THOUSANDS GATHER FOR USS HORNET SEMI-ANNUAL

June 3 California Primary Election: See pages 6 and 7 for election recommendations.
Work outlook and the economy

If you read five different stories about the state of our economy today, you’ll get five very different viewpoints. Some say we’re in a recession; others say we’re headed for a recession, or they think the economy has slowed, but a recession is unlikely. No matter which version you believe, the reality is that the economic slowdown will have an impact on Local 3.

I probably don’t need to tell you the economy and therefore, our work picture is cyclical. In the last 60-plus years, the U.S. has gone through 10 various types of recessions – some severe, others more minor. These market downturns have had an effect on Local 3, the same as every other union, corporation and individual in America. The economy affects us ALL. For unions like ours, the slowdown affects our work, investments and, of course, the stability of our pension plan. Every union organization in this country, including the teachers, ironworkers, carpenters, firefighters and even the big players, like the California Public Employees’ Retirement System (CalPERS), are being forced to re-examine their pension plans and effect changes according to the rules and regulations of the Pension Protection Act (PPA). We are required by federal law to comply with these rules.

I know many of you may have heard rumors regarding changes to our pension plan, and let me be very clear: The information you have been given is probably untrue, as these changes were only recently approved by the Board of Trustees. In keeping with our promise of transparency, Local 3 is presenting the details of the changes to our pension during this current round of district meetings. I want to thank all of the members who came out to their district meetings in April, and I look forward to the remaining meetings in May. Your attendance at these meetings is critical, brothers and sisters, because we have to work together to find a permanent solution to restore our pension. We cannot do it without your input and participation.

Although we have a lot to focus on with our pension, we can’t take our eyes off the ball when it comes to our work. I recently wrote a letter with a strong message to the state legislators in California, urging them to release the mega-bond funds approved by the voters of this state, so our membership can get back to work. Local 3 will continue sending these letters until the funds are released, because keeping our members working is the most important issue facing our union.

In addition to the work we already have on the books, we have more than $14.1 billion worth of work slated for 2008 within our four-state jurisdiction. By state, this amounts to:

- $12.2 billion in California
- $1.5 billion in Utah
- More than $235 million in Hawaii
- $159 million in Nevada

The $12.2 billion of work in California includes several public-work projects Gov. Schwarzenegger discussed at a recent press conference, including some 106 transit projects statewide. This includes $24 million for Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) seismic retrofit and improvements and $12.1 million to the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority for improvements in the Santa Clara Street-Alum Rock Avenue corridor. The governor also outlined funding for major transportation projects in Sacramento and Fresno, which you can read more about in the districts’ section in this issue of Engineers News.

As we move forward and the public work begins to pick up, we are hopeful the private work will also kick into gear. History tells us our economy moves in cycles, and although we are currently in a downturn, our great union has survived it all. Local 3 will press on this time as we always have, and we will continue doing everything we can to help our membership get through it.

In solidarity.
Why you need a union

Union members earn better wages and benefits than workers who aren’t union members. On average, union workers’ wages are 30 percent higher than their non-union counterparts. While only 14 percent of non-union workers have guaranteed pensions, 68 percent of union workers do. More than 97 percent of union workers have jobs that provide health insurance, but only 85 percent of non-union workers do. Unions help employers create a more stable, productive workforce – where workers have a say in improving their jobs.

Find out more information about unions online at www.aflcio.org and www.oe3.org.

Local 3 goes high-tech with video podcasts

One of the most exciting new additions to Local 3’s website – www.oe3.org – is video podcasting, a feature that allows members to view video messages on their personal computers. Local 3 is also working to provide our membership with the ability to download podcasts to a personal, portable media device, like an iPod. We will utilize this tool for more effective, straightforward communications to all our brothers and sisters in the field. In addition to podcasting, we plan to continue using the most updated technology to maintain Business Manager Russ Burns’s pledge of providing excellent service to our membership. With this new website, we plan to lead the membership into advanced communications and provide greater membership support. Stay tuned as we continue to stay focused on the future.

Nevada Training Center partners with community

Motocross racing bikes and a loader from Local 3’s Nevada Training Center were the main attractions at a recent fundraising event for flood victims in Fernley, Nev. Nearly 400 riders participated in the Fernley Flood Relief Ride Day, including Local 3 member Jason Sampson, Training Center Administrator Greg Smith and Instructor Brian Prather. More than $4,000 was raised for the community.

Local 3 member Jason Sampson volunteered time in February for the Fernley Flood Relief Ride Day to help raise funds for flood-relief programs in Northern Nevada.

