Carquinez Bridge 1927 – 2007

Demolition involves Local 3 members, contractors

Please see page 17 for important information about the Bylaws Committee election.
The next level

Since taking the oath of office as your business manager in September, I’ve experienced the busiest three months of my life. In addition to district and retirees’ meetings across the jurisdiction, the officers and I have been on the road for the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) Western Conference, and we have been conducting E-board, officer and staff meetings non-stop. The fact is, we’ve been going non-stop since day one, and we have no intention of slowing down.

The support you have shown us through this time of transition has been incredible, and I want to thank you for that. I believe with your continued encouragement and support, we can take this local union to the next level. That’s where we’re headed, brothers and sisters, and I urge you to join us for the ride.

The next level for Local 3 begins with you, the membership. It begins with your vote this month at the ballot box in an attendance and participation at our district and retirees’ meetings, your involvement in the Operating Engineers Community Action Team (OE CAT), your health and safety, your continued commitment to training and organizing, and your feedback and input through the union’s democratic process.

My job and the job of the Local 3 officers and staff is to walk you through it all. Remember, we are here for you and because of you.

To begin, we have to be on the same page, which is why we’re showing an educational PowerPoint presentation during this fall round of district and retirees’ meetings. The presentation covers several important Local 3 issues, including revisions to our bylaws, the E-board’s directive for a staff compensation review, our administrative objectives, an update on our pension and the Nov. 7 General Election.

In the event you are unable to attend your meeting and for the sake of covering all bases, I want to review these issues with you now.

Bylaws changes

During the fourth-quarter meetings, each district will elect a rank-and-file member to sit on a Bylaws Committee to give you, the membership, the chance to impart change in your union. Specifically, the committee will be working to establish:

• Checks and balances. One goal of the Bylaws Committee is to implement a system of checks and balances on all the officers, including myself, and the Local 3 staff. These checks and balances will help to ensure Local 3 operates in a transparent and fiscally responsible manner.

• Fiscal responsibility. Another goal of the Bylaws Committee is to implement a dues structure that is fair and equitable to all members. This new structure will include a reassessment of our supplemental dues, with the intention of keeping more money in our members’ pockets.

Please note, this process of revising our bylaws will not happen overnight, brothers and sisters. It will take time for each district to elect a member to the Bylaws Committee and for the union to complete a budget analysis of our dues structure. All changes to the bylaws must be in compliance with the International’s Constitution and must go before the entire membership for approval – these processes will also take time to complete.

Compensation review

Our Executive Board recently retained an outside firm to conduct a Local 3 compensation review, comparing our staff compensation to the local marketplace and to other local unions in the industry. The officers and the board believe this review is necessary to ensure our staff is qualified to do their jobs and committed to our membership.

Administrative objectives

Service to the membership is our No. 1 priority. This means we are working to:

• Improve our negotiating techniques through training and officer supervision
• Protect our jurisdiction and enforce our contracts
• Invest in the membership by providing the best possible apprentice and journey-level training
• Invest in our staff to develop the most qualified, committed and experienced business agents in the industry

Organizational transparency. This administration believes you have a right to know what’s going on at Local 3, therefore, we are working to provide greater access to E-Board minutes, reports on the use of members’ dues money and on our pension investment returns.

Benefits management. This involves making sure your fringe benefits are properly managed. In doing so, we are continuously looking for ways to optimize our pension returns through consultant comparisons (with the intention of retaining the best consultant) and open bidding for our Trust Fund services.

Pension update

With a few months remaining, our returns for 2006 are nearly on target at 4.5 percent. We hope to equal if not surpass this for the 2006 year; however, we have some catching up to do this next quarter. With that in mind, we are focused on maximizing our returns and minimizing our risks.

Nov. 7 General Election

I know you’ve heard it a thousand times, but I want to remind you once again to get out and vote Nov. 7. You know the issues:

• Vote YES on Propositions 1A through 1E. This is the mega bond package that means $37 billion worth of jobs, jobs, jobs for our membership.
• Terminate Arnold, and elect Phil Angelides for governor.

A complete list of our Political Action Committee (PAC) endorsements for the November election can be found in the October edition of Engineers News – I urge you to take it with you to the polls for reference. We need to get out the vote if we want to protect and maintain the union way of life. That’s what it’s all about, folks.

Q&As

If you have questions or concerns about these issues or any other union issues, please contact your district office.

Until next month, I’d like to wish you and yours a safe and happy Thanksgiving.

In solidarity,

Russell E. Burns
Business Manager
IUOE General Vice President
In the News

Burns named IUOE General Vice President

In a unanimous decision last month, the General Executive Board of the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) voted in Business Manager Russ Burns as the 14th IUOE General Vice President. This is a great honor for our business manager and for the entire Local 3 membership, as it speaks to the International’s trust and support in our local leadership. Congratulations to you, Russ!

OE3 attends labor conference

From Sept. 10-13, the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) Western Conference was held in Portland, Ore. OE3 officers and staff attended to meet with labor leaders, including IUOE General President Vince Giblin and former U.S. Congressman Dick Gephardt, to discuss labor issues and plot the positive direction of labor unions for the future.

Apprentice wallet returned

OE3 apprentices have a lot to keep track of. There is much expected from them in their coursework in order to excel as the best operators in the industry. Sometimes, things fall by the wayside, including wallets.

Eureka District Apprentice Stanley Kuma recently misplaced his wallet right after talking with JAC Coordinator Pat Grisby. Stanley was working for Fraser at the time. Beverly Garcia discovered the wallet in Monterey and shortly thereafter found Pat Grisby’s business card inside. She promptly called his number, and through a somewhat complicated proceeding of phone calls, directions and timelines between agents, secretaries and Stanley Kuma, Beverly Garcia returned the wallet to the Eureka District office, which was more than 100 miles out of her way.

Stanley was so touched by her gesture of kindness, he met up with her, and a photograph was taken.

Even though news is often plagued with horror stories of violence and theft, stories such as this one remind us that honesty and morality are the rule and not the exception. We are also reminded that it is a good idea to keep your union representative’s card in your wallet!

Talking Points

By Fred Herschbach, president

OE3 gets a “check-up”

It’s hard to believe winter is almost here and another season has passed. As days grow shorter and evenings get colder, it is sometimes difficult to get motivated; however, as we head into the new year, we have to work together as a team to stay focused, especially during this upcoming election, which as you’ve heard – is huge. The mega bonds are the biggest transportation investment this state has seen in decades – providing nearly $37 billion into rail and road projects across California. This is no small matter and no time to stay in, instead of heading out to vote.

Speaking of heading out for labor, your new team of officers and I have continued to be on the go since our September election. There has been left little in the dark in terms of the areas we’re assessing and the improvements and upgrades we’re making.

On the legal side of things, we’ve had many meetings with legal representatives to settle impending lawsuits, and we are also getting up to speed on important labor arbitrations, which we will discuss in detail as soon as possible.

We’re keeping an open line between everything we do and you – the membership – and this last round of meetings proved very positive in terms of your feedback and questions. Let me emphasize the importance of your presence at meetings, for that forum is where we get your opinions and can answer your questions. We are here for you.

As winter comes upon us, it is important to prepare for the slower work season by conserving your resources and assessing your skills and health. See our Health Nexus insert for ways to stay healthy this winter. Just as important as your physical health is also the health of your union, and I like to think that now is the time when we’re giving this entire union a “check-up” through intensive training for staff, member-skills upgrades, implementing the feedback from the Bylaws Committee and staying connected to you every way we can.

We’ve also been consolidating resources from across the board, since we recently returned from the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) Foundation Training, where health care and pensions were discussed in depth. We exchanged invaluable information and are working to increase our investment returns and control health-care costs.

