics program offered at Sierra Community College in Rocklin, Calif., that was a hands-on course for technicians. It covered

electric controls over mechanical systems. Sound familiar?

Many community colleges offer welding and automotive courses, and some (like Delta College in Stockton, Calif.) offer extensive diesel-engine courses. Many local community colleges offer courses for blue-collar working stiffs (yes, that's us).

I once had a student tell me he started a class at a local community college and had to drop it because of a shift change at work. He was upset he wasn't able to finish the course. I asked him what he learned from the class and then reminded him he's after knowledge, not a degree, and that anything he learns will only help him.

Starting and dropping classes isn't a good thing, but it's done all the time. If you start a class and find it's not what you expected or need, drop it. If it's early enough, you can get some or all of your money back.

Learning is part of a mechanic's makeup. We are the ones who ask how or why did it do that, and we want to know the details. We are the doctors of equipment, except we don't get a reply when we ask a machine, “Where does it hurt?” – or at least I haven't. If you have, we need to talk.

Our skills are our bread and butter. Let's hone them, and let's do it together.

Thank you for reading my articles. 2007 should be a great year!





FRINGE BENEFITS

By Charlie Warren, director

Health & Welfare Q&As

Happy New Year! A new year's resolution for all: Let's read the Operating Engineers *Health News* thoroughly each month.

We are fortunate to have excellent Health & Welfare plans at Local 3. Be sure to learn about yours by reading your Summary Plan Description. You can call the Fringe Benefits Service Center at (800) 532-2105 with any questions. To get started, below we offer some basics regarding the active Operating Engineers Health & Welfare California plan.

What is the Health & Welfare Fund? The Health & Welfare Fund provides eligible members and covered dependents with benefits, including coverage for medical (hospital, doctor, X-ray, lab, etc.), prescription drug, vision (Schedule A), dental and chemical-dependency treatment. The plan also provides burial and life-insurance benefits.

When am I eligible? You are eligible based on contributions explained below:

Hourly contributions. For initial eligibility, you generally need 330 hours reported within three or fewer consecutive months. You are then eligible the first of the following month and also the month after, with the balance of your hours in the bank. For example: If a member has a total of 330 hours reported in January, February and March, these hours will provide eligibility for April and May with 110 hours in the bank.

After initial eligibility requirements are satisfied, eligibility is on a "skip" month basis. 110 hours reported for a particular month gives eligibility for the skip month (work a month, skip a month, eligible a month). For example, 140 hours reported for April work will give June eligibility with 30 hours going to the bank.

Flat-rate contributions. Employees of contributing employers reported at a flat rate, including non-bargained office employees and company officers, normally establish initial eligibility the first day of the month following three consecutive months for which contributions were received. Each flat-rate contribution provides a single month of eligibility. Flat-rate contributions normally do not provide an hour-bank accumulation.

Owner-operator contributions. An owner-operator who signed to an approved owner-operator agreement but is not eligible based on payroll hours from an employer is eligible on the first day of the second month (skip month) following receipt of each payment to the Trust Fund office. Owner-operator contributions do not provide an hour-bank accumulation.

Minimum-required contribution rate. If an employer's contribution rate is less than the minimum-required contribution rate (AGC Master Rate), the member and his/her dependents will receive a reduced level of benefits.

Bank hours. Members establishing or re-establishing initial eligibility on or after July 1992 may bank up to 990 hours (nine months of coverage). Members with eligibility-effective dates before July 1992 may continue to bank up to 1,320 hours (12 months of coverage).

Who do I call to check my eligibility? It is the member's responsibility to keep track of his/her eligibility. Members may do so by calling the district office, Fringe Benefits or the Eligibility Department at the Trust Fund office. Members should always call, if they have any questions regarding coverage or eligibility.

How do I sign up? As soon as the Trust Fund posts the hours establishing initial eligibility, a complete packet is sent to the member, and ID cards are ordered. The packet includes the enrollment form, H&W booklet (Summary Plan Description), Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) book of contracting providers and claim forms. ID cards are mailed under separate cover. The cards do not always come in an Operating Engineer envelope, so be sure to watch the mail carefully.



Please see pg. 15 for the schedule of pre-retirement meetings.

Fringe Benefits Service Center
(800) 532-2105

When the packet is received, the member should immediately complete the enclosed enrollment form, and return it to the Trust Fund office. Members who choose Kaiser or HealthNet must obtain services in the manner set forth by the chosen plan.

Is my family covered? Yes, your covered dependents are your lawful spouse and dependent children. Dependent children are covered until age 19 or up to age 24, if a full-time student.

How do I add/delete a dependent? Complete a new dependent-enrollment form, and return it to the Trust Fund office along with the appropriate documentation (marriage, birth or death certificate or divorce decree). Forms are available at district offices, Fringe Benefits, the Trust Fund office or www.oe3trustfunds.org.

My doctor isn't a contracting provider. What happens if I go to him/her anyway? You may use any doctor you choose; however, if you choose to use a non-contracting doctor, your out-of-pocket expense may be significantly higher. To maximize your benefits and reduce your out-of-pocket expense, use contracting doctors.

What happens if I don't use a contract hospital? Unless it's an emergency or you live outside the contracting area, the fund will only pay what they would have paid to a contracting hospital. Your out-of-pocket expense will be substantial. Use contracting hospitals.

How do I get my prescriptions? Present your American Diversified Pharmacies card at any participating drugstore. You will pay \$10 for a generic drug or \$15 for a brand-name drug when no generic is available. (See this month's *Health News* for more information on generic drugs.) If a generic drug is available and you use a brand-name drug, your cost will be \$25 plus the difference in cost between the generic and brand-name drug. If the doctor stipulates no generic substitution is allowed, the co-pay is \$25.

If you use the mail-order option, there is no out-of-pocket expense for generic drugs. You will pay \$10 for brand-name drugs, if no generic is available. If a generic is available and you use a brand-name drug, your cost will be \$25. If ID cards have not been received or if you need additional cards, information or forms, call your district office, the Trust Fund office or Fringe Benefits.

Kaiser and HealthNet members are not covered by American Diversified Pharmacies. Kaiser members must obtain prescriptions through Kaiser pharmacies; HealthNet members must use HealthNet pharmacies.

When can I sign up for Kaiser or HealthNet? There is no specific open-enrollment period. Eligible participants have the opportunity to change health plans anytime during the year; however, you must remain in the plan you select for a minimum of 12 months unless you move out of the HMO's service area. Any change in plans will be effective on the first day of the second month following the date the completed enrollment form is received by the Trust Fund office.

Who can I talk to if I need additional information? You may call the Trust Fund office at (800) 251-5014 or (510) 433-4422, or the Fringe Benefits Service Center at (800) 532-2105 or (510) 748-7450. For medical-claims assistance or information, call (800) 251-5013.

REFER TO SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION FOR FULL DETAILS.

TEACHING TECHS

By Joanie Thornton, administrator

Training to be the best

Although I am new as administrator, I have assisted five administrators during my 29-year tenure with the Northern California Surveyors Joint Apprenticeship Committee (NCSJAC). Education is our future, and I have long since felt apprenticeship is a gift. Your union and your employer provide you with the tools to make your career – apprentices and journey upgrades only have to do their part.

Our primary goal is to graduate apprentices and supply the workforce with the best Local 3 and the NCSJAC have to offer. I am working closely with the JAC and trust, our union officials, employers, California state representatives, instructors, staff, apprentices and journey upgrades to help advance our program into the future.

This summer, the NCSJAC had a surge of new apprentices and journey upgrades, all of whom attended one of our many classes, including correspondence classes. When work is abundant, it gives our program the opportunity to grow.

Classes now meet in Watsonville, Castro Valley, Modesto, Martinez, Milpitas, Rohnert Park, Sacramento, Auburn, and we also offer two correspondence classes. Since the need for classes increases the need for instructors, we are currently seeking individuals interested in teaching surveying.

If you are a land surveyor (LS), land surveyor in training (LSIT), certified party chief or graduated party chief and want to give back to your occupational community by teaching, please give our office a call at (510) 748-4713. Our instructors are the highest skilled and most qualified individuals in the industry. In addition to teaching, they are afforded the opportunity to help with the technical writing of our curriculum.

All instructors are credentialed in adult-vocational education by the state of California. Credentialing ensures our instructors are trained in the methods of teaching, lesson planning, overall objective design and goals and timetables to meet those objectives. Of course, our main objec-

tive is to train our industry to be the best and most competitive. The JAC, which is made up of labor and management, has come together to ensure our program meets the highest standards, and as an instructor, you can be a part of it. Don't let this opportunity pass you by – give us a call today!

All new, first-period apprentice indentures (indentured 2006 and subsequent) will take part in a new, 24-hour basic-skills training course to introduce them to field surveying, hand tools and their uses, personal tools, equipment and survey equipment, basic survey fundamentals, Electrical Discharge Machinings (EDMs), levels and survey staking. Students will spend 90 percent of this course in the field and the remaining time on orientation and final testing. All classes are held on Saturdays so as not to conflict with weekly work projects.

When the first group of students “graduated” from the 24-hour course, employers assessing their apprentices remarked on the positive difference the training made. The NCSJAC is dedicated to taking this program into the future, and this is one way we can make that happen.

We held our first hands-on training session of the school year in early November. The subject of tunnel surveying was well received by the students and instructors in attendance. Another training session took place in December and more are scheduled for the first Saturdays in January and February.

Operating Engineers Federal Credit Union (OEFCU) officials were on hand in December to inform students of important services offered through their credit union and how they might fit these services into a personal financial plan. January and February 2007 topics are heavy-construction surveying and high-rise construction surveying, including terminology and safety. All Local 3 members are welcome and encouraged to attend. Give us a call for more information on these important programs or to start your upgrading in one of our many classes.



