

OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL UNION NO. 3

ENGINEERS

NEWS

Vol. 65, #5

May 2007



OE3 PRECISION RESHAPES HIGHWAY

FCL/Granite improve, realign Hwy. 99



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For The Good & Welfare

By Russ Burns, business manager

Understanding the Pension Protection Act of 2006

I recently received a letter from a retired member regarding “the new ideas and positive changes that are taking place within Local 3.” I have to tell you, brothers and sisters, these comments make me proud. It makes me proud to know our membership is involved and paying attention to what the officers, staff and I are doing to improve this organization and focus on our primary goal of quality membership service. It makes me proud to be your business manager, overseeing the transformation of our union and working with the good people who make it so strong. So I want to thank Fred W. Mattson for his letter.

I also want to share with you that the letter raised an important question regarding the Board of Trustees’ role in addressing the issue of pension increases for 2007. This is not the first time the issue has been raised. I have been approached by many retirees in my travels across our jurisdiction, asking when they can expect to see an increase in their monthly pension benefit. On their behalf and on behalf of all our retirees and members, I want to take this opportunity to explain the rules and regulations governing our pension-benefit enhancements.

Let me first say that I understand the need for an increase for our retirees. The last increase was \$25 in the year 2000, and we certainly recognize that the cost-of-living in California and throughout our jurisdiction has gone through the roof – we’re all dealing with this reality. We’re also dealing with the reality of a post-9/11 economy and the dot-com bubble burst, which affected every major pension fund in the U.S., including our own Local 3 Pension Trust. Our pension fund, like all the others, is still recovering from the economic downturn of 2001. Although we are currently making excellent progress in the recovery of our plan (see page 4), it is important the membership understands there are rules and regulations that governing pension boards like our own Local 3 Board of Trustees must comply with when it comes to benefit enhancements.

The Pension Protection Act of 2006, which President Bush signed into law in August, is the rulebook on pension plans that dictates what our Trustees can and cannot do. Our Trustees cannot make sweeping enhancements – in fact they cannot make any enhancements – to our pension plan until it is out of the “endangered” classification, as indicated in the criteria section of the table below.

Criteria for Endangered and Critical Status and Actions Required		
	Endangered/“Yellow Zone” Status	Critical/“Red Zone” Status
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Less than 80 percent funded* <p>Or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Projected minimum funding deficiency within 7 years <p>And</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Not in the “red zone” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Less than 65 percent funded* and projected funding deficiency within 5 years or inability to pay benefits within 7 years <p>Or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Projected funding deficiency within 4 years or inability to pay benefits within 5 years, regardless of funded percentage <p>Or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Benefits for inactive are greater than for actives, contributions are less than carrying costs and funding deficiency projected within 5 years
Actions Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Notify participants and employers, detailing options for fixing the problems, the trustees’ strategy and the consequences for participants if it falls short. ▶ Before the end of the first plan year in the yellow zone, develop a Funding Improvement Plan (FIP) to meet specified benchmarks for reducing the amount of underfunding by the end of the Funding Improvement Period. That period can be from 11 to 18 years long, depending on the bargaining cycle and the degree of plan underfunding. Amendments increasing benefits are only allowed if provided for in the FIP. ▶ Present bargaining parties with one or more schedules of contribution increases and reductions in future benefit accruals needed to achieve the FIP goals. Redesign plan as needed, consistent with the FIP and the outcome of bargaining. ▶ While awaiting action by bargaining parties, trustees of “seriously” endangered plans must do what they can to stabilize the funding ratio and postpone the projected funding deficiency by a year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Same notices as for endangered plans ▶ Once employers are notified that the plan is in critical status, a 5 percent surcharge on contribution rates takes effect. That surcharge rises to 10 percent the following year, and stays in effect until a contribution rate acceptable under the Rehabilitation Plan is negotiated. ▶ Before the end of the first plan year in the red zone, develop a Rehabilitation Plan (RP) to stabilize the plan’s finances by the end of the Rehabilitation Period (generally 11-13 years after the plan goes into critical status). Amendments increasing benefits are only allowed if provided for in the RP. ▶ Present bargaining parties with one or more schedules of contribution increases and reductions in future benefit accruals and “adjustable benefits” such as early retirement subsidies, as needed to achieve the RP goals. The accrual rate for active participants cannot be reduced below the equivalent of 1 percent of contributions, payable at normal retirement age, or the current accrual rate, if lower, unless the bargaining parties agree to deeper cuts. ▶ If the RP goal cannot be achieved within the prescribed period, take reasonable steps to maintain the plan for as long as possible. ▶ Redesign plan as needed, consistent with the RP and the outcome of bargaining.

* The funded ratio is based on accrued benefits, measured using the plan actuary’s interest assumption and the plan’s asset-valuation method.

Chart courtesy of Segal, www.segalco.com

As you can see, the corrective actions for “endangered” plans are designed to gradually improve the current funded ratio and keep the plan out of “critical” status. This is to ensure plan assets are sufficient to satisfy our future obligations and safeguard the pension benefits of our current and future retirees. According to the legislation, the prudent thing for our Trustees to do at this time is to actively monitor our financial prospects and conduct an annual review of the plan’s funding status – this is what they are doing and will continue to do. Then, once we are free and clear of the “endangered” classification, we can discuss the issue of pension increases for our retirees.

As mentioned above, you will find a report on the status of our plan through year-end 2006 on page 4 in this issue of *Engineers News*. Last year was a good year with a strong finish, so our projections for 2007 look good. On May 21, the Trustees will meet with our advisers to discuss our pension valuation. Part of that process will include the most current projections of future fund status.

As promised, we will publish the updated financial reports in the *Engineers News* on a quarterly basis, so stay tuned – and thanks again to Fred Mattson and all of you for staying involved.

Members erect Flight 93 Memorial in Union City

In honor and remembrance of the 9/11 heroes of Flight 93, the Bay Area community of Union City is constructing a memorial site, in which Local 3 and all unions of the Alameda Building and Construction Trades Council is involved. The memorial is located in Sugar Mill Landing Park on the corner of Alvarado-Niles and Dyer streets in Union City.



Local 3 Operator Jeff Preston of DeSilva Gates holds his forklift steady as a memorial stone is set into position.

Local 3's Oakland District was involved in the planning process and helped coordinate much of the donated materials and supplies, construction equipment and volunteer operators. Local 3 contractors involved in the project included DeSilva Gates, Granite Construction, Ransome Construction, Sposeto Engineering and West Coast Drilling Company.

The story of the heroes of Flight 93 is told on large, granite stones at the memorial site, reminding us that the 9/11 terrorists intended to use the airplane as a missile to be crashed into the White House or Capitol Building. On that tragic day, Flight 93 had been delayed at the airport, but after takeoff, the passengers and crew were forewarned of the hijackers' intentions by family and loved ones via cell phones. They courageously took action and fought to stop the terrorists from completing their mission, causing the plane to crash into a vacant field in Pennsylvania. The plane's original destination was the San Francisco International Airport.

Since most of the 40 passengers and crew lived, worked or grew up in the San Francisco Bay Area, community leaders felt the Bay Area's Union City was an appropriate location to build a memorial. Forty memorial stones for the 33 passengers and seven flight crew members onboard Flight 93 were erected at the site this spring, with the assistance of several Local 3 members and contractors.

"It's an honor to be out here doing this," Local 3 member Jeff Preston of DeSilva Gates said. "Doing this for these people and their families is something you can look back on and reflect on."

Preston and 10-year Local 3 member Rigo Castaneda with Sposeto Engineering helped set the stones in place at the memorial site. Twelve-year member and West Coast Drilling Company Owner Bill Lamont leveled them, and members working for Ransome Construction installed the footings. Granite Construction did the grading work.

District 20 would like to thank these members, the Alameda Building Trades Council and all of our contractors who generously donated equipment and time for their assistance in this worthwhile endeavor.

Twelve-year member and West Coast Drilling Company Owner Bill Lamont works with a crew of volunteers to help level a stone at the Flight 93 Memorial in Union City.



Talking Points

By Fred Herschbach, president



Kauai elects first Grievance Committee

About the time I sit down to think about this column is about the time I realize how fast time passes. It doesn't seem possible that another month has already come and gone. Time moves so fast, because we've been moving so fast. As the weather improves and work picks up, I know you understand what I mean – the busier you are, the faster time flies.

I've been busy visiting with districts in our four-state jurisdiction, and I want to focus on Nevada, Utah and Hawaii this time around.

I visited with the folks in Nevada and toured their training center in Wadsworth, and if you didn't get a chance to see it or read about it in the March edition of *Engineers News*, it's worth a visit. The crew at the center has really done an outstanding job pooling resources together and getting the equipment necessary to create and maintain the top-notch facility the training center has become.

Our members in Nevada really know what union is all about. They're the real die-hards, because Nevada is a right-to-work state, which means all jobsites are "open shops." Non-union employees working alongside union members don't have to pay union dues and sometimes still get the benefits. It's an ongoing struggle, but our members in Nevada are fighters, and they'll tell you what it means to be union, and you can see it in their eyes – how much they believe in Local 3.

Utah is also a right-to-work state, and they share the same passions and struggles as Nevada. Organized labor means even more in right-to-work states, and the apprenticeship program and the Utah crew in general represent the basic values of Local 3 in the best way possible. Check out Utah's district report on page 16, and you'll see the signs of their success regarding the more than \$400 million in funding appropriated for highway work. This means business is booming in District 12.

Business is also booming in Hawaii District 17, since the first Grievance Committee on the island of Kauai was elected during our last round of meetings – the first in the history of Local 3. This means more member service and union power spread throughout the Hawaii District. District 17 Executive Board member Michael Brandt and former Local 3 Financial Secretary Harold Lewis got the ball rolling on this, and I thank them for their support. Good things are happening in District 17, and I will have more to report as details become apparent.

As you can see, time flies when there's work to do, and as you all know, when you're a union member and there's work – it means times are good. Visiting and working with all of you only emphasizes my belief in this union – times are good.



From left: President Fred Herschbach, Eugene "Kekane" Pa, Financial Secretary Jim Sullivan, William Pierce, former Financial Secretary Harold Lewis, Dennis Wong, Vice President Carl Goff and Asst. District Rep. Clarence "Black" Huihui serve on the first-ever elected Kauai Grievance Committee.

Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3 General Fund 12/31/2006

Local 3's annual financial audit for 2006 was conducted by the independent public-accounting firm Miller, Kaplan, Arase & Co., LLP and was completed at the end of March. A full report was presented to the Executive Board at their mid-April meeting.

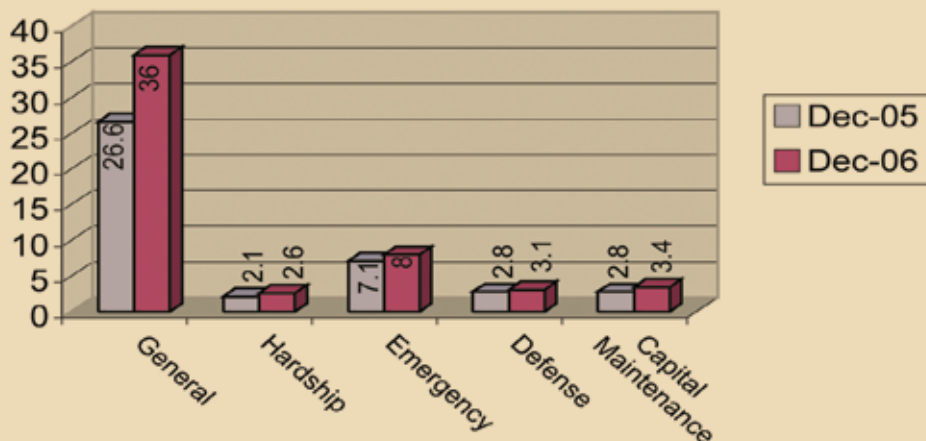
Financial results for 2006 were strong, with revenue/receipts growing 13 percent over 2005, exceeding expenses by \$9.35 million for the General Fund. This growth reflects continued strength in the economy; more specifically, construction activity throughout Local 3's jurisdiction remained strong. At the end of 2006, Local 3 had 40,453 members in good standing – up 600 for the year – and hours worked by our construction members were 5 percent higher than in 2005.

Local 3 General Fund expenses for the year were up 8 percent from 2005. The increase in expenses can be attributed almost entirely to two significant undertakings:

- **Computer systems development:** Local 3's computer system keeps track of more than 40,000 members working for hundreds of employers under thousands of different contract agreements. This is a monumental task at best. Our current system is 16 years old and in dire need of retirement. A massive, multi-year project is currently underway requiring a large investment of Local 3 funds.
- **November Election Mega-Bonds:** The November 2006 election was a banner event for Local 3 members, with \$37 billion in infrastructure bonds approved by voters. Local 3 supported these measures through phone banking, precinct walks and a significant monetary contribution.

For the remainder of 2007, we are cautiously optimistic that the construction economy will remain in good shape with some ongoing adjustments to the housing sector. Commercial and public-sector construction spending is expected to remain strong. Public sector construction has benefited from the November election bond initiatives.