Gone are the days of our isolation. It is important that we welcome new ideas, including yours, in terms of the best plan to move this union forward. That means we all must be willing to welcome change and technology, diversity and discipline in embracing a new era for Local 3 – one of accountability, innovation and communication.

With that in mind, I wish you all a safe and “thankful” holiday. I know I am thankful every day for the opportunity you’ve given me to work for you and this great union.
Volunteers of the Year

Every year, we need volunteer help in political activism and community service throughout each Local 3 district. From precinct walking to highway cleanups, there is never a dull moment in our volunteering duties and never enough bodies to fulfill every task. But among those who do give their extra time despite long work days, we are truly grateful. These volunteers are the real backbone behind Local 3’s political and social strength. We tip our hat to all OE3 volunteers, but every year there are those whose dedication and efforts deserve special recognition. They are the best of the best. These outstanding members are nominated by their districts as the 2006 Volunteers of the Year.

DISTRICT 01: BURLINGAME

District 01 would like to thank our 2006 Volunteer of the Year, Surveyor Bruce Spencer. Bruce worked endless hours during the special election and was a key member in our district in helping defeat Proposition 75.

Bruce has been in the field as a Local 3 surveyor for 25 years. He has worked on the west approach of the Bay Bridge, the San Francisco airports Air Transit System, the BART system and a wide range of other projects in his many years of service. Bruce is a valuable member of the Local 3 surveying division.

Bruce was initially reluctant to get involved in the CAT program, but once he saw how much effort goes into protecting what Local 3 has gained over the years, he felt it was the right thing to do.

According to Bruce: “The union has given so much to me and all the other Operating Engineers. I feel that it is our obligation to give back. In fact, we individuals are the union, and it is up to us to keep it strong. We have union representatives, but the underlying strength of the Operating Engineers is the members. The CAT program provides an avenue for me and everyone to help to keep Local 3 strong.”

Bruce works endless hours during the special election and the union as soon as they organized, and she always participates in union meetings and functions and works hard on our OE CAT actions.

On our last highway cleanup, Jacque brought her granddaughters, Brittany and Tatianna. What a great way to set an example for her family and community. Thank you, Jacque, for all you’ve given to our CAT program and the community.

DISTRICT 04: FAIRFIELD

Fairfield District 04 is pleased to select Michael Bullis as our 2006 Volunteer of the Year. Michael is a fifth-step apprentice and will continue to be an asset to Local 3 as a journey-level operator. His volunteer efforts and good attitude have not gone unnoticed in the district. We congratulate him.

DISTRICT 10: Rohnert Park

District 10 once again recognizes Joel Lanstra as our 2006 Volunteer of the Year. Joel is a veteran in our union. His 21 years of service have given him recognition by members and contractors as one of Maui’s best. Born and raised on Maui, Wayne loves to help his community and his union, which is why he is the Hawaii District 2006 Volunteer of the Year. Congratulations on a job well done.

Wayne Yamada is a veteran in our union. His 21 years of service have given him recognition by members and contractors as one of Maui’s best. Born and raised on Maui, Wayne loves to help his community and his union, which is why he is the Hawaii District 2006 Volunteer of the Year. Congratulations on a job well done.

DISTRICT 17: HAWAII

Local 3 would like to thank Chris Palmer for all the work he did during last November’s special election. He put in countless hours phone banking and leafleting. His contributions helped Local 3 and the labor movement defeat Arnold’s anti-worker initiatives, like Proposition 75. For his hours of work and dedication to the CAT program, Chris Palmer is the Oakland District 2006 Volunteer of the Year.

Chris is a shop mechanic at C.F. Archibald and has been involved in
maintaining a wide variety of machinery. One of the more interesting projects he worked on with Archibald was the San Jose Grand Prix.

When asked why he got so involved with the OE CAT program, Chris said, “I felt like it was worthwhile. The union does a lot for its members and their families, and I wanted to give a little back to the union.”

Chris was also glad to see that the democratic process works not only for outside elections but within Local 3 as well, as shown by our most recent election. Chris Palmer is a proud member of Local 3, and District 20 is grateful for his contributions.

DISTRICT 30: STOCKTON
Richard Valentine has been a member of Local 3 since Sept. 2001. Richard has been instrumental in the OE CAT program in District 30, as one of its best volunteers. He has volunteered many hours. We applaud him for supporting our efforts and honor him as this year’s Volunteer of the Year.

DISTRICT 40: EUREKA
Eric Gildesaard has always been available to help at the drop of a hat. The example he has set for our new OE3 members and apprentices is invaluable. He is a true, blue trade-unionist, and we thank him for all his hard work and honor him as Eureka District’s 2006 Volunteer of the Year.

DISTRICT 50: FRESNO
Roy Parker Sr. is a third-step apprentice in District 50, and we choose him as this year’s Volunteer of the Year, because he is always willing to help and take that extra step. He would call us, if we weren’t calling him about what needed to be done in the CAT program. In doing so, he brought a few other CAT members with him, including his wife, Darlette, who was by his side at every event, and his two sons.

Roy is one dynamite volunteer who knows how to make it a family affair.

DISTRICT 60: YUBA CITY
District 60 names Lovejeet Johl for our 2006 Volunteer of the Year. He deserves this award, as he worked hard to help us throughout 2006. Lovejeet was always willing to help when we called. He would leave work after a 10-hour day and drive 50 miles to phone bank until 7 p.m. or 8 p.m. that night. For this and many more reasons, we honor him.

DISTRICT 70: REDDING
Joel Duckworth is a second-generation Operating Engineer. He began his Local 3 career in our five-year apprenticeship program, while working down south for North Bay. Joel continued to work there until June 2005. He was recognized in 2002 as the District 10 Volunteer of the Year. In June 2005, he relocated to Anderson to work in District 70 for Blaisdell Construction as a gradesetter and continues to work there.

In January 2006, he was nominated as one of District 70’s Grievance Committee members.

District 70 would like to thank Joel for his hard work and help. He is always willing and able to lend a helping hand with any events in our district, and for that, we would like to recognize him as our 2006 Volunteer of the Year.

DISTRICT 80: SACRAMENTO
Chris Vincent works for Lund Construction and has helped volunteer many times, including phone banking. He always comes ready to work hard and have a good time, too. For this, District 80 honors him as our 2006 Volunteer of the Year.

DISTRICT 90: MORGAN HILL
District 90 would like to congratulate Larry Watson as our 2006 Volunteer of the Year. He works at Newby Landfill as a lead operator and job steward. Larry truly is one of a kind, as he does it all, including sitting on the apprenticeship committee to interview incoming apprentices.

He is not new to this award, as he was also our 2004 Volunteer of the Year. This year as in year’s past, Larry is always the first one to arrive and the last one to leave at all of our volunteer projects, including phone banking. He attends all district meetings and always goes the extra mile. There isn’t anything he wouldn’t do for this union; we wish we had more members like him. Congratulations, Larry.
**ORGANIZING**  
By Bruce Noel, director

**It’s salting season**

Brothers and sisters, as we move into winter, we are also moving into an important time period for organizing: salting season. Salting is important, because it provides us a rare opportunity to evaluate non-union companies, management and the quality of their workforce. Salting also provides us an opportunity to educate non-union workers on the benefits of working under a Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA).

To conquer or compete with the non-union, we must gather valuable information about them. This helps us with targeting and source listings, which is helpful to our organizers.

The most significant benefit of salting comes directly from the work our members perform in the field. This is an excellent opportunity for Local 3 to showcase the talents of its highly skilled workforce. Nothing is more helpful to our organizers than having top-notch operators to back up their claims.