ORGANIZING

By Bruce Noel, director

Employee Free Choice Act gives workers a chance to go union

Labor union households made a strong showing last November to elect pro-worker candidates to the majority in the House of Representatives and Senate. Our votes as union members sent a powerful message to the political establishment: We are sick and tired of being ignored, and we want our bread-and-butter values honored and restored. The middle class has been under attack for too long, and we aren't going to take it anymore.

When the new Congress convenes this month, the Employee Free Choice Act will be reintroduced. The Employee Free Choice Act would amend the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) Act to allow private sector workers to form unions by simply signing a card or petition, impose real penalties on employers who violate the law and allow for arbitration to settle first contract disputes.

As you may know, due to the lax enforcement of weak labor laws, it is now virtually impossible to organize a union through the traditional NLRB election process. According to American Rights at Work, a worker is fired or discriminated against every 23 minutes in this country for exercising his or her freedom of association. Furthermore, workers who want to organize a union are routinely harassed, threatened and intimidated on the job.

Roughly 82 percent of employers facing a union-organizing drive hire unionbusters – teams of highly paid lawyer-consultants who advise employers on how to keep unions at bay. Some techniques they employ include forcing workers to attend “captive-audience meetings” where they bad-mouth the union and let the workers know in no uncertain terms that they will face a long-term, drawn-out war in the workplace, if they proceed with a union election. When workers do beat the odds and win an election, unionbusters advise the employer on how to draw out the process of obtaining a first contract for months and often years, in order to demoralize the workers and get the union decertified. With the passage of the Employee Free Choice Act, none of these deplorable behaviors would be legal.

Surveys show that if given the chance, the majority of workers would form a union. If we pass the Employee Free Choice Act, workers will finally have that chance to form a union – free of employer harassment and intimidation. The labor movement will have an opportunity to thrive again and wages, pensions and health care will rebound with greater unionization. In short, it would mean the return of a strong and robust middle class in the U.S.

What can you do?

Contact your congressional representative and tell them you strongly support the passage of the Employee Free Choice Act, and in so doing, know that you may have just contributed to one of the biggest revivals of the American labor movement in U.S. history!



NCSJAC surveyors attended a basic-skills training course Dec. 2 in Castro Valley. More hands-on training sessions are scheduled for the first Saturdays in January and February.



NEWS & NOTES

By Dan Reding, Treasurer

We are all Local 3

Since taking office in September, I can honestly say this has been the busiest I've ever been in my life. And the truth is, the rewards are already starting to show. The upbeat attitudes of the members I've talked to in the field and at district meetings is a real, positive change. The members are starting to realize this new administration is moving in a direction to improve service to the membership at large.

After attending a recent apprenticeship graduation in Reno, I found it so rewarding to see what Local 3 meant to these upcoming journey-level operators. It was incredible to listen to them talk about upcoming work, how their fathers and grandfathers were Local 3 and what it meant to them to be Local 3. Membership in Local 3 means so much more than health care, pensions and great wages to these graduates. For them, it's about the pride of saying, "I am a Local 3 member."

I had heard in this long internal campaign that the members had lost trust and pride in Local 3. After that night in Reno, I realized that pride was not lost – maybe just misplaced – because in the eyes of these new journey-level operators, being Local 3 is still a big deal.

I have been given a great honor in being part of a team of officers dedicated to restoring trust and pride in this great union. With this honor comes responsibility, and I know it's going to take all of us working together to get this union back where it needs to be. The membership, officers and staff need to be kept informed of what's going on in their union, and they need to be allowed to voice their opinions and be heard.

I'm sure there will be ups and downs throughout this process, but it doesn't matter if you are an officer or an apprentice, we are all Local 3, and our decisions need to be based on what is best for all of Local 3.

I hope everyone had a great holiday, and I look forward to seeing you at the next round of district meetings.



CREDIT UNION

By Rob Wise,

Credit Union secretary/financial officer
& recording - corresponding secretary

Shopping for the right kind of home loan

Different types of home loans, such as adjustable-rate mortgages (ARMs) or fixed-rate mortgages can be effective depending on your lifestyle and needs. Your income forecast for the future, your age and how long you expect to stay in your home should be considered along with the rates, types, conditions and fees involved when choosing your mortgage.

Finding a mortgage can be a strenuous process. Not only are there hundreds of institutions offering mortgages – there are dozens of types. Different interest rates, different lengths and other features can be confusing. What's the secret? First, find people you trust who you'll enjoy doing business with – people who won't make recommendations based on their potential loan-sales commission. Next, keep these two key factors in mind: How long do you expect to live in the home? What is your tolerance for an increase in monthly payments?

Fixed-rate mortgages. As the name implies, the interest rate in a fixed-rate mortgage is set at the time you take out the mortgage and remains constant over the life of the mortgage loan. More importantly, the monthly payment level also remains constant. It is reassuring to know what your payment will be each month, and it aids in your overall financial planning.

Each monthly payment is comprised of interest and principal. Early-year payments primarily pay for interest, and payments toward the end of the mortgage generally accrue toward principal.

Most of the mortgage/home-loan "pay down" comes late in the mortgage period. Most lending institutions offer fixed-rate mortgages of 30 years and 15 years. The benefit of the 15-year mortgage is that after 15 years, you will have paid off the mortgage loan and will own your home free and clear. You will also have a lower interest rate and pay less interest over the life of the mortgage. The negative aspect of the 15-year mortgage is higher monthly payments.

Choosing the term of a fixed-rate mortgage is usually a function of what level of monthly payments you can afford and how anxious you are to pay off the entire mortgage. With housing prices going "through the roof" in some areas, a lower monthly payment is the only option for many.

Adjustable-Rate Mortgages (ARMs). With an adjustable-rate mortgage, the interest rate and monthly payments can change as interest rates change. The rate is fixed initially and is subject to change based on changes in interest-rate benchmarks. The benefit for the borrower is that ARMs usually have initial interest rates that are lower than rates on fixed-rate mortgages. Sometimes the rate can even be 1.5 percent to 2.5 percent less; however, the following features of ARMs should be evaluated when considering this type of mortgage:

- **Initial rate.** Be careful if the initial rate seems unusually low. It may be a "teaser" rate that

only lasts for a short time, and then the rate is adjusted upward. At a minimum, ask what the rate would be adjusted to if the initial rate ended today.

- **Benchmark rate.** ARM rates are usually tied to some published index that reflects the general interest-rate market. Usually the ARM rate is adjusted to that benchmark plus some level of margin. Ask the lender how this works, and make sure you understand how the benchmark rate has changed recently.
- **The cap.** Most ARMs have limits on how much the rate can rise in any one year, and some ARMs have limits on how high the rate can rise over the course of the mortgage. Understanding how the caps work will let you know what will happen if rates substantially rise.
- **Length-of-rate periods.** ARMs often have length-of-rate periods that refer to how long the initial rate lasts and how often the rate is adjusted after that.

ARMs are attractive because of their lower initial rate, but they run the risk of making your rate and monthly payment rise in the future. If you can afford an increased payment in the future or you think you will be moving in a relatively short amount of time, the savings with an ARM can be substantial.

Negative amortization. Amortization is the process of paying down a mortgage. Some lenders offer mortgages with lower monthly payments than what is needed to pay interest and ultimately pay off the mortgage. This means the amount due on your mortgage increases over time. Avoid this type of mortgage.

Balloon mortgages. Balloon mortgages are similar to fixed-rate mortgages, since they have steady monthly payments using a 15- or 30-year amortization; however, with a balloon mortgage, the mortgage is due before 15 or 30 years. Most balloon mortgages are for three to seven years. They usually offer lower interest rates than the traditional 15- or 30-year fixed-rate mortgage, but with a balloon mortgage, your mortgage is due on a given date, and you must pay.

Maybe you're considering buying a home or refinancing one and are looking for a lender you can trust. With all the options, it can seem intimidating. If you have concerns about which home loan best fits your needs, contact your Operating Engineers Federal Credit Union (OEFCU) at (877) 516-8657 and speak to a customer-care representative. You can rest assured they will find the right loans at the right rate for your needs. See what OEFCU can offer you online at www.homeloans-oeecu.org.



Built in 1941, the Englebright Dam maintains the 70,000 acre-feet of Englebright Lake. The temporary 60,000-pound valves pictured here siphon continuous water to the Yuba River below.

Mitchell Engineering and OE3 build bypass, save salmon

Story and photos by Mandy Jessup, associate editor

At 260 feet tall and 1,142 feet across, Englebright Dam in Yuba County has an inspiring presence. It contains nearly 100,000 cubic yards of concrete to maintain the 70,000 acre-feet of Englebright Lake water. Since its construction in 1941, the dam's main functions include water-related recreation and hydroelectric-power generation operated by Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E).

But as with most effects of time, not all outcomes are foreseeable. The Narrows II Powerhouse, which rests just below the Englebright Dam, needs yearly maintenance, and up until about a year ago, the Yuba River water flow had to be stopped for this maintenance repair. This, in turn, had detrimental effects on the river's salmon.

Nearly all California rivers have some kind of hydropower purpose, but operations often change the natural course of river-water flow and temperature levels. Like the spawning Chinook salmon recently stranded on the banks of the Yuba River below the Englebright Dam, such hydropower operations vastly impact the wildlife tied to its rivers.

Therefore, Mitchell Engineering and a team of five to six Operating Engineers on day and night shifts have worked since last January building a bypass system to allow the continuance of flow in the Yuba River while the Narrows II Powerhouse is shut down for maintenance work.