FUND BALANCES (\$ IN MILLIONS)



OE3 GENERAL FUND - FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - AUDITED (\$ IN THOUSANDS)

Profit & Loss Statement Year End - 2006

Dues Revenue	\$ 47,157
Other Revenue	7,727
Total Receipts	54,884
Salaries, Benefits & Taxes	24,264
Per Capita Taxes	5,077
Offices, Operations	3,768
Depreciation	1,197
Professional Services	2,511
PACs & Funds Allocation	4,150
Admin & Public Relations	4,566
Total Expense	45,533
Net Income	\$ 9,351

Balance Sheet As of December 31, 2006

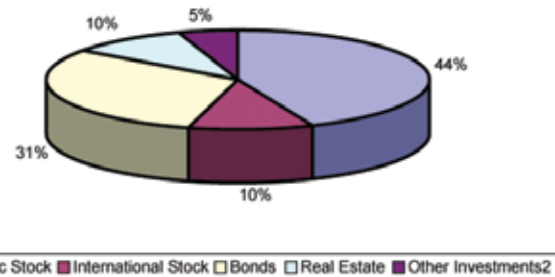
Cash & Investments & Deposits	\$ 28,490
Employee Funded 457 Plan	2,156
Automobiles	3,253
Office Furniture & Equipment	1,641
Computers & Software	7,093
Communications Equipment	645
Print Shop Equipment	2,847
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(7,295)
Total Assets	\$ 38,829
Liabilities	\$ 676
Employee Funded 457 Plan	2,156
General Fund Balance	35,997
Total Liabilities & Fund Balances	\$ 38,829

Pension Trust Fund for Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3 12/31/2006

Plan Assets¹

Investments	\$ 3,706,456,002	
Domestic Stock		1,616,579,847
International Stock		388,463,900
Bonds		1,149,895,873
Real Estate		362,702,000
Other Investments ²		188,814,382
Other Assets	31,431,000	
Total Plan Assets	\$ 3,737,887,002	

Invested Assets - Allocation



Notes:

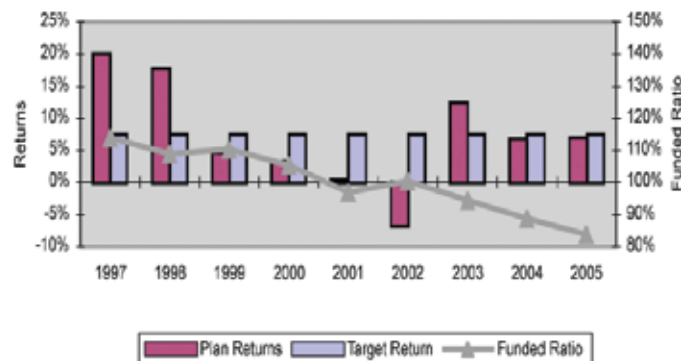
¹ Asset figures are preliminary and unaudited.

² Other Investments include an insurance contract held with New York Life and operational cash.

Plan Returns / Funded Status

	Investment Return	Target Return	Funded Ratio ¹
1997	20.0%	7.5%	114.0%
1998	17.8%	7.5%	108.9%
1999	4.8%	7.5%	110.4%
2000	3.2%	7.5%	105.4%
2001	0.4%	7.5%	96.9%
2002	-6.6%	7.5%	100.6%
2003	12.5%	7.5%	94.5%
2004	6.7%	7.5%	88.7%
2005	6.9%	7.5%	84.0%
2006 ²	n/a	n/a	n/a

Plan Returns vs. Funded Status



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.

² 2006 investment results are currently being audited, and will be presented in an upcoming issue of the *Engineers News*.



Credit Union

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

Now is the right time to review your home mortgage

Home foreclosures at a record high, interest rates low

Remember the old days when homebuyers actually made sizable down payments – often 20 percent or more – to purchase their first homes? Or when the only type of mortgage available was a 30-year fully amortized home loan? Those concepts are now outdated and less appealing to the average American. Today, we can choose from a variety of mortgage-loan products offering different terms, payment options, interest rates and down-payment requirements. Unfortunately, these options are spelling trouble for tens of thousands of homeowners.

If you purchased a home between mid-2005 to mid-2006, you probably financed the entire home loan and received a mortgage for the full amount of the home price. You aren't alone! More than half the homebuyers last year mortgaged the entire amount of the price of their home. If you own your home, you may have been approached to refinance your mortgage in order to take advantage of the low rates, and use your accumulated equity.

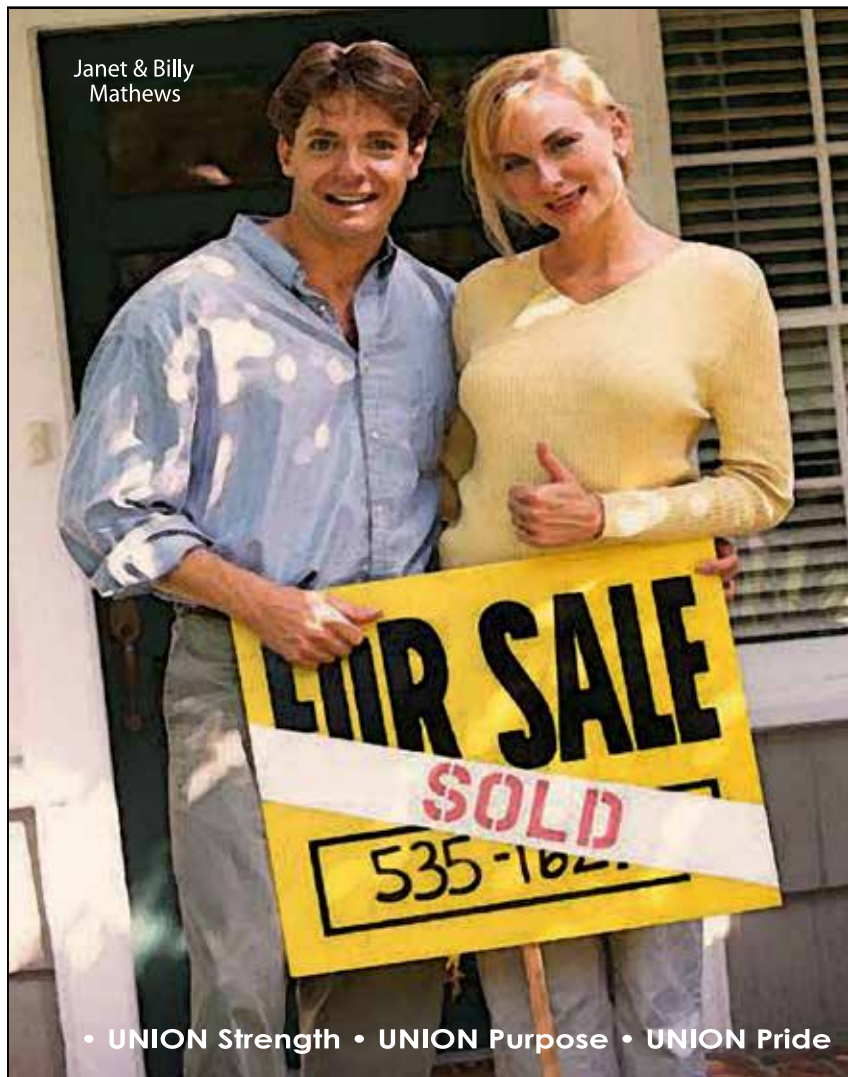
A key reason for the explosion in mortgage options is that these "loan products" are highly successful in helping consumers realize the American Dream of home ownership. The new loan products require low or no down payments and entice potential homebuyers with various payment options to help them afford their monthly payments. Borrowers have a choice of making interest-only payments or a minimum payment based on an interest rate lower than the actual loan rate, plus other creative alternative-payment options. In other words, buyers can afford much higher-priced homes than they would have qualified for in the past.

Although these features make it much easier to qualify for a home loan, there is a caveat. These mortgage loans have a short lifespan – typically five to 10 years – after which the interest rate on the mortgage adjusts to current market rates, and consequently, so do the monthly payments. The end result is higher interest rates that make for much higher monthly mortgage payments.

When these special features that made the loan so affordable in the first place expire, unprepared borrowers find themselves in the predicament of having to make monthly mortgage payments well above what they can comfortably handle. If you purchased or refinanced your home in the last three to five years, it is possible you have a mortgage loan that needs re-examination. I encourage you to make sure you have the right kind of mortgage financing to match your current financial situation. With interest rates still in the mid-6 percent range, now is a good time for a mortgage review, especially if your interest rate will be adjusting in the next 12 months.

Most adjusting loans will reset at a substantially higher rate than what a 30-year-fixed mortgage product is today. If you have a loan with flexible-payment options or an Adjustable-Rate Mortgage (ARM) loan, consider paying more than just the minimum payment. The difference you think you're saving with the minimum payment is being added back to your total loan balance. At a time when home values are declining, you could be depleting your equity. If you plan to remain in your home more than 10 years, consider making one extra payment per year. It's easy to calculate: Take your current payment, divide by 12, and add that to what you are currently paying. This will reduce your balance and build your equity much faster.

Remember: When shopping for a mortgage loan, ask the right questions and work with someone you trust. It's important you get *all* the facts and some solid advice before making your decision. If you're interested in refinancing your home or you're a first-time homebuyer, talk with one of our loan representatives at the Operating Engineers Federal Credit Union (OEFCU) Home Loan Center at (877) 516-8657. They will be happy to answer your questions, give you a rate quote or talk about the best type of loan to fit your needs.



Janet & Billy
Mathews

FIRST TIME HOME BUYER? NEED HOME REFINANCING?

We can help you, just like we helped Janet and Billy, find the right loan, at the right rate. We took the time to present the options AND saved them a bundle on hidden fees and broker commissions they'd normally get stuck with.

The difference? Unlike banks and mortgage lenders, we're a not-for-profit credit union. We're here for our union members and their immediate families and we take the time to walk our members thru the process and answer all of their questions. We're here to provide choices, not "sell" you a home loan. Big difference, plus ...

- Union Members and Families Pay No Application Fees
- Union Members and Families Get Same Day Pre-Qualification
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Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

As I sit here at my desk at 5 a.m. reading the *Engineers News*, I decided to do something I've wanted to do for quite some time. While reading the union paper and seeing everything going on, I thought I had better get with it before it's too late.

The reason I am writing is so maybe some of the younger generation might see how good they've got it by being an Operating Engineer.

If you add up the years I have spent on the workforce before becoming an Operating Engineer, it comes to thirty one years – twenty seven as a truck driver. After all that time and a couple of divorces, I didn't have a pot or a window.

Things began to change for the better. After twenty one years as an Operating Engineer, my wife and I have bought and paid for a nice home, but I couldn't do it through all the other years combined. It took some sacrifice to do it, such as doubling up on house payments – something I couldn't do before becoming an Operating Engineer.

I've got medical for me and my wife of 27 years, and I have a pension I can live on and owe nobody anything. What a relief! I had to work until age 67 to get it done and am happy to sit back and answer to no one but God Almighty.

I have spoken to several business agents from other unions, and the majority of them all said Local 3 is – if not the best – it's surely right at the top of the list for being the best union around, and I am proud to be a member. My only wish is that I could have joined at a younger age. My hope is for other unions to take a look at ours and emulate the way our members are taken care of. They could then make their unions stronger and union members across the country can all enjoy a better life. Most will never get rich, but life can be a lot easier if you are a union member, especially if you are an Operating Engineer.

Joe Nunes

Reg# 1774507

Dear Editor,

I have only been a member of this union for 2 1/2 years, but I don't see much written about inspectors (CWI). I have had up to 10 inspectors working on the Skyway Foundation Project at a time (like right now). In addition I am the QCM for this project which is not a usual thing for an inspector to accomplish on such a large project. I know that you might not be aware of these things. Local 3 is a great organization and I would like to see that the inspectors in this union are acknowledged as an important part of the quality contributed into these projects.

Thank you for your attention.

Kevin Carpenter

Reg# 2581949

Please note: Letters to the Editor is a section for your comments and questions about information featured in *Engineers News*. Any concerns regarding issues not related to *Engineers News* should be addressed at your local district meetings.

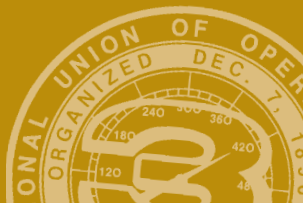
Letters to the Editor should be 200 or fewer words and are subject to editing. The use of offensive language and unsubstantiated, personal accusations will not be permitted. Letters must include your name and registration number.

To submit a letter by mail:

Letters to the Editor
Operating Engineers Local 3
3920 Lennane Drive
Sacramento, CA 95834

By fax: (916) 419-3487

By e-mail: newsletters@oe3.org



Fringe Benefits

By Charlie Warren, director

Pension processing timetable

If you're thinking about retiring soon, keep the following timeline in mind when submitting your pension application. Applications should be submitted to the Trust Fund office at least 90 days before your retirement date. Your application will be valid for one year.

- Application is received at the Trust Fund office.
- Receipt of application is acknowledged within a week to 10 days.
- The Trust Fund office mails an award packet to the member when s/he reaches or is within 90 days of retirement, provided all necessary information is made available to the Trust Fund office.
- Member stops working in the industry, completes and returns the award packet with the signed authorization to verify final hours with the last employer(s) or copy of the last three months' check stubs.
- Trust Fund office sends the first check to the member within one to two weeks of retirement date or confirmation of last day worked and final hours (whichever is later).

If you have any questions or you want to request an application, contact the Trust Fund office at (800) 251-5014 or the Fringe Benefits Service Center at (800) 532-2105.

Pension statements have a new look

The annual pension statements for year-end 2006 will be mailed in May. Please note the statements will look differently than previous statements. In addition to the employer name and hours worked, the employer contribution rate, the benefit factor and the benefit earned by month will appear on the statement. The statement will continue to reflect the credit earned during the plan year, the dollars added to your pension for the year, the total accumulated credits and the monthly benefit payable at full-retirement age.

Please carefully review your pension statement. If you note any discrepancies in hours, Social Security number or birth date between the Trust Fund records and your personal records, notify the Trust Fund office at (800) 251-2104 or the Fringe Benefits Service Center at (800) 532-2105. Follow the written instructions on the back of the statement for corrections. If the discrepancy is in the hours reported, please mail to the Trust Fund office with the top portion of your statement and copies of your check stubs for the month or months in question.

Retiree Picnic 2007: Don't miss it!

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the upcoming Retiree Picnic at the Rancho Murieta Training Center (RMTTC), Saturday, June 2.

Come up on Friday at noon, and stay until noon Sunday, if you wish. We'll have 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!



Local 3 Retiree Paul McKenzie and his grandson, Aron Drayer, had a great time together at last year's Retiree Picnic.

Self-qualified surveyors

This article covers the scope of the Master Agreement for Technical Engineers pertaining to self-qualified members. We urge all members to become familiar with the guidelines and contents of this section, which is referred to as Exhibit "C."

02.08.00 Job Placement Center. This section covers the portion of the contract pertaining to Job Placement Regulations. This applies to Technical Engineers and General Surveying for Northern California and Northern Nevada.

02.11.02 Competency. The Individual Employer shall be the sole judge of the competency, efficiency, skill and ability of all persons dispatched and may on such grounds reject any Employee or applicant for employment when dispatched.

