San Francisco icon shines on

Thirty public employees keep Golden Gate Bridge safe, secure
The louder we talk, the more they’ll listen

I’ve been talking quite a bit about the budget/economic crisis in California, but this crisis is a national crisis. Labor alliances are forming across the country to combat these trying times for labor, such as the National Construction Alliance. We belong to this organization through the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) in conjunction with the carpenters. The alliance recently stated before the U.S. Congressional Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure that the most effective means for stimulating the nation’s economy is infrastructure investment ensuring an effective economic recovery for this country.

To me and to all of us, this is a no-brainer, but some politicians don’t see it that way. Everywhere you look, there are organizations asking for a hand-out, and the supply is growing thin. The difference between them and us is that we seek monies that will affect the entire economy. Communities, roads and rail create jobs during construction and boost the surrounding communities indefinitely. This alliance will continue to work with members of Congress for you.

In California, as the budget gridlock continues, your officers continue to stress how necessary the continued and future funding of construction jobs is in this state to ensure we pull ourselves out of the debt-hole we’re in.

We recently held our annual staff training at the Rancho Murieta Training Center (RMTC), and along those same lines of working with politicians, Assemblyman Mike Eng from the 49th Assembly District, spoke during the first day of training. He chairs the California Transportation Commission and is completely onboard with the swift passage of a state budget that takes us into account.

“Every day we neglect to pass a budget, there’s a loss of jobs,” Eng commented. He is in favor of all infrastructure monies and emphasized that politicians need to be educated on what we do as Operating Engineers. The more “in their face” we can be, the more they listen. I like his style.

When I say we’re meeting with politicians behind closed doors and having them come and speak to us on this budget, I mean it. I’m not the most politically minded individual, but I can see the writing on the wall, brothers and sisters. If we don’t get this budget passed, and soon, the unemployment rate will continue to climb as our work hours drop. That’s why we’ve been holding press conferences, rallies and meetings to put pressure on the legislature.

By the time this article is published, I sure hope this budget is passed. Until then, I thank you for all your calls and letters to your politicians.

Another topic at our staff training was how the drop in work hours is affecting not just you but our staff. I’ve been holding in-depth meetings with OE3 department heads to coordinate 10 percent cost-reduction plans across the board. This is happening and will continue to happen until we get our arms around this thing. We’re in lean times every way you look at it, so we’re dealing with that through office-supply and energy conservation in all the departments, up to and including staff layoffs. We’re a family, and when you’re affected, so are we.

Each month, I sit down to write this column, and each month, I dread giving you the tough news, but I continue to do it, because that’s how I want to run this organization – that’s how we’ve run it since we took office almost three years ago. Members come up to me and say, “This was the worst time for you to come into office,” but I shake my head. This is the best time. The true measure of integrity isn’t found when things are going well. A true mark is made when things are hard. We will be fat and sassy again, but until then, I’m giving it to you straight.

On that note: If this budget doesn’t pass, this union is going to spearhead a huge march at the capitol, all hands on deck. We’ll bring it to these politicians in full force, and believe me when I say, they’ll listen.
Local 3 heads to D.C.
Officers, staff attend inauguration; watch history

More than a million people flocked to Washington, D.C., on Jan. 20 to watch President Obama take the oath as the United States’ 44th president. Among the crowd were many of our own, including: Business Manager Russ Burns; President Fred Herschbach; Vice President Carl Goff; Rec. Corres. Secretary James K. Sullivan; Financial Secretary Dan Reding; Treasurer Kalani Mahoe; Political Director Tom Aja; Sacramento District Rep. Justin Diston; Unit 12 Coordinator Glady Perry; Nevada Assemblymember Debbie Smith; and Nevada Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC) Administrator Greg Smith.

These Local 3-ers attended Obama’s inauguration ceremony and some attended the ball that followed, while Local 3 officers also had the opportunity to speak face-to-face with members of the House and Senate.

Reno members picket Intercoastal Hospitality

Several Local 3 members participated in an informational picket on Dec. 30 against Intercoastal Hospitality, the general contractor building the Hyatt Hospitality Suites in Reno, Nev. The Louisiana-based company and a handful of its subcontractors did not have the proper permits or licensing to start the project, have been paying sub-standard wages and have not been providing benefits for their workers.

Several local television stations, along with the Sparks Tribune, ran a story on our brothers and sisters who took part. The job action helped bring to light the struggles of workers in Northern Nevada. It also grabbed OSHA’s attention, as safety violations were caught on film. The staff of Local 3 would like to thank the following members who came out in support of this action: Bill McHaney; Robert “Buzz” McHaney; Alan Marquardt; Robert Farmer; Mary Ann Carney; Mike Wakeling; Cliff Birdsell; and Russ Miller.

Out of many, one

The following is a letter of thanks to the senators and congressional leaders from Hawaii who met with Treasurer Kalani Mahoe and me during our trip to Washington, D.C. for the presidential inauguration. Kalani and I worked hard in creating these relationships that will help our position in Hawaii and in the country.

There is $1.8 billion worth of infrastructure funding at stake for Hawaii, and the more weight we carry with politicians, the better our chances of getting that funding for jobs.

Dear senators and congressional leaders:

I would very much like to take this opportunity to thank you for listening to the issues that Kalani Mahoe and I brought to you during our recent visit to Washington, D.C. We have friends at the highest levels of our country. We had great dialogue, and I know that our visit was not about public relations. We brought you our issues, you listened, and our membership will benefit from your years of experience and the many resources you have.

I would also like to thank your staff. Just like the staff of Local 3, your staff members are the gears driving the machine to make what you do work.

With President Obama comes the change we voted for – change we need for the average family, and with labor-supporter Hilda Solis as our labor-secretary designate, we may soon have another strong and clear voice in office. Obama and Solis, if elected, will listen as you have.

I mentioned during our meeting that we need changes at the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB). Local 3 has made organizing a top priority and spends a lot of resources executing this priority the right way, sometimes with an election. But then, when we take our issues to the NLRB, and the election is cancelled or thrown out because the “labor” board is filled with “management-friendly” members, this is a dishonest and deceptive process. We don’t need that – the labor movement doesn’t need that.

We don’t want favors. We follow the rules and do what is right, and then to get to that level (NLRB) and have an election cancelled or thrown out – it just isn’t right. Hear me when I say: The Department of Labor and the NLRB need to go hand in hand.

In closing, I thank you for listening to our issues and taking labor’s position into account as you perform your legislative duties.

Sincerely,
Fred Herschbach, Operating Engineers Local 3 president

To the membership: I look forward to seeing you all at the March 29 Semi-Annual Meeting. It promises to be a good one – it’s this great union’s 70th anniversary.

I would like to close with the motto on the U.S. seal, E Pluribus Unum, which is Latin for: Out of many, one. This motto says a lot about unions and especially ours. At 41,000 strong, we have a single aim: Securing competitive jobs, wages and benefits for working families.
Fourth Quarter 2008 Results

As 2009 begins, our nation's economy moves deeper into recession, and, as of this writing, California still does not have a budget. Forecasts continue to call for a sharp contraction during the first half of 2009 with minimal growth during the second half. As of December 2008, nationwide unemployment rose to 7.2 percent, up significantly over the 2007 4.9 percent rate. California and Nevada continue to experience rates well above this national average at 9.3 percent and 9.1 percent, whereas Hawaii fared much better at 5.5 percent, and Utah was among the lowest in the nation at 4.3 percent.

President Barack Obama's economic recovery package was recently signed into law as a first step in addressing our nation's sagging economy; hopefully this will jump-start our economy and provide the stimulus needed to enable Local 3 members to get back to work rebuilding our decaying infrastructure. Hopefully California's budget crisis will have been remedied and the state will be able to issue the bonds necessary to provide matching funds for federally assisted infrastructure projects.

For Local 3, 2008 also proved to be a difficult year with hours down more than 17 percent through November. Year-over-year, 2008 revenues were down 10.9 percent versus 2007, while expenses were down 0.7 percent. Nonetheless, by monitoring its budget and eliminating costs wherever possible, Local 3 was able to match reduced expenses to declining revenues to show a small net income of $723,000 for the year.

In 2008, Local 3 membership decreased about 3 percent, with 1,248 fewer members at the end of 2008 versus 2007.

Toward this end, your officers continue to work tirelessly to make sure California's politicians act responsibly and legislate as they were elected to do.

As this year unfolds, this union and its membership face the reality that 2009 could be even more difficult than 2008 with some significant challenges and additional disappointments along the way; however, we can also take comfort in knowing we have faced and survived such situations before. Local 3 has always confronted these issues head-on, and the membership can rest assured that its union remains financially strong. Local 3 has the resources to continue fighting on the political front for infrastructure dollars and labor-friendly laws, on the organizing front to create more union jobs and protect our market share and on the negotiating front for better wages, benefits and working conditions for our members.

Fourth Quarter 2008 Financial Report

Profit-and-Loss Statement

(Dec. 31, 2008, year-to-date)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Membership Revenue</td>
<td>$36,912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Revenue</td>
<td>$8,042</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Receipts</td>
<td>$44,954</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salaries, Benefits and Taxes</td>
<td>$27,057</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll Taxes</td>
<td>$5,344</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office and Operations</td>
<td>$3,342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>$1,298</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Services</td>
<td>$2,089</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PACs and Fund Allocations</td>
<td>$1,099</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admin and Public Relations</td>
<td>$4,002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
<td>$44,231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Income</td>
<td>$723</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Balance Sheet

(As of Dec. 31, 2008)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash, Investments and Deposits</td>
<td>$34,284</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employee-Funded 457 Plan</td>
<td>$1,914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automobiles</td>
<td>$2,908</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Furniture and Equipment</td>
<td>$1,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computers and Software</td>
<td>$8,890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications Equipment</td>
<td>$901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Print Shop Equipment</td>
<td>$1,102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less Accrum. Depreciation (7,183)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Assets</td>
<td>$44,565</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liabilities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employee-Funded 457 Plan</td>
<td>$1,914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Fund Balance</td>
<td>$42,657</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Liabilities and Fund Balance</td>
<td>$44,565</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:
1) Asset figures and returns are preliminary and unaudited. Total Plan returns for 2008 do not include December HFOF and 4th quarter McMorgan real estate returns.
2) Other Investments include an insurance contract with New York Life and operational cash.
3) Returns through 12/31/2007 were not calculated by IPS.

Commentary (4th Quarter 2008):

The last quarter of 2008 ended with all major equity indices posting losses in excess of 20%. The S&P 500 Index returned -21.9% for the fourth quarter and -37.0% for the trailing one year. Equity returns were generally hurt by continued worries in the financial sector and retail spending figures which showed increased pressure on the consumer spending dollar and their inability to secure loan financing as credit markets have seized. The Barclays Aggregate Index, which measures the broad fixed income market, returned 4.6% during the fourth quarter and -37.0% for the trailing one year. Fixed income returns were led by Treasuries and an accommodative Fed that has lowered the Fed's Fund Rate to an all time low of a range between zero and 25 basis points.

Notes:
1) The Funded Ratio is the value of assets used for the annual pension plan valuation divided by the present value of accumulated plan benefits.
OEFCU is financially sound

Given our current economic status, I want to take a moment to assure you that Operating Engineers Federal Credit Union (OEFCU) remains a safe and secure place to invest your hard-earned money. As a not-for-profit credit union, OEFCU offers a full range of affordable banking services, and deposits are now federally insured up to $250,000. In addition, the Credit Union provides coverage for an additional $100,000 though the American Share Insurance (ASI) Fund for a total coverage of up to $350,000.

I am proud to report that OEFCU remains financially sound and is prepared to provide the exceptional service it always has. Despite the economic challenges of the past two years, the Credit Union has maintained healthy reserves, well above what is considered well capitalized by bank and credit union regulators. As a result, a recent audit indicated that our state and federal regulators consider us very sound. This means your deposits are safe at OEFCU.