Sitework includes the drill and blast excavation of the 150-foot bypass tunnel, bypass structure and discharge channel, the installation of 114-inch



Twenty-five-year member and Terex Crane Operator Randy Fisher picks up the load Jess Baker set for him.

steel-tunnel liner and 90-degree tee connection to the existing penstock. Work also includes construction of the reinforced concrete-bypass valve structure, some powerhouse structural modifications and the installation of the 168-inch turbine-shutoff butterfly valve, which weighs an astounding 106,000 pounds.

Onsite construction work began January 2006, and through the rainy winter season, conditions have not always been perfect.

To allow the water flow to continue as members work, 60,000-pound valves siphon water over the top of the dam, creating a picturesque waterfall.

But according to Crane Operator Randy Fisher, the aim of the project has nothing to do with aesthetics.

"It's all about the wildlife," Fisher said. "We're working with some of the hardest rock in the world, and it's not easy."

The project has fallen a bit behind because of the rain delays this past March but is still expected to finish at the latest by February 2007.

Excavator Operator Jess Baker said they're hoping to finish sooner, but he thinks that's unlikely.

Both Baker and Fisher said the hours have been good.

Currently, they work together clearing out debris from the powerhouse structure.

Behind them, the water falls continuously. This is a good sign, since water flow is the aim of this entire project – that and the assurance that the salmon will survive the hydropower manipulation of yet another California river.



Excavator Operator Jess Baker picks up a load with a telehandler.

From left: Excavator Operator Jess Baker, Yuba City Business Rep. Ed Ritchie, Crane Operator Randy Fisher and Yuba City Business Rep. Don Grant pose in front of Englebright Dam in Yuba County.



CONTRACTOR OF THE MONTH

Fonseca/McElroy Grinding (FMG)

Proud to be a "Mom and Pop" shop

By Heidi Mills, managing editor

Company name: Fonseca/McElroy Grinding (FMG)

Co-owners: Mike McElroy and Frank Fonseca

Location: San Jose, Calif.

District: Morgan Hill District 90

Founded: 1999

Brief history: "We started the business in 1999 out of a spare bedroom in my house," said Mike McElroy, co-owner of FMG. McElroy previously worked as a paving foreman for O'Grady Paving and met Local 3 Grinder Operator Frank Fonseca on more than one occasion on various jobsites. The two became friends and worked so well together, they decided to buy their own milling machine in hopes of starting their own grinding business. FMG began with McElroy and Fonseca's mortgaged houses, which bought one milling machine in February 1999. The rest is history.

Years as signatory: Signed with the union right way, with Local 3 President Fred Herschbach brokering the deal.

OE3 members employed: 25, including three apprentices. In addition, McElroy sits on the Morgan Hill District 90 Sub-Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC).

Fleet: 12 machines. "We started our first year with one machine and ended the year with two, started the second year with two machines and ended the year with four, and started the third year with four machines and ended with eight," explained McElroy. "We plan to add two more machines in 2007."

Award: Named fifth fastest-growing privately held company in Silicon Valley in 2002.

High-profile job: Laguna Seca Raceway in Monterey, Calif. FMG was praised for its "attention to detail" on this project in the Fall 2006 edition of *Paving News*, a Caterpillar publication serving the paving industry.

Most memorable job: A highway job in Salinas, Calif., with Granite Construction.

"Weather accelerated the project timeline, so we worked around the clock to grind 15,000 tons in 25 hours," Fonseca said. (To put this in perspective: An average grinding job ranges from 500-600 tons in a regular eight-hour workday.)

"We were able to get the job done because of the efficient scheduling of the project engineers with Granite Construction and the outstanding work of the Local 3 Operating Engineers on the job: Richie Bermea, Rob Blum, Raul Ramirez and Ernesto Solis."

Motto: "We pride ourselves on giving the customer a smooth grind, making it easier for our paving customers to achieve their goal of a smooth ride."



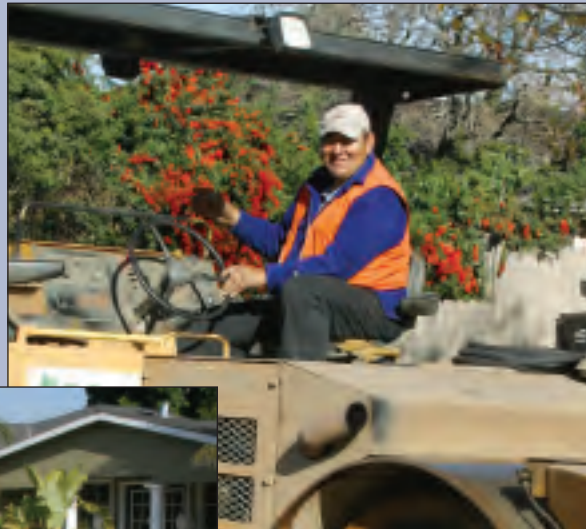
FMG Groundman Operator A.J. Tamez and Operator Rob Blum work together to grind potholes off Monroe Street and Stevens Creek Road near Valley Fair Mall in San Jose.



Roller Operator Jose Sanchez is a 10-year Local 3 member working for O'Grady Paving at the Valley Fair Mall jobsite, where FMG is doing the prep work.



to grind up a road riddled with
n Jose.



Finish-Roller Operator Ernie Rogers is a proud, 10-year Local 3 member working for O'Grady Paving near Valley Fair Mall.



Foreman and 10-year Local 3 member Brian Neergaard checks the progress of the work on the paving project near Valley Fair Mall.



Six-year member Gwain "Junior" Walters operates a sweeper for O'Grady Paving at the Valley Fair Mall jobsite in San Jose.



Member Ron Dillon is new to Local 3 and "proud as hell" to be in the union. He worked previously with a non-union truck-repair shop. According to Dillon, "Local 3 is 'numero uno.' This union has been nothing but good for me."



Paver Operator Frank Hernandez and Screedman Rene Dimas lay asphalt on a road off Monroe Street and Stevens Creek Road in San Jose. Both are 30-year members of Local 3.



From left: Mike McElroy and Frank Fonseca are the co-owners of Local 3 signatory Fonseca/McElroy Grinding (FMG) in San Jose, Calif. The owners are actively involved in the company's day-to-day business operations and say they're proud to be a small Mom and Pop shop.



Local 3 member Angel Rosales works for O'Grady Paving off Stevens Creek Road in San Jose.



TECH NEWS

By Abraham Fontanilla, Michael Strunk and

Ed Wodzienski, business representatives

A season of change

It was the Greek philosopher Heraclitus who observed, "Nothing endures but change." You have no doubt noticed changes in Local 3 since the last internal election. It was the one thing many of you responded to in casting your vote. Local 3's Technical Engineering Department is part of the top-down movement within the union to provide you with more available and responsive representation.

The Technical Engineering Department represents some 1,300 surveyors, special inspectors, Division of State Architect (DSA) inspectors, private-sector inspectors of record, Office of Statewide Health and Planning Department (OSHDP) inspectors, technicians and laboratory-testing technicians. We claim work in 46 of California's 58 counties from Kern County in the south to the Oregon border, as well as Northern Nevada, Utah and Hawaii.

We have several new faces in the department and some you may recognize. The officer in charge is Financial Secretary Jim Sullivan, who is a Utah native and second-generation Operating Engineer. Sullivan has been a Local 3 member since 1990 and was previously a member of the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) Local 12. His career with OE3 began in 1996 with the Utah District 12 Grievance Committee, and he has since worked tirelessly as a business agent, district representative and served as a special representative in South Dakota and Wyoming before becoming a Local 3 auditor in 2003. Sullivan is a graduate of the Harvard Trade Union Program.

Bruce Noel took over as interim director of the Technical Engineering Department in September 2006. Noel is a familiar face to many members as the director of Organizing and Research, a position he's held since January 2006. With more than 25 years of construction experience, he has worked as a Local 3 organizer in three of the four states in our jurisdiction.

Ed Wodzienski is the business representative serving the membership in the South Bay and Central Coast region since 2002. He came to Local 3 from the surveying field, where he was a certified party chief with five certifications and also a land surveyor in training (LSIT). Wodzienski graduated from the Surveyors Apprenticeship Program in 1991 and has been involved in the industry for 30 years. He is a tireless advocate for the membership and serves on the Surveyors Joint Apprenticeship Committee, the Joint Labor Management Retirement Oversight Committee for the San Jose Water Company and the JAC Sub-Committee for Apprenticeships.

Michael Strunk joined the Technical Engineering Department in November 2006 and is a 20-year veteran of the testing and inspection field, serving most recently as the resident inspector for Genentech's \$800 million CCP2 Facility Project in Vacaville, Calif., where he spent 14 months as the OE3 job steward before coming on staff. He holds multiple International Code Council (ICC), American Concrete Institute (ACI) and DSA certifications, as well as thousands of hours of soils and

geotechnical-engineering experience. Strunk is a 10-year Local 3 member, a second-generation Local 3 member and third-generation union member. He is a graduate of the University of California.

Strunk says he cannot remember a time when he wasn't in construction or a time the union wasn't a big part of his life. "It's who I am," he said, when asked why he decided to accept a business-agent position.

"My father and grandfather were active at a time when the struggle was

about workers' rights and just surviving," he continued. "I feel like it's my turn. The union has come a long way; I am here to help it into the future."

Strunk is serving the testing, inspection and survey members in the Sacramento, central and San Joaquin valleys, as well as Northern Nevada and Utah.