02.11.03 Dispatch Procedure. Unnamed Employees shall be dispatched in sequence of registration in the following order, "A" List, "B" List and "C" List.

02.12.00 Job Placement Registration. Any person seeking employment in one or more of the classifications of work as set forth in this Agreement may register for employment in the Job Placement Center in one or more such classifications in which such person qualifies.

02.13.00 "A" List. All Employees who have worked under this Agreement one thousand and fifty (1050) hours during the preceding three (3) years in a classification covered by this Agreement for Individual Employers approved by the NCS-JAC shall be eligible to sign the "A" list.

02.13.01 "B" List. All Employees who have worked under this Agreement three hundred and fifty (350) hours during the preceding twelve (12) months in a classification covered by this Agreement for Individual Employers approved by the NCS-JAC shall be eligible to sign the "B" List.

02.13.02 "C" List. All persons not qualified under Sections 02.13.00 or 02.13.01 shall be eligible to sign the "C" List. A pre-dispatch minimum qualifications test shall be developed and maintained by the NCS-JAC to all persons to be dispatched from the "C" List who have not previously passed the test. Such tests shall be graded by the NCS-JAC.

02.14.00 The minimum qualifications test is not designed to verify that an individual is a "qualified" Journeyman. Pursuant to Section 02.11.02, the Individual Employer remains the sole judge of the qualifications of its Employees. However, in lieu of any testing that may otherwise be required under Section 02.13.02, the Individual Employer shall have the option

of writing a letter stating the Employee has been tested by the Individual Employer and is qualified. Such qualification is valid only while employed by that Individual Employer and until such self-qualified Employee meets the criteria as set forth in Section 02.15.00.

02.15.00 The Job Placement Center shall identify any such self-qualified Employees with a specific classification code number reflecting self-qualification status on all dispatches. Within ninety (90) days, all such self-qualified Employees must be tested by the NCS-JAC and thereafter enrolled in the NCS-JAC training program or they will no longer be qualified or eligible for dispatch. Such self-qualified Employees will no longer be qualified to be eligible for dispatch until he/she successfully completes a competency test administered by the NCS-JAC.

02.15.01 An individual may not take the minimum qualifications test more than twice in six (6) months for a particular classification. An Individual Employer may qualify the Employee through the NCS-JAC in those classifications not covered by the NCS-JAC.

If you have not taken the self-qualified test and signed up for the NCS-JAC journey-upgrade training program as outlined in section 02.15.00 above, you should make arrangements to do so immediately. Contact NCS-JAC Administrator Joanie Thornton at (510) 748-7413 to make your program-orientation and testing appointment. As a self-qualified Journeyman, familiarizing yourself with the provisions of your Technical Engineers Master Agreement and the Job Placement Regulations for Technical Engineers will keep you employed and thereby secure your future.

Correction: Last month's Tech News column incorrectly identified the title for By the Bay Survey Owner Anne Marie Hensley. She is a Professional Engineer.



From left: Party Chief Eddie Lastra and Chainman Aaron Byrne work for Sandis at the Mills-Peninsula Hospital in Burlingame.



Organizing

By Bruce Noel, director

Team organizing takes off

Early results indicate a successful program

Local 3 began a new approach to organizing at the end of August. After assigning organizers to specific districts nearly two years ago, we followed up with district-staff training. Our goal was to visit the districts and motivate all staff members to take an active role in developing an Organizing Plan for their district. More than that, we identified ways everyone from the district representative to the secretary could contribute.

We empowered district representatives and organizers by allowing them to make informed, comprehensive decisions about targeting and strategy. Who better to determine the best organizing targets and strategies than the staff members working in the district?

So far this year, we have achieved some outstanding numbers. It's not exactly apples to apples because of the different organizing techniques used in earlier years; however, the results are encouraging. Between 2001 and 2006, Local 3 averaged three or four new companies signed in the first quarter. The largest number signed during that time-period was six.

I am pleased to announce in the first quarter of 2007, organizers and their respective district teams signed 16 new companies.

We plan to spotlight some of these new employers in upcoming issues of *Engineers News*, so members can identify them for possible work opportunities and as union affiliates.

Have a great work season!

Public Employee News

By Don Dietrich, director

Preventative care means cost savings

As we roll into a new fiscal year, we are all warily watching the health-care providers to see what happens with rates. A few years back, we all suffered enormous health-care premium increases. Since then, it's been a steady diet of increases from 10 percent to 15 percent per year. Our health-care analysts tell us 15 percent of our plan participants drive 85 percent of our costs. This is due to chronic illnesses like diabetes and coronary diseases. The bottom line is: Costs continue to rise, and employers and employees suffer as a result.

The Operating Engineers Public Employee Health and Welfare Trust is moving into the disease management and preventative-health-care arena to help contain costs. The more I learn about preventative measures, the more I embrace the concept.

Preventative care is not just about cost containment – it's about quality of life. As we roll out this new program, please give it a good look. It won't just save you money; it could improve your life now and into the future.

You spend your glory years working toward the golden years, putting away investments and pension credits. If you really want to enjoy your retirement to the fullest, start investing in your health today.

On another note: Those of you who left the Operating Engineers Health and Welfare Plan, please take another look at it. We offer the best coverage around, and our rates are competitive again. We've recovered from our losses several years ago and can now offer our premium coverage at competitive rates.

Be healthy, happy and safe.

San Francisco deputy sheriffs in court battles with department

By Dave Gossman, business representative

Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) lawsuit

San Francisco deputy sheriffs recently won their court battle over a lawsuit filed against the city and county of San Francisco. Local 3's law firm of Mastagni, Holstedt, Amick, Miller, Johnson & Uhrhammer represented the deputies in their lawsuit seeking recovery for unpaid overtime and excluding or undercounting various categories of premium pay. After extensive negotiations, the parties reached a settlement agreement, which was approved by the City and County of San Francisco (CCSF) Board of Supervisors. Special thanks to attorneys David Mastagni Jr. and Will Yamada for their hard work, dedication and success in bringing forth a great victory. The deputies should receive their damage awards in time for summer vacations.

Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) violation

The Deputy Sheriffs' Association (DSA) filed a grievance against the Sheriff's Department for the sheriff's action in unilaterally implementing a new Sick Leave With Pay Policy in violation of the CBA. The DSA and Local 3 would not agree to new language proposals that were in direct conflict with Civil Service Rules, the Family Medical Leave Act and the Peace Officers' Procedural Bill of Rights. The Sheriff's Department is so short-handed, it wants to reduce sick leave through fear, intimidation and discipline.

The case was appealed to San Francisco Director of Employee Relations Micki Callahan by DSA President David Wong, Dr. David Swim of the Mastagni Law Firm and myself. We are now waiting for a decision that will hopefully vacate the new Sick Leave With Pay Policy.

Complaint of discrimination

The San Francisco Sheriff's Department unilaterally implemented policy mandating that no male deputy may work in a female-inmate dorm. This discriminates against both male and female deputies in many ways. First, there are not enough female deputies to work in the female-inmate dorms, which forces female deputies to work excessive overtime at the end of their watches. If you're a female deputy at County Jail No. 8, you can expect to work two to three overtime shifts a week at the whim of any supervisor. Male deputies are then denied overtime, which they should be receiving, according to our CBA. There are federal and state laws regarding staffing of jails based on gender; however, the Sheriff's Department wants to create its own standards regardless of discrimination. Therefore, Local 3's Mastagni Law Firm filed a discrimination lawsuit in the state court on behalf of the San Francisco deputies.

DSA and OE3 continue the fight

My ending thought is this: Where is the leadership in the San Francisco Sheriff's Department? The problems of understaffing, excessive overtime, low morale, discrimination and the treatment of deputies as if they were inmates is moving the department in the wrong direction. I believe it's time for a change of management personnel and style. The supervisors in charge are not doing their jobs. It's time for a change in leadership, vision, commitment and dedication to make the department the best. The DSA and Local 3 are not going to disappear. We will continue to fight to preserve the rights and dignity of all San Francisco deputies.

CALTRANS ON THE JOB:

Local 3 members cold-patch Hwy. 1 near Lucia.



Phil Taylor



Ralph Novoa



Angelina Galvan



Richard Johnson



Mike Hogan



Robert Deleon

Members make CEMA work

By Tom Starkey, business representative

I have been the business representative for the County Employees' Management Association (CEMA) since 1994 – more than 13 years. Throughout these years, I've learned it is useful to reflect on CEMA's collective history. We must not forget our achievements and that CEMA is where it is today because members got involved to make CEMA relevant and valuable to them in their employment relationship with Santa Clara County.

Because many, now long-retired members took actions necessary to organize CEMA, there is no other public-sector-management association in California that is as well organized or as developed. It was the vision of past members who realized the importance of CEMA having a professional-development program for its members. It was a recent CEMA Executive Board who saw the need for the organization to be full of Operating Engineers Local 3 members and to build and improve communications within CEMA at each worksite. Therefore, we formed an ongoing Communications Committee and launched the CEMA Liaison Program. A small but growing number of members are beginning to build an effective Political Action Program within CEMA, which will build stronger alliances with members of the Board of Supervisors.

One of CEMA's main goals for 2007 is to build broader member involvement in the organization's many activities. We have more than 80 CEMA liaisons but still have 50 worksites where CEMA members do not have a liaison. We have many ways members can plug in to our political-action efforts, and we welcome new ideas and activities to our Communications Committee. The Professional Development Committee and ticket sellers can always use new and fresh ideas. We welcome any and all member participation!

A busy year for negotiations

By Rick Davis, business representative

Rancho Murieta Service District

Negotiation planning really started to rev up at the beginning of 2006, and now we're moving full speed ahead. Although negotiations began before the new year in the Rancho Murieta Service District, we have not reached an agreement. We are hopeful the upcoming meetings will put some significant proposals on the table, so we can get a contract in Rancho Murieta.

Plumas County

I've had the opportunity to meet some of the stewards in my newly assigned area of Plumas County. Although negotiations with the county's three employee units – general employees, mid-management and supervisory, crafts and trades – started late, it looks like we will soon be ready to meet with the county. From a survey sent to the membership, we found the top three most important issues are wage increases, Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) enhancements and health-care issues. We had a membership meeting for all employee units in March, at which we obtained final direction and began drafting our proposal.

I have been in touch with some members in Plumas County and know there is concern over my ability to represent them. Let me assure you, I will represent all members in every unit – not just the chosen ones.

El Dorado County

Local 3 is preparing for negotiations in El Dorado County. We had a meeting in February with all the unions representing employees in El Dorado County, and I am pleased to report we are united in fighting for a retirement-enhancement benefit. Whether there is a coalition or regularly scheduled meetings among these employee organizations, the retirement enhancement will be foremost in the bargaining process.

Also in El Dorado County, I will soon meet with the Probation Officers' Unit to gear up for this round of negotiations beginning in the next few months.

This year has definitely been a busy year for negotiations.

The work of CEMA gets done within these committees, and the work only gets done because members volunteer their time. As our history tells us, we are only as strong as the members who get involved.



These Local 3 members on the County Employees' Management Association (CEMA) Professional Development Committee know how to get the job done in Santa Clara County.

Alpine County

As always, I cannot write an article without mentioning Alpine County. Not surprisingly, the county recently ran off another good administrator. It seems every time Alpine County hires an administrator who really cares about the employees (our members), runs an efficient department, is professional, ethical and makes coming to work enjoyable, certain people in the county administration hound them, retaliate against them and make them miserable until they choose to leave, rather than put up with the unprofessional treatment. I speak of Cindy Hannah, who was very much liked by our membership. The problem with Cindy was she did a great job, treated our members with respect and dignity and was intelligent. These are all characteristics you cannot have or at least not expose as a Department Head, if you want to work in Alpine County. What is even worse than her being forced to resign is the County Board of Supervisors condones it. What does that say, not only about the administrators who run Alpine County but the individuals who are elected by the citizens to do what's right on their behalf?

There is another problem brewing in Alpine County regarding "Friday Night Live," a program dealing with young people as it pertains to drugs and alcohol, smoking and peer pressure – it's a great program. Our members did an outstanding job with the program but faced so much resistance from certain county administrators, they felt threatened (just as Cindy Hannah had been threatened), so they distanced themselves from the program. Again, the people of Alpine lose out because of a certain county administrator. I'll pick up on this story in my next article when the smoke clears.

To all the members I represent, keep up the good work; be careful and enjoy life, because it is much too short.



Watsonville Public Works negotiates a successor contract

By Art Frolli, business representative

With Local 3's assistance, the city of Watsonville Public Works Department recently negotiated a three-year successor contract with the city. Our negotiation team and the city reached a tentative agreement Oct. 24, 2006, and the membership ratified the agreement Nov. 2, 2006. The contract covers three years from Aug. 1, 2006 through June 30, 2009. Since negotiations concluded nearly three months after the contract expired, the employees received retroactive pay back to Aug. 1, 2006 as a condition of the agreement. The salary increases include:

- 3.8 percent increase retroactive to Aug. 1, 2006
- 3.5 percent increase as of Aug. 1, 2007
- 3 percent increase as of Aug. 1, 2008

In addition to the increases listed above, progress was made on the organization of the city's workforce. Local 3 received numerous complaints last year about the lack of a career ladder available to city employees in our bargaining unit – in particular, Park Maintenance Worker I, Utility Worker I, Wastewater Operator I and Equipment Mechanic I. Workers in these positions could not be promoted to a level II classification until a vacancy

became available, or they did not have a level II classification in their job category.

In the cases where advancement positions already existed, the city agreed to make the positions flexible, whereas following an agreed-upon time of service at the lower level and with a satisfactory job performance, employees working in a level I classification would automatically be promoted to the higher level II classification. For the Equipment Mechanic I classification, the city created additional skill-level positions to allow for the promotions of these workers. Once these positions are approved by the Personnel Commission and Watsonville City Council, all existing Equipment Mechanic I workers will be promoted to the newly created higher position.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the following negotiation-team members for their hard work and donation of personal time to this process: Alex Gonzalez, Mike Crane, Mike Holland and Griselda Seymour.



New representation for Monterey, Santa Cruz counties

By David Cariaga, business representative

I would like to start by thanking Business Agent Art Frolli and Director Don Dietrich for the opportunity to serve the membership I have been a part of for 20 years – 18 of which I spent as a deputy-sheriff detective with Monterey County. If it wasn't for Art, I would still be retired!