Since 1964, we have built the largest exclusively union credit union west of the Mississippi. We currently boast a membership of 80,000 strong and an asset size of about $800 million. OEFCU is a union-founded and supported financial institution with a single purpose in mind: To assist you and your immediate family members with your financial needs. We are proud of our long history with this community, the sound decisions we have made on your behalf and that we continue to be good stewards of your finances. We maintain our philosophy of providing excellent member service and continue to focus on building lifelong relationships with our members.

I encourage you to bring all of your banking needs to OEFCU. We now have 22 locations to serve you, and we offer all the products and services major banks offer, from traditional services, like checking, savings, certificates and IRAs, to the more specialized services, such as our auto-buying program, home-loan products and debit card accounts. We also offer the convenience of online banking, bill pay and e-statements.

We are aware that some of our members are currently experiencing serious financial problems. For those of you who are having a difficult time meeting financial obligations, we are more than available to work with you to bring financial balance back into your life. We’ve partnered with a financial fitness partner called Balance Financial Pro to assist you and your family members with debt management, establishing a budget you can actually live with and avoiding foreclosure. Members who need immediate assistance can contact (888) 456-2227. The call is completely confidential and free of charge.

Finally, I want to thank you for supporting OEFCU. Our success today is due to the loyalty and support of our members. We will continue to provide you with the products and services that best suit your needs. Be assured your money is safe with us.

For more information, call (800) 877-4444 or visit oefcu.org.

We’re Here to Help!

In a world with so many financial obligations and options, it’s no wonder money management often seems overwhelming. That’s why our credit union has partnered with a financial fitness program called Balance™. Through this partnership, you as an OEFCU Member, now have access to FREE, confidential financial counseling service any time you need it!

Credit Report Review - Employers and creditors often use credit reports to assess a person’s financial “fitness”. A counselor will review your credit report with you, making sure you know your rights. BALANCE™ can even tell you how to acquire a FREE credit report.

InfoLine - Certified financial counselors are available to answer your questions about money management and other personal finance matters.

Money Management Counseling - If you’d like to get out of debt, improve your credit score or avoid bankruptcy, a counselor can help you design a realistic spending and savings plan.

Toll Free 888 456-2227 or www.balancepro.net

Monday–Thursday, 5am–8pm Friday, 5am–5pm Saturday, 8am–5pm (PST)
Be ready when called

I know it’s been said before, but I’ll say it again: Apprentices need to take advantage of this down time and get trained. You’ll be needed in the near future, and it’s important that you’re ready when called. According to Obama, you will be called.

Regarding his stimulus plan, Obama states: “... With credit markets nearly frozen, businesses large and small cannot access the credit needed to meet payroll and create jobs.” In other words, private-sector jobs are going to be few and far between, and the president is relying on public-works projects to put working men and women back to work. That’s good news for you, because one of the legal requirements for working on a public-works project is the employment of apprentices. Who better to supply those apprentices than Local 3?

On public-works projects in Northern California, Local 3 enforces a 5:1 ratio, meaning a signatory employer must employ at least one apprentice for every five journey-level operators on the job. Employers can enforce a 1:1 ratio, as they see fit. With the slow work season last year, these are hours you need, and I want all our apprentices to be up to par when the call for work comes in.

We officers have always pushed our apprenticeship program, because it’s one of the best, as it should be. Local 3 has four training sites and offers classes from heavy equipment operation to construction inspection. Apprenticeship has and will continue to be a top priority for this union. Apprentices are our future.

I now have an even bigger role in apprenticeship after being appointed chair of the California Apprenticeship Council (CAC) on Jan. 30, replacing former Chair Anne Quick. The 17-member CAC encompasses the state’s entire apprenticeship community, from plumbers to Operating Engineers, and sets policy for the Division of Apprenticeship Standards (DAS). Each trade covered by the CAC has a Minimum Industry Training Criteria Advisory Committee, which reports standards and revisions to the CAC. I had the great pleasure of appointing one of our own to oversee the Operating Engineers’ committee – Tammy Castillo, director of apprenticeship at the Rancho Murieta Training Center (RMTC). The RMTC always holds our apprentices to high standards and offers classes that teach skills needed for future work. For information about the opportunities offered at RMTC, read Castillo’s article on page 7.

I know the news has been bleak and the work picture slow, but you must use today’s situation to your advantage. Time off means time to train. In my new position with the CAC, I will be at the forefront of apprenticeship and will keep you informed on what’s ahead.

With that said, be smart and stay safe.
Training opportunities available

Throughout its history, Local 3 has always had peaks and valleys. During the last 13 years, construction has been at its peak, but unfortunately, the work picture has changed with a drop in construction hours, more members on the out-of-work list and legislators in California, at this time, still undecided on a budget. Our economy is at an all-time low. Business Manager Russ Burns, the officers of Local 3 and our signatory employers are extremely concerned with the drop in construction hours. One thing they recommend for journey-level operators and apprentices is to take full advantage of training.

Most of our signatory employers contribute millions of dollars each year to fund the Rancho Murieta Training Center (RMT) operations. In order for our employers to compete in today’s market, Local 3 is committed to providing the most skilled journey-level Operating Engineers. If you want to enhance your existing skills or learn a new skill, sign up for classes in your area job-placement center. RMT also offers an advanced-apprenticeship program geared for journey-level operators looking to improve their current skills. A journey-level operator applying for the advanced apprenticeship can work in a classification as an Advanced Apprentice 1000. A person may be an advanced apprentice for no more than two classifications, must be sponsored by a signatory employer and abide by all the provisions of the apprenticeship program. If you feel your skills aren’t where you’d like them to be, call me at (916) 354-2029, ext. 7933, and I can assist you. Apprentices are also encouraged to contact their apprenticeship coordinator to receive additional training. Once the required supplemental related training is completed, any additional hours of training will count toward the total training hours and advancement to the next period. Once the apprenticeship program is complete, it’s not the end of the road for training. If you’d like information regarding the Apprentice Manning Letter, the new small equipment class or the advanced apprenticeship, call me at the number listed above.

Correction

RMT Instructor Ruben Gaytan was mentioned in last month’s edition as having received his 25-year pin. Gaytan is a 30-year member.

Congratulations to the 2008 Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC) graduates

Aguilar, Eduardo
Allbritton, Cory
Arapaca, Milow
Ariza, Richard
Benkowski, Nathan
Bentley, Richard
Bradford, Robert
Cameron, Andrew
Campbell, Daniel
Cardenas, Albert
Cassel, Shawn
Castelo, Victor
Chapman, Adam
Cortez, Jose
Cottingham, Brian
Delucchi, Joseph
Derby, James
Dietrich, Mitchell
Dodero, Mike
Dowling, Charles
Duckworth, David
Fender, Nick
Fernandez, Christopher
Franklin, Val
Fry, Allen
Garcez, Desiree
Garcez, Michael
Garcez, Robert
Gonzalez, Rene
Grant, Joseph
Grant-Howard, Larry
Greene, Douglas
Greene, Keenan
Guadarrama, Alfredo
Guido, Vicente
Haverkamp, Christopher
Hickory Jr., John
Hilton, Matthew
Hjelmstad, Jeremy
Huntley, Andrew
Jackley, Timothy
Jackson, Troy
Kelsey, James
Keslinger, Chris
Ketchum, Matthew
Less, Matthew
Little, Toni
Mayes, Richard
McClellan, Thomas
Meador, Douglas
Mello, Robert
Meyer, Shawn
Meza, David
Miles, Gregory
Mitchell, John
Mittel, Kyle
Monroe, Chris
Morgan, Brent
Morris, Joseph
Mott, Richard
Nelson, Logan
Noble, Timothy
Nowak, Mark
Nunes, David
Oliver, Wyatt
Ortega Watson, Rebecca
Penfold Jr., Kevin
Pio, Ricky
Pipkin, Sean
Porter, Kyle
Rhines, Curt
Schunzel, Derek
Scott, Davon
Shea, Tim
Singh, Gurdeep
Smart, Dustin
Smith, Nolan
Stroud, Michael
Sullivan, Timothy
Thompson, Shama
Tolbert, Keme
Turtle, Lawrence
Underwood, Todd
Villarreal, Victor
Vilmur Jr., Michael
Vogt, Uriah
Whitcomb, Jon
Whitley, Wade
Whittle, Christopher
Yakimov, Andrey
Zabel, Wade

2009 Tentative SRT, POP and Journey Upgrade Class Schedule

Supplemental Related Training (SRT)
March 2-13
Aug. 17-28
Aug. 31-Sept. 11 (Monday, Sept. 7 is Labor Day)
Sept. 14-25
Sept. 28-Oct. 9
Oct. 12-23
Oct. 26-Nov. 6
Nov. 9-20
Nov. 30-Dec. 11

40-hour Safety
Includes Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA), Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 10, First Aid, Fork Lift and Disaster Site Training
March 9-13
March 23-27

Journey Upgrade
March 16-20
March 23-27
March 30-April 3
April 6-10
April 13-17
April 20-24
April 27-May 1
May 4-8
May 11-15
May 18-22
May 26-29 (Monday, May 25 is Memorial Day)
June 1-5
June 8-12
June 15-19
June 22-26
June 29-July 3
July 6-10
Dec. 14-18

Probationary Observation Period (POP)
July 6-10 (40-hour)
July 13-Aug. 14 (200-hour)
Dec. 14-18 (40-hour)

Drillers
March 26-28

Correction
RMT Instructor Ruben Gaytan was mentioned in last month’s edition as having received his 25-year pin. Gaytan is a 30-year member.
The elected work for us

I recently spent the day negotiating police officer layoffs in Los Banos. Seven police officer positions are on the chopping block – four unfilled vacancies and three full-time employed police officers. This comes at a time when violent crimes are on the rise in the city, which should be no surprise to economists or public safety officials. Desperate times call for desperate measures.

It turns out the city was well-aware of its declining revenue sources in 2007, and officials took the appropriate action – they gave the city manager a big, fat raise, then they sat on their hands for a year until it was crisis-time, and now they want to lay-off employees. I can see why they gave the city manager a raise. He is doing a great job managing the city into crisis.

That’s enough venting.

The real truth is public safety used to be immune from actual layoffs. Sure, departments would sometimes freeze positions, but who can remember when a firefighter or police officer was actually laid-off? Meanwhile, the governor and the minority party leaders are holding local government hostage. They keep insisting more service is provided at the local level and refusing to fund it. Even worse, they keep taking existing funding away.

If the state has not passed a budget by the time you are reading this, Lord help us. California will be bankrupt over an egotistical power struggle. Remember: The elected work for us. It’s a good time to call them at least once a week to remind them of that.

I have to go now. My legislator is on the other line.

Government will eventually be restored

By Alan Elnick, business representative

We have now survived eight years of degrading government, public programs, public employees and our Social Security system in all its manifestations. The result is an economic wasteland and devastation worse than any of us could have imagined that is affecting not just our land but the developed and developing world as well. Banks and businesses are broke, jobs are being lost and credit is staked to all enterprises that can show an inkling of vitality.

We see the effects in California as the last remaining holdouts from an ideology-gone-bad stall the state’s efforts to pass a budget, move us through these bad times and turn us around. Without that budget, the state cannot generate enough liquidity to pay its bills and foster infrastructure projects. It cannot create jobs or take the steps to assure our prosperity in the future. With property values continuing to decline, homeowners losing their homes to foreclosure and retail outlets closing as sales decline, the normally reliable projections of local government are failing. Local government is being forced to assess how it can remain in business without further compounding the problem by decreasing its own workforce. It is a daunting task.

It is ironic that those who supported the sale of government enterprises, proclaimed deficits were nothing to be concerned about and spent us into this oblivion without concern for its effects, now call themselves protectors of the public welfare by blocking government’s efforts to do what is necessary to right the ship of state. Private enterprises are seeking government assistance without government oversight. Banks gifted with $800 billion of government relief still do not lend. Now government must become bigger than private enterprise, or America will become a failed experiment.

With that said, inevitably government will grow faster than private enterprise in the initial phase of recovery. State and local government will receive relief but at a cost. In one of his first acts as president, Barack Obama froze the salaries of White House employees earning more than $100,000 per year. It will benefit state and local government to follow suit, and voters in growing despair will assure that is the case.