Abraham Fontanilla is the newest addition to the Technical Engineering Department, joining us from the testing and inspection field. A native San Franciscan, he most recently served as the resident inspector for Kaiser Santa Rosa. Fontanilla holds multiple ICC and ACI certifications. He reflects on his time in the field and how he began in testing and inspection, remembering fondly: "This opened a door to my future. As time passed, I used my experience in the field to gather useful knowledge from helpful senior inspectors. I've come a long way with the help of many OE3 members and have been presented with great opportunities. I now have a chance to return the generosity of the members. I hope to see you in the future."

Fontanilla will represent the testing, inspection and survey membership from the peninsula to the Oregon border, from the Pacific coast to the central valley.

The message the Technical Engineering Department wants to send to its surveyors, special inspectors and technicians is this: We are here to serve you. This is a new department with service to the membership as our primary focus. From the top-down, we are committed to addressing the issues and concerns of the membership. And we look forward to a great year.



Freeman-Sondgroth Reunion

The Freeman and Sondgroth companies (Sondgroth Bros., and Freeman Paving Company) employed hundreds of Operating Engineers. Even though the companies dissolved in 1976, they were the forerunner from which many current well-known companies came from, including Top Grade Construction and El Camino Paving. The following is an invitation to those involved in the Freeman-Sondgroth beginning to join again in remembrance and fellowship – a reunion of sorts.

What: Reunion celebration for the former employees of the Freeman and Sondgroth companies, their spouses and guests.

When: Saturday, Feb. 17 at 5:30 p.m. (dinner served at 6:30 p.m.)

Where: The Three Flames Restaurant at 1547 Meridian Ave., San Jose, Calif., (408) 269-3133.

Cost: \$35 (no-host bar)

Please note: To secure the restaurant, all money must be received by Jan. 10.

For further information, please call one of the reunion-committee members listed below. We have attempted to contact all former employees, but if you talk to any who have not received an invitation, please tell them to contact Gary Chiotti at (408) 978-3842, Gene and Gloria Flores at (408) 807-3272 or Bob Taylor at (650) 280-2659.

Hope to see you there!

FROM HAWAII

District 17 keeps members updated

Local 3 members of Molokai, The Friendly Isle recently had an informational meeting on the latest OE3 news from Hawaii District Rep. **Kalani Mahoe**. He explained Local 3 is dedicated to our membership and that our strength comes from union-member education.

Back row, from left: Business Rep. Clarence "Black" Huihui, Harry Toselefsen and Randy Colipano. Front row, from left: Sonny Makekau, Carlton Kaiwi Place, Harry Makekau, Business Rep. David Bergau, Moses Kahumoku and District Rep. Kalani Mahoe. Not pictured: Howard Enos.



FROM YUBA CITY

District invites members over for food, fellowship

Happy New Year from District 60. 2007 looks to be another good year for Local 3 members. Since the mega-bond initiatives passed, lots of dollars will be available for construction.

Jobs in the area are on a day-by-day basis if weather permits. **Teichert Hallwood** and Marysville are still going, as is **Baldwin and Silica Resources**.

Schimmick Construction will start soon on the Stony Gorge Dam Retrofit Project worth about \$24 million.

Mercer Fraser's Hwy. 162 job above Oroville will start again once weather permits.

Hwy. 149 in Butte County has had activity all winter, as **FCI** and **Case Pacific** are working on the overpasses and small bridges. **Granite** will start back in the spring on Hwy. 149, as the scheduled completion date is 2009. Also, **Schimmick** will be back on the Road 108 Project below Grimes, which should start when weather permits and will include a 4.5-mile irrigation canal along with fish screens and a pumping station.

Levee work will also continue when the weather breaks. **Steelhead Construction**, **Kiewit** and **Ladd Construction** were busy doing levee work in 2006 and hope to pick up more in 2007.

Other busy Yuba City District contractors in 2006 and in 2007 include **Baldwin**, **Jaeger**, **Four M Construction**, **DeSilva Gates** and **Mountain**

Cascade, just to name a few.

We also want to let you know that each Wednesday night the District 60 Hall provides food for the members; so stop by, have a bite and sit a spell. We are always glad to see our members come into the union hall.

On a final note, we want to congratulate longtime member **Logan Elston**. He was at the Yuba City District Hall on his birthday and received eight service-award pins from District Rep. **Dave Slack**. Elston has been a member in good standing for 60 years.

The District 60 staff wants to thank each and every one of you and your families for making 2006 a banner year for Local 3. Without your support, all the positive changes would not have happened.



From left: Sixty-year member Logan Elston receives eight service-award pins on his birthday from Yuba City District Rep. Dave Slack.

FROM STOCKTON

See you around THE HUB

January begins another year and another chapter for the Stockton District office. As mentioned in the December issue of *Engineers News*, former Secretary and Dispatcher **Lynn Pankratz** retired after 10 years of working for the OE3 membership. We hope Lynn is enjoying her retirement. We also welcome new Dispatcher **Tim Grimes** onboard. Tim is an 18-year member who recently worked as a job steward for ARB, Inc. Tim was also an active member on our Grievance/Political Action Committee (PAC) for the past two years. His background will serve him well as our dispatcher. Stop by the office and make Tim feel welcome in his new capacity.

New Business Rep. **John Bruckner** also joins us and covers Stanislaus County and the rock plants on the west side of San Joaquin County. John is a 13-year member who recently worked for **Norman B. Hogue**. Please make him feel welcome as he becomes acquainted with his area.

This is the time of the year when work is usually slow. If you are not working, make sure you are on the out-of-work list. If you have been on the list for a while, contact the dispatcher to verify your status. Each out-of-work registration expires after 84 days, and you may need to renew

your place on the list. Maintain communication with the dispatcher; if you are not on the list, we cannot contact you about job opportunities.

A good investment of your time is our yearly gradesetting class. This year, it begins Jan. 16 and meets twice a week for about four weeks. Instructor **Mike Spencer** is excellent, and regardless of your abilities, you will be a better gradesetter if you take this class.

Important dates to remember: Our next district meeting is Jan. 18. If you have not recently attended a meeting, this is an excellent opportunity to meet and become acquainted with your extended family of Operating Engineers. Our Feb. 6 Pre-Retirement Meeting in the Stockton District Hall will begin at 7 p.m. Fringe Benefits Director **Charlie Warren** brings a supporting cast and provides a wealth of information for members preparing for retirement. Mark your calendars for a very informative meeting.

In closing, the Stockton District staff hopes everyone had a festive holiday season, and we hope you have a prosperous 2007. We look forward to seeing you at the hall or on a jobsite – somewhere in THE HUB.

FROM NEVADA

Shop union

With the onset of winter in Northern Nevada comes the slow-down of some of the work. Current projects hopefully continuing to keep members busy this winter include the Peppermill Casino with **TW/RTC, Lift Services, Pacific Rim** and **Associated Concrete Pumping**, a couple of subdivision projects with **Q&D** and **Granite** and the Tracy Power Plant east of Sparks with several signatory contractors.

On the organizing front: The Nevada District now has two organizers: **Dwayne Killgore** and **Allen Strong**. They will be busy working on the non-union companies in the Reno/Sparks area, the Elko/Ely and all

the territory in between. Our members are a key ingredient to the success of our organizing efforts. The work on the construction side of the mine work in northeastern Nevada is critical to our Organizing Department and will help us keep the operators' positions filled in the upcoming year.

We wish everyone a prosperous and safe new year and remind all our brothers and sisters that shopping at union establishments is important to all of us. When we choose to shop at a non-union store, we choose to have our members' hours cut, while non-union stores take a bigger market share. This means we all lose. Shop union.



Screen and Excavator Operator **Brian Coyle** and Loader Operator **Robert Hesselgesser** work for **Pacific Rim Construction**.

FROM FRESNO

Gradesetting class still has seats to fill

Happy New Year to everyone. We hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday season. With the tinsel and gift wrapping now put away, everyone is surely thinking about the upcoming work year.

Several contractors are working a steady pace in District 50. **FCI Constructors** is still working on Hwy. 99 in the south valley, and we await the start date for its project on Hwy. 99 in Fairmead. **Foster & Sons** is

*Member **Thomas Johnson** works here for **Nilex** at the **Mendota Prison**. He recently advanced to fourth-step apprentice and works for **Foster & Sons**.*

keeping equipment busy at **Vulcan Materials'** pit in Friant. **Granite Construction** is moving along on its job in Madera. **Allied Concrete Pumping** is everywhere you look on various union job-sites. **Teichert Construction** is performing work in the north and south parts of District 50. The company also has projects in Local 12's jurisdiction utilizing several Local 3 members as key operators for gradesetting and blade work.

Speaking of gradesetting, there is still room in the gradesetting class for any members interested. Gradesetting is helpful for anyone

from experienced scraper-operators to first-step apprentices. If interested, please call the district office as soon as possible at (559) 229-4083.

The out-of-work list does have movement this time of year, but mostly for recall and letter dis-patches.

We congratulate **Eric Ritchie** for completing the apprenticeship program and advancing as a journey-level operator. Eric works for **Lee's Paving** of Visalia.

Thomas Johnson has advanced as a fourth-step apprentice and works for **Foster & Sons** in Sanger.

FROM SACRAMENTO

Sacramento District full of "hustle"

Even in the winter season, it's been so busy in the Sacramento District, the birds have nowhere to roost.

One such area of "hustle" is the Promenade of Natomas, which is on its final phase with **Teichert**. Since September 2004, the three-phase project, totaling about \$22 million, has included mass grading, underground infrastructure, a sewer lift station, a detention basin with storm drain, a one-mile widening of Gateway Park and an extension of North Freeway Boulevard.