I became a Local 3 member when I was first hired by Monterey County in 1987. I retired in 2005 but kept working at the sheriff's office as a part-time background investigator, conducting computer voice-stress-analysis exams (lie-detector tests) for new deputy applicants.

I have lived and worked in the Salinas Valley my entire life. I began my career in the sheriff's office, starting in the jail and working my way out to the streets. I worked in the King City Substation, Monterey Substation and the Salinas office.

At Local 3, my route consists of the Santa Cruz County Corrections Officers' Association, Watsonville Public Works, Monterey Regional Waste Management District, Monterey County Deputy Sheriffs' Association and the Greenfield Police Officers' Association. I have members assigned as far south as the King City Substation to as far north as the Santa Cruz Main Jail.

I look forward to meeting my membership in the next several months and would like to see and hear from all of you at any time. Please do not hesitate to contact me regarding any functions, special events or just to let me see what you do at work. I am interested in seeing my members at their worksites, so I can understand first-hand what they do before an incident arises that needs my attention.

Thanks again for the opportunity to serve you, and I can be reached at the following numbers: cell (831) 901-4824 or office (408) 289-9691.



ANNOUNCING

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Join us for a fantastic cruise next January to the exotic Southern Caribbean. Our exciting itinerary includes full-day stops in **Barbados, St. Lucia, Antigua, Tortola and St. Thomas.**

This is our sixth OE3 group cruise. Many OE3 members, retirees, their friends and families have enjoyed these cruise vacations and supported the Scholarship Fund with their \$50 per person contribution included in our group rates. Make this your year to enjoy a wonderful cruise – all are welcome!

The *Crown Princess* is a destination resort in itself with four pools, nine-hole putting green, casino and theater where nightly shows are staged, as well as a huge outdoor "Movies Under the Stars" theater, beautiful dining rooms and specialty restaurants and the Lotus Spa and Fitness Center. Many activity and entertainment options are included – you can do as little or as much as you want, and you can choose to dress informally. To find out more about the ship and the cruise, visit www.princess.com.

Fares begin at **\$699** per person, double occupancy for an Inside Cabin; **\$799** per person, double occupancy for an obstructed view Outside Cabin; and **\$1039** per person, double occupancy for a Balcony Ocean View Cabin. These rates include port charges and fees. An additional U.S. tax of \$67.85 will be added at the time of final payment. Third and fourth passenger (sharing a cabin) and single rates are available. Required deposit per person is \$250 (except for promotional periods – see above dates). *All deposits are fully refundable until final payment is due Oct. 24, 2007.*

*A roundtrip air (from Sacramento) hotel/transfer package and a hotel/transfer only package will be available if there are enough interested participants.

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2007 California Master Construction Agreement wage and fringe benefit increases

Business Manager Russ Burns is pleased to inform the membership that the ballots for the California Master Construction Agreement were counted and verified in March by the accounting firm Miller, Kaplan, Arase & Co., LLP. A total of 9,589 ballots were mailed to the membership working under the Master Agreement. As of March 1, we received back 2,798 ballots. The first-place vote results pursuant to the ballot outcome and approval from the business manager are as follows:

- Wages – 1,347 votes
- Vacation – 754 votes

- Annuity – 681 votes
(We received 16 no-first-place votes.)

Therefore, effective June 25, 2007, the allocation for the California Master Construction Agreement will be as follows:

- Sixty-seven cents (\$.67) per hour to wages
- Thirty-three cents (\$.33) per hour to health and welfare
- One dollar (\$1.00) per hour to pension restoration

The total package allocation is two dollars (\$2.00) per hour.

Summary of staff wages, pension contributions

The following chart summarizes the results of the Local 3 field staff salary survey as ordered by the Local 3 Executive Board and completed by an independent, third-party organization. The Executive Board voted to

approve the staff wages and pension contributions, effective July 1, 2007, at their March 18, 2007 meeting.

Position Title	Salary Current	Salary July 1, 2007	Market Analysis	Pension Contribution
Business Manager ¹	\$185,876.00	\$185,876.00	\$195,682.00	48 hours
(President, Recording Corr. Secretary, Vice President, Financial Secretary, Treasurer) ¹	\$148,826.00	\$148,826.00	\$152,154.00	48 hours
Trustees	\$95,928.00	\$99,089.00	N/A	48 hours
Special Representative ²	\$82,930.00	\$90,081.00	N/A	48 hours
District Representative ²	\$82,930.00	\$90,081.00	\$98,538.00	48 hours
Sr. Business Rep & Sr. Organizer ³	\$69,888.00	\$82,569.00	N/A	48 hours
Business Representative ⁴	\$69,888.00	\$79,124.00	\$93,568.00	48 hours
Organizer ⁴	\$69,888.00	\$79,124.00	\$81,371.00	48 hours
PE Business Representative ⁵	\$69,888.00	\$72,650.00	\$81,566.00	48 hours
Dispatcher ⁶	\$61,256.00	\$66,572.00	56,803.00*	48 hours

¹ Officers salaries are frozen until July 1, 2010.
² Based on Group 1 wages at 48 hours straight time, of the No. CA Master Agreement.
³ Based on Group 3 wages at 48 hours of straight time per week, of the No. CA Master Agreement.
⁴ Based on Group 4 wages at 48 hours straight time per week, of the No. CA Master Agreement.
⁵ Based on Group 6 wages at 48 hours of straight time per week, of the No. CA Master Agreement.
⁶ Based on Group 8A wages at 40 hours straight time per week and 8 hours over time, of the No. CA Master Agreement.

* Dispatchers who made up the market survey were support staff. Local 3 uses individuals from the field as dispatchers.
Note: Newly hired Non-PE business representatives' compensation will be adjusted in accordance with the progression steps listed below:
Start - \$1,369.45/wk, 3 months - \$1,407.49/wk, 6 months - 1,445.53, 9 months - 1,483.58/wk, 12 months - \$1,521.62

Lost & Found Friends *Engineers News* offers remedy for missed connections

At the March 18 Semi-Annual *Engineers News* booth, it was brought to our attention that many Local 3 members have lost contact with one another over the years. It's no wonder, since OE3's jurisdiction stretches across four states and over the span of more than six decades. Many members have met on the job and made strong connections but lost touch through time and distance.

To remedy this problem, we are now offering a Lost & Found Friends section. Let us know your name/information and the name of your missed connection, and we'll print it in the paper. If they contact us, we'll get them in touch with you. Think of it as a missed connections bulletin board. Our first Lost & Found inquiry is at right:

➤ Retiree **Nolan Roth** is looking for **Richard Clayton**. Richard, if you're out there, please contact *Engineers News*:

- By mail: Lost & Found Friends
3920 Lennane Drive
Sacramento, CA 95834
- By fax: (916) 419-3487
- By phone: (916) 286-2788

If possible, we'll get you in touch with one another. For those hoping to find friends, use the above contact information, and be sure to include your name, registration number and phone number; we'll print your name in the Lost & Found Friends section.

OE3 PRECISION RESHAP

FCI/Granite improve, realign

Story by Mandy Jessup, associate editor
Photos by Mandy Jessup and Rick Phillips, business agent

Though Northern California is known for its coastline views and lakes, Hwy. 99, also known as the “Main Street of California” has never impressed travelers with its congestion and has topped the list of most road-repair agendas; some consider it a serious danger. Granite Construction, FCI Constructors and Local 3 now share the task of rehabilitating Hwy. 99 and giving it some necessary “face-lifts.”

FCI is working on the interchange at Hwy. 152 and Hwy. 99 in Fairmead, while Granite Construction is working on the Hwy. 99/Mission Boulevard overpass in Merced. What these companies also have in common is work for some 50 OE3 members.

FCI realigns Hwy. 99

For FCI, it's \$47 million worth of self-performing white-paving and realignment work that includes \$18 million for the construction of bridges and the import of some 463,000 cubic meters of dirt.

This first phase for FCI began last December and should finish in two years. During peak season, dirt-moving has employed about 25-26 Local 3 members, and future bridgework should employ about 25 more.

According to FCI Superintendent Bud McDaniel, the project has had some time restraints due to weather but has made all deadlines, even if that meant detours and night work. The result will be a more direct Hwy. 99 with less fringe roads, an overcross and a widening at the Hwy. 152 interchange south of Chowchilla.

In the field, fast-moving scrapers, excavators and compactors dot the earth, moving in close proximity and precision, while the Hwy. 99 traffic on the northeast side whizzes by unknowingly. These travelers will soon know the benefits of this widening, since Hwy. 99 has long been touted one of the messiest highways among the California transportation system.

For those in the field, the work at hand is exacting. For Gradesetter Daniel Swan, the work, the company and the craft is what he loves.

“Good people to work for,” Swan states with a smile about FCI. He has been onsite for about a month, setting grade and getting good hours. He hopes to stay on as long as possible, since he enjoys FCI and the detail of the work.

His foreman and 12-year OE3 member Sean Reed agrees: “[FCI] is a damn good one, one of the best companies I've worked for.”



From left: Blade Operator Mike Brantley, Granite Foreman Nathan Hayes and Job Superintendent Mel Yarnell.



Member Hector Grimaldo uses the curb and gutter machine for Granite on the Mission Boulevard/Campus Parkway project off Hwy. 99.



Three-year OE3 Apprentice Tim Jackley has been working 60 hours a week for Granite on the Mission Boulevard off-ramp job in Merced.



Robert Broome has been running a scraper on the Mission Boulevard jobsite since February, and he has been an OE3 member for six years.



DES HIGHWAY

Hwy. 99

Down at the dirt pit, another kind of precision takes place as Pit Excavator Operator David Bowling and Pit Blade Operator Kevin Elliott work together in a kind of dance to manage some 463,000 cubic meters of dirt cleared out for the highway widening.

Granite works on Mission Boulevard Campus Parkway

Another “surgeon” performing Hwy. 99 facelifts in Merced includes Granite Construction at the new overpass and Mission Boulevard Campus Parkway off-ramp. Shasta Constructors, Foundation Constructors and Foster & Sons are also onsite.

Since the project’s inception in December 2005, OE3 and Granite have moved more than 1.1 million yards of dirt to the jobsite along with Foster & Sons. The companies also moved more than 1,200 loads per day during peak season. Not far from the site, Granite’s portable plant has produced more than 34,000 yards of concrete for the paving crews. It’s a full operation with action at every angle – the overpass, the cement plant and the new off-ramp, which will take travelers directly to the UC Merced campus from Hwy. 99.

Sixteen-year member Charlie Badgett says the team is ahead of schedule. He has been onsite since the beginning.

“We’re working on three miles – a six-lane realignment of the freeway, over-crossing and three frontage roads,” Badgett explained.

Project Foreman Nate Hayes also mentioned that the project is six weeks ahead of schedule due to incentives. No traffic flow has been disrupted, since the company switched traffic southbound in July.

“We’ve got about 45 Local 3 operators here,” Job Superintendent Mel Yarnell noted. A Local 3 member since 1991, he said spirits have been good on the jobsite, given that so many different trades are working closely together in cooperation necessary to finish the project by the end of this year.

Yet another section of the ever-congested Hwy. 99 will get improved thanks to the precision of FCI, Granite and many OE3 members in the Fresno District.



Apprentice Charles Barnes uses the compactor on the southwest side of Hwy. 99 for FCI.



Tracroller Operator and Apprentice Josh Pierce on the FCI widening project in Fairmead.



Member Tim Turner operates the paddlewheel scraper on the FCI Hwy. 99 project.

Pit Excavator Operator David Bowling loads up some 463,000 cubic meters of dirt for the FCI widening job at the Hwy. 152/Hwy. 99 interchange.



From left: OE3 operators for FCI include Jerry Maletich, Foreman Jason Foster, Josh Pierce, Daniel Swan, Mike Morris, Foreman Sean Reed, Henry Lujan, Curtis Sewell, Kevin Elliott, Dave Sampson, Jerry Avila and Jamie Porterfield.



STOCKTON | District organizes new Rock Plant Agreement in Fresno

As we go to press, wet weather continues to keep the iron parked at a majority of the jobsites in the Stockton District. The majority of employers all have an inventory of work, as the companies wait for the sky to clear and the start signal from the project owner. Until work begins, maintain contact with the dispatch office and if necessary, renew your out-of-work registration.

A sincere thank you and a token of appreciation is owed to member **Mike Spencer**, who recently completed another gradesetting class in the Stockton District. Everyone benefits from Mike's knowledge, and we appreciate his willingness to share it. Thank you, Mike, for a job well done.

Always attempting to enhance employment opportunities for our members, District 30 recently organized a new Rock Plant Agreement in the Fresno District.

About two years ago, Stockton District agents met with **Wendell Reed**, owner of **George Reed, Inc.**, to discuss a sand and gravel company **George Reed** had recently purchased in eastern Merced County. Recognizing our knowledge of the permit process and having established relationships with the Board of Supervisors in Merced County, Wendell asked for our assistance in securing the necessary permits to expand the operation of the rock plant, and make it more profitable. In exchange for our assistance, Wendell promised to make the plant a union facility

with a contract comparable to our existing agreements in four other **George Reed** Rock Plants representing about 50 members. With nothing more than a handshake to seal the deal, all parties involved began the sometimes frustrating task of navigating the permit process.

Within two years of our start-date, we have ink on a fair agreement, and four members have been dispatched to a new facility where they are building a completely new plant from the ground up. When this plant is fully online, 10 to 15 members will work under a Rock Plant Agreement that sets the standard for the area. At a time when people are ignoring commitments and suing each other because of failed relationships, it is beyond rare that we consummated an agreement with a handshake. To be able to do so is a tribute to **Wendell Reed** and his administrative staff, with whom we have an excellent relationship.

On a somber note, we have some sad information to share. After a long, valiant battle which no one can win, **Gerry Steele** succumbed to the complications of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), more commonly known as Lou Gehrig's Disease. Gerry was first diagnosed with this terrible affliction in 1994, which caused him to retire earlier than he wanted. Gerry served our union as a dispatcher and business representative, and he will be missed by everyone who knew him. At this tenuous time, we extend our thoughts of condolence to Gerry's family and friends.