Remember, salting is not just going to work for the non-union, it is going out with the intent to organize.

If you’re interested in becoming a salt, contact your district representative and/or organizer to sign a Salting Agreement. If you do not sign-in, you are just a member working for the non-union.

**CREDIT UNION**  
By Rob Wise,  
Credit Union secretary/financial officer & recording - corresponding secretary

**Perils and perks of credit-card use**

Credit cards such as Visa are a financial way of life for most Americans. Incorporating credit cards into your monthly money management can be a blessing or a curse, depending on your awareness and use. Credit cards can help you make ends meet, give you a way to earn miles for your next vacation or make your money work twice as hard, with cash-back or rebate programs.

Before you sign up for a card, be clear on how you plan to use it. Will you pay it off monthly or carry a balance and make monthly payments? If you pay off your card monthly, then look for a low, annual fee and other benefits offered.

If you carry a credit-card balance, watch for common perils of changing interest rates and fees explained below.

**Changing interest rates**

The annual percentage rate (APR) is the cost of carrying a balance on your account. Offers of “low APR” or “zero interest” credit cards arrive in our mailbox almost daily. Check to make sure these rates apply to new purchases made with the card, as well as transferred balances from other cards.

These great rates usually come with a catch: They are good for a limited time, and you can’t be late on a payment. Once the promotion period expires or you miss a due date, rates can jump dramatically.

Also be aware that a late payment on one card can trigger a rate increase on your other credit cards. Financial institutions monitor everyday activity and credit scores and can adjust their rates accordingly. There is no federal limit on the interest rate a credit-card company can charge, and interest rates can also be changed at any time with no notice.

Always check the finance charge or rate section of your statement every month to catch any increases. Read the back of your statement or call customer service for interest-rate details to alert you how and when increases can occur.

**Fees**

There are two kinds of credit-card fees – annual and transactional. Annual fees are one-time membership charges that give you the benefit of different services or perks with your card. Transactional fees are charges for late payments, cash advances, transfer balances or for exceeding your credit limit.

There is no legal limit on the amount that can be charged for a late payment.
**Surviving spouse medical plans**

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

If you were a retired employee (other than an owner-operator) who elected the 60-month guarantee pension and who died before receiving 60 monthly pension payments, your surviving spouse can continue the benefits he or she had before your death until the date 60 months from the effective date of your pension award. To do so, your spouse will need to make monthly payments in an amount determined by the board of trustees. By paying the applicable premiums, your spouse can continue the benefits your children were receiving until they cease to be eligible dependent children.

In any other case (including all cases involving owner-operators), your spouse can continue eligibility for all benefits except hearing aid, chemical-dependency treatment and vision-care benefits by making monthly payments in an amount determined by the board of trustees. This type of continuation is also available to a spouse who has reached the end of the 60-month period described above. Your spouse can continue benefits for your children (except hearing aid and vision-care benefits) until they cease to be eligible dependent children by paying the applicable premiums.

If an active Operating Engineer should die after becoming eligible for a pension but before his or her pension-effective date, the surviving spouse will be eligible for benefits under the Pensioned Operating Engineers Trust Fund after the hour bank is exhausted and can no longer provide coverage under the active employees’ plan. To begin and maintain coverage under the Pensioned Operating Engineers Trust Fund, the spouse will need to make the required monthly payments. The spouse will also need to pay the required premiums for any eligible dependent children he or she wants to cover.

If you have any questions, please contact the Trust Fund office at (800) 251-5321.

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**Retiree Association meetings**

The final round of Retiree Association meetings for this year begins this month. The officers of Operating Engineers Local 3 look forward to joining retirees and their spouses for concise reports, good refreshments and plenty of fellowship. Please check the schedule to find the meeting in your area.

**Fringe Benefits Service Center (800) 532-2105**

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**Assistance and Recovery Program (ARP)**

If you are struggling with marital discord, dysfunctional family relationships, alcohol and/or drug abuse, Local 3’s Assistance and Recovery Program (ARP) is here to help. For more information, please call (800) 562-3277. This phone line is monitored by ARP staff, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

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**Father-son duo publish third edition of textbook**

For the father-son team of Nick and John Capachi, their combined 60 years in Local 3 as gradesetters, foremen, owner/operators and superintendents for Teichert is a record to be proud of. But the pair has other accolades, including authorship of the well-known and widely used *Excavation & Grading Handbook*. According to 42-year member and father of John, Nick Capachi, in the 1960s, he was around many apprentices in the field who had the skills necessary to complete jobs but didn’t always have the concept of the total project in mind.

"I wanted to give them something they could read that would give them the whole picture – more than just the steps," Nick said.

So he began writing and revising a complex, practical construction book, first published 28 years ago.

The book has now been through three revisions – this latest one taking a year and a half. The third and latest edition includes the technological advancements and new equipment within the excavation and grading realm today.

"The book covers all phases of dirt work – excavating, compacting, lime treatment, subgrading, placing aggregate and paving," Nick said. "It describes in-depth the laying of sewer, drain and water lines and the use of GPS, lasers and sonar."

The *Excavation & Grading Handbook* also provides a question-and-answer section at the end of each chapter, as well as an interactive study guide.

Florida, Louisiana and California advise contractors’ license-test applicants to read the book before taking the state test, and many trade schools, as well as colleges and universities have the book available.

OE3’s own Rancho Murieta Training Center (RMTTC) used one of the versions in the 1970s and is excited about this latest edition.

Critics agree: “This new, trusted reference has been completely updated to keep excavation contractors, Operating Engineers, and those learning the trade current with state-of-the-art equipment usage and the most efficient excavating and grading techniques.”

For more information on this handbook and to obtain your own copy, visit www.Craftsman-book.com.
SAFETY
By Guy Prescott, director

Winter safety training schedule

It’s the time of year again to update or add to your safety certification. The winter safety training schedules for California, Nevada, Hawaii and Utah are listed below. Classes fill up quickly, so sign up early to ensure your seat. Classes that do not meet the minimum number of signups are subject to cancellation. Please note: The OSHA 10-hour Construction Site Worker course is a prerequisite for the OSHA Disaster Site Worker course.

California
To sign up for classes in California, call the dispatcher at your district hall.

OSHA 10-hour Construction Site Worker Training
(This is a prerequisite to the OSHA Disaster Site Worker course.)
Dec. 11-12 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Alameda District 20
Jan. 15-16 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Morgan Hill District 90
Feb. 26-27 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. RMTC

OSHA Disaster Site Worker Training
Dec. 13-14 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Alameda District 20
Jan. 17-18 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Morgan Hill District 90
Feb. 28-March 1 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. RMTC

40-hour Hazwoper Training
Dec. 11-15 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Alameda District 20
Jan. 15-19 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Morgan Hill District 90
Feb. 26-March 2 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. RMTC

Eight-hour Hazwoper Refresher
Nov. 18 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Stockton District 30
Dec. 2 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Sacramento District 80
Dec. 9 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Fairfield District 04
Dec. 12 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Alameda District 20
Jan. 5 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Stockton District 30
Jan. 16 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Morgan Hill District 90
Jan. 20 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Morgan Hill District 90
Feb. 9 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Rohnert Park District 10
Feb. 16 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Eureka District 40
Feb. 24 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Alameda District 20
Feb. 27 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. RMTC
March 3 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Redding District 70
March 10 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Rohnert Park District 10

First Aid Training
Nov. 18 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Nevada Training Center
Feb. 8 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Nevada Training Center
April 7 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Reno District 11

Roadway Safety Training
Dec. 2 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. Nevada Training Center
Jan. 20 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. Nevada Training Center

Natural Gas Safety Training
Dec. 8 7:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. (two classes available) Nevada Training Center
Dec. 9 7:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Nevada Training Center
March 9 7:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. (two classes available) Nevada Training Center
March 10 7:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Nevada Training Center

Nevada
To sign up for classes in Nevada, call (775) 575-2729 or sign up at dispatch.