These details deal with the underground structure of the huge multi-function complex, which is **Teichert's** focus. This is the biggest Sacramento-area development since Arden Fair Mall, with 663,000 square feet of a wide array of restaurants, such as the famous former **Kings** member **Chris Webber's** Center

Court, as well as retail shops, multi-unit office complexes and hotels.

The Promenade of Natomas is designed to encourage those using mass transit (a new light-rail system will soon be put in place) to shop, eat and enjoy the many options the complex has to offer.

Through the many phases of the project, many OE3 operators, working foremen and pavers have been busy, such as **Randy Cox, Curtis Smith, Mike Davis, Dave Howard** and **Mike Blackwood**.

The final phase of **Teichert's** portion of the work should be finished by April of next year, and people in the Natomas area are happy about their work, since the Santa Cruz-style pedestrian mall offers residents, tourists and those passing through, countless ways to spend their time (and money!).



Five-year member **Mike Blackwood** works for **Teichert** on the Promenade of Natomas job.

FROM EUREKA

Arcata City Council armed with OE3-supported officials

Winter has hit the North Coast, and work has slowed down considerably.

Mercer Fraser's crew has projects around Humboldt County and is keeping a handful of members employed, weather permitting. The same is true for **Granite Construction**, even though it is hard to commit to new projects this time of year because of all the rain.

We would like to thank the city of Arcata employees for all their hard work during this last election cycle. Four out of five Local 3-endorsed candidates are now seated on the Arcata City Council thanks to the combined efforts of these members. This is unionism at its best, and the Local 3 members of Arcata should be proud of their accomplishments. Way to go, folks!

Looking back on 2006, we've made some good political choices, and we are all proud of the hard work and dedication of our District 40

members. We want to thank **Craig Sprinkle** of the Foundation for Fair Contracting (FFC) for his hard work keeping the playing field level for wage, hour and apprentice issues. We also applaud the efforts of the Construction Industry Force Account Council's (CIFAC) **Sally Riley** for her hard work in the public contract realm. Her stick-to-it work ethic is much appreciated.

Our annual Crab Feed will be held Saturday, Feb. 17 at the same place as before, the Eureka Elk's Club on Herrick Avenue. The band this year will be Dr. Squid, which consists of OE3 members employed with the Eureka Police Department. Please see the ad below left. You are welcome to give our district office a call at (707) 443-7328 with any questions.

Until next time, be safe.

Steve, Carol, Chris and Corrina

**EUREKA DISTRICT 40 CRAB FEED
FEB. 17, 2007**

Where: Eureka Elk's Club
445 Herrick Ave.
Eureka, Calif., 95502

Schedule: No-host cocktails 4:30 p.m.
Dinner 5 p.m.- 8 p.m.
Dancing 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.
Dutch raffle 8 p.m.

Menu: Crab, pasta salad
and all the trimmings

Events: Door prizes and dutch raffle
(must be present to win)

Cost: \$25 per person
\$20 per Local 3 retiree
\$40 at the door

Special rates available at:
Comfort Inn (formerly Days Inn):
(707) 444-2019, 4260 Broadway

Best Western Bayshore Inn:
(707) 268-8005, 3500 Broadway

Red Lion:
(707) 444-0844, 1929 Fourth Street

* When making reservations, be sure to say you are with Operating Engineers Crab Feed.

Buy your tickets now!
Call the Eureka District office
at (707) 443-7328
or mail checks to:
1213 5th St.
Eureka, Calif., 95501

**Local 3 district offices**

District 01: Burlingame (650) 652-7969
District 04: Fairfield (707) 429-5008
District 10: Rohnert Park (707) 585-2487
District 11: Nevada
Reno office (775) 857-4440
Elko office (775) 753-8761
District 12: Utah
Salt Lake City office (801) 596-2677
District 17: Hawaii
Honolulu office (808) 845-7871
Hilo office (808) 935-8709
Maui office (808) 871-1193
District 20: Oakland (510) 748-7446
District 30: Stockton (209) 943-2332
District 40: Eureka (707) 443-7328
District 50: Fresno (559) 229-4083
District 60: Yuba City (530) 743-7321
District 70: Redding (530) 222-6093
District 80: Sacramento (916) 565-6170
District 90: Morgan Hill (408) 465-8260

2007 pre-retirement meetings

It's never too early to plan for your retirement and learn a bit about our excellent plans. Join us at the next meeting in your area. We'll have plenty of time to discuss the pension, retiree medical and annuity plans with you and your spouse. See you there.

All meetings convene at 7 p.m.

District 01: SAN FRANCISCO-SAN MATEO Tuesday, Jan. 9 Machinists' Hall 1511 Rollins Road Burlingame	Operating Engineers' Building 325 Digital Drive
District 01: NOVATO Wednesday, Jan. 10 Unity Inn Marin 600 Palm Drive	District 90: WATSONVILLE Thursday, Feb. 1 VFW Post 1716 1960 Freedom Blvd. Freedom
District 04: FAIRFIELD Tuesday, Jan. 16 Veterans' Memorial Building 427 Main St. Suisun City	District 30: STOCKTON Tuesday, Feb. 6 Operating Engineers' Building 1916 N. Broadway
District 10: ROHNERT PARK Wednesday, Jan. 17 Operating Engineers' Building 6225 State Farm Drive	District 80: SACRAMENTO Wednesday, Feb. 7 Operating Engineers' Building 4044 N. Freeway Blvd., Ste. 200
District 11: RENO Tuesday, Jan. 23 Operating Engineers' Building 1290 Corporate Blvd.	District 20: OAKLAND Thursday, Feb. 15 Operating Engineers' Building 1620 South Loop Road Alameda
District 12: SALT LAKE CITY Wednesday, Jan. 24 IBEW Local 354 3400 W. 2100 South	District 40: EUREKA Tuesday, Feb. 20 Best Western Bayshore Inn 3500 Broadway
District 90: MORGAN HILL Wednesday, Jan. 31	District 70: REDDING Wednesday, Feb. 21 Operating Engineers' Building 20308 Engineers Lane

AROUND TOWN

From left: President Fred Herschbach, Morgan Hill District Rep. DJ Robertson, and members Paul Lima and Adam Rane on the job with Graniterock in District 90.

**Congratulations 51-plus
year member**

The following member was inadvertently omitted from the December issue of *Engineers News*:

56 YEARS OF MEMBERSHIP

Arnold Boehm 0584775

NEW MEMBERS Through November 2006

District 11: Nevada
Paul Brayton
Robert G. Williams
Kim R. Wornek

District 80: Sacramento
Bernest Burnett
Brookins Delano
Tonya Clark
Julian Gaytan
David Geddis
Brandon Grisso
Joshua Hamilton
Douglas Hammer
Robert Hawkins
Bryan Haycock
Ricky McCray
Casey Mitchell
Mike Myers
Fernando Orozco

NEW CONTRACTORS November 2006

District 01: Burlingame
R&M Underground, Inc.

District 04: Fairfield
Kraus Maintenance Services, Inc.
Performance

District 10: Rohnert Park
American Rail Consultants

District 12: Utah
Bagley Trucking
Hicks Excavating

District 17: Hawaii
TMC General Contracting, Inc.

District 30: Stockton
Combined Effort, Inc.

District 50: Fresno
Steve Dovali Construction

District 90: Morgan Hill
Tucker Engineering

Tech Engineers
Vista Construction Services

SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING

Rec. Corres. Secretary Robert L. Wise announces the next Semi-Annual meeting of the membership will be held Sunday, March 18, 2007 at 1 p.m. at the Solano County Fairgrounds in Vallejo, Calif.

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 in Local 3. These pins come in five-year increments from 25 through 65 years of service. Please contact your district office to receive your pins.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

November 2006, effective Jan. 1, 2007

G. Alcain	1477853	District 17: Hawaii
Jeff Birch	1499840	District 11: Nevada
Herman F. Eppler	1130291	District 11: Nevada (effective 10-01-06)
I.W. Johnson	0991223	District 17: Hawaii
Fred M. Keomaka Sr.	1451735	District 17: Hawaii
Joseph Lopez	1482460	District 80: Sacramento
William Schoonmaker	1181793	District 70:
A.W. Smith	1446520	District 17: Hawaii
Benny Swindle	1071005	District 90: Morgan Hill

Operating Engineers Local 3 Scholarship Contest Rules for 2007

Applications available at district offices, credit union branches and online at www.oe3.org

The Local 3 officers and Executive Board understand the workplace is rapidly changing, and many jobs now require new skills that can be attained only with a good education. Local 3 is dedicated to giving our young people the opportunity to succeed by providing them with the chance to further their education and training. For this reason, Local 3 awards annual scholarships to sons, daughters, stepchildren and foster children of Local 3 members.

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Four college scholarships will be awarded to children of Local 3 members. Two scholarships of \$3,000 each will be awarded to the first place female and male applicants. Two scholarships of \$2,000 each will be awarded to the second place female and male applicants. These scholarships must be used for study at an accredited U.S. college or university.

Winners also receive an additional \$1,000 per year from the Scholarship Fund for the second, third and fourth years of college, provided they remain full-time students.

The academic scholarships will not impose restrictions of any kind on the course of study. Recipients may accept any other grants or awards, which do not rule out scholarship aid from other sources.

WHO MAY APPLY

Children of Local 3 members may apply for an academic scholarship. One parent of the applicant must be a Local 3 member for at least one year immediately preceding the date of the application.

Children of deceased Local 3 members are eligible to apply for the scholarships. The parent of the applicant must have been a Local 3 member in good standing for at least one year immediately preceding the date of death.