From left: Members **Joe Duncan**, **Perrin Oakes** and **Scott Wivell** were recently dispatched to a new **George Reed** facility where they are building a new rock plant from the ground up.

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NEVADA | Cabella's Sporting Goods provides good work for members

With spring and the onset of good weather, work in Northern Nevada is starting to pick up. The amount of crane work for District 11 has definitely increased. Some projects include the Tracy Clark Power Plant expansion with 16 cranes in operation, the University of Nevada Reno Knowledge Center and the Peppermill Hotel expansion.

Other work keeping our members busy this spring is Cabella's Sporting Goods at Boomtown/Verdi by **T.W./RTC Construction** and the Sparks Downtown Redevelopment with **MKD Construction** and **PAR Electrical**.

Q&D Construction has some good projects

keeping many members busy this season, such as Red's Development at the Marina in Sparks and the new sports complex in Wingfield Springs.

On another note, we would like to thank all the members who attended the March 20 pre-retiree meeting in the Elko office. We hope the meeting was informative for all who attended. We will keep you posted on a date for the next meeting.

District 11 congratulates Karrie Ann Quartz, daughter of 22-year member **Arnold Quartz**, for helping get her Division-3A girls' basketball team to the state finals. Sixteen-year-old Karrie Ann, a six-foot sophomore, and her Yerington High School team went into the state finals in second

place. Unfortunately, they lost to Pahrump in the first round.

On a sad note, District 11 expresses its deepest sympathies to the families of two of our younger departed members: Six-year member **Randy Miller** who was only 47 years young and **Richard "Rick" Clay**, 48. Rick was a three-year member who lost his battle with cancer. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families.

Regular monthly construction meetings for our Elko office will be held the second Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m.



Member Mike Thompson on the Sparks Downtown Redevelopment project for MKD in District 11.



Weather has been good in District 11 for the Sparks Downtown Redevelopment project, which has given operators like Bart Stranger good hours.



At the Sparks Downtown Redevelopment project, Mike Mogle (left) and John McGee work for MKD Construction.

FAIRFIELD | Mobile classroom offers onsite training to members, contractors

At the March 18 Semi-Annual, Business Manager **Russ Burns** reported that \$133 million of last year's mega bonds were earmarked for Napa and Solano Counties. This means plenty of work for our members in District 04, especially for our paving crews. If anyone has experience on paving crews, now is the time to step up. Also, gradecheckers are still in high demand. If you are interested in gradechecking and haven't taken a class yet, come down to the hall and see Dispatcher **Felicia Ramos**. She will get you signed up for our next class. As the list fills, the classes get planned.

Felicia is on-hand to help you in any way she can. She appreciates the calls coming into the Fairfield office to let her know you have gone back to work or want to be placed on the out-of-work list. She also appreciates the calls just to say hello.

In other news: Members are getting good hours on an underground job in Pittsburg for **Hess Construction**.

Apprenticeship news

District 04 Fairfield congratulates **Andre Verdin** for graduating from the Crane Apprenticeship Program.

Local 3 offers onsite training to our contractors and members. Through the use of Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC) instructors and a mobile classroom, we can bring training to you. Recently, we gave a class on Basic Retrieval and Interpretation of Caterpillar Service Codes to some members working for **Dutra**. With **Dutra** supplying six Local 3 members for the class, we were able to bring the mobile classroom to the company's yard in Rio Vista.

The Fairfield District thanks all those who came out to our picnic breakfast April 14. The food was good and hot, and everyone got their fill and had a good time.



From left: Treasurer Dan Reding gives 25-year member Vic Mazo his service pin, while 25-year member Ken Calvin receives his pin from Business Agent Angelo Cellini. Both pin recipients work for Syar Industries at the Lake Herman plant in Vallejo.

From left: Nick Filomeo, Rich Hoop, Shop Foreman Jerry Roll, First-step Apprentice Ryan Lander, Anthony Hidy, Al Riedell, and JAC Instructor Dave Bibby take advantage of the JAC mobile classroom at Dutra's yard in Rio Vista.

HAWAII | Watts Construction has \$170 million in contracts

Goodfellow Bros. stays busy on the Big Island

Members of **Goodfellow Bros.** continue work on the third phase of the \$60 million Saddle Road Project, which also includes **Max Excavating and Paving**. The new highway will reduce the commute time from Hilo to Kona. The project started July 2006 and should finish in July 2008.

Members on the Big Island are also keeping busy with the University of Hawaii-Hilo Fitness Center. **Isemoto Contracting, Inc.** has the \$17 million project and is working on ground utilities and building an Olympic-size swimming pool.

District 17 congratulates 33-year member **Rob Walker**, who recently received his service pin from Business Rep. **Bruce Brumaghim**. Rob works for **Isemoto Contracting** on the University of Hawaii-Hilo Fitness Center.



From left: Crane Operator Edmund Daog, Gradesetter Calvin Miyashita, Job Steward and Excavator Operator Shawn Icari and Mobile-Truck-Crane Operator Collin Kurohara work for Isemoto Contracting on the University of Hawaii-Hilo Fitness Center.

Front row, from left: Members for Watts Construction at Hickam Air Force Base include Eloise Ramos, Franklin Manuel, Rita Makekau and Maka Jeramiah. Back row, from left: Business Rep. Nelson Colburn, Bruce Burley, Ronald Jose, General Foreman Shawn Willings and Tay Soares. On loader: Raymond Diamsay.

Oahu highlights Watts Construction

The work picture looks bright this season for District 17 with more big jobs ahead. **Watts Construction** has \$170 million worth of work under contract, pending award of options.

The newest **Watts Construction** site is on Oahu at Hickam Air Force Base. Watts started construction on “hot cargo pads” used to unload C-17s. The company also has work in progress on the islands of Maui and Kauai and in Guam on the Tipalao Housing Project.

Watts Construction currently employs 24 Local 3 members – 22 in Hawaii and two in Guam.



UTAH | Millions awarded for District 12 highway work

The economy in Utah is strong since state legislators recently divided a state-tax surplus of more than \$1 billion.

The state appropriated \$400 million to \$550 million in new, one-time monies for highway work, and a quarter-cent tax increase in Salt Lake and Utah counties was approved in the last election for light-rail and mass-transit projects. This funding will ensure good job opportunities for our membership.

All of our signatory contractors have a lot of work this season, including **Clyde-Ellsworth**, **Frehner Construction** and **W.W. Clyde**. Our total hours worked in 2006 were at a record high, and this season looks to exceed those. With all the work ahead, District 12 will be looking for qualified operators, heavy-duty repairmen, gradesetters and foremen to fill the needs of our signatory employers.

As Operating Engineers, we must always strive to be the best.



Local 3 Operator Shaun Lamb works for Clyde-Ellsworth in some rough conditions.

We must hone our skills and be willing to learn from those around us. We must always be willing to put a hand out to mentor the less-experienced operators and apprentices who work on our jobsites. They are our future.

Be safe, and have a great work year.



From left: Working for W.W. Clyde on the Brush Wellman Project, members Alan Derford and Kevin Roseman pose for a picture.



Apprentice Landon Roseman, son of Operator Kevin Roseman, works with his father for W.W. Clyde on the Brush Wellman Project.

BURLINGAME | Members aid in San Francisco landslide cleanup

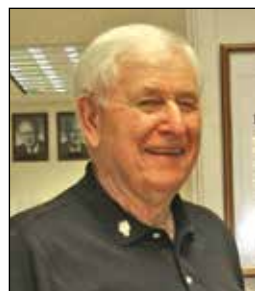
In District 01, work has been good, although the causes have not always been so. The well-publicized landslide above Broadway Street in San Francisco caused many traffic delays, forced residents from their homes and closed businesses. Members **Jacob Mendonsa** and **Mike Matson** worked at the site 10 to 14 hours a day, seven

days a week in March. Using a 265-ton Liebherr truck-crane on Vallejo Street, they worked for **Granite** at a 180-foot radius, hoisting rocks to stabilize the hillside so businesses and apartments on Broadway Street could reopen.

Operator Jacob Mendonsa and Oiler Mike Matson get good hours to help Broadway Street businesses and apartments stay open after the landslide.



FRESNO | Retirees honored for 60 years in District 50



The flood gates have opened, and the Fresno District is well on the way to a great work season. To add to the excitement, about \$120 million has been allocated to our district for public works projects this season. We would like to thank all our members for getting involved and voting to get the mega bonds passed during the last election.

Dispatcher **John Prichard** has been keeping fairly busy dispatching, but soon he will be serving as a business representative and seen out in the field rather than in the office. So who will be taking his seat as the new dispatcher? None other than **John Marquez**, who has been a Local 3 member since 1989 and has worked for companies such as **Granite Construction** and **American Paving**. He is no stranger to the membership, since he has served on the Fresno Grievance Committee and is involved in the Voice of the Engineer (VOTE) program, formerly known as the Operating Engineers Community Action Team (OE CAT). John will make a great addition to the Fresno District staff, and we welcome him onboard.

60-year pin recipient Bob Nichols.

Congratulations to **Larry Elliott** on his recent retirement. Larry retired from **Vulcan Materials** and was a mainstay on the crusher for more than 16 years. We wish him the best and only ask that he drown a few worms for us.

Congratulations also to retirees **Bob Nelson**, **Virgil Berstler** and **Bob Nichols** for more than 60 years of service to Operating Engineers. Retirees have plenty of stories to tell about their experiences and both Bobs and Virgil are no exception. They tell their stories with a gleam in their eyes and pride in their voices.

Sixty-one-year member **Bob Nichols** has good stories and was recently awarded his service pin at the Fresno Hall. His Local 3 history is as rich

as his years of service. He worked all over the west as a mechanic and was inspired by his father, Bob Sr., who was also an Operating Engineer and often told his son: "Keep your eyes and ears open and your mouth shut."

Bob Jr. began as an oiler for a basalt rock company loading/unloading railroad cars with base rock. He remembers making 98 cents an hour.

He worked many years for **American Paving** and now enjoys his retirement with his wife, Mary. He has been retired since 1988 and is very active in the Shriners as part of the clown patrol and also as director.

"No union in the U.S. is better than this one," Nichols said.

In apprenticeship news: Congratulations to **David Manfredi** who recently advanced as a journey-level operator. David currently works for **Emmett Construction** with plenty of experience on numerous pieces of equipment, including gradesetting. He is a great asset to the company.



Eulises Torres works for Emmett Construction in Clovis.

In other apprenticeship news, high school students from the surrounding Fresno area got a taste of apprenticeship March 13, while participating in a local job fair. Apprenticeship Coordinator **Mark Fagundes** represented Local 3 at the job fair and gave students information

about our prestigious apprenticeship program and also let them try out operating some equipment.

Speaking of future operators, one was born to Mechanic Apprentice **Eulises Torres** who works for **Emmett Construction**. Angelina Maria Torres came into the world weighing 7.5 pounds. Congratulations to the Torres family on their precious gift.

Come on out, and join the fun at the Fresno District picnic at Kearney Park on Saturday, May 19 at noon. We promise you will have a good time.



Fresno Apprenticeship Coordinator Mark Fagundes with job fair students interested in Operating Engineers.



YUBA CITY | District commends Unit 12

It has been a dry winter in the Yuba City District, but there has not been a lot of activity, since no one wants to open a job up and then have it rained out; however, with all the dry weather this winter, most jobs could have worked right through!

As mentioned before, we look forward to a good work season this year and should have lots of work from all of our contractors.

Granite started back on the Hwy. 149 job in Butte County and also has the Hwy. 20 job in Yuba/Nevada County. **Granite's** plants and pits will also be busy this year.

Teichert started on the Hwy. 20 widening job east of Colusa, which should continue for a good part of this season. **Teichert's** plants are also

busy.

Shimmick is still working on the Road 108 Water District job south of Grimes and will continue work for most of the season. **Shimmick** got off to a slow start on the \$25 million Stony Gorge Dam retrofit project, but the work is going strong now.

Baldwin is also looking at a busy work season along with **Jaeger**, **E-Ticket** and **Omni Pipeline**.

For our Caltrans Unit 12 members, this winter was not too taxing. Not many hours were spent pushing snow, but there is always next winter. Local 3 represents Bargaining Unit 12 for state workers, which includes members with Caltrans, the Department of Water Resources, the Department of Fish and Game, state parks

and recreation, state prisons and the California Department of Forestry – just to name a few. We talk a lot about the construction-side of the work picture, but it is just as important to recognize the work our brothers and sisters do for the state and for us every day.

We continue to cook every Wednesday night, so please stop by and have a bite with us. Just call the day before, so we can have an idea of how many will be coming to dinner. If you can't come for dinner, we have coffee and dessert every day in the hall lobby. So if you're down by the hall, stop in for a cup or a bite.

Thanks for letting District 60 represent you as a member of Local 3; call us any time at (530) 743-7321. We're here to help.

SACRAMENTO | Operators clean up 1,400 feet of burning train trestle

Paula Lee has hands full

The Paula Lee, one of **Dutra's** largest rigs, is working its way up the Sacramento River, placing rock along the levees. In Rio Vista, Dutra Project Supervisor **Chuck Walker** is working with Caltrans to coordinate the irregular amount of barge movement needed to do this work. Planned bridge repairs and the need to lessen material heights on the barges have been factors during this project. Some of the sites will require experienced excavator operators doing a "bucket brigade" to place levee rock at some sites.

Michel's Pipeline is doing the \$59 million Upper Northwest Interceptor III and IV that began in April. This project will use pipe-jacking and micro-tunneling methods in the placement of 3.5 miles of sewer pipe.

Granite Construction started the Hwy. 50/Latrobe Road project.

The Anatolia Project in Rancho Cordova still has **DeSilva Gates**, **Mountain Cascade** and **Pacific Excavation** working consistently.

Balfour Beatty started work at the Freeport intake project moving dirt in preparation for two cranes coming in to place materials. This project should carry operators through 2008.

The Cemex import terminal in West Sacramento is in the process of building a wharf about 550 feet long to bring in ships loaded with concrete mix. An auger offloading system will move the material to a six-silo cluster for storage.

Manson is doing the placement of levee rock, construction of the wharf and some possible dredging.

Sierra Equipment Rental will be handling the earthwork part of the Cemex project, and eight Operating Engineers are currently on this project and should be busy through July 2007.