OSHA 10-hour Construction Site Worker Training
Jan. 27 7 a.m. – 5 p.m. Reno District 11
April 14 7 a.m. – 5 p.m. Reno District 11

MSHA (Mine Safety and Health Administration) Training
Feb. 3 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Reno District 11

40-hour Hazwoper Training
Feb. 5-9 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Nevada Training Center

Eight-hour Hazwoper Refresher
Feb. 10 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Nevada Training Center

Hawaii
To sign up for classes in Hawaii, call (808) 847-5523.

First Aid/Adult CPR Training
Nov. 4 7 a.m. – 3 p.m. Kahuku Training Site (KTS)

Driver Improvement Training
Nov. 4 7 a.m. – 3 p.m. Leeward Community College (LCC)
Nov. 4 7 a.m. – 3 p.m. Maui Community College (MCC)

OSHA 10-Hour Construction Site Worker Training
Nov. 18 7 a.m. – 5 p.m. Kahuku Training Site (KTS)

Utah
To sign up for classes in Utah, call the Salt Lake District office at (801) 596-2677.

OSHA 10-hour Construction Site Worker Training
(This is a prerequisite to the OSHA Disaster Site Worker course.)
Jan. 29-30 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Salt Lake City District 12

OSHA Disaster Site Worker Training
Jan. 31-Feb. 1 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Salt Lake City District 12

40-hour Hazwoper Training
Jan. 29-Feb. 2 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Salt Lake City District 12

Eight-hour Hazwoper Refresher
Jan. 30 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Salt Lake City District 12
Feb. 2 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Salt Lake City District 12

Winter safety training schedule

It’s the time of year again to update or add to your safety certification. The winter safety training schedules for California, Nevada, Hawaii and Utah are listed below. Classes fill up quickly, so sign up early to ensure your seat. Classes that do not meet the minimum number of signups are subject to cancellation. Please note: The OSHA 10-hour Construction Site Worker course is a prerequisite for the OSHA Disaster Site Worker course.
Robert Kennedy: A lifelong career in the seat

By Heidi Mills, managing editor

Local 3 member Robert Kennedy was born on Sept. 11, 1911, but the story of his life begins 18 years later in 1929, the first time he climbed into the seat of a construction rig.

It was a 1920s-model Cat 60 (the equivalent of today’s D7) and a far cry from the job he had pitching alfalfa. Although that first construction job was temporary (Kennedy was filling in for a guy with a hangover), it left a lasting impression. Turns out, it was just the beginning of the rest of his life as an Operating Engineer.

When WWII broke out, Kennedy was between jobs driving trucks in a shipyard in Richmond, Calif. He was given a deferment but then had to make a decision — either go into the service for 32 months or take a job as an operator on the Alaskan Highway. Kennedy chose Alaska and never looked back.

From 1942 to 1945, he ran every piece of equipment on the Alcan (Alaska-Canadian) Highway, known today as the Alaskan Highway — the crane, shovel dragline and the cable rigs. He taught himself how to run it all, because that’s what he was told to do.

“I remember the boss telling me, ‘there it is, get on it,’” Kennedy said. “I taught myself everything I know, never had a lesson in my life.”

Most days, he said they worked 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. and then after dinner from 7 p.m. to 2 a.m. or 3 a.m., because it didn’t get dark in Whitehorse, British Columbia. Not only was it always light in Whitehorse, it was always cold — so cold, they had to keep the equipment running day and night to keep the fuel from freezing. That worked as long as the engine was rigged just so, Kennedy recalls.

“To keep the rigs running, we’d have to take the fuel tank out, drain the tank, cut a hole on each end of the exhaust pipe through about four inches out the other side,” he said. “It was something.”

The wind and weather was too great a force during the coldest months in Alaska, so the job shut down completely from October to December. Kennedy said that’s when most of the guys would leave Whitehorse and travel home to spend their paychecks.

Their checks were issued monthly by the War Department, and because the hours were long, the money was good. According to Kennedy’s pay stub for the pay period ending 12/1/45, he earned $149.72 at a rate of $1.60 an hour, with 27 hours of overtime. He still has the paycheck, because it was one of his last from that project.

With the highway completed, Kennedy left Alaska and arrived in San Jose a full-fledged Operating Engineer in 1946, the same year he signed up with Local 3 and Sangroth Brothers in Mt. View, Calif. From there, he went to work for his friend from the Richmond shipyards, Henry J. Kaiser, at Kaiser Cement. Then he went back to Sangroth Brothers until Faye Wills made him an offer he couldn’t refuse in 1950. For some time, Kennedy was the company’s only operator, moving with the work from Stockton to Antioch. He stayed with Faye Wills for 10 years and then signed up with Antioch Paving.

“There were hardly any paved roads in Antioch back then; it was all cow pastures,” Kennedy recalls.

Those pastures were destined for pavement, and according to Kennedy’s daughter, Dianna Olds, her dad did it all.

“He paved almost the entire town himself,” Olds said. “Anytime we go out, he tells me: ‘I worked on that road,’ ‘We built that water tower and this bridge and that sidewalk.’ I don’t think there’s a road or anything around here he hasn’t worked on.”

After paving Antioch and many of the communities around it, Kennedy left Antioch Paving to work for Bill McCullough Construction in 1964. He stayed on with McCullough until his retirement in 1983 at age 72.

At that point, Kennedy said he knew it was time for him to hang his hat, but he was reluctant to leave the work and even more reluctant to leave behind a new blade with only 400 hours on it. Little did he know it wouldn’t be long before he and that blade would meet again.

Sixteen years later, when his friends at Mac’s Old House Restaurant in Antioch asked him to help fill the potholes in their parking lot, Kennedy was reunited with his old blade. Except for an additional 18,000 hours, he said it was just the same.

“When the clutch was adjusted right,” he said.

Kennedy said it felt good to get back in the seat. He might’ve been 91 years old, but he couldn’t pass up the opportunity. As he put it: “I’m not a blade man, nor a blade man’s son, but I’ll do the blading ’till the blade man comes.”

“No one else ever showed up,” Kennedy added, laughing. And that’s the story of his life.
The 1927 Carquinez Bridge has had a long history of being overshadowed. It was finished on the day Charles Lindbergh completed his famous transatlantic flight and since then has been elbowed out of the spotlight by its famous sisters, the Bay and Golden Gate bridges. Even though the Carquinez Bridge was the Bay Area’s first modern steel span and the first bridge erected to actively resist shock by the use of hydraulic dampers, it is virtually unknown.

However, to the angst of some, mainly those old enough to remember its construction and the Crockett area residents who have viewed it as a landmark for decades, the Carquinez Bridge will rest only in memory, overshadowed again by the eastbound 1958 bridge and the westbound Al Zampa Bridge (constructed in 2003), both seismically secure.

The complete dismantling of the Carquinez Bridge should be finished by the fall of next year, and the historical bridge with its steel cantilever structure will disappear completely from the Bay Area skyline.

Local 3 members and contractors began its demolition in April 2006, because the cost of retrofitting the bridge for seismic safety specifications wasn’t much less than building a new bridge. The deconstruction has been a lesson in patience, as literally piece by piece of the giant structure has been lifted onto barges and taken to the Mare Island shipyards to be used as scrap metal.

According to 28-year member and Crane Operator Vince Capizzo, “It’s really something to see. There’s a lot of history behind this bridge.” He continued: “Pop some of the rivets – Caltrans wanted some of that for a historical museum.”