The applicants must be senior high school students who have or will be graduated at the end of either: 1) the fall semester (beginning in 2006) or: 2) the spring semester (beginning in 2007) in public, private or parochial schools who are planning to attend a college or university anywhere in the U.S. during the academic year and who are able to meet the academic requirements for entrance in the university or college of their choice. Students selected for a scholarship must have achieved not less than a B cumulative average in their high school work.

Applications will be accepted between Jan. 1, 2007 and March 30, 2007.

AWARDING ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Upon receipt of the application and required forms, Local 3 will not exercise any choice among the various applicants or indicate in any way that one applicant should be favored over another. Based on factors normally used in awarding academic scholarships, the University Scholarship Selection Committee will submit recommendations for finalists to the Local 3 Executive Board. The list of potential winners and their qualifications will be reviewed and studied by the Executive Board and the scholarship winners selected.

Academic scholarship winners will be announced at Local 3's June Executive Board meeting. Checks will be deposited in the winning students' names payable to the college or university they plan to attend.

Applicants who are not selected for an academic scholarship will automatically be eligible for the random-draw scholarships; therefore, only one application is required. Twenty \$500 random-draw scholarships will be awarded at Local 3's July Executive Board meeting. Applicants need not be present to win.

INSTRUCTIONS

All of the following items must be received by March 30, 2007:

1. The **application and essay** are to be filled out and returned by the applicant.
2. The **report on the applicant and transcript** is to be filled out by the high school principal or person he or she designates and returned directly to Local 3 by the official completing it.
3. One to three **letters of recommendation** giving information about the applicant's character and ability. These may be from teachers, community leaders, family friends or others who know the applicant. Please submit all letters of recommendation with the application.
4. A recent **photograph**, preferably two inches by three inches, with the applicant's name written on the back. The photo should be clear enough to reproduce in the *Engineers News*.

5. The **name, address and phone number** of the applicant's local newspaper for the purpose of sending a press release on behalf of each winner.

RANDOM-DRAW SCHOLARSHIPS

In addition to the four academic scholarships, Local 3 will award 20 \$500 random-draw scholarships. The names of all applicants will be entered into a drawing to be held at Local 3's July Executive Board meeting. Applicants need not be present to win.

Random-draw scholarships are available only to the sons, daughters, stepchildren and foster children of Local 3 members. One parent of the applicant must be a Local 3 member for at least one year immediately preceding the date of the application.

Children of deceased Local 3 members are eligible to apply for the scholarships if the parent was a Local 3 member for at least one year immediately preceding the date of death.

Children of Local 3 members who plan to attend college or trade school are eligible to apply. They will not be judged on academic qualifications. All applicants who apply for the Local 3 academic scholarships and do not win will automatically qualify for this drawing. **A second application is not necessary.**

Applications will be accepted from Jan. 1, 2007 to March 30, 2007. Previous winners are not eligible to apply.

The money will be funded when the college or trade school confirms the winner is a full-time student.

WHERE TO GET APPLICATIONS

Academic and random-draw scholarship applications are available at the local's district offices, credit union branches and online at www.oe3.org. **It is the applicant's responsibility to submit the application to the address below, which must be received no later than March 30, 2007:**

Robert L. Wise
Recording-Corresponding Secretary
Operating Engineers Local 3
1620 South Loop Road
Alameda, CA 94502-7090

DISTRICT MEETINGS

All meetings convene at 7 p.m.

JANUARY 2007

- 10th District 80: Sacramento
Engineers' Building
4044 North Freeway Blvd.
- 11th District 20: Oakland
Warehouse Union Local 6
99 Hegenberger Road
- 16th District 90: Morgan Hill
Engineers' Building
325 Digital Drive
- 17th District 50: Clovis
(please note location change)
Clovis Masonic Lodge
375-5th St. (NW corner of 5th and DeWitt)
- 18th District 30: Stockton
Italian Athletic Club
3541 Cherryland Drive

FEBRUARY 2007

- 1st District 10: Ukiah
Hampton Inn
1160 Airport Park Blvd.
- 6th District 40: Eureka
Red Lion
1925 4th St.
- 7th District 70: Redding
Engineers' Building
20308 Engineers Lane
- 8th District 60: Oroville
Southside Oroville Community Center
2959 Lower Wyandotte
- 21st District 04: Suisun City
Veterans' Memorial Building
427 Main St.
- 22nd District 01: Burlingame
Machinists' Hall
1511 Rollins Road

MARCH 2007

- 6th District 17: Honolulu
Kapolei High School
91-5007 Kapolei Pkwy.
- 7th District 17: Hilo
Hilo ILWU Hall
100 W. Lanikaula St.
- 8th District 17: Maui
Maui Beach Hotel
170 Kaahumanu Ave.
Kahului
- 28th District 12: Salt Lake City
IBEW Local 354
3400 W. 2100 South
- 29th District 11: Reno
Engineers' Building
1290 Corporate Blvd.

Election of Market and Geographic Area Committee

Business Manager Russ Burns has announced the election of Market and Geographic Area Committee members will take place at each district's regularly scheduled district meeting, except for Hawaii, during the first quarter of 2007 with eligibility rules as follows:

1. Must be a member in good standing of the parent local.
2. Must be living in the committee's geographical area.
3. Must be working/making a living in the industry in that area.
4. Must be an "A" journey-level operator.
5. Cannot be an owner-operator.
6. No member will be nominated unless he or she is present at the meeting and will accept the nomination and position, if elected.
7. No member is allowed to serve more than two consecutive terms on the Market and Geographic Area Committee.

The schedule of the meetings at which these elections will be held appears on this page under district meetings.

2007 Grievance Committee Election

Rec. Corres. Secretary Rob Wise has announced that in accordance with Article X, Section 10 of the local union bylaws, the election of Grievance Committees will take place at the first regular quarterly district meetings of 2007.

The schedule of meetings at which these elections will be held appears on this page under district meetings.

DEPARTED MEMBERS

Christianson, Ernest District 60 Chico, CA 05-01-06	Kelley, John District 80 Orangevale, CA 11-03-06	Petersen, Cyril District 99 Las Vegas, NV 10-23-06	District 90 San Jose, CA 10-16-06
Aguirre, George District 90 San Jose, CA 10-05-06	Laffranchi, John District 99 Snohomish, WA 10-18-06	Pridmore, James District 50 Delhi, CA 11-10-06	Yudnich, Rudolph District 10 Middletown, CA 10-19-06
Bailey, Roy District 50 Merced, CA 11-15-06	Marquez, Michael District 90 San Jose, CA 10-22-06	Pruzzo, Albert District 90 Morgan Hill, CA 10-26-06	DECEASED DEPENDENTS
Ball, Wesley District 12 Layton, UT 11-03-06	Davis, Donald District 99 Las Vegas, NV 11-09-06	Rivera, Joseph District 17 Kaneohe, HI 10-05-06	
Barrow, Charles District 50 Fresno, CA 09-21-06	Gilson, Bill District 99 San Marcos, CA 10-10-06	Rogers, W. District 99 Hot Springs, AR 10-19-06	
Brown, Robert District 01 S. San Francisco, CA 10-17-06	Green, Elmo District 12 Clearfield, UT 11-03-06	Rushing, M. District 50 Hilmar, CA 10-03-06	
Brown, Johnny District 90 Campbell, CA 10-20-06	Hashimoto, John District 17 Kapolei, HI 10-18-06	Souza, James District 17 Pukalani, HI 10-25-06	
Carr, George District 30 Turlock, CA 09-18-06	Johnson, Tedd District 99 Preston, ID 10-14-06	Stott, Carrol District 12 Lindon, UT 09-29-06	
		Telly, Rudolph	

In remembrance of our brothers

Wally Schissler We are sad to inform the membership of the Nov. 30 passing of Retiree Wally Schissler. Wally was a longtime International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) member - initiated in August 1949. Some of you may also remember Wally when he worked for OE3 as a business agent. He was the brother of recently retired member Paul Schissler. The family has requested that in lieu of flowers, donations be sent to the American Cancer Society.

Ray Cooper We regret to inform the membership of the Dec. 6 passing of Retiree Ray Cooper. Ray was initiated into the International Union of Operating Engineers in February 1948. He worked many years in the field and on staff for OE3 as a district representative in Eureka.

Al Dalton It is with sadness we report the Dec. 6 passing of Retiree Al "Bud" Dalton. Al was a 64-year Local 3 member who first joined the union in 1942. He believed strongly in unionism and was fond of saying Local 3 was "the best thing on earth." We at Local 3 think so highly of Al and wish to send our heartfelt condolences to Mary Dalton and the family.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to all of the families at this sad and difficult time.

SwapShop 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 immediately if your item has been sold. Business-related offerings are not eligible for inclusion in **SwapShop**. *Engineers News* reserves the right to edit ads. Deadline 1st of the month. Limit two ads per issue.

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

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

**Or fax ads to: SwapShop
(916) 419-3487**

**Or e-mail to:
mjessup@oe3.org**

*All ads must include Member Registration Number or ad will not appear.

FOR SALE: '76 12' aluminum Gregor boat and trailer, 2004 15 hp Honda "4" stroke engine with electric and pull start. 20 hours on engine. All accessories purchased new in 2004. Running lights, Loran x97 fish finder. Minnkota bow mount trolling motor with foot control from stern or bow,abela adjustable height seats. All new wood on seats and floor boards. New floor mats. New tires on trailer. Battery for motor included. \$5,000 or best offer. In Oroville Calif. Call Ben at (530) 533-0566. Reg# 1181682.