Kiewit Pacific recently started the second phase of the M.F. surge-shaft rehabilitation about 20 miles east of Foresthill, Calif. in "Area 2." This \$1.5 million project should finish by July 15, 2008, depending on the weather. This remote area with limited access has possible bunk facilities onsite for 20 to 25 employees. Rumor has it there is superb fishing nearby. **Kiewit** also started the first phase of the Folsom Dam project.



Business Rep. Rob Carrion awards C.C. Meyers Master Mechanic Tom Zoland (left) his 25-year pin.



At the Port of Sacramento, Manson places levee rock, performs construction of the wharf and does some dredging.

Foundation/Bigge clean up burning tracks

As most of you know, Sacramento had 1,400 feet of train trestle burn to the ground March 16 near Cal Expo. The fire closed down two tracks – one being a main line for Northern California – causing Union Pacific to reroute through Marysville. **Foundation Pile Driving Contractors** has driven all the steel piles and set the pre-fab pile caps and beams. The plan is to have the main line up and running soon with everything completed by the end of this month. **Foundation** has been working around the clock with two 12-hour shifts, employing seven members on each shift. **Bigge Crane Rental** is supporting them with three RT cranes and operators on each shift. There has been a lot of coordination among the three trades on this project, and they've accomplished a lot in such a short time. We'll keep you updated on this as progress continues.

The 1,400 feet of train trestle that burnt to the ground March 16 in Sacramento created plenty of cleanup and pile-driving work for OE3 members with Foundation Pile Driving Contractors and Bigge Crane Rental.



From the dispatcher

Sacramento Dispatcher **Kathi Westlake** is happy to be back in the dispatch hall and enjoys seeing all the familiar faces again. She reminds you to stop by or give her a call to say hello, since it has been extremely slow in the Dispatch Department. Many calls have been coming in asking, "Where am I on the out-of-work list?" or: "The sun's out – have you gotten any calls?"

Employers have started sending in recall slips, and many members are dispatched on recalls. Once the employers call their employees back on recall, the Dispatch Department will get off-list orders, and Kathi will start calling from the out-of-work list.

Remember to renew your registration every 84 days, and when you register, ask the person who registers you what date your registration will expire. You don't want to fall off the out-of-work list and lose your place.

OAKLAND | Levin members negotiate wage, benefit increases

Levin-Richmond Terminal/Richmond Pacific Railroad is a shipping and rail facility represented by Local 3 in Richmond, Calif. The members at Levin run everything from cranes to loaders to locomotives. Their work is focused on loading and offloading dry-bulk cargo ships with cranes and then transporting the cargo to nearby facilities via locomotives. The company has been signatory since 1988 and supplies steady, year-round work for our members.

With the contract expiring mid-January this year, negotiations opened up in December 2006, led by Special Rep. **Bob Miller**, District Rep. **Pete Figueiredo** and elected committee members **Manuel Gouveia** and **Nestor Rosales**. The members at Levin were determined to see larger gains in their expiring contract. A series of member actions

forced Levin's management to see that the whole bargaining unit was united, and the results came out at the bargaining table.

When the contract was ratified, the results amounted to a 25.6 percent increase to the wage-benefit package over the life of the agreement and a variety of other new benefits. The contract's wage portion was frontloaded to be paid retroactively. The wages in the past were in tiers, but this time around the committee fought to have increases applied to classifications across the board. Other contract victories included increases for trainees, increases in shift-differential and new benefits in the form of bereavement-leave and an annuity plan. Levin's committee members **Manuel Gouveia** and **Nestor Rosales** did a great job at the table. However, the "lion's share" of



Member John Freitas is a recent graduate of the Apprenticeship Program and is now a construction equipment operator out of the Oakland District.

the credit goes to the members at Levin Terminal who stuck together and got the best contract in the history of the company.

In Contra Costa County, **Bay Cities Paving & Grading** has a major overlay project on Hwy. 24 from the Caldecott Tunnel to Walnut Creek. All the work is during the night shift to minimize traffic delays. **Independent Construction** is about to open jobsites in Pittsburg off Hwy. 4. That project is expected to last the whole season.

Another big project is at the Tesoro Refineries, where **Churne Construction** and **Danny's Construction** will be busy through 2008.

Oakland District 20 congratulates the following members who successfully completed the Apprenticeship Program: construction equipment operators **Gilberto Ahumada**, **Daniel Basso**, **Leo Bendana**, **William Fargo** and **John Freitas**; heavy-duty repairmen **Joshua Baird** and **Andrew Jensen**.

ROHNERT PARK | Sonoma County ready for Hwy. 101 improvements

On Feb. 28, the California Transportation Commission approved the final list of more than 50 transportation projects to receive money from Proposition 1B, allotting nearly all of the \$4.5 billion available. The projects given the go ahead for Sonoma County are as follows: \$44.8 million for carpool lanes on Hwy. 101 from Wilfred Avenue to Santa Rosa Avenue, \$42.8 million for carpool lanes on Hwy. 101 from Railroad Avenue to Rohnert Park Expressway and \$68.4 million for carpool lanes on Hwy. 101 from Steele Lane to Windsor.

With the current work through downtown Santa Rosa and these future improvements, Sonoma County is poised for the largest highway construction project since Hwy. 101 was built in the early 1950s. It's all well-past due!

The Willits Bypass is another overdue project that was put on a list of eligible projects for future Prop. 1B monies and gas sales tax monies generated by Proposition 1A.

MCM and **Ghilotti** continue work on Hwy. 101 through Santa Rosa.

MCM, **Ladd**, **Mercer-Frasier** and **Pacific Coast**

Drilling continue work on the Confusion Hill job in Northern Mendocino County.

Golden State Bridge is working to replace 10-Mile Bridge on Hwy. 1 in Mendocino, and **Kiewit** continues work at the Ukiah Sewer Treatment Plant.

In Lake County, **Argonaut Construction** is gearing up to start a realignment, widening and overlay on Hwy. 20 east of Hwy. 53, and **Nice Mutual Water District** also has a new contract.

Weeks Well Drillers and **Peterson Well Drilling** are also keeping members busy.



From left: Members Drake Coffey and Kenny George work for Weeks Well Drillers in Rohnert Park.



Member Neal Hecker works for Ghilotti Construction on the Hwy. 101 widening job in Santa Rosa.



Members Lupe Vasquez, Gonzalo Ceja and Don Cannistraci take a break for a photo on the job for Peterson Well Drilling in District 10.



Members get good hours for MCM Construction at College Avenue and Hwy. 101 because of Prop. 1B funding.

2007 Market and Geographical Area
Addendum Committee Members

- District 01: Burlingame** – Dennis Broderick, John Harris and Alan Rathjen
- District 04: Fairfield** – Michael Adams, Felix Castro and Haskell Ledbetter
- District 10: Rohnert Park** – Randolph Bryson, Joel Lanstra and Bobbie Tusi
- District 11: Nevada** – Phillip Busch, William McMaster and Patrick Young
- District 12: Utah** – Luke Lewis, Kenneth Prescott II and Bartt Ratcliffe
- District 20: Oakland** – Ralph Dakin, Barry Morrissey and David Nelson
- District 30: Stockton** – Dennis Dorton, Dean Fadeff and Mare Myers
- District 40: Eureka** – Michael Conway, Kevin Reynolds and Frank Rojas
- District 50: Fresno** – Leonard “Jesse” Harper, Lisa Livaudais and Robert Moock
- District 60: Yuba City** – Jeffrey Jurickovich, William Noble and Mark Teesdale
- District 70: Redding** – Mettes “Butch” Kouffeld, Martin Mattila and William Pope
- District 80: Sacramento** – Harold Anderson, Gary Nelson and Albert Perez
- District 90: Morgan Hill** – Larry Aparicio, Dennis Garringer and Paul Lerma

2007 Grievance Committee Members

- District 01: Burlingame** – Bradley Parres, Gene Pratt and Jeffrey Scott
- District 04: Fairfield** – Mark Fitzgerald, Ronald Kultti and William Pursel
- District 10: Rohnert Park** – Alec Giddings, Darey Harlan and John Osterloh
- District 11: Nevada** – James Corless, Mitch Gallagher and Johnathan Moon
- District 12: Utah** – Gordon Purcell, Anthony Rivera and Benjamin Steed
- District 17: Hilo** – M.K. Akau Jr., Michael Akau and Russell Tam
- District 17 : Honolulu** – James Arthur Sr., Trevor Hugo and Richard Lacar
- District 17: Kauai** – Eugene Pa, William Pierce and Dennis Wong
- District 17: Maui** – Alvin Kuehu, Donald Poepoe and Darrel Waikiki
- District 20: Oakland** – Jerry Hunt, Loretta McClinton and Roy Petrini
- District 30: Stockton** – Mike Halloran, Timothy King and Stephen Searles
- District 40: Eureka** – Joe Baratti, Larry Hoemer and Hugh Shannon
- District 50: Fresno** – Danny Henry, John Marquez and Robert Wilson
- District 60: Yuba City** – Charles Adamson, Gary Fincher and Harry Herkert
- District 70: Redding** – Kenneth Gill, Trent McGrew and Michael Tauscher
- District 80: Sacramento** – Josh Buhlert, Francis “Scooter” Gentry Jr. and Delphis Surette
- District 90: Morgan Hill** – John Beale, Darrel Cooley and Douglas Zachary

Come out to your district picnic!

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| District 30: Stockton | Sunday, May 6 |
| District 17: Kauai | Sunday, May 6 |
| District 60: Yuba City | Sunday, May 13 |
| District 50: Fresno | Saturday, May 19 |
| District 17: Oahu | Sunday, May 27 |
| District 80: Sacramento | Sunday, June 10 |
| District 11: Nevada | Saturday, June 16 |
| District 12: Utah | Saturday, June 23 |
| District 70: Redding | Saturday, June 30 |
| District 10: Rohnert Park | Sunday, July 1 |
| District 01: Burlingame | Sunday, July 8 |
| District 20: Oakland | Sunday, July 22 |
| District 90: Morgan Hill | Sunday, Aug. 5 |
| District 17: Hilo | Sunday, Aug. 26 |
| District 17: Maui | Sunday, Sept. 9 |

Here’s the scoop on our May and June picnics:

- District 30: Stockton**
- Date: Sunday, May 6
- Time: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Location: Micke Grove Park, Lodi – Delta Picnic Area
- Cost: adults – \$10, retirees – \$8, children under 12 – free
- Menu: New York steak, asparagus, green salad, barbecued beans, strawberries, ice cream, hot dogs, nachos and beverages
- Come join us for great raffle prizes. We’ll also have a bounce house for the kids.

- District 60: Yuba City**
- Date: Sunday, May 13
- Time: noon to 3 p.m.
- Location: Durham Park, 9447 Midway, Durham
- Cost: adults – \$10, retirees – \$5, children – free
- Menu: barbecued pork, tri-tip, hot dogs, beans, salad, rolls, homemade ice cream and peach cobbler
- We’ll be raffling off a 2007 Honda Rancher 4x4. Don’t miss it!

- District 50: Fresno**
- Date: Saturday, May 19
- Time: noon to dusk
- Location: Kearney Park in Fresno, Oak Knoll A
- Cost: adults and retirees – \$10, children 10 and under – free
- Menu: tri-tip, beans, salad, bread and fresh fruit

- District 17: Oahu**
- Date: Sunday, May 27
- Time: 10 a.m. (lunch at noon)
- Location: Kalama Beach Community Center
- Cost: free

- District 80: Sacramento**
- Date: Sunday, June 10
- Time: 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Location: Elk Grove Park – Rotary Grove, Elk Grove
- Cost: adults and children over 12 – \$10, retirees and children under 12 – free
- Menu: tri-tip, chicken, hot dogs, hot links, beans, salad, rolls and beverages
- Bring the whole family: Kids can party in the jump house!

- District 11: Nevada**
- Date: Saturday, June 16
- Time: noon
- Location: Lazy 5 Regional Park, 7100 Pyramid Highway, Sparks
- Cost: adults – \$10; family of four or more – \$25; retirees and children under five – free
- Menu: pulled pork, barbecued chicken and beans, salad, ice cream, rolls and beverages
- We have lots of fun planned for the kids – a clown, games, face-painting and balloons – and great raffle prizes for all.

- District 12: Utah**
- Date: Saturday, June 23
- Time: 9 a.m.
- Location: Draper City Park – North Pavilion, 12450 S. 1300 E., Draper
- Cost: family – \$10, single – \$5, retirees – free
- Menu: Breakfast! Eggs, bacon, ham, hash browns, pancakes, rolls, donuts, fruit, juice and coffee
- Cost includes raffle tickets (six for a single; 12 for a family) for door prizes and other prizes. We will also have additional raffle tickets for sale.

- District 70: Redding**
- Date: Saturday, June 30
- Time: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Location: Anderson River Park
- Cost: adults – \$10, retirees – \$6, children – \$4
- Menu: pit-roasted beef, cross-rib roast, green salad, barbecued beans, bread, fruit, ice cream and beverages
- Entertainment will include a raffle drawing, band, dancing and games for the children.

Bylaws Committee Update

Having recommended changes to Article VI (dues) of the Local 3 Bylaws, the Bylaws Committee met March 13-14 at the union’s headquarters in Alameda to review the remaining sections of the Bylaws. The committee reviewed the following proposals:

- Remove all language related to Local 3’s former jurisdiction of Wyoming and South Dakota
- Establish the Bylaws Committee as a standing committee
- Establish internal policies, such as salary surveys, for sections that cannot be changed according to the International’s Constitution
- Allow an extra week for members to submit ballots for internal union elections

Once completed, the committee’s proposals will be reviewed by the officers and Executive Board for recommendation to the membership for review and approval.



From left: District 01 committee member Joe Wendt and District 10’s Jim Killean attended the Bylaws Committee Meeting March 13 in Alameda.

New Members

March 2007

District 11: Nevada

Trevor Barker
Charles B. Carl Jr.
Jennifer Curtis
Jesus Diaz
Mike Hallstrom
Tim Hawkins
Jon Roskovich
James Shoshone Jr.
Steve Sturm
David Weaver
Keith Wise

District 12: Utah

Todd Dieffenbacher
Justin P. Hillis
Jennifer Hooper
Kelly Penrod
Shane Richards
Danny Udy

New Contractors

March 2007

District 01: Burlingame

Coast Construction
Synergy Project Management

District 12: Utah

Rock-N-Dirt, LLC
A-1 Crane Service

District 17: Hawaii

Ron’s Concrete Specialist, Ltd.