Those of us in public employment will watch our duties and responsibilities grow, but our expectations of necessary reward for that growth must be modified to accommodate the current circumstances. If we are lucky, the administration will tackle the nation’s health-care problem in the first years of office. Health care remains the major uncontrollable cost to all employers. If progress is made there, then the pain of rising costs for employees will be diminished, and stagnant salaries can be tolerable.

We will be fortunate to see any sign of improvement before the third quarter of 2010. With any luck, we can hope that the ranks of government employees will not be too greatly decimated. Inevitably, government will be restored.

‘Layoff’ may just be a few extra days off

By Fred Klingel, business representative

“We have no funds to pay you, now let’s see how we can screw you.” That is the attitude of many public employers. It seems every public agency has the same battle cry and doom-and-gloom scenario to scare their employees. Virtually all cities, counties and the state of California have suddenly fallen into this pit of despair where the coffers suddenly dried up and everyone speaks of layoffs, furloughs, cuts and possible bankruptcy. How is this possible? Was everyone asleep during the budget process? Is there suddenly a new accounting system, or is there a concerted effort to demoralize the workforce and destroy the unions?

It is the opinion of many politicians and social-program supporters that public-employee organizations and unions have received these lucrative contracts and medical and retirement benefits at the expense of taxpayers and corporations. That’s horse manure, politely put. This mess is not something to blame on unions or public-employee organizations.

The global economic disorder filters down to the smallest entity, and now it is time to re-establish order. Public employers and corporations believe that the only way to do this is by shifting costs to their unionized employees and getting huge concessions from their contracts. They mandate that everything has to happen immediately if not yesterday. And if it doesn’t happen today, they say they will have to invoke furloughs and begin layoffs. No one wants to be laid-off or have a reduction of their meager salary, but those are the fear tactics that bring about concessions. That is the exact reason why the workforce of this country needs to be unionized. Unions began in the first place to protect workers from employer abuse. Contracts were written based on sound laws and court decisions, and now these employers want to use the economic disorder once again to circumvent labor laws, government codes, procedural rules and workers’ rights.

For employers to invoke their right to layoffs, they must also sit down and bargain on the employee impacts. They need to follow steps and provide information about the need for layoffs or furloughs, etc. But these public entities do not want to sit down and bargain, nor do they want to provide any information because it would only show smoke and mirrors. Their answers are, “We don’t know,” “We don’t know when,” and “We don’t know what to do.”

This is impact-avoidance followed by attempts to open existing contracts to get everyone to make concessions or just take them by refusing to renegotiate anything other than the needed concessions or shifting the burden to the employee. Aside from the smoke and mirrors on financial information, employers are also not willing to allow sunset clauses on the furloughs, layoffs and concessions.

Let’s make them follow the rules and laws and make sure our union brothers and sisters are protected first by enforcing the impact bargaining rules and getting agreements. Let’s make concessions only after receiving truthful information, sunset agreements and provisions that can be enforced by law.
March 2009 9

New year, same old thing
By Rick Davis, business representative

With 2009 well underway, hopefully our economy will bottom-out, and we will start to see some light at the end of this dismal tunnel we have been enduring since 2007.

For some of our members, the year got off to a rough start. El Dorado County laid-off more than 90 employees in November and December. It is extremely hard to see people lose their jobs any time of the year, but during the holiday season it seems worse. Unfortunately, there might be more layoffs coming. I can only hope that the members this affects are able to make the best out of a bad situation and find new and better employment. I know some laid-off members found more secure positions out of state and are now better off. Staying in California is not always the best choice for gainful employment.

Speaking of El Dorado County, they have run-off another human resources director. In the three-and-a-half years I have been assigned to El Dorado County, I believe there’s been four. That explains why there is no consistency in El Dorado County government and why its directors are so disenchanted. El Dorado County is about as stable as a boat in a typhoon. I have been in negotiations with three different units in El Dorado County for the last 18 months and have not been able to get a contract with any of them. I even offered a zero-cost contract to the Board of Supervisors with one of the units, something they have wanted for months, and the board denied it.

Go figure.

In Plumas County things are not much better. We are going back to the table to start a new round of negotiations, and I’m not expecting much. As is the usual standard operating procedure with Plumas County, the union and the county are again in litigation. A three-year-old case is still pending and could be adjudicated soon, but now, the union has filed another Unfair Labor Practice (ULP) charge regarding the same unit. Plumas County, unlike El Dorado County, does not go through administrators every year or so, but does go through legal counsel faster than ever. At the time of this writing, I think the county is on the hook with three different law firms at a cost of more than $800,000. It would have been nice to see some of that money go toward the employees. The union does not like to litigate, nor does it like to see the county act in an unethical and unfair way toward its employees. If I could get the county to do things the right way, we would both have far less legal fees.

Alpine County has again decided to go the route of mediation when it comes to dealing with the Deputy Sheriffs Unit. I cannot figure out why the county would give one group of employees a benefit, yet refuse to give the same benefit to another group. If I could figure out why the Board of Supervisors thinks and acts the way they do, I could retire. By the time this article is printed, we will have probably gone through the mediation process and be fighting with the board.

Until next time, pray for a better year, hope for some closure to this financial mess and believe that we will see some light at the end of the tunnel. Be careful out there.

---

SANTA ROSA STEWARDS NEGOTIATE TO AVOID LAYOFFS


---

Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3
70th Anniversary Commemorative Book

Dear Members, Retirees, and Friends of Local 3:

Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3 and M.T. Publishing Company have joined together to produce a special commemorative volume in honor of the 70th Anniversary of Local 3 founding. A special committee has been authorized by the Officers of Local 3 to head up this exciting project.

The book will feature a written history, historic and current photos, and materials submitted by union members themselves. Members are encouraged to submit photos of historic projects, special events, memorabilia, and personal accounts of important events in Local 3’s history.

This historical overview of Local 3’s growth will be a large-format, deluxe hardcover volume containing approximately 176 pages printed on high-gloss, acid-free paper with a color dust jacket.

Books ordered in advance will show the words “Commemorative Edition” on the cover and the dust jacket and a book number inside. These Commemorative Edition books are numbered as they are sold.

The standard edition features a full color cover. The leather edition features a leather cover with flat foil stamping. The executive edition features the leather cover with gold leafing on the page edges and a ribbon marker. All three editions include the full color, high-gloss dust jacket. In addition, for a nominal charge, you can have your volume personalized with a name stamping on the cover. The price will increase once printed, so pre-order now at this special discounted price.

To pre-order your book, complete the order form and send in with payment as soon as possible. The deadline has been extended to April 30. Online ordering is available at www.mtpublishing.com (click on “products” and then “coming soon”).

Sincerely,
Russell E. Burns
Business Manager
Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3

WANTED: PHOTOS

Send action photos, current photos, historical photos, pictures of special events or other materials that you would like to have considered for inclusion in the publication. Send only original items or professional reproductions. Do not send photocopies or computer printouts because they cannot be reproduced for the book. When sending photos, include a caption explaining who and what is depicted and the date, if possible. To ensure materials are returned after publication, write your name, address and phone number on the back of each item and include a self addressed, stamped envelope of the appropriate size. All submissions will be reviewed for content and quality and included based on space availability. See Right.

---

ORDER FORM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>70TH ANNIVERSARY BOOK</th>
<th>Qty</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deluxe Executive Edition</td>
<td></td>
<td>$79.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deluxe Leather Edition</td>
<td></td>
<td>$64.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deluxe Standard Edition</td>
<td></td>
<td>$37.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage and Handling: $6.50 for the first book, $4.00 for each additional book</td>
<td></td>
<td>$6.50/ $4.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| SUBTOTAL | $62.45 |

| 7% Sales Tax (IN residents only multiply subtotal by 0.07 to calculate sales tax) | 4.37 |

| Name Stamping - $6.00 per book | $6.00 |

| TOTAL | $72.82 |

---

Name(s) to be Stamped (Limited to 24 characters/spaces per book)

---

SANTA ROSA STEWARDS NEGOTIATE TO AVOID LAYOFFS


---

Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3
70th Anniversary Commemorative Book

Dear Members, Retirees, and Friends of Local 3:

Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3 and M.T. Publishing Company have joined together to produce a special commemorative volume in honor of the 70th Anniversary of Local 3 founding. A special committee has been authorized by the Officers of Local 3 to head up this exciting project.

The book will feature a written history, historic and current photos, and materials submitted by union members themselves. Members are encouraged to submit photos of historic projects, special events, memorabilia, and personal accounts of important events in Local 3’s history.

This historical overview of Local 3’s growth will be a large-format, deluxe hardcover volume containing approximately 176 pages printed on high-gloss, acid-free paper with a color dust jacket.

Books ordered in advance will show the words “Commemorative Edition” on the cover and the dust jacket and a book number inside. These Commemorative Edition books are numbered as they are sold.

The standard edition features a full color cover. The leather edition features a leather cover with flat foil stamping. The executive edition features the leather cover with gold leafing on the page edges and a ribbon marker. All three editions include the full color, high-gloss dust jacket. In addition, for a nominal charge, you can have your volume personalized with a name stamping on the cover. The price will increase once printed, so pre-order now at this special discounted price.

To pre-order your book, complete the order form and send in with payment as soon as possible. The deadline has been extended to April 30. Online ordering is available at www.mtpublishing.com (click on “products” and then “coming soon”).

Sincerely,
Russell E. Burns
Business Manager
Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3

---

WANTED: PHOTOS

Send action photos, current photos, historical photos, pictures of special events or other materials that you would like to have considered for inclusion in the publication. Send only original items or professional reproductions. Do not send photocopies or computer printouts because they cannot be reproduced for the book. When sending photos, include a caption explaining who and what is depicted and the date, if possible. To ensure materials are returned after publication, write your name, address and phone number on the back of each item and include a self addressed, stamped envelope of the appropriate size. All submissions will be reviewed for content and quality and included based on space availability. See Right.
**Joke of the month**

At a church cathedral under construction, workers rigged a cage elevator inside so they can get material to and from the upper floors.

A characteristic of this cage elevator is that the doors (gate) must be closed manually for it to be “called” to another floor.

One day, one of the workers, Peter, takes the elevator to the top floor, and it is subsequently needed on the first floor by the priest.

Unfortunately, Peter forgot and left the door open. After the priest rings for the elevator a couple times, to no avail, he yells up for the worker to send the lift back down.

Visitors to the cathedral were treated to this sight: The priest, head tipped up, yelling up to the heavens:

“Peter! CLOSE THE GATES!!”

**The Boss apologizes for Wal-Mart blunder**

Bruce “The Boss” Springsteen might have put on a good Super Bowl half-time show, but his performance rating among unions dipped since he began releasing his new greatest hits album at Wal-Mart stores. For a man who’s made millions on his blue-collar, pro-labor image, fans let him have it for doing business with a corporation known for gross union-busting tactics and employee negligence. The Boss finally apologized for the blunder, but that doesn’t mean we’re all rushing out to buy the album.

Source: News10.net

**Funny photo of the month**

Answer to last month’s photo question: The photo of cows grazing in a field of wind turbines that ran last month is of the Shiloh II project in Solano County. For more photos and details of the project, see page 12.

**Joke of the month**

It was great to see such a good turnout at the recent pre-retirement meetings. Some members were there for the third time and said, “Charlie, I think you explained that point better two years ago.” I’m always pleased to have my colleague Loretta Ramirez at the meetings. She explains the plan provisions clearer than I do.

Thanks for all your good questions. Some members in attendance get stage fright and will not ask any questions in a group setting. To those of you who are not fearful, thanks. It helps others a lot.

One major point of discussion at the meetings was working after retirement. The main rule is, for those of you who are retired and under the age of 65, you may not work in an industry in which members were employed and accrued benefits under this Plan at the time your Pension began or would have begun if you had not remained in or returned to such employment and in a trade of craft in which you were employed at any time under this Plan. In other words, you are not entitled to a Pension check for any month in which you worked as an Operating Engineer anywhere, union or not.

If you wish to return to work as an Operating Engineer, you must notify the Pension Trust Fund office within 15 days of returning to such work, and your Pension checks will stop. When you again cease working as an Operating Engineer, you should notify the Trust Fund, and your checks will start again. Your Pension payments will be suspended for an additional three months unless you were receiving a Disability Pension prior to your return to work.