Spanning the project’s progress since the beginning, Local 3 has been on the job during many stages and seen the demolition of the bridge at many angles. What is certain from all views is that the permanence of things as iconic as bridges only lasts as long as time and safety permits.
a new bridge. The deconstruction has been a lesson in patience, as literally piece by piece of the giant structure has been lifted onto barges and taken to the Mare Island shipyards to be used as scrap metal. Contractors include California Engineering, Balfour Beatty and CS Marine, among others.

According to 28-year-member and Crane Operator Vince Capizzo, “It’s really something to see. There’s a lot of history behind this bridge.” He continued: “Pop some of the rivets – Caltrans wanted some of that for a historical museum.”

Spanning the project’s progress since the beginning, Local 3 has been on the job during many stages and seen the demolition of the bridge at many angles. What is certain from all views is that the permanence of things as iconic as bridges only lasts as long as time and safety permits.

The Carquinez Bridge actually refers to the three parallel bridges crossing the Carquinez Strait, linking Vallejo (north) to Crockett (south).

The 1927 bridge was dedicated on May 21 and cost $8 million to build – it costs $18 million to tear it down. It was the first major bridge in the San Francisco Bay area.

In 1958, a similar bridge was built to serve eastbound traffic.

In 2003, the new Al Zampa suspension bridge was built to replace the Carquinez Bridge for seismic safety.

The complete demolition of the 1927 Carquinez Bridge should be finished in the fall of 2007.
Changing times

For years, the Rancho Murieta Training Center (RMTC) has been known as “the Ranch.” To some, this gives the illusion of Club Med or some other recreational facility. This is simply not the case.

After safety and orientation, the majority of the student’s time, be it an apprentice or a journey-level operator, is spent in the seat. While technology and computerized training and evaluation tools are an enormous advancement, nothing takes the place of hands-on training.

We speak of apprenticeship training as a “full-ride scholarship” to the University of Operating Engineers. We tell the apprentices that even though their brothers, sisters or other family members may have a formal college degree, our four- to five-year training programs are second to none. However, “full ride” does not mean “free ride.” We strongly believe what you earn is held in higher value than what you believe is “free.”

Our no-nonsense policies and emphasis on focus and safety are no less important than anything else we may learn in life. The lack of understanding and training in our business means someone may not go home at the end of the day. Excuses like: “Oops, I’m sorry; I forgot,” or: “No one told me that,” just don’t work.

While we add new educational tools such as computers, simulators and textbooks, none is more important than what we get from the seat. It takes all of these items combined to make a good hand. I recently lost my mentor and good friend, Bucky Stone, from the Redding District. Bucky would have agreed, “I mean that now.” Bucky was a hand.

The men and women who have gone before us deserve nothing less than the best. It is our intention and our purpose to see that accomplished.

APPRENTICESHIP SPOTLIGHT

DISTRICT 20: OAKLAND

Andy Jensen is a fifth-step mechanic apprentice who does a great job working for Bay Cities Paving & Grading in Concord. Comments about Andy from Master Mechanic Rod Michaeelson include: “Andy is doing such a great job; I wish I could clone him. He is dependable, reliable and very responsible.”

For more on Apprentice Andy Jensen, check out the Oakland District report on page 14.

The how and why of turbochargers

The other day, a young man asked me about a turbocharger. He wanted to know what it did for an engine. Oh, what an opportunity. By the time I was done, he was probably sorry he asked.

We have all seen vehicles that have “turbo” or “turbo-charged” displayed on them, but do you know what a turbocharger does?

Let’s start with the three things any engine needs to run: air, fuel and heat – basically what it takes to make a fire.

In a gasoline engine, we mix air and fuel. Then we apply heat to make the burn. In a diesel engine, we heat the air and then inject the fuel to make the burn. The ratio of fuel to air is important. If you give the engine more fuel, the engine will speed up. If you give the engine too much fuel and the air/fuel ratio goes beyond its parameters, the engine will run poorly or quit. Now, increase the amount of air making the air/fuel ratio correct, and the engine will run properly. Since there is more fuel and air in the combustion chamber, you get more power. Oh yeah, more power!

It’s fairly simple to add more fuel to an engine, but how do we get more air? It helps to decrease restrictions in the air-intake system, or we can add a turbocharger.

The turbo has a hot (exhaust) side and a cool (intake) side, as illustrated in the diagrams. The red or hot side is plumbed into the exhaust. Hot gases leaving the combustion chamber have to pass through this side to exit the tail pipe. This causes the turbine to spin. A common shaft connects the turbine and the cool side’s intake-compressor wheel (shown in blue). When the compressor wheel starts to spin, it draws air from the air cleaner and builds a positive pressure in the rest of the intake system.

So, how does positive pressure get more air into the combustion chamber? An engine without a turbo (naturally aspirated) depends on differential pressure to get air into the cylinder.

An engine running at 2,400 rpm has 0.05 seconds (five hundredths of a second) to get all its air in, which isn’t much time. So, let’s increase the air pressure to around 15 to 30 psi above outside air pressure (29.7 to 44.7). With more pressure outside the cylinder, the engine will pack more air in the cylinder in the same amount of time. More air means you can add more fuel, and you get more power.

So, a turbocharger uses exhaust gases to boost the intake air pressure, giving us MORE POWER! Why didn’t I just say that in the first place? Well, now you know the how and why.

CCO PRACTICAL TEST

New CCO candidates and candidates who have passed the written portion of the CCO exam should contact Pauline McCallough (916) at 384-2029, ext. 225, to schedule an appointment or obtain CCO information on the Practical Test.

2007 CCO EXAMS

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Valero Benicia Refinery Project moves forward

The latest news in Fairfield is the progress of the Valero Benicia Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel (ULSD) Refinery Project. Maxim Crane is supplying the cranes for the project, and some 15 OE3 members are onsite as oilers, operators, mechanics and supervisors. ULSD is a motor fuel that enables processing of a wider supply of crudes and increases the refinery’s efficiency while creating a cleaner combustion of fuels that improves air quality and public health. Members have been involved in the new construction at the refinery since August 2006, and according to Superintendent Dennis Hintze, the project should last until May of next year.

Please note: The second annual motorcycle toy run will be held Dec.16 at the Fairfield District Hall. Show up at 8 a.m. for the pancake breakfast. Donations (toys for boys and girls) can be dropped off at the hall or brought to the event. All donations benefit Mission Solano, a shelter for homeless families.

New staff steps up

The one constant thing in life is change. Our recent election results proved the members in District 50 overwhelmingly voted for change. Business Manager Russ Burns and the rest of the officers implemented personnel changes in District 50 and across the local. We wish all former staff well and thank them for their past service.

The new staff is committed to trust, service and accountability. New Dispatcher John Prichard has been in the industry for 20 years, has natural abilities with computers and is making the transition as smooth as possible.

New Business Agent Dean Atturo comes from the construction field, and many of you have worked with him on projects across District 50. He transfers from the organizing staff and brings a wealth of experience and knowledge with him.

New Business Agent Rick Phillips is a 28-year, third-generation member. Rick knows what being an active member is all about. He believes it’s his duty to serve the membership by giving back for all the years of benefits provided.

New Public Employee Rep. Doug Gorman returns to staff in this position, which he has held before. He has already hit the ground running. Many members shared how glad they are to have him back. Welcome back, Doug.

We welcome all.

Work picture may include public work

The work picture is bright, with the prospects of public work making up for the work decline in the subdivision market, as interest rates rise for home purchases.

Granite and Agee Construction move along with projects on I-99 in Merced and south of Livingston. Emmett’s Excavation is doing well on its projects across District 50. Floyd Johnston is busy and hopes to keep its current crew busy on projects for winter.