District 20: Oakland

Solarwinds

District 30: Stockton

George Reed, Inc., Merced
Rock Plant
S&L Sweeping

District 70: Redding

Sierra Nevada Construction,
Inc.

DISTRICT MEETINGS

JULY 2007

12th District 30: Stockton
Italian Athletic Club
3541 Cherryland Drive

12th District 50: Clovis
Clovis Masonic Lodge
375-5th St.

19th District 20: Oakland
Warehouse Union Local 6
99 Hegenberger Road

19th District 04: Suisun City
Veterans’ Memorial
Building
427 Main St.

Honorary Membership

Effective April 2007

David Avilez	1511021	District 20: Oakland
W.C. Brown	0586532	District 80: Sacramento
Nickolas Capachi	1157758	District 80: Sacramento
Michael Childres	1504639	District 30: Stockton
Chester Grant	0838802	District 04: Fairfield
Billy Hood	1276831	District 30: Stockton
Dale Hume	1175041	District 60: Yuba City
Jay Levine	1511494	District 12: Utah
Robert Linville	2001166	District 99: Out of Area
Jerry Nelson	1082415	District 40: Eureka
		(effective Jan. 1, 2007)
Mark Olds	1511224	District 30: Stockton
Charles Oswald	1203594	District 99: Out of Area
Carl Stephens	0983194	District 20: Oakland
Jimmy Toguchi	1364978	District 17: Hawaii

DEPARTED MEMBERS

Aiwohi, Samson	District 17	Hilo, HI	01-29-07
Andrade, Albert	District 17	Waimea, HI	01-21-07
Bacus, William	District 99	Milton-Freewater, OR	02-18-07
Baloyot, Oseas	District 99	Liberty, MO	02-21-07
Branam, Robert	District 12	Elk Ridge, UT	02-06-07
Cook, Clint	District 80	Woodland, CA	02-19-07
Curry, Howard	District 20	Concord, CA	01-28-07
Evans, Robert	District 80	Foresthill, CA	02-11-07
Fleig Jr., James	District 70	Cottonwood, CA	02-17-07
Fleming, Michael	District 20	San Leandro, CA	03-03-07
Fortney, Leland	District 30	Stockton, CA	12-17-06
Frost, James	District 60	Gridley, CA	02-04-07
Hardinger, Earl	District 99	Marana, AZ	02-06-04
Harrison, Judd	District 20	Union City, CA	02-13-07

Hatfield, Harvey	District 80	Sacramento, CA	01-30-07
Joseph, Mike	District 10	Petaluma, CA	02-09-07
Lacey, Gary	District 04	Benicia, CA	02-18-07
Logan, Jay	District 30	lone, CA	01-20-07
Long, Willis	District 60	Marysville, CA	02-18-07
Mangum, Don	District 12	Cannonville, UT	01-19-07
McKenzie, Orville	District 70	Cottonville, CA	02-03-07
McMillan, Harold	District 99	Boring, OR	01-16-07
Medina, Alfred	District 20	Livermore, CA	01-24-07
Modena, Silvio	District 01	San Gregorio, CA	02-25-07
Moses, David	District 17	Honolulu, HI	01-17-07
Nichols, Walter	District 90	Santa Cruz, CA	01-20-07
Okihiro, Takeo	District 17	Aiea, HI	02-20-07
Pedro, Lindber	District 40	Arcata, CA	02-14-07
Peterson, Larry	District 99	Buckley, WA	01-28-07

Pittard, John	District 99	Ontario, OR	01-20-07
Renzello, William	District 12	Payson, UT	03-06-07
Rodriguez, Henry	District 20	Pleasanton, CA	01-23-07
Sheppard, Jack	District 99	Cape Girardeau, MO	01-07-07
Silva, Bernard	District 17	Honolulu, HI	02-19-07
Spaulding, Charles	District 99	Fossil, OR	01-28-07
Steele, Gerald	District 30	Oakdale, CA	02-04-07
Stewart, Esli	District 12	Payson, UT	02-15-07
Talbot, Walter	District 30	Stockton, CA	02-07-07
Taormino, Phillip	District 90	San Jose, CA	02-23-07
Tow, Randy	District 80	Placerville, CA	12-05-06
Vaughn, Charles	District 99	Tuscola, TX	01-18-07
Welsh, Frank	District 99	Medford, OR	01-19-07
West, Melvin	District 12	Layton, UT	01-25-07
Young, Byron	District 12	West Jordan, UT	02-07-07

CONTRACTOR OF THE MONTH • Arrow Construction

Local 3 is proud to honor Arrow Construction as our Contractor of the Month. Owner Lee Cox signed the Northern California Master Construction Agreement with Local 3 in February out of Morgan Hill District 90. The contract covers six new Local 3 members, including Cox. Welcome to the union family!

Specializing in underground pipeline, trenching, structural excavation and backfill, Arrow Construction has been serving Northern California since 1978. The company is based out of Lincoln and is currently working to upgrade wastewater treatment plants in Hollister and Tracy.



From left: Arrow Construction’s crew at the Hollister Wastewater Treatment Plant includes new Local 3 members Gerry Cowan and Owner Lee Cox, who is shaking hands with Business Agent Jeff Ulrich, and new member Aaron Crowder.

DECEASED DEPENDENTS

Alexander, Dixie. Wife of Alexander, Virgil R. (dec)	03-01-07
Altamirano, Ann. Wife of Altamirano, Danny	01-20-07
Beck, Wilma. Wife of Beck, James D. (dec)	02-26-07
Bogue, Verna. Wife of Bogue, William (dec)	02-17-07
Brewer, Glodine. Wife of Brewer, Merrel	03-03-07
Burnett, Edna. Wife of Burnett, Doyne E.	01-21-07
Christensen, Joyce. Wife of Christensen, Phillip (dec)	02-28-07
Cline, Noriko. Wife of Cline, Mark A.	02-08-07
Cole, Rae. Wife of Cole, Thomas	03-11-05
Collar, Evelyn. Wife of Collar, Robert (dec)	12-21-06

Crowther, Erlene. Wife of Crowther, J.A.	12-14-06
Desimone, Beverly. Wife of Desimone, Robert	01-21-07
Gainous, Connie. Wife of Gainous, Delbert	01-25-07
Grossi, Margaret. Wife of Grossi, William C.	11-29-06
Hearold, Gaylene. Wife of Hearold, Danny D.	03-03-07
Kala, Monalisa. Wife of Kala, Gordon	02-24-07
Lambert, Isabel. Wife of Lambert, Gerard	06-11-06
Lanterman, Roberta. Wife of Lanterman, Gary	03-08-07
Love, Derotha. Wife of Love, Alpha G.	02-11-07
Lucito, Josephine. Wife of Lucito, Joseph M.	02-08-07
McCrory, Marian. Wife of McCrory, Joe	10-10-06

Novoa, Helen. Wife of Novoa, Luis	01-13-07
Piccolonini, Maria. Wife of Fuaau, Misiepo	02-04-07
Richardson, Wanda. Wife of Richardson, Max	02-17-07
Sanford, Eleanor. Wife of Sanford, Robert (dec)	01-09-07
Shaner, Pearl. Wife of Shaner, Glen (dec)	01-09-07
Strickland, Mary. Wife of Strickland, Rodney C.	01-17-07
Thomason, Kyra. Wife of Thomason, Kevin L.	12-03-06
Wells, June. Wife of Wells, Glen	07-01-06
West, Eleanor. Wife of West, Ramon	02-23-07
Wilde, Barbara. Wife of Wilde, W.C.	02-17-07

Gerry Steele · 1941 – 2007

Former staff member fondly remembered as a friend

We are saddened to report the death of former staff member Gerry Steele. He died Feb. 24 after a long, courageous battle with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), commonly known as Lou Gehrig’s disease.

Gerry joined Local 3 after high school and worked in the field running equipment and gradesetting before becoming a dispatcher in 1973 and a business agent in 1980. He retired in 1994 due to his illness and spent the next several years traveling with his wife, Darlene.

The last trip they took together was to Disneyland with his daughter, Sandy, and her boyfriend, Ben – both of whom are Local 3 members. Sandy Steele is currently working as an operator with RGW Construction in the Stockton District.

Gerry was known as an active, outspoken union member who worked hard and believed in his family and himself. He was a good friend and a hard worker with a fighting spirit. He will be fondly remembered by us all.

Carbohydrates: More angel than devil

We've all heard that carbohydrates are bad for our health and our diets. But recent research suggests these claims are part of yet another unhealthy fad diet. According to Registered Dietitian and Certified Diabetes Educator Jill Weisenberger, carbohydrates are not going to make you fat as long as you consume them in moderate quantities and in the right foods. Unfortunately, snack foods, such as potato chips and candy bars, are high in carbohydrates!

Among the three major nutrients your body uses for energy – carbohydrates, fat and protein – carbohydrates are the most easily accessible form of fuel. During digestion, carbs are broken down, quickly absorbed into the bloodstream and picked up by your body's other cells to metabolize into energy.

Carbs are commonly categorized as "simple" or "complex." Made of a single sugar molecule or two linked together, simple carbohydrates include lactose (milk sugar), fructose (fruit sugar) and sucrose (table sugar). Complex carbohydrates, such as starch and fiber in grains and other plants, are long strings of sugar molecules.

For many years, diets claimed simple carbs were bad and complex carbs were good, but in reality, it's far more complicated. Whether a carbohydrate food has any health value has more to do with the nutrients it contains and the amount of processing it has undergone than with the length of its sugar chain.

It's not hard to guess that an apple is a better carb option than a French fry. Both supply energy for your muscles and brain, but only the apple is packed with disease-fighting, energy-sustaining nutrition. Most of your carbohydrates should come from unprocessed or minimally processed fruits, vegetables and whole grains, low-fat and skim milk and legumes such as peas, beans and lentils. These whole foods are rich in vitamins and minerals.

A recent report issued jointly by the World Cancer Research Fund and the American Institute for Cancer Research suggests that diets with five to 10 servings of fruits and vegetables daily could prevent at least 20 percent of all cancers. Other research indicates that every one-serving increase per day of fruits and vegetables is associated with a 4 percent lower risk of coronary heart disease. Higher intakes of fruits and vegetables are also linked to greater bone density.

Carbohydrates will not make you gain weight or increase your risk of heart disease as long as you eat the right kinds of carbohydrates. And it's not rocket science that fruits, vegetables and whole grains (which all contain carbohydrates) are healthy and necessary foods for everybody. It's time to end the war on carbohydrates. The devil is in the bag of processed chips – not the carbohydrate!

Source: *Carbs to Love*, Jill Weisenberger, M.S., R.D., C.D.E.

Safety tip of the month

If you've had any first-aid training, you should know this: **Don't** move anyone who appears to be seriously injured. Unfortunately, this is forgotten in many emergencies. Well-meaning people often have the impulse to hoist an accident victim to a sitting position or to move them. Victims of a bad fall or other serious accidents might have internal injuries or a fractured spine. If so, trying to move them might aggravate the injury or might permanently cripple or even kill them.

Source: *Toolboxtopics.com*

5 STRETCHES for a healthy back

As a follow-up on last month's discussion of back exercises, this month we're covering five *stretches* for a healthy back. Performing these stretches will help prevent back pain and assist in reducing present back aches. If the stretches increase your back pain or cause acute pain, you should stop and consult your doctor.

1. **Low-back stretch:** Standing or lying flat on your back, slowly bring one knee toward your chest, and grasp it with your hands. Hold for three seconds, then relax, and repeat with the other leg.
2. **Extension stretch:** If you have been sitting or bent over for a while, simply stand, bend your knees slightly, place your hands on the back of your waist and stretch backward while looking at the ceiling. Hold for five seconds, then slowly stand up.
3. **Neck stretches:** Nod your head slowly forward, bringing your chin toward your chest. Repeat five times. Turn your head from side to side slowly until you can align your chin with your shoulder. Repeat five times. Tilt your head slowly from side to side, bringing your ear over your shoulder.
4. **Shoulder rolls:** Roll your shoulders forward, then backward in a circle. Do this for 10-15 seconds. Begin with little circles and progress to large circles. Do this several times during the day to relieve tension.
5. **Hamstring stretch:** Stretching your hamstring muscles, which run from the hip down the back of the thigh to the knee, gives your back and hip flexibility. This stretch can be done standing, sitting or lying down.
 - **Standing:** Stand with one leg straight out in front of you, your foot resting on a table or chair. Bend the leg you are standing on until you feel a mild stretch under the thigh of the raised leg. Hold for three seconds. Repeat with the other leg.
 - **Sitting:** Sit on the floor with one leg straight in front of you and the other bent with your foot flat on the floor. Lean forward slowly over the bent leg until you feel a mild stretch under the other thigh. Repeat with the other leg.
 - **Lying down:** Lie on your back with your knees bent so your feet are flat on the floor. Raise one leg slowly, clasping your hands behind your knee to support it. Slowly straighten your leg, and feel the stretch in the back of your thigh. Hold for three seconds, then relax. Repeat with the other leg.

Source: *www.spine.org*

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

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

Operating Engineers
Local Union No. 3
3920 Lennane Dr.
Sacramento, CA 95834
ATTN: Swap Shop*
(916) 286-2788

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

Or e-mail to:
mjessup@oe3.org

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

FOR SALE: Two 1971 Torinos. One is a 351. One is a 351c C-4 car and is one of the most documented cars you'll ever come across. All original. The other is a professionally built model, all numbers match: 429 SCJ – all fresh, 0 mi., dyno-tested. Both AS IS. You won't be disappointed. Call for price: (916) 475-6806. Reg# 2548724.

FOR SALE: Tuolumne County, 2 bdr, 2 ba, 2 miles to Jamestown, 5 acres, quiet and private, below appraisal. Before realtor: \$429,000. (209) 984-3970. Reg# 0899391. FOR SALE: (due to illness) 1986 GMC Caballero p/u, 54,000 miles, good condition. \$3,000 or make offer. (916) 374-0707. Reg# 1464936.