The specific rules and exceptions can be found in the Pension Plan’s Rules and Regulations in Article 9. If you have any questions or need a copy of the Summary Plan Description, contact the Trust Fund Office at (800) 251-5014 or the Fringe Benefits Service Center at (800) 532-2105, or visit the Trust Fund’s website at oe3trustfunds.org.

**Retiree Picnic**

Don’t forget to mark your calendars for the upcoming Retiree Picnic at the Rancho Murieta Training Center (RMTU) on Saturday, May 30.

Come up Friday at noon and stay until noon on Sunday if you wish. There is plenty of parking for your self-contained motor homes and trailers. Once again, Local 3 will pick up the tab for this event. We’ll see you there.

**Retiree Association Meetings**

The Retiree Association Meetings begin this month. The Local 3 officers look forward to joining retirees and their spouses for concise reports, good refreshments and plenty of fellowship. See the schedule of these meetings listed below.

**OAKLAND**
- Monday, March 9
  - Oakland Zoo – Snow Building
  - 9777 Golf Links Road

**Frisco**
- Monday, March 9
  - Veterans’ Memorial Building
  - 427 Main St.
  - Suisun City

**Concord**
- Tuesday, March 10
  - Centre Concord
  - 5298 Clayton Road

**San Francisco/San Mateo**
- Tuesday, March 10
  - Transport Workers’ Union Hall
  - 1521 Rollins Road
  - Burlingame

** Reno**
- Tuesday, March 10
  - Operating Engineers’ Building
  - 1290 Corporate Blvd.

**UKiah**
- Wednesday, March 11
  - Hampton Inn
  - 1160 Airport Park Blvd.

**Watsonville**
- Wednesday, March 11
  - VFW Post 1716
  - 1960 Freedom Blvd.
  - Freedom

**Rohnert Park**
- Wednesday, March 11
  - Operating Engineers’ Building
  - 6225 State Farm Drive, Ste. 100

**Concord**
- Tuesday, March 10
  - Centre Concord
  - 5298 Clayton Road

**Morgan Hill**
- Wednesday, March 11
  - Operating Engineers’ Building
  - 325 Digital Drive

**Salt Lake City**
- Wednesday, March 11
  - IBEW Hall
  - 3400 W. 2100 S.

**Modesto**
- Thursday, March 12
  - Boy Scout Club House
  - 400 Ensenia Ave.

**Auburn**
- Thursday, March 12
  - Auburn Recreation Center
  - Foothills Room
  - 471 Maidu Drive

**Stockton**
- Thursday, March 12
  - Italian Athletic Club
  - 3541 Cherryland Drive

**Sacramento**
- Thursday, March 12
  - Operating Engineers Public Relations Building
  - 3920 Lennane Drive

**Fresno**
- Thursday, March 12
  - Cedar Lanes
  - 3131 N. Cedar

**Eureka**
- Tuesday, March 17
  - Best Western Bayshore Inn
  - 3500 Broadway

**Redding**
- Meeting and Potluck
  - Wednesday, March 18
  - Frontier Senior Center
  - 2081 Frontier Trail
  - Anderson

**Yuba City**
- Thursday, March 19
  - Veterans’ Memorial Center
  - 211 17th St.
  - Marysville
You may drive across it every day. As long as traffic moves smoothly, you don’t even think about the fact that the Golden Gate Bridge was built by your own — union members given the green light on a million-dollar project during the worst depression of the 20th century. This green light was a tip of the hat to the union movement as part of the New Deal Program in 1933, a program aimed at industrial recovery. In 1937, the reddish-orange bridge emerged from the fog and still stands today.

With its two towers rising 746 feet and a 1.7-mile span, the Golden Gate Bridge is an international symbol of California and a permanent part of San Francisco’s landscape. But its permanence is only possible thanks to the Operating Engineers who built the bridge and the present-day ones whose current tasks range from responding to bridge accidents to providing its year-round maintenance. Its towers need re-painted and cleaned, debris from the bridge needs cleared and traffic needs re-directed after accidents. Without these members’ services, the Golden Gate Bridge’s purpose as the only road to exit San Francisco to the north would not be served.

As daunting a task as it was to build the Golden Gate Bridge, today’s task of maintaining it requires dangerous climbs up the bridge’s towers for repairs and instant response times to emergencies. All units provide a necessary function to keep the bridge and its occupants safe while enjoying the benefits of steady employment and grand views of the Bay Area from a bridge built more than 70 years ago by their very own kind.

*Business Rep. Dave Gossman contributed to this story.*

---

**Golden Gate Bridge public employees**

*What:* A total of 30 public employees — 14 patrol officers and sergeants, 13 bridge service operators and five heavy equipment operators

*Services they provide:* The patrol officers and sergeants provide law-enforcement protection on the bridge and surrounding areas. They work day and night shifts with staff increased after the Sept. 11 attack to ensure the California icon is in good hands.

The bridge service operators are the first responders to all traffic accidents and emergencies occurring on the bridge in conjunction with the California Highway Patrol (CHP) and Presidio Fire. They are trained in emergency response and often deal in high-pressure situations.

The heavy equipment operators are responsible for the maintenance and operation of all heavy equipment, generators and operating equipment used on the bridge. They manage the traveling scaffolds and air and water hook-ups, operate and service air compressors and drill holes for the fences and guard rails.
Some people call it “going green.” In his inauguration speech, President Obama called it “remaking America.” An Operating Engineer will soon call it work.

The country’s push to become more environmentally friendly will not only help Mother Nature – it will create thousands of jobs for Local 3 members and change the way people look at construction. Instead of massive housing projects of years past, the upcoming work picture will include more “earth-friendly” projects, like mass transit, carpool lanes and renewable energy sources – things Obama is pushing for in his effort to clean up the country, create jobs and stimulate the economy.

“For everywhere we look, there is work to be done,” Obama said in his inauguration speech on Jan. 20. “... we will act – not only to create new jobs but to lay a new foundation for growth. We will build the roads and bridges, the electric grids and digital lines that feed our commerce and bind us together.”

Burlingame District Rep. Ken Oku said he has already started to see the green movement happen.

“Some of our private companies … have been at the forefront of it,” he said, especially in San Francisco, “with the mayor’s direction being very proactive in building green in the city.”

In addition to utilizing solar and wind energy, the city is also a big supporter of “smart growth,” an integrated, environmentally sensitive approach to land use and transportation planning. The concept includes strategies like building near transit to promote its use and around pedestrian malls to encourage walking instead of driving.

“It is good for us,” Oku said. “We (will) be tearing down one-story buildings along the corridor and building new, mixed-use buildings.”

High-speed rail is another big concept that will affect both California and Hawaii after voters passed projects in both states in the November elections.

“With that you’re taking planes out of the sky and cars off the road. That’s going to be huge amounts of work for Operating Engineers,” Oku said.

Rohnert Park District Rep. David Hayner believes the green movement is a win-win situation for everyone. “Greener” jobs in his area include adding High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes, which provides work for those in the building trades, encourages carpooling to lessen pollution and helps clear up traffic congestion for the everyday traveler.

Environmentalists haven’t always thought highly of the construction industry, but according to Eureka District Rep. Richard Marshall, both groups...
may be able to work hand-in-hand now. He hopes that as these projects with long-term environmental goals materialize, environmentalists can also look at the big picture and not dwell on the initial changes.

“We’re environmentalists too,” he explains. “Why do we have fires? Why do we have floods? It’s Mother Nature trying to take care of herself. With the impact we as humans are bringing, well, she needs some help.”

That help is on the way:

**Massive wind turbine project creates clean energy, jobs**

**Shiloh II puts signatories to work: M. A. Mortenson, RGW, Bragg Crane, etc.**

Shiloh II is a massive wind farm located in Solano County covering more than 6,100 acres of land. It sounds bizarre, a wind farm, as if wind can be cultivated to produce a product, but that is exactly what hundreds of Operating Engineers have graded dirt for and then erected – a “farm” of 75 turbines, each 262 feet tall. The turbines do sit on farmland, and they do produce 2 megawatt-hours (MW) of energy each – kinetic energy converted from the wind into mechanical, “clean and green” energy. Wind turbines generate electricity without greenhouse-gas emissions or the costly consumption of fuel. According to an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) study of average emissions in California, the Shiloh Wind Power Plant could offset more than 380 million pounds of carbon dioxide, more than 450,000 pounds of nitrogen oxide and more than 250,000 pounds of sulfur dioxide.

The wind turbines create a sci-fi image with their whirling, 122-foot blades erected smack-dab in the middle of farmland where cattle and sheep graze.

“It’s pretty strange out here with the wind,” said Mortenson Steward Steve Penick. “It makes the sheep dizzy; they fall over on their sides.” That’s some pretty strong wind, but it has to be.

However, there’s nothing “dizzy” about the steady workflow this job has created or the fact that wind-turbine energy has no fuel costs, will provide a hefty tax credit for the area and can light up about 112,500 homes with 150 total MW of electricity.

Shiloh I began in August 2005 and was finished in April 2006. Shiloh II started in April 2008 and has created a steady stream of work for hundreds of Operating Engineers from many signatory companies, including General Contractor M.A. Mortenson Company, RGW, Bragg Crane, PLC Trenching, Rosendin Electric and HDI.
When the budget crisis finally ends, work should start quickly

At the time of this writing, we are battling the state over getting the budget passed. We’ve held rallies with employers and local politicians to encourage the legislature to do what is right for Californians by passing a budget. I want to thank everyone who showed their support at these events by getting the message out.

It’s hard for most of us to understand why these politicians continually disagree. We are in a major recession. Private work is at a standstill, and people are losing their jobs, their homes and the dignity to maintain their lifestyles, while politicians refuse to compromise and end California’s budget crisis. I wonder how fast the budget would pass if those same politicians were not paid until they got the job done?

I hope Californians remember the politicians who are refusing to negotiate and fix this problem when it comes time for re-election. Hopefully, when this article comes out, the problem will be behind us. If not, who knows where the work picture will be? It’s frustrating that we’re left at the mercy of these politicians.

However, there is a bright light at the end of this tunnel: Some big public projects could start soon. It’s just a handful of politicians who are blocking it all.

As one of your officers, I can see how this economy is affecting you. I talk with you and see the huge reduction in work hours. When we know work is on the horizon but see politicians who don’t understand construction or how their actions affect the lives of our members, it makes it hard to view them in a positive way.

You have my word: Your officers and staff will not let up on these politicians until we see work for our members. You can take that to the bank. Be safe, and hopefully better times are ahead of us.

Aloha, Local 3 members

This is my first column as your treasurer, and let me begin by saying I am happy to serve the membership in this role. It is not a role I perform all by myself – all your officers continue to work serving you. Because we came from the field, we know how it is. We have also been on staff in many roles as business representatives, organizers and district representatives. In the officer role, we see the organization as a whole, as a team and we work to improve and grow strong with that in mind.

Now, as your treasurer, I will work closely with District 10, District 40 and District 17 as well as the Hawaii Apprenticeship Program and the Industry Stabilization Fund.

As the former district representative for Hawaii, I worked with a great staff to make many political ties that helped further our position in Hawaii. We spearheaded political rallies and signwaving, and we did it with a fun attitude – we played music, and everyone had a good time – but most importantly, we made a difference. I hope to continue that philosophy of forming successful political relationships that will improve this local’s position throughout our four-state jurisdiction. I am also proud to say that President Obama comes from Hawaii, my homeland, proving great political power, passion and knowledge come from that state.

Speaking of passion – it is not something I lack. I am passionate about this union and our cause. Local 3 is the backbone of this great nation. We’ve built this country. Even though times are tough right now, an entity cannot run without a strong backbone, so we must stay strong. We will be called on again to build in the big capacity we are used to, and we must be ready for that opportunity.