Talking Points

By Fred Herschbach, president

Your involvement affects us all

It’s always interesting to me how ideas tend to float around at the same time, as my column this month mirrors some of the same concepts as Political Director Tom Aja’s column on page 6 of this edition. Tom mentions how political activism goes beyond voting – that it also begins with political knowledge and participation. In other words, Tom asks that you not only stay informed of the issues, but that you act in accordance with these issues in any way you can.

Along these lines, I am pleased to announce District 17 is making advances in its political power play. Members are realizing that to ensure future work in the state of Hawaii, they need to be involved, and how better to be involved than to be the ones in the decision-making seats. We recently congratulated three of our members for being elected to their community neighborhood boards.

James Arthur Sr., who is a working foreman with Goodfellow Bros., Inc, an 18-year member and also on the Grievance Committee, was elected to the Kapolei Neighborhood Board. Kapolei is fast becoming Oahu’s second city, with infrastructure work, new housing and commercial development planned in both the private and public sector.

Clyde “Kapy” Eli Sr., who is an excavator operator for Goodfellow Bros., Inc and a 17-year member, was elected to the Nanakuli Neighborhood Board. Nanakuli is an older community that is recognized as a choice location for building affordable homes. Within the next few years, major upgrades from water and sewer lines to access roads and pedestrian safety will be addressed.

Kurt Favela, who is a gradechecker for Goodfellow Bros., Inc and a three-year member, was elected to the Ewa Neighborhood Board and will be running for the Representative Seat in November. Like Kapolei, Ewa is busy with construction work, from infrastructure to new housing and road expansion.

District 17’s Industry Stabilization Fund Executive Director Perry Artates also recently – and literally – made his voice heard in the political arena at a Maui County Council meeting regarding the Honua’ula development, a proposed affordable housing community including a golf course, community center and parks, along with 1,400 housing units. The proposed project has loomed a controversial one, as there are land ownership issues and environmental issues, but thanks to Artates’ voice, the $800 million project was approved to go before Mayor Charmaine Tavares. According to Artates, who was quoted in The Maui News, he backs the project, because the developer promised to use all union labor.

“The families here who represent our trades, really rely on this project,” Artates commented.

Signatory contractor Steve Goodfellow of Goodfellow Bros., Inc. has invested in the project, which is another plus for Operating Engineers.

The members of District 17 feel safer knowing their fellow brothers and sisters are making labor-friendly decisions in communities where billions of dollars will be spent for construction.

These members’ political activism only supports our efforts of creating more construction jobs and an even louder voice in the political arena. Their efforts are an example for everyone, especially at this time of a crucial election year.

I urge the membership to consider your own political activism at every chance you get. Your involvement directly affects us all.
Pension Status

As the result of a comprehensive study to assess the impact of new Federal pension legislation, on March 25, 2008, the Pension Plan Trustees approved a number of important changes to your Pension Plan. At recent district meetings and through direct communications, these changes have been explained in great detail. The following information is intended to briefly summarize the Pension changes.

NOTE: None of the changes described below affect pension benefits already earned. Whether you are a retiree receiving monthly pension checks, or an active participant, the benefits earned prior to the effective date of the Pension Plan changes cannot, under Federal law, be reduced. All of the changes described below apply only to service on or after July 1, 2008.

Summary of approved changes for benefits accruing after July 1, 2008

Plan changes effective July 1, 2008

- Benefit factor: 1.25% of all contributions
- Joint and survivor pension subsidy modified
- $125 supplement phased out for future retirees
- Subsidy for early retirement discontinued (no change to Service Pensions; i.e., Rule of 85)
- Disability Pension adjusted to 70% of accrued benefit
- Implement Delayed Retirement Incentive Program (if eligible for Service Pension)

The following provides in-depth descriptions of each plan change:

Benefit factor: 1.25% of all contributions

For service on or after July 1, 2008, you will earn a benefit of 1.25% of all pension contributions made on your behalf. Currently, your Pension Restoration contributions do not earn benefits. For example, if you elected to make the full Pension Restoration contributions, you earn a benefit of 3.0% of your pre-Pension Restoration contributions only. A benefit of 3.0% of pre-Pension Restoration contributions is the same as a benefit of 1.71% of all contributions. So, this benefit reduction is really only from 1.71% of contributions to 1.25%, on an “apples to apples” basis. This is a reduction in the factor of 0.46%.

After June 30, 2008, we will no longer have the three-tier Pension Restoration system – all participants will earn benefits under the same formula.

Joint and survivor pension subsidy modified

For benefits earned on or after July 1, 2008, benefits payable under the Husband-and-Wife Pensions will be reduced more than under the current Plan.