FOR SALE: '02 Silverado Stepside, Fully Loaded, Utility Box, Bed Liner, 130K Miles, Custom Paint, Excel Condition \$15,000. AND: '94 Ford. Eddie Bauer, Loaded, Excel Condition, New Tires, 167KMiles, \$3,500. AND: A Sears Freezer 150 lb. Chest, 14 Foot H34 W27, New 2005 \$200. Call: (530) 245-0855 Reg# 2342244.

FOR SALE: 2005 Ford Ranger, extended cab with side jump seats, Excellent condition, 4 cylinder, automatic, only 9,000 miles, ac, cassett/cd player, dark red exterior, full bed liner, black/grey interior, great gas milage, one owner, must sell. \$14,500 OBO (831) 458-9401. Reg# 2514581.

FOR SALE: Deeded timeshare points in exciting Las Vegas - one of Fairfield's highest demand resorts! Own 77,000 points to stay LV anytime, or at any Fairfield and RCI resort worldwide. Own a quality deeded property at bargain price (saving \$90 annually). Mortgage already paid in full; I have clean

title. As a Fairfield-Plus owner, you choose when, length of stay and size of unit. Your only cost is \$29 for monthly maintenance. \$2500 cash, any/all trades considered. Call (775) 742-9193. Reg# 2134351.

FOR SALE: '79 Bluebird wander-lodge bus, not a conversion. Factory-built RV. 32-ft., tinted windows, alcova wheels, new tires, lots of storage. Brown and cream color. 3208 Cat w/4sp Allison transmission, newer 6.5 Onan, central vac, safe and fully self-contained. 150 gallon fuel, 100 gallon holding tank. In good condition. Ready to go. \$25,000. Call (775) 742-9193. Reno, NV. Reg# 2134351.

FOR SALE: '05 F250 Lariat extended cab, 6.0 LTR turbo diesel for sale. 12500 miles, good fuel economy, well maintained. Looking to sell for the payoff which is roughly \$38,000. Call cell: (408) 761-0796 (ask for Scott) Reg# 2559744.

FOR SALE: '99 Ford F-350, crew cab, duallie, alloy wheels, good tires, Lariat package, Leather interior, AM/FM, Cassette, CD, set up for XM radio, 160,00 miles, 7.3 litre Power stroke diesel, 2-wheel drive, well maintained, Auto-trans, tow package, PS, PB, A/C. Call for more Info., e-mail photo's on request, call Charlie or Tony. (775) 324-7897. Reg# 2375021.

FOR SALE: '91 Harley Davidson FLSTC Heritage softtail classic. 14K miles, great condition, well-maintained, new tires and brakes. Two seats and backrests. Motor upgrades. \$11,500. OBO. Call (650) 280-2672. Reg# 2321541.

FOR SALE: solar-equipped, a 2K watt Xantrex prosing 2 truedesignware inverter, two solar panels at 170 watts total, one 60 amp charge controller and 4 395AH X 6V batteries with two circuit breakers included. \$2,200 firm. Call (530) 308-2941. Reg# 2744571.

FOR SALE: '03 Dodge 2500 truck: 27K miles, 4-door, longbed, auto trans., AC Elec windows, cruise cont.; 4-in. SS exhaust system, banks 6-shooter w/all gauges. Excellent power when needed, excellent economy. \$22,500. Call: (209) 588-8321. Reg# 1142830.

WANTED: U.S. Gold and silver coins. Also: any coins minted in Carson City, Nevada, from 1870 - 1893. Call: (408) 226-0729. Reg# 1225584.

FOR SALE: F350 Ford truck 8X12 stake bed \$3500 OBO AND: Browning gun safe \$1000. AND: D4 Track rails fits like a 7U series \$400. Call: (530) 346-2918 or e-mail: farmerar@cwnet.com Reg# 1271053.

FOR SALE: '01 Ford F350 Lariat, crew cab, short bed, 64,000 miles, 7.3 turbo Diesel White with gold trim. Fuel/toolbox combo holds 80 gallons. Cobra CB, 15,000 lb. tilt 5th wheel hitch. Kept in garage, well maintained \$25,000 or offer. Ask for Larry (928) 305-5034 or

cell# (928) 916-1805. Reg# 1124553.

Wanted: Local 3 or IUOE lapel pins, business agent pins, organizer pins, tie tacks, belt buckles or other accessories you might have and want to sell or give to a good home. I'm open to any interesting OE3 memento that might be collecting dust. The older the better. Will pay any reasonable price, plus shipping. Contact Michael at (707) 580-6309. Reg# 2291140.

FOR SALE: 2003 Bayliner 285 w/Trailer, generator, inverter, dinghy w/outboard. Sleeps up to 6. Bottom painted 2005. Like new boat inside and out. For more info, please call (530) 671-1724. \$57,000. Reg#1855418.

FOR SALE: '90 Harley Davidson FLSTF Fatboy. \$11,000, OBO. Silver, low miles, good condition, with saddlebag, cover, sissy bar and Tbag. Original seat. E-mail: hd1990fatboy@hotmail.com for pics or call: (916) 529-6549 to see. Reg# 2584180.

FOR SALE: '87 Chevy blazer with 134K miles, brand-new tires, new trans, starter battery, runs great. Straight body, needs paint. Smogged and ready to go. \$3,600. Call (707) 537-8635. Reg# 1555813.

FOR SALE: 28 X 60 Mobile home, like new, 2+2+den, vaulted ceilings, central heat and air, all new carpet in/out, 50-ft. covered driveway, 32-ft. covered porch, 8x10 shed, water and garbage free with \$281 rent per month. Very nice senior park, \$98,500. Anderson, CA. (530) 365-0358. Reg# 0731140.

FOR SALE: 03' ultra classic Harley Davidson, screaming eagle pipes, stage one kit, fairius bra, very clean bike, well-maintained, new tires, breakes. Luxury blue: \$13,000 AND: two wagon wheels, large for buckboard wagon, good cond. \$100 each. And four small wheels for small surrey buggy, all four matching: \$200. AND: purebred Hereford cows with calves; cows are three and four years old, healthy and sound. Some registered AHA. Call if interested: (209) 892-2562. Reg# 2193846.

FOR SALE: '57 Metropolitan, great shape, \$4,000 OBO. Call Hubert: (707) 762-6170. Reg# 0607688.

FOR SALE: '96 Case 580 backhoe: Cab, 4 and 1 loader, extend-a-hoe, buckets (12, 18, 24-in) '84 GMC 7000: 12-ft. flatbed with fuel tank and change over pump; and Walton gooseneck trailer: 12-ton, ramp load. Package deal for \$40,000. Call p.m. (408) 842-6215. Reg# 107005.

FOR SALE: 5 acres horse property in Worley, Idaho, 3 bd, 2 ba double wide. Large kitchen and living room, old barn with Silo. Shop, garage, two decks, fruit trees, horse fence and cross fence, 25-gal well, large lawn. Owner will carry

paper, \$160,000. Call: (208) 686-0223. e-mail: jendavleon@aol.com. Reg# 42943468.

FOR SALE: Ingram 3-wheel roller. Ferguson 3- to 5-ton tandem roller. Any reasonable offer. AND (lots of items): Wisconsin engines (AENL), heavy-duty electric start. Wisconsin, almost new, (BKND) rope start. Wisconsin (AGND). Briggs and Stratton smallyard blower. Lauson small. VANSN boat trailer, single axle: \$350. Lauson mud pump. Maytag gas washing machine motor, gas cement mixer, SQHD (444) rear ends. 350 small Cummins engine with Jake brake. \$2,000. Many other items. (916) 487-4846. Reg# 486295.

FOR SALE/TRADE: 2 plots in Vets section of Cloverdale cemetery, Boise, ID. \$3,000 OBO. Call: (775) 910-9625. Reg# 2269570.

FOR SALE: '75 4905A GM Bus 40-ft. converted, re-titled '89. 15K miles on rebuilt 8V71 engine/Allison auto transmission, raised roof, 6-in. oak cabinets, rear queen walkaround bed, 110 waste - 100 freshwater. Consider 9 - 9.5-ft. pickup camper on trade, or \$30,000 OBO. Call (775) 910-9625. Reg# 2269570.

FOR SALE: Spectacular ranch property in Brentwood. 2675 sq. ft. 3 bed 3 ba, 2500 sq. ft. shop, gorgeous pool w/ cascade; lovely landscaping w/ mature trees. 11.99 total acres that can be subdivided down to 2 parcels. Older home charm that has been completely updated. Pictures can be seen at www.190eaglelane.com. \$1,540,700. (Under recently appraised value). Call (925) 766-1199. Reg# 2212748.

FOR SALE: '87 Sea Ray 270 Sundancer w/tri axle trailer. This boat is in exc. condition and loaded w/extras. 10-ft. beam, twin 260 HP mercruisers, pioneer stere/cd player, VHF radio, A/C, heat, hot water shower, vacu-flush head, 3.0 gen. set, battery, charger, furuno radar, auto pilot, depth finder, windless, full delta canvas. \$29,900. Call (209) 479-3329. Reg# 281818.

FOR SALE: '91 Harley Davidson FLSTC Heritage, softtail classic. 14K miles, great condition. Well maintained. New tired and brakes. Two seats and back seats. Motor upgrades. \$11,900. OBO. (650) 280-2672. Reg# 2321541.

FOR SALE: '72 Ford truck 3/4-ton, runs, have shell, rear sliding glass window, new alternator brakes good one set of rims, new steering box, \$2,000 OBO. (209) 982-5245 Reg# 22044724.

FOR SALE: Dodge 4x4, 2004 QuadCab SLT, 5.9L Cumming HO Turbo Diesel, Leather to Navigation system, 53,000 miles, \$29,000. call (775) 746-1069. Reg# 1359556.