I am ready for the opportunity to serve you. I’ve been around the block – you’ve heard me say that many times before. And I’ve seen the good ways and the bad ways of facing adversity when times are tough. Believe me when I say this: Your officers and I understand the concept of team now more than ever, and we realize that we work for you. Our task of serving is an external one, not an internal one, and I look forward to dealing with your needs with the TEAM philosophy behind it all. The TEAM philosophy is something your officers greatly value. There is no “me” in a union. It is “we.” If we operate from that standpoint – that everything we do affects every brother and sister in this organization – we will act carefully and thoughtfully. I look forward to unifying us all in these tough times.

Until then, stay safe and stay strong.

Political relationships play an important role in unions

In the January issue of Engineers News, I talked about the important relationships we must establish and continually cultivate with our elected officials. Having these positive relationships is a critical element in effectively representing our members and the contractors who employ them. I will share with you two relationships from which we have benefited and how they greatly helped our members.

I first met Dennis Cardoza when he was a city councilmember in Merced, a small city in the Central Valley of California. Labor played a crucial role in the 1996 election, when he won a California State Assembly seat with a razor-thin margin of 84 votes, earning Cardoza the nickname “Landslide.” Six years later, he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives where he has rapidly risen in stature and now holds a position on the powerful Rules Committee.

In the summer of 2008, Stockton Business Rep. Steve Lopez visited a job site at the Tracy Defense Depot. Because of heightened security-clearance requirements following 9/11, Lopez was denied access. The base commander, some pompous colonel, basically told Lopez to get out of his office and off his facility. Knowing the authority Congress has over the military, Lopez contacted Congressman Cardoza in his Washington, D.C., office and was able to explain the situation to him. That same day, the pompous colonel contacted Lopez and, with a completely different demeanor, asked him when he could return so the colonel could issue Lopez the documents needed to access the depot whenever he came to visit. While this positive result may not always occur, Cardoza’s reaction time does, and it is due to a 13-year friendship that I greatly cherish.

These relationships helped again last June. Stockton District Rep. Nate Tucker and his team were negotiating a first-time agreement with Nana Services, a private defense contractor performing maintenance work at Sharpe Army Depot and Tracy Defense Depot. The negotiation process was difficult as the employer was slow to provide requested information, especially regarding financial issues. On this occasion, freshman Congressman Jerry McNerney was personally contacted and given a report of the situation. Within days, Tucker knew what the employer knew and gained considerable traction for the bargaining sessions that followed. As a result, Local 3 now represents a new unit with 65 members.

The relationships I described are more than greeting cards and cordial conversations at political functions. They are strategic alliances we have forged with our elected representatives to keep them in office so they can assist us in improving the lives of our members.
Fire season keeps mechanics busy

By Gary Rocha, business representative

The 2008 wildfire season was a hectic one, with more than 1 million acres burned in California from wildfires all the way from Siskiyou County to San Diego County. With little time off, Unit 12 heavy equipment mechanics stayed busy trying to keep ahead of the breakdowns. Back in their home shops, these members were able to do major repairs on some of the equipment, instead of in a field or on the side of a mountain.

OAKLAND

Apprentices make district proud

In western Contra Costa County at the San Pablo Dam Reservoir, Sukut employs drilling crews, Ghilotti Brothers is finishing an overlay job on San Pablo Road and Bay Cities Paving is going strong with the McDonald Avenue project in Richmond. McGuire and Hester is almost finished with the Richmond City Hall project.

In Oakland, Local 3 and the Building Trades are in contract negotiations with Alameda County regarding the $800 million Highland Hospital Expansion. In Oakland and Alameda, many Measure B projects with lots of paving and road improvements continue – further proof of our volunteers’ efforts keep our members working.

District 20 is still in contract negotiations with Road Machinery, the company that took over the Komatsu heavy equipment dealership from Shanahan. District 20 is also preparing for recent negotiations and put the bargaining committee together. The members and representatives of the Eureka, Redding, Fortuna, Willits, Santa Rosa and Yuba City areas went to the District 20 hall in a show of solidarity to share information. The pre-negotiation meeting was a success with members discussing subjects affecting all the Peterson shops in California.

Like construction, the shops are slow, so please don’t be afraid to call your union representative if you see a non-union company on a jobsite doing repair work. Papé, Peterson, Holt, Western Traction II and TES are signatory, but if you have any questions about signatories, call (510) 748-7446. We need to protect our work in these tough economic times.

In other news: District Rep. Pete Figueiredo was a keynote speaker at a recent press conference/rally held in Fremont at the I-680/Livermore intersection. The job is one of many facing a possible shutdown because of the gridlocked California state budget. Figueiredo urged “members and every worker in the construction industry to call their legislators today.”

Apprenticeship spotlight

This month’s spotlight is on two construction equipment operators and the first construction inspector graduate. Willie Driggars Jr. and Beau Gorsuch are recently graduated construction equipment operators. Driggars works for McGuire and Hester in Orinda, and Gorsuch works for Mountain Cascade in Pittsburg.

Construction Inspector Sal Merino was an employee of Smith-Emery in August 2006, when he made the decision to enter Rancho Murieta’s Construction Inspection Apprentice program. From day one, he has been an example for current and future apprentices.

District 20 congratulates you all on your journey-level status.

2ND ANNUAL OPERATING ENGINEERS SPORTING CLAYS SHOOT

When: Saturday, April 25, 2009. 8 a.m. Registration • 9:30 a.m. Shoot starts
Where: Raahauge’s Hunting Club • (530) 724-0552
25835 County Road, Dunnigan, CA 95937
Details: Teams of five shooters (individual shooters will be assigned a team)
Lewis Class scoring event with four divisions – A, B, C and D. The top three shooters in each division will receive trophies. There will also be a trophy for the Top Gun, which will be first place in the A Division, and Duck-n-Cover for the bottom shooter in D Division. This scoring system allows beginner shooters to have a chance for a trophy as well as the advanced shooters. You will need to supply a minimum of (five) 25 - round boxes, of one of the following types of ammo: 2 3/4 Low Base, No. 7 1/2, No. 8 3 and 3 1/2 inch Magnum and 10 Gauges are not allowed!
Ammo will be available for purchase if needed.
You are required to have proper eye and hearing protection. They will be supplied if needed.
Entry Fee: $90 (lunch only $20)
Includes 100 clay targets, 2nd annual event hat to the first 95 entries and barbecue lunch
$5 from each entry goes to the Local 3 Scholarship Fund.
Make checks payable to: OE Community Service Fund
Attn: Becky Fisk
3920 Lennane Dr., Sacramento, CA 95834
Non-profit I.D. # 94-3268800
For more information call (916) 826-3329 or (530) 308-4998

UNIT 12

Apprenticeship spotlight

This month’s spotlight is on two construction equipment operators and the first construction inspector graduate. Willie Driggars Jr. and Beau Gorsuch are recently graduated construction equipment operators. Driggars works for McGuire and Hester in Orinda, and Gorsuch works for Mountain Cascade in Pittsburg.

Construction Inspector Sal Merino was an employee of Smith-Emery in August 2006, when he made the decision to enter Rancho Murieta’s Construction Inspection Apprentice program. From day one, he has been an example for current and future apprentices.

District 20 congratulates you all on your journey-level status.

2ND ANNUAL OPERATING ENGINEERS SPORTING CLAYS SHOOT

When: Saturday, April 25, 2009. 8 a.m. Registration • 9:30 a.m. Shoot starts
Where: Raahauge’s Hunting Club • (530) 724-0552
25835 County Road, Dunnigan, CA 95937
Details: Teams of five shooters (individual shooters will be assigned a team)
Lewis Class scoring event with four divisions – A, B, C and D. The top three shooters in each division will receive trophies. There will also be a trophy for the Top Gun, which will be first place in the A Division, and Duck-n-Cover for the bottom shooter in D Division. This scoring system allows beginner shooters to have a chance for a trophy as well as the advanced shooters.
You will need to supply a minimum of (five) 25 - round boxes, of one of the following types of ammo: 2 3/4 Low Base, No. 7 1/2, No. 8 3 and 3 1/2 inch Magnum and 10 Gauges are not allowed!
Ammo will be available for purchase if needed.
You are required to have proper eye and hearing protection. They will be supplied if needed.
Entry Fee: $90 (lunch only $20)
Includes 100 clay targets, 2nd annual event hat to the first 95 entries and barbecue lunch
$5 from each entry goes to the Local 3 Scholarship Fund.
Make checks payable to: OE Community Service Fund
Attn: Becky Fisk
3920 Lennane Dr., Sacramento, CA 95834
Non-profit I.D. # 94-3268800
For more information call (916) 826-3329 or (530) 308-4998

UNIT 12

Fire season keeps mechanics busy

By Gary Rocha, business representative

The 2008 wildfire season was a hectic one, with more than 1 million acres burned in California from wildfires all the way from Siskiyou County to San Diego County. With little time off, Unit 12 heavy equipment mechanics stayed busy trying to keep ahead of the breakdowns. Back in their home shops, these members were able to do major repairs on some of the equipment, instead of in a field or on the side of a mountain.

OAKLAND

Apprentices make district proud

In western Contra Costa County at the San Pablo Dam Reservoir, Sukut employs drilling crews, Ghilotti Brothers is finishing an overlay job on San Pablo Road and Bay Cities Paving is going strong with the McDonald Avenue project in Richmond. McGuire and Hester is almost finished with the Richmond City Hall project.

In Oakland, Local 3 and the Building Trades are in contract negotiations with Alameda County regarding the $800 million Highland Hospital Expansion. In Oakland and Alameda, many Measure B projects with lots of paving and road improvements continue – further proof of our volunteers’ efforts keep our members working.

District 20 is still in contract negotiations with Road Machinery, the company that took over the Komatsu heavy equipment dealership from Shanahan. District 20 is also preparing for recent negotiations and put the bargaining committee together. The members and representatives of the Eureka, Redding, Fortuna, Willits, Santa Rosa and Yuba City areas went to the District 20 hall in a show of solidarity to share information. The pre-negotiation meeting was a success with members discussing subjects affecting all the Peterson shops in California.

Like construction, the shops are slow, so please don’t be afraid to call your union representative if you see a non-union company on a jobsite doing repair work. Papé, Peterson, Holt, Western Traction II and TES are signatory, but if you have any questions about signatories, call (510) 748-7446. We need to protect our work in these tough economic times.

In other news: District Rep. Pete Figueiredo was a keynote speaker at a recent press conference/rally held in Fremont at the I-680/Livermore intersection. The job is one of many facing a possible shutdown because of the gridlocked California state budget. Figueiredo urged “members and every worker in the construction industry to call their legislators today.”

Apprenticeship spotlight

This month’s spotlight is on two construction equipment operators and the first construction inspector graduate. Willie Driggars Jr. and Beau Gorsuch are recently graduated construction equipment operators. Driggars works for McGuire and Hester in Orinda, and Gorsuch works for Mountain Cascade in Pittsburg.

Construction Inspector Sal Merino was an employee of Smith-Emery in August 2006, when he made the decision to enter Rancho Murieta’s Construction Inspection Apprentice program. From day one, he has been an example for current and future apprentices.

District 20 congratulates you all on your journey-level status.
**SACRAMENTO**  
District works overtime on state budget issues

Work has been slow in District 80, but Unit 12 members with Caltrans, the Department of Parks and Recreation; Cal Fire; California Vehicle Inspection Specialists (CVIS); Office of Emergency Services (OES); and state prisons, to name a few, are staying busy. These state agencies are in a tough contract fight with an anti-labor governor. Unit 12 Director Tim Neep, Unit 12 Business Rep. Travis Tweedy and our legislative representative, Tim Cremins, are working hard to get them the best deal possible.

During this budget mess, District 80 agents and organizers are stepping up their efforts to organize non-union contractors and workers. A recent Project Labor Agreement (PLA) was signed with Rock Morgan.

As of this writing, there are no restarts in sight for the Elk Grove Mall or the Thunder Valley Casino; we are monitoring these closely.

Thanks to all the volunteers who showed up for the Hwy. 65/Lincoln Bypass rally in Lincoln. About 150 people participated in the event, including Job Corps members, retirees, active members and apprentices. Financial Secretary Dan Reding was one of the speakers who talked about the budget problems leading to the possible shutdown of the Hwy. 65/Lincoln Bypass job and others. We can’t lose funding for these projects.