$125 supplement phased out for future retirees

Starting July 1, 2008, the $125 monthly supplemental benefit will be phased out.

Subsidy for early retirement discontinued

Under the current Plan, if you are not eligible for an unreduced Service Pension, benefits are reduced for retirement below age 62. For benefits earned on or after July 1, 2008, the early retirement benefit reduction will apply to benefits beginning below age 65 (instead of age 62), and the reduction will be larger than under the current Plan.

Early Retirement Subsidy

- Before 6/30/08, a participant with 10 credits who is at least age 55, but is not yet age 62 will receive a reduction of 6% per year from age 55-60 and 3% per year from age 60-62. Everything earned up to July 1, 2008 will be calculated at this rate.

- After 7/1/08, a participant with 10 credits who is at least age 55, but is not yet age 65, will receive a reduction of 4% per year from age 55-58, 6% per year from age 58-62 and 9% per year from age 62-65. Everything earned up to July 1, 2008 will be calculated at this rate.
Disability Pension adjusted to 70% of accrued benefit

Under the current Plan, a participant who becomes disabled after age 50 with 10 years of Credited Service, or 15 years of Credited Service at any age, receives a Disability Pension. For Disability Pensions awarded on or after July 1, 2008, the Disability Pension will not be less than 70% of the Regular Pension amount.

Delayed Retirement Incentive Program

To encourage participants to keep working and lower long-term costs to the fund, the Trustees approved a new “Delayed Retirement Incentive” for participants who are eligible for a Service Pension.

For each year that you work past your Service Pension Date (or past July 1, 2008, if you are already eligible for a Service Pension), you will earn a pension incentive equal to a percentage of the benefit you earned up to your Service Pension Date. As an example, if you work three years past your Service Pension Date or July 1, 2008, you will earn an additional pension bonus equal to 50% of your pension earned through your Service Pension Date. This can be converted to an extra monthly benefit, payable for the same number of months that you delayed your retirement (but not past your Social Security Retirement Age), or it can be taken in a single lump sum payment.

The following is a step-by-step look at the Delayed Retirement Incentive:

- Step 1: Determine percentage (“bonus percent”) of annual benefit earned through Service Pension Retirement Date (SPRD), based on years worked after SPRD:
  - 1 year: 10%
  - 2 years: 25%
  - 3 years: 50%
  - 4 years: 75%
  - 5 years: 100%
  - Each additional year: +20%

- Step 2: Monthly supplemental benefit equals:
  “Bonus percent” times annual benefit at SPRD ÷ Number of months worked after SPRD (“Deferral Months”)

Delayed Retirement Bonus is payable from actual retirement until death or Social Security Retirement Age, but not longer than number of Deferral Months.

In conclusion, the following points are important to remember:

Benefits already earned cannot be reduced

- Benefit changes are intended to provide a long-term solution
- Delayed Retirement Incentive provides incentive to continue working
- These changes were designed with an investment “cushion” to avoid more cuts if unfavorable investment results persist
- When our pension investment expectations are realized, future Plan improvements are possible

These changes are intended to provide long-term, lasting solutions to keep our Pension Plan strong for years to come. Stay tuned for more information, and your participation at district meetings and union events is appreciated, as we need your support and feedback during these times of change.
Local 3 Election Recommendations
June 3 California Primary Election

The California Primary Election is Tuesday, June 3, 2008. Members are encouraged to Get Out The Vote (GOTV) for the following list of candidates and initiatives supporting Local 3 and working families across California:

**District 01: Burlingame**
- Nancy Pelosi (Congressional District 8)
- Jackie Speier (Congressional District 12)
- Anna Eshoo (Congressional District 14)
- Carole Migden (State Senate District 3)
- Joe Simitian (State Senate District 11)
- Fiona Ma (State Assembly District 12)
- Tom Ammiano (State Assembly District 13)
- Richard Holober (State Assembly District 19)
- Ira Ruskin (State Assembly District 21)
- Eric Marr (San Francisco Board of Supervisors District 1)
- Carmen Chu (San Francisco Board of Supervisors District 4)
- Ross Mirkarimi (San Francisco Board of Supervisors District 5)
- Sean Elsbernd (San Francisco Board of Supervisors District 7)
- Ahsha Safai (San Francisco Board of Supervisors District 11)
- Gerard Sandoval (Superior Court Judge)