W.M. Lyles is about to put the ethanol plant online. As of this writing, the company is working two shifts to make the schedule, with more overtime than most members want!

Garrett Construction and Tri County continue work in and around the Fresno area.

Mega-bond passage a must

To achieve our goal of more work for members, we need to elect labor-friendly politicians, and just as important, if not more so, is the passing of the mega-bond package, worth $37 billion in new work.

We also support Measure C locally, which will extend the current funding for transportation projects in Fresno County without new taxes. In Merced County, we approve Measure G, which also provides funding for more work for all members from rock plant crews and “dirt stiffs” to paving crews and more.

Apprentice Mills advances to journey-level status

We congratulate Joshua Mills for his journey-level advancement in October. Joshua works for Don Berry Construction and was an outstanding apprentice for them. There wasn’t much he didn’t operate or any task he couldn’t perform, including screed, skip/cold/asphalt roller, trenching machine, paddle-wheel/conventional scraper, support/finish blade and forklift. He also worked on lube equipment, did gradesetting and checking and welding and preventive maintenance. He did a lot for them, and we wish him many more years with Don Berry Construction.

Congratulations to the following apprentices on their third-step advancement: Locus Lopez with Dun Engineering, Robert Mello with Floyd Johnston Construction, Shawn Lewis and Morgan Holland with Granite Construction and Robert Bradford with Agee Construction.

We also congratulate Todd Underwood for advancing to fifth-step apprentice. Todd works for W.M. Lyles.

The District 50 staff offers thanks for all the words of encouragement and support. Let’s work together to make District 50 one of the best districts in the local.
Levee project considered in Yuba City

Greetings from District 60. It has been a good year for our members, with work available in the district and other districts nearby. We’ve had good hours in the public sector, which has been dry in the past several years. We’ve also had members getting good hours on the Granite Construction Hwy. 149 Project in Butte County. Mercer Fraser, out of the Eureka District, has been busy since mid-summer on the Hwy. 162/Federal Forest 119 job in Butte County, widening and realigning about six to seven miles of roadway. This project has been challenging because of the steep ground onsite.

Other busy companies in the district include Teichert (construction and aggregate), Baldwin Contracting, DeSilva Gates, Kino Aggregates, Silica Resources and Jaeger Construction, just to name a few. Shimmick Construction is busy on the west side of the valley, building a canal and pumping station, and the company also has a bid to do some $24 million worth of retro work on the Stoney Gorge Dam, which was built in 1929. Granite Construction was the low bidder on a $33 million job on Hwy. 20 in Yuba County.

FROM OAKLAND

District reaches out to high school students

While we may have one of the best apprenticeship programs in the country and the strongest and largest local union in the U.S., not everyone knows about it – especially young people uncertain about their future. It has been brought up at district meetings that Local 3 and the union workforce needs to be addressed and shared with youth.

District 20 had a recent experience doing just this at Diablo Valley College, where high school students from the surrounding area participated in a career fair. JAC Coordinator Randal Miller and Fifth-step Apprentice Andy Jensen attended the fair to educate students about the benefits of Local 3 and the union movement.

Students visited construction job sites around the area and then were able to sit in the seats of construction equipment, such as a John Deere skid-steer and backhoe, donated by Papé Machinery’s Mike Moss and a Cat diesel engine donated by Peterson Industrial Relations Manager Michael S. Boling. Students were taught a mechanical segment by Papé Machinery’s Mike Moss, while Randal and Andy answered questions regarding the construction industry as a vocation.

District 20 would like to thank all the volunteers and donors who made the event a success. These career fairs are wonderful formats for educating the youth about the great opportunities Local 3 has to offer.

For more on Apprentice Andy Jensen, check out the Apprenticeship Spotlight on page 12.

FROM YUBA CITY

We’ve had some strong activity on levee repairs this year, which is a good thing if you live in an area that is about 40 to 50 feet above sea level. A $50 million Sacramento River levee project is being considered near Hamilton City in Butte County.

We also want to mention the Operating Engineers Community Action Team (OE CAT) volunteers and program. The District 60 staff thanks the volunteers for their help this past year. Please give us a call at (530) 743-7321 to sign up and help. Local 3 is a great union thanks to each and every one of you, and with your help and participation, we will make it even better. Please get involved.

Speaking of the District 60 staff, you may have noticed some new faces and voices. Please welcome onboard District Rep. Dave Slack, Public Employee Rep. Steve Nord, business agents Ed Ritchie and Don Grant and new Dispatcher Bob Center. We know they’ll continue to provide great service to our members.

Have a safe and happy Thanksgiving!
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 male and female applicants. Two scholarships of $2,000 each will be awarded to the second place male and female 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 to Local 3's 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

Yes!

I would like to support the Operating Engineers Local 3 Scholarship Fund. Enclosed is my contribution in the amount of:

$20 $50 $100 Other $_____

CLIP OUT & MAIL TO: ROBERT L. WISE, RECORDING-CORRESPONDING SECRETARY • OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL UNION NO. 3 • 1620 SOUTH LOOP RD., ALAMEDA, CA 94502-7090
OE3 Scholarship Fund
Giving gifts that last a lifetime

A charity is only as strong as its contributors want it to be, and the Local 3 Scholarship Fund is no exception. Today the fund is strong, both financially and in the support it receives from Local 3. It has grown substantially in the last five years, with much of the success due to an increase in donations from members of the operating engineers community. Many contributors are from longtime supporters, but new members and organizations have recently become acquainted with the fund.

If Local 3 has touched you or your family, please consider the scholarship fund as an opportunity to give back to the union. Gifts to the fund make it possible for members to play a role in helping young adults understand the importance and economic relevance of union membership. Every gift makes the scholarship fund stronger.

To encourage and enable the academic success of Local 3 children, a partnership between Local 3, employers and related businesses created the scholarship fund to provide financial assistance for the children of Local 3 members. The Thomas Morton Foundation became the charter member of the Local 3 Scholarship Emeritus Circle with a donation of $25,000 in 2005. Established by Ann Parks in memory of her husband, the Ed Parks Memorial Fund sponsored a first-place scholarship winner the past three years, along with the Operating Engineers Federal Credit Union (OEFCU), which sponsored second-place and random winners.

As the demand for meaningful scholarships increased, Local 3 developed new fund-raising opportunities. In 2005, many Local 3 members participated in a cruise to Mexico with $850 of the fee earmarked as a donation to the scholarship fund. Members continued this opportunity with a special cruise to the Western Caribbean in January 2006. Another Mexico cruise is planned for January 2007.

The Tom Stapleton Scholarship Golf Tournament held annually in September remains the biggest source of revenue for the fund. The 2006 tournament raised more than $857,000.

Most contributions come in the form of traditional cash donations, but some have chosen more creative donation methods. Because of tax considerations, some contributions can result in the donor being able to give a gift that is greater than her or she thought possible. These gifts help build the strength and future of the scholarship fund and allow the donor to experience giving the gift of a lifetime.

The Local 3 Scholarship Fund offers a variety of ways to contribute:

- **Cash gifts.** Gifts to the general scholarship fund can be in any amount.
- **Memorial and Honor gifts.** You can contribute to the scholarship fund in memory or honor of a loved one, friend, colleague or to commemorate a special occasion. Written acknowledgment of your gift and the amount will appear in scholarship and media correspondence. A $500 minimum is necessary to establish a named gift:
  - Random $500
  - Second Place $5,000
  - First Place $6,000
- **Bequests.** Gifts made through your will will allow you to retain control of your assets during your lifetime and distribute them as you wish upon your death. Our members and friends may choose to include a gift to the Local 3 Scholarship Fund. The most common types of bequests are leaving a fixed dollar amount or specific property. A charitable bequest may reduce your estate tax. Consulting an attorney is advisable any time you make or change a will.
- **Securities.** There may be an advantage to giving marketable securities – stocks, bonds or mutual funds – instead of cash. In some cases, you may receive a charitable deduction on your taxes, as well as avoid taxes on capital gains. Consult your financial adviser for details.