Members are turning out in good numbers for Unit 12 pickets, news conferences and rallies at the state Capitol.

Let’s stand together, stay united and keep up the fight. We will prosper. BE SAFE.

---

**BURLINGAME**  
Crane booms color the sky on new Bay Bridge

If you’ve ever tried counting the crane booms on the remaining phases of the new Bay Bridge while driving across the old bridge, keep your eyes on the road! We have the number for you: 20 (give or take a few). Between the cranes, crew boats, surveyors and miscellaneous associated dirt work, about 60 operators are employed on the project.

On Yerba Buena Island, Danny’s Construction is building a temporary section of bridge, while part of the existing bridge is demolished and the new, permanent bridge is built. To minimize traffic disruption, general contractor C.G. Myers plans to close the bridge and remove 288 feet of the existing bridge by cutting, jacking and then rolling it out of the way on runway beams almost 200 feet off the ground. A new section connecting the temporary bridge to the existing skyway will then be rolled into place, and the bridge will be reopened to traffic. Operators for Danny’s Construction include crane operators Homer Willis, Wayne Davis, Tana Harris, Johnny Brown and Elevator Operator George Bonds.

---

**FRESNO**  
‘Extreme Home Makeover’ comes to district

The Fresno District staff, members and community were excited to hear that “Extreme Home Makeover,” the popular television show that rebuilds a home in every episode, was going to be a part of ABC’s “Extreme Home Makeover,” airing March 8, “the popular television show that rebuilds a home in every episode, was going to be a part of ABC’s “Extreme Home Makeover,” airing March 8.

Operating Engineers’ signatory contractor Krocker Inc. Demolition took part in the event by providing the demolition work to remove the existing home. The event took place in January but will air on Sunday, March 8 on ABC. Thanks to everyone who gave their time and made a difference.

Other contractors may not be seen on television but can be seen in our surrounding areas: Bill Nelson General Engineering is revitalizing the Cutler Waste Water Treatment Plant; Emmett’s Excavation was awarded a $1.7 million project for improvements at the Parlier Industrial Park; C.G. Myers is building the bridge across the river at Hwy. 59 in Merced; and George Reed Inc. is performing widening work at G Street and Bellevue in Merced. The next phase for Hwy. 180 east in Fresno is scheduled to go to bid in June 2009, however, if the state of California receives funding, the job may go to bid earlier.

Mark your calendars for the upcoming New Member Orientation (NMO) scheduled for Wednesday, March 4 at 6:30 p.m. at the Fresno District office at 4856 North Cedar. The meeting title may read “new member,” but it gives the opportunity for all members to become familiar with the benefits of Local 3. All topics are open for discussion, including Fringe Benefits, union representation and upcoming work. If you have questions regarding your wages, single shifts or your contract, you should attend the meeting.

We also hope to see everyone at the Fresno District meeting on Thursday, March 12 at 7 p.m. at the Veterans’ Memorial Building in Clovis. Please attend to get answers to any questions you may have and to voice any opinions, concerns or suggestions. We are here to listen to you.

From left: Danny and Pete Marquez with Emmett’s Excavation and Krocker Inc. Demolition provides demo work for the old house as part of ABC’s “Extreme Home Makeover,” airing March 8.
Spring is upon us, and with the change in weather comes the prospect of new job opportunities. With that in mind, please make sure your name is on the out-of-work list and that the dispatcher has your current phone number.

**George Reed** started work on the $12.9 million Keyes Improvement Project with subcontractors Sybion Reid and Mozingo. George Reed also has some work widening state Route 219 and Pelandale Avenue.

Nehemiah Construction is keeping members busy on the Whitmore Avenue overcrossing. Pacific Mechanical is ramping up at the Tertiary Wastewater Treatment Plant in Modesto with Rockin R and Fox Loomis as subcontractors. Granite Construction is staying busy with the construction of its new Vernalis Plant and the disassembly of the Tracy Plant.

**Hatton Crane and Rigging** recently removed a bridge over the California Aqueduct, which runs through the Tracy Plant. The bridge was about 70,000 pounds and 157 feet long. It supported the conveyor that moved material from one side of the plant to the other. The bridge removal required a two-crane pick and the use of a mounted turntable on a low-bed trailer. The pick went off without a hitch thanks to the expertise of operators Jacob Mendonza, Ken Wentworth and Hatton Crane and Rigging Owner Gary Hatton.

From left: Crane operators Ken Wentworth and Jacob Mendonza work together to dismantle the bridge over the California Aqueduct.

---

**REDDING**  J. F. Shea keeps us busy in Redding, Anderson

Work in the district continues with **Bobby Martin Construction** working on Hilltop Drive in Redding; **Steve Manning Construction** working on Hyampom Road in Hyampom; **Ford Construction** on the High Desert Prison Water Treatment Plant in Susanville; and **J. F. Shea Construction** at Stillwater Business Park in Redding.

Dozer Operator Eddie Gill works for J.F. Shea.

Also in Redding, **Kiewit Pacific** continues on the Cypress Street Bridge project, and **Golden State Bridge** works on the Hwy. 44 Dana to Downtown project. **Shasta Constructors** is working on the I-5 Thomas Creek Bridge in Corning and the North Street Bridge project in Anderson.

New projects in 2009 include: **J. F. Shea Construction**’s work at Hwy. 299 road in Trinity County along with a road-widening project on North Street in Anderson. **Shimmick Construction** is building an additional water-intake structure at the Coleman Fish Hatchery in Anderson.

Projects out for bid include a $6.5 million bridge-deck replacement in Corning; a $1.3 million bridge replacement in Susanville; a $25 million waste-water-treatment-plant project in Hurlong; a $3.2 million Hwy. 299 widening project in Salyer; a $700,000 A/C overlay on Hwy. 299 and Hwy. 3 in Weaverville; and a $500,000 culvert replacement.


on Hwy. 147 in Westwood.

District 70 would like to thank all the members who attended and participated in the Sierra Cascade Logging Conference Backhoe Rodeo. As usual, Local 3 was well represented, and fun was had by all.

---

**YUBA CITY**  Unit 12 Tree Crew knows the ropes

By the time this goes to print, the state should have an approved budget. As if the economy isn’t bad enough, the state always looks toward labor cuts first. We are the ones who put these government officials in office, and we need to be the ones who hold them accountable. Just because we live in the Yuba City District doesn’t mean Sacramento politics don’t matter. Politics at the capitol level affect us all.

This has been a dry winter, and we should be working on some public-works jobs. If our government does its job, we should be able to pick up where we left off. Several more jobs are coming up to bid this month. With a state budget approved, these should be our jobs. We all need to regularly call our local assembly members and senators and voice our concerns. Look them up at leginfo.ca.gov/yourleg.html. Every one of our public-works projects relies on politics and politicians. They work for us, so don’t let them forget that.

In other news: The Unit 12 Tree Crew knows how to get the job done. They are the rescuers who operate the lifts and other equipment necessary to perform their jobs. These are the folks you call if something goes wrong 60 feet in the air.

The Unit 12 Tree Crew includes, from left: Joe Stevens, Rich Schwegerl, Neal Skadden, Ed Custer and Trevor Evans.

Unit 12 Tree Crew members perfect the dangerous task of rescues 60 feet in the air.
No more ‘bottlenecking’ in District 40

Golden State Bridge, Gordon M. Ball improve traffic flow

First let me thank all who attended our Annual Crab Feed. Photos from the event will be available in an upcoming edition of Engineers News and in an online gallery at oe3.org. It’s hard to believe another February has come and gone.

Work in District 40 is picking up. Granite staked out the Alton Interchange at Hwy. 36 and Hwy. 101. It will help with traffic flow on that part of the highway, since drivers had to cross the highway or merge onto it, which is difficult when pulling a boat or RV.

Work continues on the McKinleyville/Hwy. 101 bridges project. Golden State Bridge is the prime contractor on the project. The north and south bridges will be replaced. Merging onto southbound Hwy. 101 is currently taking place on a curve, while the narrow northbound bridge makes pedestrian and bicycle traffic very hazardous. This project will improve the flow of traffic in that area. Mercer Fraser is doing an excellent job of getting everything ready for the bridge demolition and has been onsite since last year.

Haskel Corporation started work at the PG&E Power Plant with Ken Wahlund Construction doing most of the site work. In a few months, Day Zimmerman will start decommissioning work.

District 40 also looks forward to Gordon M. Ball starting on the Redcrest Sink to get Hwy. 101 back to two lanes – north and south. This area has been a bottleneck long enough.

Be safe and healthy.

Wine equals work in American Canyon

Spring is here, and many operators are waiting for an OE3 dispatcher to call and tell them it’s time to go back to work. Instead of waiting for the phone to ring, operators are strongly encouraged to spend their off-time at the Rancho Murieta Training Center (RMT) taking upgrade-training classes. RMT is offering 40-hour upgrade classes to journey-level operators every week, from the middle of March through early July. To qualify, you must have at least 350 hours reported from a participating employer during the last 24 months. RMT added a new class this year for small equipment, including bobcats, skid loaders, mini excavators and vibratory sheepfoot compactors. Call the district office at (707) 429-5008 to sign up.

Kendall Jackson Winery based in Santa Rosa is keeping members with Ghilotti Bros. busy in American Canyon, as they complete a 650,000-square-foot pad for a new distribution center. The American Canyon location was selected because there is a rail spur on the property, which will streamline transportation to distribution centers in Florida, Virginia, Texas and New York. Operators are working many hours to get the site completed by August.

Among planned transportation projects, Ghilotti Bros. continues working on the rehab of I-80 from American Canyon Road to Red Top Road, and O. C. Jones continues the installation of High-Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes through Fairfield. Vanguard Construction is completing the center median, and Midstate Barrier Inc. (MBI) is putting in the guardrails. Ghilotti Construction completed the truck-climb lane entering Jameson Canyon on Hwy. 12, which relieves early morning traffic jams and delays.

Upcoming pancake and motorcycle show promises good show, food

Don’t miss the 3rd Annual District 10 Pancake Breakfast/Car and Motorcycle Show, Sunday, April 26, at the Santa Rosa Veterans’ Memorial Building. Bring your “pride and joy” regardless of what it is – a Harley, metric bike, hotrod, custom, muscle car, classic, 4x4 or low rider. Show hours are from 9 a.m. until noon. Breakfast is from 8:30–11 a.m.

Work to widen the Hwy. 101 freeway from Steele Lane to Windsor River Road continues. O. C. Jones Construction of Berkeley was the low bidder on the $77.8 million contract and began work in January on the construction of High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes from Steele Lane to the Windsor exit. Members re-striped the freeway near Windsor and started adding K-Rail safety barriers, which narrow the freeway’s inside lane to protect workers constructing the additional lane in the median strip. O. C. Jones also started removing redwood trees along the freeway to accommodate the widening as part of a Caltrans safety project. The widening should be finished by late summer or early fall of 2010.

The Wilfred project to widen Hwy. 101 to six lanes from Rohnert Park Expressway to Santa Rosa Avenue and reconstruct the Wilfred overcrossing went to bid mid-December. Ghilotti Bros. Inc. was the low bidder on the $38 million project.

Argonaut Constructors picked up the next phase of the $18 million Fort Bragg Streetscape project, which includes replacing 8-foot sidewalks with 10-foot ones and installing bulb-outs at alley corners. Work also includes drainage-facility installation and street-surface reconstruction.

Granite Construction was the low bidder on the $3.5 million project to construct a tie-back retaining wall on the Pacific Coast Highway near Elk.

Akef Construction in Fort Bragg was awarded a contract to construct the new railroad crossings and handicap-accessible sidewalk at the Franklin Street and Fir Street intersection. The project consists of removing rail, timber and ballast and replacing them with concrete and rubberized grade crossings. Work also includes repaving to match existing grades.