**District 04: Fairfield**
- Mike Thompson (Congressional District 1)
- George Miller (Congressional District 7)
- Lois Wolk (State Senate District 5)
- Noreen Evans (State Assembly District 7)
- Mariko Yamada (State Assembly District 8)
- Skip Thompson (Solano County Board of Supervisors District 5)
- No endorsement (Napa County Board of Supervisors District 2)
- Bill Dodd (Napa County Board of Supervisors District 4)
- Dual endorsement: Cindy Coffey, Gary L. Simpson (Napa County Board of Supervisors District 5)

**District 10: Rohnert Park**
- Carole Migden (State Senate District 3)
- Noreen Evans (State Assembly District 7)

**District 20: Oakland**
- Mark DeSaulnier (State Senate District 7)
- George Miller (Congressional District 7)
- Ellen Tauscher (Congressional District 10)
- Jerry McNerney (Congressional District 11)
- Tom Torlakson (State Assembly District 11)
- Joan Buchanan (State Assembly District 15)
- Mary Hayashi (State Assembly District 18)
- Dual endorsement: Bill Quirk, Steve Bristow (Hayward City Council)
- Kevin Hart (Dublin City Council)
- Jim Prola (San Leandro City Council)

**District 30: Stockton**
- William Durston (Congressional District 3)
- Jerry McNerney (Congressional District 11)
- Dennis Cardoza (Congressional District 18)
- Lois Wolk (State Senate District 5)
- Yes on recall of Jeff Denham (State Senate District 12)
- Vote for Simon Salinas
- Alyson Huber (State Assembly District 10)
- Joan Buchanan (State Assembly District 15)
- Cathleen Galgiani (State Assembly District 17)
- Carlos Villadad (San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors District 1)
- Steve Bestorlandes (San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors District 3)
- Ann Johnston (Stockton City Mayor)
- Diana Lowery (Stockton City Council District 4)
- Steve Wilensky (Calaveras County Board of Supervisors District 2)
- Domenic Torchia (Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors District 5)

Become a steward in your community

Tom Aja, political director

A critical element that provides strength for our union is the active participation of our members. This participation is provided in more ways than you might imagine: Volunteer work in conjunction with various political campaigns is most often considered. This is a huge asset in securing a labor-friendly political environment in all levels of government. A less considered form of union activism is for our members to monitor their local government agencies to keep informed of harmful actions by lesser known boards and commissions.

An example of this situation occurred when Retiree Paul Yeoman notified me of an action being considered by the Placer County Transportation Planning Agency. This agency is comprised of representatives from the city councils and the Placer County Board of Supervisors with one citizen representative. They meet once per month, and their actions and decisions can have a critical impact on our future. On their Feb. 27 meeting agenda was an action item requesting staff to draft a letter to Placer County’s State Representative to sponsor a bill to exempt transportation projects funded with local-option transportation sales taxes from the Davis-Bacon Act, the state prevailing wage requirement.

I greatly appreciate Yeoman for his keen eye and quick action on a potentially damaging situation. As a result, retirees Paul Yeoman and Roger Aaronson – Placer County residents and registered voters – met with the transportation planning agency, and with their attendance, we attached a human element to their proposal and caused the agency to reconsider their attempts to exempt prevailing wage provisions from their local transportation projects. With information the agency did not have and points of view they did not consider, we have begun what I hope will grow to be a lasting relationship. With this initial meeting, we will continue to communicate with the Placer County Transportation Planning Agency and help them improve their infrastructure system without harming our members who will build it.

In closing, I urge every member to become a steward in their community and monitor actions of their local agencies. If you think something is not as it should be, follow your instincts. Call me at (209) 649-3665 or the union office in your district. Inform them to help your union respond. Thank you, Paul Yeoman and Roger Aaronson for your assistance.

To our members and their families: In this election year and always, become familiar with candidates and how their voting record compares with our core values. Vote in all elections, stay informed and help our union thrive and prosper.
At the time of this writing, I have just returned from a Union Labor Training Program on the East Coast with unions from private and public sectors across the nation. One issue common to everyone at the training is how much politics affects our unions. All unions are facing the same problems when it comes to our current president. Not only are we looking at a recession, but we are dealing with an administration that believes the nation is better off without unions and that every state should be a right-to-work state.

At a recent retiree meeting, I mentioned an email I’d received from a Machinist union leader telling me the second-largest-defense contract in U.S. history, $40 billion, was awarded to a European company. This will outsource about 44,000 U.S. jobs to another country! This loss of American jobs is another example of our current leaders sending jobs overseas while telling us they are “for the American people.” How many more jobs are we going to lose, and how bad will our economy get if we have another Bush-look-a-like in office?

We have to get involved this election year, and show our support for those who support us. Contact your district office today to get involved with the Voice of the Engineer (VOTE) Program.

Be safe, and hope to see you at your next district meeting.