FOR SALE: 98' TRAVEL-EAZE/THOR fifth-wheel 30ft. It has a fiberglass exterior, 12ft slide-out, 2 awnings, extra insulation for extreme weather, good tires, luggage rack, Queen bed, oak cabinets, incl. fridge front, thermostatically controlled fans in roof vents, shades over skylights. Well designed unit for \$14,450 (707) 839-4001. Reg# 2035197.

FOR SALE: A good trailer for vacation or working away from home: '89 Terry 20-ft. travel trailer by Fleetwood. Self-contained. Rear bedroom with

new Queen mattress. Recently new refrigerator. Sellers are non-smokers. \$4,250. ORFOR BOTH: '89 trailer AND Chevy Silverado tow vehicle \$8,200. Located in West Sacramento. Call: (916) 372-6612. Reg# 857999.

FOR SALE: '88 Bayliner trophy with galvanized EX loader trailer. Turn key start, two downriggers, video fishfinder, raw water washdown, live well, auxiliary motor bracket and much more. Cooled 3L engine, fresh rebuilt. Enclosed cuddy cabin to keep you warm. \$8,900. (530) 692-0707. Reg# 262597.

FOR SALE: '94 Winnebago adventurer, 30-ft. 454 Chev. Engine w/banks headers, brakeguard and safe steer basement model 43,960 miles, 4,000 amp Onan generator, roof air, furnace and awnings, 100-gallon water tank, two holdings tanks: 55 and 56-gallon. Bathroom w/indoor and outdoor showers, lots of extras. non-smokers and no pets. \$19,500 OBO. Call: (559) 875-3554. Reg# 0892630.

FOR SALE: 2000+ old, used bricks, located in the east bay area. \$0.45 each or will bargain. Call Jim: (510) 502-5001 or (510) 537-1851. Reg# 1440656.

FOR SALE: '96 Ford Explorer XLT. 4X4, very clean and well-maintained. V6, Auto, cruise, PW, PL, new brakes, new Michelin tires, air, cloth seats. 173,100+ miles. Excellent shape mechanically. Call (916) 996-8474. Reg# 1978377.

FOR SALE: '90 Harley Davidson FLSTF Fatboy. \$11,000, OBO. Silver, low miles. Good cond. w/passing lamps, engine guard and windshield. Saddlebags, cover, sissy bar and tbag. Original seat. E-mail: HD1990FATBOY@hotmail.com for pics. Call (916) 529-6549 to see. Reg# 2584180.

FOR SALE: 1998 33.5 fleetwood savanna 5th. whl. 3 slides, fully loaded, pre-wired; gen, sat dish and solar charger. lots of storage. 3 holding tanks. washer/dryer. too much to list. very nice trailer \$23,000 even. Call: (530) 527-5806. Reg# 2106496.

FOR SALE: '94 Bayliner 14' Jet Boat with trailer. Merc. 90

HP. New factory rebuilt engine and jet drive. New Bimini top. Current license. Ready to go. \$3,500. Call (559) 645-4069. Reg# 689091.

FOR SALE: Bullhead City, AZ home: 3 bdr, 2ba., 1,724sq.ft. on premium lot in Fox Creek Mountain Shadows subdivision. gated community, 3-car boat deep, garage, RV hookup, Pool, lot approx. 12,000 sq.ft., fully landscaped with comb, block and wrought iron fence, lot adjoins community park. \$490,000: see deserthomeaz.com Call: (928) 704-5199 Reg# 0796005.

WANTED: Tractors running or not and equipment. Will pay cash for pick up, AND: WANTED: shotguns, rifles, handguns and hunting equipment. Will pay cash. Call: (559) 351-6615. Reg# 2123273.

MOVING SALE: '04 Grand Cherokee jeep (10K miles), loaded \$25,000. AND: 52 Kaizee Virginian new tires, motor and battery AND; Lincoln 150 AC/DC welder like new, extras \$1,700 AND: '80 25-ft. Renell cabin cruiser, \$6,000. AND: '81 Chevy one-ton dually, new battery, \$1,000 AND: '81 Harley FXE AND: '03 Yamaha TTR 125, like new \$2,000 AND: complete house full of furniture. Call (831) 386-0448. Reg# 2412455.

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

FOR SALE: '88 Southwind Chassis. 70,000 miles, 6.5 K.W. Generator, 2 AC, 20-ft. abd 10-ft awnings, well-maintained. Many extras. \$8,000 OBO. Call (408) 779-3800. Reg# 1057492.

FOR SALE: 1+ acre in the heart of the Cabinet Mountains, Troy, MT. Hunting and fishing! Two energy-efficient homes; First, about 1,000 sq ft., Second: 1,300 sq. ft. Both have 2 bdrms, 1 ba, utility room, wood & electric heat, two out-building, plus 1,200 sq.ft. shop, 2 wells

on property. \$275,000, call: (559) 868-3587; (559) 978-1926; after April 10th call: (406) 295-4628 or to see pictures go to: <http://www.homesbyowner.com/64817>. Reg# 1070212.

FOR SALE: '97 27-ft. Euroway by Fleetwood, European flair with four-season comfort. Well-insulated, double-pane windows. Bath with tub and shower. Separate bedroom. Sleeps 6. Air cond, duct heating, microwave, stove, oven, fridge and freezer, awning. \$10,300 OBO. Call: (707) 632-5745. Reg# 1391927.

FOR SALE: '99 Alfa Gold 5th wheel 34'. All Oak interior, 3 electric dump valves, 4 electric jacks, 3 slide outs, basement storage w/slide out, new tires and spare, 20' awning, 55 amp batt. charger, skylight, ceiling fan, satellite dish, glass shower, central elec. Lots of extras to call about, too many to list. \$29,900 OBO, Call after 5 p.m. H: (916) 349-2997, Cell: (925) 642-8457 Reg# 2357526.

FOR SALE: pick-up truck crane base, swivels 360 degrees, boom extension, four positions, hydraulic jack, three tons. Unit has never been mounted on a truck. \$90. AND: Mac torque wrench, 1/2-drive, calibrated with tag 30—200 foot pound. \$100. AND: new, still in box, 3/8 mac impact gun \$170. Call (707) 836-0504. Reg# 1615544.

FOR SALE: '67 Buick Riviera in fine shape, one-person owner, color: black, garaged, 202,000 miles. Has new compressor, alternator, starter, battery, power-steering, box and hose, new v-belts, call: (510) 525-2166. \$9,500. Reg# 0291501.

FOR SALE: '97 Monaco motor-home, safari sahara, 35-ft., horsepower turbo CAT diesel pusher 300 propane: generator, elec. Heater; 3-way refrig., Corian counter-tops, oak and carpeted floors, rear queen bed, ice maker, \$150,000 OBO AND: '91 Cyclone, fastest production vehicle made in '91, turbo, all-wheel drive, 37,000 orig. miles, new tires. \$15,000 firm. AND: '37 Plymouth businessman's coupe, Volari

front and read-end, RV 350 w/727, new fiberglass fender and running boards, in restoration (not painted or upholstered). \$10,000 OBO. Call: (209) 524-5821 Reg# 1075510.

WANTED: Shotguns, rifles, pistols and accessories. AND: WANTED: tractors running or not and three-point equipment. Will pay cash and haul off. Call (559) 351-6615. Reg# 2123273.

FOR SALE: '79 Firebird Formula 6.6 L, New Tires. Good project car \$2,500. AND: 2000 Chev or GM (elec. shift) Transfer case, only 6,000 miles, \$700. AND: Full size brushguard w/ KC lights off of 2000 chev P.U., \$75. AND: 4 Bridgestone P265-70r-17 M&S Tires on alloy wheels, off of '05 Tahoe, only 60 miles \$500 Call (559) 822-2345 or (559) 994-1074 Reg# 1774638.

FOR SALE: '04 Electric guide standard, 95 kit, stage two chrome front end. 18-in. spoke wheels, new tires, back rest, sissy bar, less than 5,500 miles. \$19,000 OBO. (209) 986-5526. AND: '05 Road King classic, stage 1, screaming eagles, less than 3,500 miles. \$20,000 OBO. Call (209) 401-0610. Reg# 2354802.

FOR SALE: '84 Chevy truck, 1 ton, diesel, dual wheels, lumber rack, tool boxes, with keys, runs good, 70,000 miles Contact Jim (707) 987-3921 or cell# (707) 295-6270 or swal@juno.com. Reg# 2335310.

FOR SALE: 10 acres, near Reno, Nevada. In Rancho Haven – 35 minutes from Reno with beautiful views, sloping, some level, roughed in driveway/pad, surveyed, needs well/septic, power close by. Owner will finance for one year interest free/ payment \$400 a month, while buyer obtains construction loan with 15 percent down. \$129,000. Call Susan at (865) 660-1244 Reg# 1840427.

FOR SALE: 25 CAL. automatic, \$80 or trade for 410 break-open shotgun. AND: 87 Ford F350 8'X 12' stake bed, \$3200 OBO. AND: Rebuilt starters for Detroit 92 series and Cummings 220 \$100 each. Call (530) 346-2918. or E-mail foundryj@cwnet.com. Reg# 1271053.

ADSC and Local 3 collaborate for drill training

The West Coast Chapter of the International Association of Foundation Drilling (ADSC) recently joined forces with Local 3 to provide drill training to Local 3 members. According to coordinator Will Smith, this is the first time a union and association have worked together to provide this type of training.

The class was put together March 22-24 at the Rancho Murieta Training Center (RMTTC) by ADSC in collaboration with the Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC). ADSC provided experienced instructors and borrowed drills from its participating employers. The JAC provided the training site, classroom facilities and room and board for attendants. This class was first offered in 2003, and it is the highest student-rated class in the nation.



On drill, from left: ADSC Instructor Chuck Potter and Jeff Shaw. Front row, from left: Randy Quinn, Josh Flanagan, Chris Majewski and Troy Jackson participated in the ADSC/Local 3 drill-training collaboration.

The training was open to Local 3 journey-level operators and apprentices. According to Smith, “it takes eight to nine years to become a real driller.”

The class gave students the opportunity to enhance or expand their current skills by learning something new.

“This is a great school,” Apprentice Randy Quinn said. “The instructors are great, and it’s great to see all of the contractors getting together.” Quinn welcomed the opportunity to receive this type of specialized training.



Journey-level Operator Jeff Shaw from District 20 works for Condon-Johnson and enjoys learning something new at RMTTC.



The ADSC drill-training class gave students the opportunity to enhance or expand their current skills by learning something new.

Meet the new Rancho Murieta Training Center (RMTTC) directors



John Teller

The RMTTC is proud to announce its new leadership team: Director of Training John Teller and Director of Apprenticeship Tammy Castillo. While neither one is new to the RMTTC, both have taken on new roles and responsibilities.

Seasoned Crane Instructor John Teller will oversee the training staff, as well as the maintenance and shop staff. He is responsible for curriculum, equipment purchases and overall facility management.

Former Assistant Director Tammy Castillo will oversee the cafeteria staff, coordinators and support staff in her new role as director of apprenticeship. She is responsible for apprenticeship standards and ensures the JAC is in compliance with all state and federal apprenticeship guidelines.

They both look forward to working together and with the rest of the training-center staff to provide the best training for apprentices and journey-level operators.



Tammy Castillo

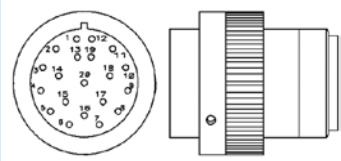


Diagnostic connector smarter than it looks

Troubleshooting is probably one of the more difficult jobs we do. To accurately find the cause of the problem means having a good understanding of the system and the ability to perform tests or checks – sometimes lots of them! When possible, we perform these tests by order of relevance.

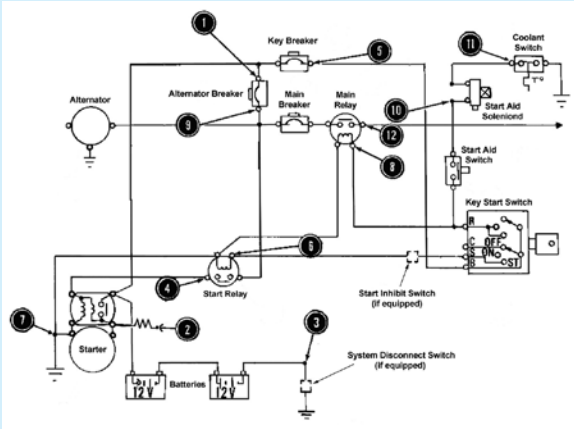
Sometimes we do tests by time efficiency. In other words, if the next logical test means spending 30 minutes disassembling the machine to get access to the test point, we might check other points. If we can test other points in that system quickly and easily – why not check them first? The results may lead you in a different direction.

Knowing all that, it is worth mentioning a system that is often overlooked. It can help diagnose starting-systems failures as well as analyze certain components on some Caterpillar equipment. It’s not computerized, nor is it electronic. It’s just wires and a 20-pin round plug called the diagnostic connector. Go figure.



The diagnostic wires lead to key test points in the starting and charging system. The wires have no other function but to provide information to the well-versed mechanic.

The schematic shows where the pins in the diagnostic plug connect to. Pin 1 in the plug connects to the battery’s positive side of the alternator breaker. Pin 2 connects to the motor terminal on the starting motor. Pin 3 connects to the negative side of the battery.



You can use a test light or multimeter to test for power or ground through the diagnostic connector instead of going to that component, which could be buried in the machine.

So, if you want to know if the main relay is turning on and sending power to its respective

components, ground your test light, turn the key switch on and probe pin 12 in the diagnostic connector. You should have light if the relay is turning on.

In addition, if you suspect a component of failing – for instance, the alternator breaker – you can analyze it by putting the multimeter’s probes in pin 1 and pin 9, turning the key to the start position and monitoring the amount of voltage being used. This is called voltage drop, and it takes away voltage from the start relay and starter solenoid. Voltage drop is a loss of power.

By using the schematic, you can find all kinds of tests that can be performed quickly to help diagnose a starting or charging problem. The schematic is in the service manual or you can order it, Caterpillar Special Instruction SENR2947.

If you’re not sure whether your machines have this connector, look at the back side of your electrical schematic under the connector’s table to see if it is listed and if so, where it’s located on the machine.