If at the time you are reading this, the California Legislature has not yet produced a budget, then many projects scheduled for construction are in serious jeopardy, as is your job. Please contact your state representatives:

- Senator Patricia Wiggins – Eureka: (707) 445-6508; Santa Rosa (707) 576-2771; Sacramento (916) 651-4002
- Assemblyman Wes Chesbro – Eureka (707) 445-7014; Santa Rosa (707) 576-2546; Sacramento (916) 319-2001
- Assemblywoman Noreen Evans – Santa Rosa (707) 546-4500; Sacramento (916) 319-2007

Remember: If you’re not working or get laid-off in the future, register on the out-of-work list. Your registration is valid for 84 days (12 weeks) from the date of registration. After the 84th day, you will fall off the list, unless you re-register. If you are unemployed for an extended period of time, it’s always a good idea to keep track of your hour-bank for health-and-welfare eligibility by calling the Trust Fund office at (800) 251-5014.
District welcomes back Kiewit

The District 12 staff would like to thank everyone who volunteered their time and donated to our food drive. We were able to deliver several loads of food to United Way’s labor liaison, Diane Lewis. Food was delivered to the union labor center, so all food went to union families. We would like to extend a special thanks to Doug Archibald and his son, Skyley, for their help delivering the food.

District 12 welcomes back Kiewit and looks forward to providing the company with highly skilled Operating Engineers. Kiewit landed two light-rail jobs as a joint venture – Kiewit, Herzog and Parson’s Engineering (KHP). The light-rail work includes the $110 million Mid Jordan Line and the $350 million West Valley/Airport Line with Stacy and Witbeck, Inc. Kiewit was also the low bidder on the I-80 job near Nightingale and on the Reno-Carson Highway from Pagni Lane to Bowers Mansion. Reno-Tahoe Construction was the low bidder on the Mogul Bypass Pipeline and is one of the subcontractors on the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) Molecular Medicine Center with Merit Electric and Case Pacific. K.G. Walters has projects in Carson City and Gardnerville and also at the Fernley Water Treatment Plant with Central Sierra Electric. Road and Highway Builders continues work on the U.S. 395 Bypass in Carson City, and Sierra Nevada Construction is working on the water tank and pipeline in Fernley.

Q&D Construction received a 2008 Quality-in-Construction Award from the National Asphalt Pavement Association for its work on an 11-mile section of Hwy. 50 at Spooner Summit. We congratulate the company and the Local 3 members who performed the work and made this happen. The paving crew included Barry Baker, Alex “Leeve” Atoa, Troy Gardner, Al Mamac, James Brown, John Wood, Don Wood, Corey Williams and Don Melver. Maintenance support members included Cliff Vanronk, Greg Eure, Virgil Davis and John Re, among others.

In other big news: Local 3 was a key player in an informational picket against Intercoastal Hospitality, the general contractor building the Hyatt Hospitality Suites in Reno. This company has been paying substandard wages and not providing benefits for its workers. More information and photos from this story can be found on page 3.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the March 10 district meeting at 1290 Corporate Blvd., and remind you to attend New Member Orientation (NMO) on May 20, Aug. 19 or Nov. 18. Call the hall at (775) 857-4440, if you plan to attend. We encourage you to bring your spouses.

For those of you interested in mine-safety training, please contact the Northern Nevada Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC) at (775) 575-2729 or the Reno office at (775) 857-4440. Part 48 Mine Safety Health Administration (MSHA) is held the first Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of every month. This class is for three days, eight hours each day. You need to attend all three days and bring a lunch. The Reno Hall also has class schedules available for additional training at the Nevada JAC site.

From Elko

As this goes to press, we’re in the heart of winter. Northeastern Nevada has had some severe temperatures, even 15 degrees below zero, and a few windy snow storms. Those temperatures make it hard to get projects to run at full production, but signatory contractors in this area are still moving on jobs at this time, keeping members busy. Ames Construction was awarded work from Barrick’s Cortez Mine, but because of the weather, the project is not up to full speed yet. N.A. Degerstrom is still mining at the barite mines for Haliburton in Carlin and for Spirit Mine in Wells. Canyon Construction has smaller projects at Newmont Mine in Carlin.

The fuel for the economy in this area is gold. It has been staying over $800 per ounce at this time. Members at Newmont Mine have been busy running at full production and meeting production requirements, through bad weather conditions, 24 hours a day.

There will be a Pre-Retirement Meeting in the Elko Hall (1094 Lamoille Highway) March 25 at 6 p.m. If you want information about retirement, please attend.

Be safe out there.

Congratulations to the following “new father” apprentices

DISTRICT MEETINGS
All meetings convene at 7 p.m.

MARCH 2009

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

10th District 01: Burlingame
Transport Workers’ Union
1521 Rollins Road

10th District 20: San Leandro
Sheet Metal Workers’ Local 104
1720 Marina Blvd.

10th District 11: Reno
Engineers’ Building
1290 Corporate Blvd.

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

11th District 90: Morgan Hill
Engineers’ Building
325 Digital Drive

11th District 12: Salt Lake City
IBEW Local 354
3400 W. 2100 S.

12th District 30: Stockton
Italian Athletic Club
3541 Cherry Land Drive

12th District 50: Clovis
Veterans’ Memorial Building
453 Hughes Ave.

12th District 50: Clovis
Veterans’ Memorial Building
453 Hughes Ave.

12th District 90: Rancho Cordova
Machinists’ Hall
2749 Sunrise Blvd.

16th District 17: Honolulu*
Kapolei High School Cafeteria
91-5007 Kapolei Parkway
Kapolei

17th District 40: Eureka
Best Western Bayshore Inn
3500 Broadway

17th District 17: Maui*
Maui Beach Hotel, Maui Room
170 Kaahumanu Ave.
Kahului

18th District 70: Redding
Engineers’ Building
20308 Engineers Lane

18th District 17: Hilo
Hilo ILWU Hall
100 W. Lanikaula St.

19th District 60: Orovilile
Southside Orovilile Community Center
2959 Lower Wyandotte

19th District 17: Kona
King Kamehameha Kona Beach Hotel
75-5660 Palani Road

20th District 17: Kanai
Hilton Kauai Beach Resort
4331 Kauai Beach Drive
Lihue

*Please note location change.

Operating Engineers Local 3 Scholarship Foundation Contest Rules for 2009

Applications available at district offices, Credit Union branches and online at www.oe3.org

The Local 3 Officers, Executive Board and the Scholarship Board of Directors understand that the workplace is rapidly changing, and many jobs require 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 seniors in high school who have, or will be, graduated at the end of either: 1) the fall semester (beginning in 2008) or: 2) the spring semester (beginning in 2009), in public, private or parochial school. They must be favoring over another. Based on factors normally used in awarding academic scholarships, the University of Berkeley Scholarship Selection Committee will submit recommendations for finalists to the Scholarship Foundation’s Board of Directors. The list of potential winners and their qualifications will be reviewed by the Board and the winners will be selected.

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

Applicants who are not selected for an academic scholarship will automatically be eligible for one of the Merit Scholarships, which are awarded through a raffle drawing; therefore, only one application is required. Merit 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 31, 2009:

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.

MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS

In addition to the four academic scholarships, Local 3’s Scholarship Foundation will award 20 $500 Merit Scholarships through a raffle drawing to be held at Local 3’s July Executive Board meeting. Applicants need not be present to win.

Merit 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, 2009 to March 31, 2009. 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 Merit 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 31, 2009:

James K. Sullivan
Recording-Corresponding Secretary
Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3
1620 South Loop Road
Alameda, CA 94502-7090
ELECTION COMMITTEE NOTICE

James K. Sullivan, Recording-Corresponding Secretary of Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3, announces that in conformity with Article XII, Section 3(b), Elections, of the Local Union Bylaws, elections will be held at the first regular district meeting in each district held in March for Members of the Election Committee which will conduct an election in August 2009 of Officers and Executive Board Members.

ARTICLE XII, SECTION 3, ELECTIONS:

(a) The election of Officers and District Members of the Local Union Executive Board shall be held during the month of August by mail referendum vote of the Membership of this Local Union under the supervision of the Election Committee and a nationally known firm of certified public accountants, selected by the Executive Board, with such other technical and legal assistance as may be provided.

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

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

Additionally, any active or retired Member residing outside the geographic jurisdiction of the Districts of this Local Union may petition the Committee to serve as a non-elected member of the Committee to serve the interests of the Members who reside outside the geographic jurisdiction of Local Union No. 3, as set out and defined in Appendix A to these Bylaws. Petitions to serve will be submitted in writing to the Committee through the office of the Recording-Corresponding Secretary no less than ten (10) business days before the first meeting of the Committee. The elected Committee members will then vote to accept or reject no more than one of the petition(s) or reject all petition(s).

The schedule of the meetings at which these elections will be held appears on page 20 under “District Meetings.”

Election of Market and Geographic Area Committee members

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 2009 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 s/he 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 Committees.

The schedule of the meetings at which these elections will be held appears on page 20 under “District Meetings.”

2009 Political Action and Grievance Committee Election

Rec. Corres. Secretary James K. Sullivan has announced that in accordance with Article X, Section 10 of the Local Union Bylaws, the election of Political Action and Grievance Committees will take place at the first regular quarterly district meeting of 2009.

The schedule of meetings at which these elections will be held appears on page 20 under “District Meetings.”

Engineers News goes on a diet, loses inches

Paper will change its look; keep its purpose

In an effort to save money, Engineers News is going through a re-design. You’ll see the new format in next month’s edition.

The size of the pages will be slightly smaller at 8.5-by-12.25 inches, but there will be more of them, going from a 24-pager to a 32-page magazine. These changes are small, but the savings are big – Local 3 will save an estimated $35,000 a year. Engineers News will still inform you about work going on in the districts, print important dates and cover local jobsites where our members are working. The only thing we’re losing is cost – something we’re all trying to cut back on these days.

Honorary Membership

The following retirees have 35 or more years of membership in Local 3 as of January and are eligible for Honorary Membership effective April 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>District</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Robert C. Abbott Jr.</td>
<td>1584144</td>
<td>District 10: Rohnert Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert L. Baker</td>
<td>0854306</td>
<td>District 99: Out of Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keith E. Carter</td>
<td>2000132</td>
<td>District 12: Utah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Flores</td>
<td>1578832</td>
<td>District 80: Sacramento</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James E. Gardner</td>
<td>1265331</td>
<td>District 04: Fairfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas R. Grover</td>
<td>1584306</td>
<td>District 12: Utah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masami Miya</td>
<td>1578508</td>
<td>District 12: Utah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clyde Myers</td>
<td>1589183</td>
<td>District 99: Out of Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Schram</td>
<td>1566863</td>
<td>District 01: Burlingame</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank J. Sequeira</td>
<td>1578550</td>
<td>District 30: Stockton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert L. Wise</td>
<td>1335219</td>
<td>District 20: Oakland</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2009 picnic season

It’s picnic time again! Gear up your families and your appetite for this year’s district picnic events.

Listed below is the schedule for 2009. Please note: The Retiree Picnic is on Saturday, May 30 at the Rancho Murrieta Training Center (RMTC).

Fairfield District 04: Saturday, April 4
Rohnert Park District 10: Sunday, April 26
Fresno District 50: Saturday, May 2
Stockton District 30: Sunday, May 3
Utah District 12: Saturday, May 9
Sacramento District 80: Saturday, May 16
Retiree Picnic: Saturday, May 30
Nevada District 11: Saturday, June 6
Morgan Hill District 90: Saturday, June 6
Hawaii District 17 (Honolulu): Sunday, June 7
Yuba City District 60: Sunday, June 7
Hawaii District 17 (Maui): Saturday, June 13
Burlingame District 01: Sunday, June 14
Oakland District 20: Sunday, June 28
Redding District 70: Saturday, July 11

District 04: Fairfield
Saturday, April 4, 8 a.m.–1 p.m.
Cordelia Fire Station
2155 Cordelia Road, Fairfield
Menu: Pancakes, sausage, bacon, eggs, hash browns, coffee and juice
Cost: Retirees – free, children under 10 – $2, adults – $8 in advance, $10 at the door
Other information: Breakfast served from 9–11 a.m., kids’ entertainment from 9:30–10:30 a.m., raffle starts at 11 a.m.