If you would like more information on donating to the scholarship fund, please contact the fund administrator, Rec. Corres. Secretary Rob Wise at (510) 748-7400, or see page 15.

**Update on the Doser litigation from the business manager and officers:**

When former Business Manager Doser retired, he received a final payout of $569,000, which he claimed was due him under the policies governing his compensation. Upon investigation, it was determined that he was not entitled to such a large severance package. In August 2005, a lawsuit was filed alleging that he breached his fiduciary duty to the union and membership by taking an illegal payout of this magnitude. In July 2006, the lawsuit was expanded to include the attorneys who advised Doser at that time. The defendant attorneys have filed a counter claim against John Bonilla alleging that he conspired with Doser and breached his fiduciary duties as well. Bonilla has denied those allegations.

The lawsuit continues to be pursued aggressively against Doser and the attorneys who advised him. Like any litigation, there are various procedural issues that have to be dealt with, including which court has jurisdiction over the case. In the last few weeks, it was finally determined that the case is to be prosecuted in state court and discovery has commenced. This is good news, because state courts tend to get cases to trial a lot faster than the federal courts.

The International union has ordered that an independent audit of the payout be done by an independent auditor to identify whether any portion of the final payout to Doser was appropriate and, if so, what amount. The local union will, of course, comply with that directive.

Questions have been asked as to whether Doser may face criminal charges if he is found to have violated his duties to the union and membership by taking the payout. It is important to understand that the union can only file a civil suit against Doser and that this suit does not deal with criminal liability. The principal remedy in the civil case is restitution of the monies found to have been improperly paid out. The Department of Labor, however, is the governmental agency which has the authority to investigate possible criminal conduct. The DOL is aware of this case and may take further action on its own. It is entirely up to the DOL to determine whether any criminal conduct has occurred. Be assured that the union will cooperate fully with any investigation the DOL may initiate.

The membership will be kept informed as the civil suit progresses and of any other related developments.
**DISTRICT MEETINGS**

**NOVEMBER 2006**

1st District 70: Redding
Engineers’ Building
20308 Engineers Lane

2nd District 60: Marysville
Veterans’ Memorial Center
211 17th St.

9th District 01: Novato
Inn of Marin
250 Entrada

29th District 12: Salt Lake City
IBEW Local 354
3400 W. 2100 South

30th District 11: Reno
Engineers’ Building
1290 Corporate Blvd.

**DECEMBER 2006**

7th District 10: Lakeport
Yacht Club
55 5th St.

11th District 17: Kauai #
Kauai High School - Cafeteria
Lihue

12th District 17: Honolulu *
Kapolei High School
91-5407 Kapolei Parkway
Kapolei

13th District 17: Hilo #
ILWU Hall
100 West Laniakula St.

14th District 17: Kona **
King Kamehameha Kona Beach Hotel
75-5660 Palani Road

15th District 17: Maui **
Maui Beach Hotel
100 W. 2nd St.

21st District 04: Suisun City
Veterans’ Memorial Building
427 Main St.

**JANUARY 2007**

10th District 50: Sacramento
Engineers’ Building
4044 North Freeway Blvd.

11th District 20: Oakland
Warehouse Union Local 6
99 Heggenberger Road

16th District 90: Morgan Hill
Engineers’ Building
325 Digital Drive

17th District 50: Clovis *
Clovis Masonic Lodge
375-5th St. (NW corner of 5th and DeWitt)

18th District 30: Stockton
Italian Athletic Club
3541 Cherryland Drive

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**ELECTION OF BYLAWS COMMITTEE NOTICE**

At the June 25, 2006 Executive Board meeting, it was moved, seconded and carried that the following eligibility requirements be established for a Bylaws Committee member election to be held at the regular fourth-quarter district meetings in 2006:

1. Must be a member in good standing.
2. Must be a resident in the district, as indicated by the address shown on union records as of Sept. 25, 2006.
3. Must be a registered voter in the district.
4. Cannot be a registered apprentice.
5. Cannot be an employer or an employee of the local union.

The schedule for these meetings appears on this page under District Meetings.

**HONORARY MEMBERSHIP**

**September 2006**

The following retirees have 35 or more years of membership in Local 3 as of September 2006 and are eligible for Honorary Membership effective October 2006.

- Arsenio Abreu 1463479 District 99: Out of Area
- Myron G. Anderson 1178023 District 20: Oakland
- Bobby Berry 1472602 District 40: Yuba City
- Brian W. Bishop 1493056 District 20: Eureka
- Danny Bradbury 142912 District 40: Eureka
- Larry Braden 1159437 District 50: Fresno
- William Brock 1477860 District 80: Sacramento
- Eric D. Carnes 1419240 District 11: Nevada
- David C. Dominici 1466879 District 17: Hawaii

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**DEPARTED MEMBERS**

- Alsdfurk, Robert
  District 01
  Pacifica, CA
  08-12-06
- Brennon, Laurel
  District 80
  Rocklin, CA
  08-02-06
- Brooks, Edward
  District 30
  Modesto, CA
  08-07-06
- Burile, Claude
  District 12
  Redwood Valley, CA
  08-24-06
- Choy, Edward
  District 17
  Hilo, HI
  07-10-06
- Cummings, Alfred
  District 12
  Tehachapi, CA
  09-05-06
- Engler, E
  District 99
  Tuswater, WA
  09-09-03
- Esau, Jerome
  District 12
  Sanger, CA
  08-05-06
- Fauvor, Paul
  District 80
  Walnut Grove, CA
  07-27-06
- Fryer, Raymond
  District 99
  Reno, NV
  08-19-06
- Garber, Stanley
  District 20
  Walnut Creek, CA
  08-18-06
- Gotberg, Norman
  District 12
  West Jordan, UT
  08-27-06
- Grubaugh, Charles
  District 10
  Redwood Valley, CA
  08-24-06
- Hamilton, Don
  District 99
  Canyonville, OR
  08-04-06
- Hassler, Marvin
  District 20
  Castro Valley, CA
  08-20-06
- Kran, Joe
  District 80
  Sacramento, CA
  06-04-06
- Kumaska, Henry
  District 17
  Pukalani, HI
  07-30-06
- Major, Alexander
  District 11
  Reno, NV
  08-19-06
- McBroom, Sid
  District 70
  Redding, CA
  08-21-06
- Morales, Rudy
  District 20
  San Lorenzo, CA
  08-03-06
- Okada, Paul
  District 17
  Pearl City, HI
  08-24-06
- Porter, Albert
  District 12
  West Jordan, UT
  09-02-06
- Saeki, Kazuhiro
  District 25
  Wailuku, HI
  08-08-06
- Sanno, John
  District 15
  Martinez, CA
  08-21-06
- Schenkel, Walter
  District 20
  Martinez, CA
  09-02-06
- Thompson, E
  District 80
  Placerville, CA
  08-15-06
- Velez, Joe
  District 90
  Watsonville, CA
  07-30-06
- Weather, Carl
  District 01
  Merlo Park, CA
  06-25-06
- Wells, James
  District 99
  Reno, NV
  08-19-06