FOR SALE: Boise, ID. One-acre lot, fully fenced with a pde barn and storage shed. 5 bedrooms and 2 baths. Great location in town with

a great country feel. Call: (208) 871-0638. Reg# 544643823.

FOR SALE: '71 Plymouth Valiant: built 360, w2 heads, 7272 tranny, 4:10 gears, straight body, no rust, glass lift off hood with six pack scoop (never mounted). Must sell. Make offer. Justin at (530) 275-2954 or (503) 355-0892. Reg# 2512123.

WANTED: Hunter Trueline on the car wheel balance. Call with what you have. AND: FOR SALE: '69 Chevy Impala, 2-dr. HDTP. Rust, good trans., rear end, \$M500 OBO (775) 629-0245. Reg# 1171933.

FOR SALE: Near new clamp-on Asphalt-Cutter, less than half price. Attachment International Model 140 BM, Cuts up to 10,000 ft per hr. E-mail for picture andyslabs@yahoo.com AND: three pavement breakers (jack hammer) 90lb. two with 4 bolt head, one with 2 bolt head. \$50 each. Must take all. Call (707) 722-4568 Reg# 1087450.

FOR SALE: '02 roadmaster tow dolly, electric brakes and components, excellent condition, \$1,500.00 (cost new \$2600). Call: (925) 682-6802 Reg# 1136252.

FOR SALE: '02 Bounder 31W, two Sliders, Living and Bdrm. TV dish, 6 CD changer. Dual Roof Air. large swivel chair, ice maker, workhorse chassis. 8.1 vortec. engine. Low mileage. USA Awning. AND: Pro Craft, super pro 20" bass boat 2004 bought new 2005, less than 20 hrs on motor 200 Mercury Optimax, hydraulic steering, two live wells, 2 Lowrance fish finders, jack plate, foot toddle, custom cover. (916) 645-1425. Reg# 1098532.

FOR SALE: Homemade hopper fertilizer spreader, good for walnut trees, works good and spreads more than 40-ft. Weighs 450 pounds and holds more than 160 pounds of fertilizer. Built solid, forced to sell. \$300. Serious callers only. Joe at (650) 697-1440. Reg# 1043773.

WANTED: Tractors running or not, or three-point equipment. AND: WANTED firearms, pistols, rifles and shotguns. No particular caliber. Will pay cash and pick-up. Call (559) 351-6615. Reg# 2123273.

WANTED: Rock tumbler; fiberglass canoe in good condition; dermal tool; apple press; smoker. Call: (530) 283.4412 or e-mail at williampkelley@sbcglobal.net. Reg# 2428138.

FOR SALE: LAND for sale in the Dalles, Oregon. 85 X 105 city lot on dead-end street with view of the Columbia River. Beautiful property. Utilities onsite and permits are paid. Asking \$100,000. Call: (541) 296-3417. Reg# 1051336.

WANTED: 50th anniversary Operating Engineers Western belt buckle. Call Dan: (916) 801-8339. Reg# 2346454.

FROM REDDING

District 70 honors the best of the best

The Redding District wants to applaud the longtime efforts of some of our heaviest hitters – the OE3 members with 50 years of service. The following members can now keep official “union” time, with an OE3 watch or clock.



Fifty-year Honoree Tom Lemon.



Fifty-year Honoree Marvin Seal.



Fifty-year Honoree Robert Turner.



Fifty-year Honoree Warren Walters with Redding District Rep. Eric Sargent.



Redding District Rep. Eric Sargent and Fifty-year Honoree Merhle Jennings.

FROM UTAH

Labor wins 70% of Utah mid-term election

The outlook for the work picture in District 12 and the political climate in the state of Utah is good. The work picture continues to improve, since Ames Construction was the low bidder on two of the three segments of Legacy Highway, and W.W. Clyde and Geneva Rock are the low bidders on the third segment. This ensures Operating Engineers will do all segments.

The midterm elections went well for the Utah District Operating Engineers Community Action Team (OE CAT), since 70 percent of the labor-friendly candidates we supported won. Congratulations to the following elected officials:

Jim Matheson, U.S. Congress District 2
Christine Johnson, House District 25
Jackie Biskupski, House District 30
Larry Wiley, House District 31
Phil Riesen, House District 36
Jim Dunnigan, House District 39
Tim CosGrove, House District 44
Karen Morgan, House District 46
Mel Brown, House District 53
Gene Davis, Senate District 3
Ed Mayne, Senate District 5
Brent Goodfellow, Senate District 12
Joe Hatch, Salt Lake County Council District 1
Jim Winder, Salt Lake County Sheriff
Sherrie Swenson, Salt Lake County Clerk
Jim Bradley, Salt Lake County Council At-Large

In more political news: The Opinion Poll in Utah County and Proposition 3 in Salt Lake County passed, adding nearly \$100 million a year for transit and road construction in those counties.

We are excited for Utah's labor outlook now and in the years to come and thank all our members for educating themselves and voting in the midterm elections. We must not forget we lost the state prevailing wage and had right-to-work pushed on us by being asleep at the wheel. Let's use these past significant losses and most recent wins as motivation to mobilize ourselves in the future.

Congratulations to **Ray Lewis** for being elected to the Utah District 12 Bylaws Committee.



Vice President Carl Goff addresses new members initiated at the Nov. 29 Utah District meeting in Salt Lake City.



Just before district meetings, Utah holds a Member Education Night: Training/Organizing/Recruitment (MENTOR) for apprentices, but all members are invited to attend. Pictured here, Apprenticeship Coordinator Kris Morgan greets the attendees.

FROM ROHNERT PARK

Green Music Center is a go

The Green Music Center at Sonoma State University is the project of the month in Rohnert Park District 10. Contractors **Ghilotti Construction** and **Rudolph and Sletten** have crews running non-stop, preparing the building site and laying the infrastructure. Owner-operator **Korte's Backhoe Service** is also on the jobsite, installing the footings in the basement and building the stage.

The center will feature an acoustically-superb concert hall for the Santa Rosa Symphony and for the school's student musicians, as well as master musicians from national and international stages.

Fundraising for the center has become a joint public-private endeavor. **Donald and Maureen Green** made the founding gift to propel the project forward, and all pieces of the funding fell into place in 2006, with approval of state funds to build the academic building, the commitment of private funds and an investment by Sonoma State Enterprises in the Hospitality Center.

Construction completion is anticipated in fall 2008.



Member **Jim Korte** with **Korte's Backhoe Service** builds a stage for one of the concert halls of the Green Music Center.



Twenty-four-year member **Bill Sisson** sets a storm drain surrounding the Green Music Center at Sonoma State.

Vernon Langley is a 35-year Local 3 member back at work under the Retiree Addendum in District 10. He works for **Ghilotti Construction** at the Green Music Center.

FROM MORGAN HILL

IBM/Hitachi Project going strong in San Jose

Even with the economy cooling nationwide and housing slowing down, the work picture in District 90 continues to look good now and for the future. Many new and ongoing development projects encompass the four-county area.

One such project, the IBM/Hitachi multi-use development project in San Jose, is our featured project this month. The project site was the home of IBM in the 1950s and is located on 332 prime acres. Hitachi Global Storage Technologies, Inc., took over the location in 2003, and a new, master plan was formulated to better utilize the large tract of land.

Currently, 125 acres has been rezoned for residential, retail and open-space use. Hitachi will retain 158 acres of industrial-zoned land for its own business and will develop an industrial campus to accommodate about 3.6 million square feet of office space and other commercial-business structures. More than 40 acres will be devoted to roads and mass transit. A fire station, school and about 3,000 homes will be built, as well as a 460,000 square-foot commercial strip mall. Currently, Mountain View's **FERMA Corporation** is doing the demolition work on the original IBM buildings. Other bids will soon go out for the roadwork and housing tracts.

In other news: On Nov. 3, **RGW Construction** had a retirement party for 37-year member **Stanley Nishiyama** at the company's Almaden and Hwy. 87 jobsite in San Jose, Calif. Former Finish-Dozer Operator **Stanley Nishiyama** is happy about the prospects of retirement but has mixed feelings about no longer working with his fellow Local 3 operators.

Business Agent **Al Sousa** recently visited 40-year member **Mike**

Fierros and his wife of 69 years, Mary. Mike spent most of his career working at various jobsites in Northern California with **A.J. Raisch**. He primarily ran paving machines and finish rollers and likes to say: "Just get the job done!" Mike was drafted in 1942 and trained at Fort Ord, Calif., with the 2nd Marine Division. He served his country in World War II and was decorated with various combat medals. At 88 years young, **Mike Fierros** still remains active and religiously attends the Morgan Hill District retiree meetings.

Another military veteran and 37-year Local 3 member is **Victor Aguilar** from San Jose. Not only was Victor a working foreman for **Duran and Venables**, he was an E-9 command sergeant major with the U.S. Army Reserves. Victor enjoys attending the retiree meetings held at the Morgan Hill District Hall, and the District 90 staff extends a warm welcome for all retirees in our district to attend. It's a great time to get updated on union events, as well as a time to visit with old friends.

The Morgan Hill District staff hopes this new year will be a prosperous and joyful one for all.



From left: Morgan Hill District Rep. **DJ Roberston**, 37-year Local 3 member and active Retiree **Victor Aguilar** and Business Manager **Russ Burns**.



In the Fierros home, Business Agent **Al Sousa** (far right) visits 40-year member and former Marine **Mike Fierros** and his wife of 69 years, Mary. Mike is well-decorated with various combat medals from World War II.



Mountain View's **FERMA Corporation** performs demolition work on the original IBM buildings in San Jose.