District 10: Rohnert Park
Sunday, April 26, 8:30 a.m. – noon
Santa Rosa Veterans’ Memorial Building
1351 Maple St.
Menu: Pancakes, eggs, bacon, sausage, orange juice and coffee
Cost: Retirees – free, children under 12 – free, adults – $8
Other Information: Pancake Breakfast and Motorcycle Show
Congratulations Nevada JAC graduates


Semi-Annual Meeting Notice

Rec. Corres. Secretary James K. Sullivan announces that the next Semi-Annual Meeting of the membership will be held on Sunday, March 29 at 1 p.m., at the Solano County Fairgrounds in Vallejo, Calif.

Don’t miss it: Pacific Coast Dream Machines

It’s time again for the Pacific Coast Dream Machines! The event promises to be spectacular for everyone interested in equipment. Stay tuned for more details.

What: An event featuring 2,000 driving, flying and working machines from the 21st century.
When: April 26, 2009
Where: Half Moon Bay Airport (on Hwy. 1, five miles north of Hwy. 92 and 20 miles south of San Francisco).

Service pins

In honor and remembrance of years of service in Local 3, service pins are available to members with 25 or more years of membership. These pins come in five-year increments from 25 through 70 years of service. Please contact your district office to receive your pins. A gallery of some pin recipients is available online at oe3.org.

New employers

Nevada: District 11
EUCA Association
(signed Master Agreement)

Utah: District 12
EUCA Association
(signed Master Agreement)

Oakland: District 20
Howards Earth Boring Service
Brand Energy Services
MCT Services, LLC

Stockton: District 30
D&E Construction Inc.
Shrader Excavation
Cunningham & Sons Inc.
Equipment Proz Heavy Equipment
Bibens Nursery Co.

Sacramento: District 50
RM Water Works, LLC

DEPARTED MEMBERS

Alloppena, Richard
Sonora, CA
District 30
11-27-08

Berry, Tom
Citrus Heights, CA
District 80
12-07-08

Childres, Harlon
Sonora, CA
District 30
12-02-08

Duffoth, Elmer
Sloughhouse, CA
District 80
11-25-08

Espiritu, Orlando
Shohomish, WA
District 99
12-15-08

Ford, Lin
Wills, CA
District 10
11-20-08

Geister, M
San Rafael, CA
District 01
10-22-08

Gray, Douglas
Grass Valley, CA
District 80
11-18-08

Halterman, William
Woodland, CA
District 80
12-03-08

Hendro, Donald
Friant, CA
District 50
11-18-08

Ige, Kiyoshi
Walluku, HI
District 17
11-06-08

Iwahashi, Patrick
Hilo, HI
District 17
11-27-08

Jones, Jason
West Jordan, UT
District 12
12-21-08

Jorgensen, Keith
Reno, NV
District 11
11-30-08

Kendrick, Doyle
Salt Lake City, UT
District 12
12-09-08

Kitson, Gary
Dillon Beach, CA
District 01
12-29-08

Little, William
Parker, AZ
District 99
12-02-08

Marines, Charles
Clements, CA
District 30
12-16-08

Marines, Ernest
Discovery Bay, CA
District 20
11-19-08

McQuillan, Jerry
Sacramento, CA
District 80
12-22-08

Meek, Duane
Silverton, OR
District 99
12-06-08

Monzo, Eddie
Carson City, NV
District 11
12-29-08

Morris, Dennis
Isleton, CA
District 80
12-28-08

Ortiz, Dorothy
Wife of Ortiz, Edward
(dec)
12-26-08

Palmer, Opal.
Wife of Palmer, Lloyd
(dec)
12-21-08

Payne, Gail.
Wife of Payne, Gary
12-07-08

Ragunton, Hilda.
Wife of Ragunton, Louis
(dec)
12-22-08

Sasser, Everett.
Wife of Sasser, Edward
(dec)
12-09-08

Smith, Gail.
Wife of Smith, John
12-22-08

Stevenson, Carma.
Wife of Stevenson, Wilsey
(dec)
11-28-08

Yancey, Gayle.
Wife of Yancey, Harold
(dec)
12-17-08

DECEASED DEPENDENTS

Alvey, Blake.
Stepson of Krahn, Steven
11-21-08

Bolte, Letha.
Wife of Bolte, Market
11-06-08

Carey, Carol.
Wife of Carey, Leland
(dec)
12-19-08

Cossart, Barbara.
Wife of Cossart, Norman
01-09-09

Evans, Theda.
Wife of Evans, Johnny
09-12-08

Favor, Ann.
Wife of Favor, Melbourne
(dec)
12-13-08

Frost, Diana.
Wife of Frost, James
(dec)
12-16-08

Gabriel, Jean.
Wife of Gabriel, Floyd
(dec)
12-04-08

Hamiton, Betty.
Wife of Hamilton, Max
(dec)
12-08-08

Harper, Joella.
Wife of Harper, Cecil
(dec)
11-05-08

Manolis, Colette.
Wife of Manolis, John
12-11-08

McCarrick, Nellie.
Wife of McCarrick, John
(dec)
12-03-08

Sonikson, Harry
Santa Rosa, CA
District 10
12-09-08

Stanhope, James
Thousand Palms, CA
District 99
11-09-08

Taff, E
Van Buren, AR
District 99
11-09-08

Takehara, Richard
Kailua, HI
District 17
12-14-08

Zabrinik, William
Moroni, UT
District 12
10-29-08

Mee, Duane
Silverton, OR
District 99
12-06-08

Meek, Dennis
Isleton, CA
District 80
12-28-08

Ritter, Joseph
Yuba City, CA
District 60
12-16-08

Scitton, Ralph
San Jose, CA
District 90
11-25-08

Smith, Carol
Chehalis, WA
District 99
11-07-08

Sonikson, Harry
Santa Rosa, CA
District 10
12-09-08

Stanhope, James
Thousand Palms, CA
District 99
11-09-08

Taff, E
Van Buren, AR
District 99
11-09-08

Takehara, Richard
Kailua, HI
District 17
12-14-08

Zabrinik, William
Moroni, UT
District 12
10-29-08


**WANTED:** Antique bottles. Paying up to $8,000 for embossed whiskey bottles and bitters bottles. Also want other antique bottles. Will give operators free appraisals on antique bottles. Call (707) 542-6438. Reg# 1025381.

**FOR SALE:** Allis-Chalmers H99 Bulldozer with 12-inch blade, 85,000 OBO. Complete professional tool set with four-way bucket and buck hoe. Asking $13,000. Call (707) 875-3309. Reg# 2033191.

**FOR SALE:** A 1999 Class C Togo RV - 29’ with E450 Super Duty Vorteq-V10 Ford engine with 60,330 miles. Automatic/ONAN 4000 Generator with 612 hours, also with 4,500 miles on 10-gallon hitch, 10-gallon running, AC, stereo, micro, stove and oven/ ref and separate shower/toilet. Rear bed room with comfy queen bed. Good condition and ready to roll. $17,500 OBO. Contact: (901) 503-4786, cell, or (901) 865-6026. Reg# 2027056.

**FOR SALE:** FOR SALE: Parts for International 966, 1500 hours, asking $5,500. $5,000 without winch. As is, Ready to go. Contact: (209) 2123273. Reg# 2027056.

**FOR SALE:** FOR SALE: Parts for International 966, 1500 hours, asking $5,500. $5,000 without winch. As is, Ready to go. Contact: (209) 2123273. Reg# 2027056.

**FOR SALE:** TOBOGANS to be driven anywhere. It looks and runs great. $13,000. Call (707) 987-3921. Pictures available. Reg# 2616749.


**WANTED:** Antique bottles. Paying up to $8,000 for embossed whiskey bottles and bitters bottles. Also want other antique bottles. Will give operators free appraisals on antique bottles. Call (707) 542-6438. Reg# 1025381.

**FOR SALE:** 1972 Jeep CJ5. New tires, new high-back seats, new gas tank - Carb. 1,200-pound winch. 85,000 OBO. canyon citation, convection/microwave, self-contained, sleeps six, summer and winter parking. (Contact: (775) 755-5818 before 5 p.m. Reg# 2211274.)

**FOR SALE:** 2001 Dodge Durango SLT, fully loaded, 5.9 V8, third row seat, 85,000 OBO. Below Kelly Bluebook, excellent condition. Call (209) 795-6569 or cell (209) 404-5083. Reg# 1040650.

**FOR SALE:** 35-foot Carilite 5th-wheel trailer, VCR, DVD, stereo, HD TV, very nice and in great condition. (Contact: (831) 637-6718 or (831) 358-6482. Reg# 0757-5818 before 5 p.m. Reg# 2211274.)

**FOR SALE:** FOR SALE: Romantic Cabin for sale, 30 miles north of Shasta, close to many recreational courses in Lake Shastina (Weed, Calif) with American flag on the side. Dar car. Runs well. $4,500. Call (707) 575-5818 before 5 p.m. Reg# 2211274.

**FOR SALE:** FOR SALE: SF FISO, 2006, 34-foot Presidential 5th Wheel with 2006 FJSO, Super Duty Combo. Both are in excellent condition. For more details, call (707) 778-3160. Reg# 1826093.

**FOR SALE:** Lodi, Calif. mobile home located in adult park, 55+, 2 bed/2 bath. Appliances, central heat and AC, awning, slide outs, back-up camera, HD TV, very nice and in great condition. Asking $53,000. Carson City, Nev. Call (775) 833-9628. Reg# 558119.

**WANTED:** Antique bottles. Paying up to $8,000 for embossed whiskey bottles and bitters bottles. Also want other antique bottles. Will give operators free appraisals on antique bottles. Call (707) 542-6438. Reg# 1025381.
Clifford Jansen just turned 65 years old, but he swears he doesn't feel a day older than 30. That's not an exaggeration – that's what the doctors told him. He has the lung capacity and stamina of a man half his age, even though three years ago, he couldn't get off his couch and was placed on insulin and the drug Metformin for severe diabetes.

“Basically, I was going to die,” recalls Jansen. His doctors wanted to hospitalize him. He had been hard on his body his whole life. Once an avid smoker and alcoholic, Jansen kicked those habits years ago. The onset of diabetes was a sign of poor eating habits.

While working in the field, “I wouldn’t eat all day,” said Jansen, now a retired blade operator and 37-year member. “Then for dinner, I’d eat whatever I wanted: Candy, cookies, ice cream, processed food, butter, mayonnaise, everything you’re not supposed to eat.” The onset of diabetes meant Jansen had to make another difficult change in a bad habit that would kill him if he didn’t.

“My life depended on it,” he said.

While in the field, others depended on Jansen. He taught President Fred Herschbach and Stockton Business Rep. John Bruckner.

“He was my superintendent when I was the foreman on a job, and he was a good teacher, taught me, taught everybody,” said Bruckner. “He had a lot of knowledge in the dirt-moving business … I’ve been his friend for over 30 years and worked with him for about 24.”

A persistent man known for his agility at blade operating, Jansen set about conquering his poor diet habits with as much diligence as he faced his other addictions. He threw out all processed foods, which left his cupboards bare. He re-stocked his refrigerator with fresh vegetables and fruits, especially watermelon, and fresh meats. He eats meat every day but rotates the kind and eats only a card-deck size. He steams his vegetables without butter and uses only Splenda as a sugar substitute.

Now Jansen has so much energy, “I have to slap myself to sleep at night.” He lost 45 pounds at one pound a week and has kept it off for three years. He has no joint pain, no headaches and no evidence of diabetes at all. He is off all medications.

Regular exercise is also a part of Jansen’s daily habits. This has contributed to his resting heart rate of 46-56 beats per minute, a number unheard of for a man his age. Jansen lives 60 miles from Tahoe in the Placerville area and exercises by running up his 700-foot driveway at a 16 percent incline. He also walks across his 8-acre property and stays true to his operator’s heart by grading neighbors’ properties and keeping his own land meticulous.

Quitting an addiction to nicotine or alcohol is a lifetime battle for some, but Jansen faced and conquered both, and then turned around and conquered another lifestyle hurdle – his diet.

“Did you make a healthy lifestyle change that has improved your quality of life?
If so, contact Engineers News:
by phone: (916) 286-2788
by fax: (916) 419-3487
by e-mail: mjessup@oe3.org