**DECEALED DEPENDENTS**

- Balfour-Harris, Sally
  Wife of Balfour, James (dec)
  08-03-06
- Barker, Thea
  Wife of Barker, Glenn (dec)
  08-07-06
- Bird, Lara
  Wife of Bird, Orville (dec)
  08-04-06
- Bourgeois, Silvia
  Wife of Bourgeois, Denize (dec)
  08-20-06
- Bunten, Marjorie
  Wife of Bunten, Paul (dec)
  05-12-06
- Burris, Alta.
  Wife of Burris, Don (dec)
  09-05-06
- Cottengim, Jewel
  Wife of Cottengim, Owen (dec)
  09-01-06
- Davis, Carolyn
  Wife of Davis, Robert (dec)
  08-20-06
- Dubois, Mary
  Wife of Dubois, Lee (dec)
  09-11-06
- Higa, Haruko
  Wife of Higa, Yasuo (dec)
  08-24-06
- Johnson, Debbie
  Wife of Johnson, Randy (dec)
  08-22-06
- Lacey, Dee.
  Wife of Lacey, Earl L. (dec)
  08-11-06
- Lyon, Mary
  Wife of Lyon, Ronald (dec)
  08-17-06
- McMeans, Alice
  Wife of McMeans, George (dec)
  06-29-06
- Miyasato, Don
Hello from the North Coast.
As of this writing, we are busy helping out with the Confusion Hill job and moving along on the Van Duzen River Bridge in Fortuna. Both projects are generated by MCM and subcontracted to Mercer Fraser.

Speaking of Mercer Fraser, the company continues its streak of competitive bidding and just picked up about 10 miles of continuous barrier – D.I.s and culverts – on Hwy. 101, worth $12 million. Mercer Fraser also picked up a $1.4 million water-filtration plant in Willow Creek. It’s all over except for the shouting now, but the rock harvest went well on the Van Duzen River in Dinsmore, as well as Fortuna.

Granite Construction is working in Fortuna on a private job and is going “great guns” on 17 miles of paving from the southern fork of the Eel River north on Hwy. 101.

Peterson Tractor has been hitting highs and lows all year (with lows at eight hours a day) and continues to employ about 20 Local 3 members. We are making the rounds of our Caltrans yards in District 40, speaking with the members about this year and next year’s alternative work schedule and getting input on what works for them. It has been a great round of visits, as we have also been discussing the ins and outs of the new contract and gathering input for next time around, as it will be here before we know it.

Look for more information coming soon about the Eureka Crab Feed in February.

As always, BE SAFE.

Until next time,
Steve, Carol and Corrina

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**FROM EUREKA**

**Rock harvest a success on Van Duzen River**

Hello from the North Coast.
As of this writing, we are busy helping out with the Confusion Hill job and moving along on the Van Duzen River Bridge in Fortuna. Both projects are generated by MCM and subcontracted to Mercer Fraser.

Speaking of Mercer Fraser, the company continues its streak of competitive bidding and just picked up about 10 miles of continuous barrier – D.I.s and culverts – on Hwy. 101, worth $12 million. Mercer Fraser also picked up a $1.4 million water-filtration plant in Willow Creek. It’s all over except for the shouting now, but the rock harvest went well on the Van Duzen River in Dinsmore, as well as Fortuna.

Granite Construction is working in Fortuna on a private job and is going “great guns” on 17 miles of paving from the southern fork of the Eel River north on Hwy. 101.

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**FROM ROHNERT PARK**

**Argonaut paves the way on Hwy. 1**

As the fall season approaches, some projects in District 10 are winding down.

C.C. Meyers’ Geyserville Bridge Project, which opened ahead of schedule in August, is almost finished with the last of the temporary trestle being removed this month.

Argonaut Constructors paved the new section of roadway at Schooner Gulch on Hwy. 1 and awaits approval from Caltrans to remove Bailley Bridge and put the finishing touches on the project. Members Lynn Russey, Steve Loupy, Barbara Gordon and Brian Ielmorini worked diligently to finish pads and clean up Argonaut’s Bellvue Ranch Project.

Granite Construction is busy with the Mendocino County overlays, and Project Superintendent Loren Chase reports he could use an additional paving-machine operator on that job.

Soil Stabilization is currently lime-treating on the Hwy. 101 widening project, which should help MCM and Ghilotti Construction continue their work. The funding for this project was jump-started from funds generated by Measure M. It took great effort to pass Measure M, and we appreciate the work our Operating Engineers Community Action Team (OE CAT) volunteers do to promote important ballot measures and candidates who support Local 3.

From left: Joel Lanstra, Jim Killean, Larry Summerfield, Marty Witt, Tom Numainville, Pat Delgado, Bob Rice, Nick Heil and Sandy O’Halloran.

At our recent CAT meeting, gifts were awarded to those volunteers who put in a minimum of five hours of volunteer service. The gifts included a pocket knife, sunshade, lunch box and a Carhart jacket, depending on how many hours recipients volunteered. Several Rohnert Park District volunteers put in more than 20 hours and received all the gifts, including the hooded Carhart jacket. These volunteers were Julian Martinez, Joel Lanstra, Matt Vielbaum, Jim Killean, Barbara Killean, Sandy O’Halloran and Jemal Williams. GOOD WORK!
It's been a busy year for Utah District 12. Our signatory contractors have lots of work, which keeps our members working. The economy in Utah has been strong, which in turn keeps the private work going. Increased funding for infrastructure expansion and repairs should keep our membership busy for years to come.

The District 12 staff has been as busy as members in the field, since the past summer was filled with contract negotiations. Thirty-seven contracts were renegotiated, and four new statewide agreements were signed, including MVC Construction, David R. Copeland Enterprises, Dirt Hog Trucking and Excavating and Tracy Monks Construction. One crane agreement was signed with Adams & Smith, and we also obtained a Project Labor Agreement (PLA) with MJG, Inc.

Geneva Rock Products is expanding its operations, which has opened up employment opportunities for our membership. A new crushing/screening plant was put into production in the spring of 2005 and has almost tripled aggregate-product output at the Point of the Mountain. This repair shop is currently under construction, and the new addition will nearly double the shop size. Geneva Rock has also purchased the Pelican Point Rock Quarry on the west side of Utah Lake and is currently operating two shifts.

District 11 signs three new companies

The upcoming work picture for next year looks good for Northern Nevada. There are numerous large projects on the books, including the continuation of the I-580 project, which includes the re-bid of the $300 million Galena Creek Structure. The city of Sparks recently awarded the Victorian Square Project to MKD Construction, and Q&D is the apparent low-bidder on the I-80 seismic retrofit-bridge project.

Work in Lake Tahoe is winding down with Cruz Excavating and MKD finishing on Hwy. 50. Private work is staying steady in Northern Nevada, with Granite Construction, Q&D, Independent and SNC keeping members working. All major, local paving operations are winding down, due to the cooler temperatures as fall approaches.

SNC is finishing the I-80 resurfacing project, and Q&D is busy with the open-graded surface on Hwy. 50 in Fernley and street projects in Reno and Sparks. Frehner completed the paving portion of the Kietzke Lane Project, with other projects continuing.

L.G. Constructors has a project at the Tracy Power Plant with Granite Construction, PAR Electrical and LVI assisting with the project. Granite also has the McCarren Ranch River Restoration on the Truckee River. RHB finished its project on Hwy. 50 in Dayton and is working on a bridge project on Hwy. 50 west of Carson City.

Organizing efforts have been productive, with the signing of three new companies:

- Walker’s Machinery Moving, Inc.
- Hi Sierra Sweeping
- Lift Services

SNC’s acquisition of Bardon Materials Mustang Pit and its rock, sand and gravel agreement will keep current employees busy at the pit and allow for a smooth transition of ownership. We appreciate all the eyes and ears out there calling in tips about the whereabouts of non-union employers. Without your efforts, we cannot continue as leaders in the industry.