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**District 40: Eureka**
- Mike Thompson  Congressional District 1
- Wes Chesbro  State Assembly District 1

**District 50: Fresno**
- Fran Florez  State Assembly District 30
- Cathleen Galgiano  State Assembly District 17
- Susan B. Anderson  Fresno County Board of Supervisors District 2
- Henry Perea  Fresno Mayor
- Susan Good  Fresno City Council
- Yes on recall of Jeff Denham  State Senate District 12
- Vote for Simon Salinas

**District 60: Yuba City**
- John Jacobson  Congressional District 2
- Charlie Brown  Congressional District 4
- Jim Nielsen  State Assembly District 2
- Bill Conelly  Butte County Board of Supervisors District 1
- Mary Jane Griego  Yuba County Board of Supervisors District 3
- Larry Montna  Sutter County Board of Supervisors District 1
- Lori Simpson  Plumas County Board of Supervisors District 4

**District 70: Redding**
- John Wilson  Shasta County Board of Supervisors District 2

**District 80: Sacramento**
- Charlie Brown  Congressional District 4
- Lois Wolk  State Senate District 5
- Mariko Yamada  State Assembly District 8
- Alyson Huber  State Assembly District 10
- Joan Buchanan  State Assembly District 15

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**District 90: Morgan Hill**
- Jerry McNerney  Congressional District 11
- Joe Coto  State Assembly District 23
- Jim Beall  State Assembly District 24
- Anna Caballero  State Assembly District 28
- Bill Monning  State Assembly District 27
- Yes on recall of Jeff Denham  State Senate District 12
- Vote for Simon Salinas

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**News & Notes**
By Dan Reding, Treasurer

**ELECTION 2008: LET’S SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT US**

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Voice of the Engineer (VOTE) needs YOU!

In preparation for the California Primary and the November General Election, Local 3 VOTE volunteers will be phone banking and precinct walking across our jurisdiction for a Get Out The Vote (GOTV) effort unlike any other, in an election year unlike any other. The outcome of these elections affects us all, so please call your district office today to find out how you can get involved in your union.
Have you checked out Local 3’s Credit Union?

My job requires me to travel around our jurisdiction from Crescent City to Fresno, Oakland to Winnemucca, Nev., and beyond. I travel so often, I jokingly describe myself as a Gypsy – never in one place for long. Travel has its positives and negatives.

On the negative side, there are big bugs who seem to like the flavor of my windshield, as well as heavy rain, snow and blizzard conditions. I am not fond of car seats, and I don’t really like conducting business over the cell phone. But enough about the negative – I prefer to be positive.

The greatest part of my job is getting out and meeting with members. I would rather talk face-to-face with a member than sit at a desk. Our union has great staff, and I have the pleasure of meeting with them in every district. Then there is the great scenery and awesome sights, like the two military fighter jets zipping across the Nevada desert with the after-burners on about 500 feet above the hard deck (or so it seemed).

Also on the plus side, and what I really want to share with the membership, is our wonderful Credit Union. You will find a branch in every district, usually at the district office. I’ve been in all of them, because it’s funny how fast your wallet gets thin on the road.

In every Credit Union I visit, I receive friendly, professional and courteous service. Plus, they are always helpful. I am sure they don’t know that I am a staff member, yet they always make me feel important. From Eureka to Fresno, Oakland to Reno, San Jose, Morgan Hill, Stockton, Sacramento, Yuba City, Fairfield, Redding, San Francisco and Rohnert Park, the Operating Engineers Federal Credit Union (OEFCU) offers nothing but great service.

So the next time you are at the district office, or even if you aren’t, check out our full-service Credit Union. I’m sure you will be very happy with the service.

Oh yeah, keep spending money. It’s fun, and it’s good for the economy.

Central Valley roundup

By Doug Gorman, business representative

Oakdale Miscellaneous Employees’ Association: After a serious round of negotiations, the city of Oakdale issued its last, best and final offer, which the membership accepted. This is the first step in achieving the wages our members need to compete in their prospective job classifications.

Oakdale Police Officers’ Association: Negotiations with the city were tough, and we are currently at impasse because of a disagreement with the chief of police about including current working conditions in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). In addition, we are going to arbitration regarding the city’s failure to pay our members as required by the past pay schedule. We also have a Writ of Mandamus filed against the city for unjustified discipline against one of our members. This is going to be a fight!

Madera County Dispatch: The union recently settled in Madera to bring our members’ package up to the standards of other jurisdictions in the county. The total pay package was more than 20 percent over three years.

Madera Affiliated City Employees: Local 3 currently has Unfair Labor Practice (ULP) charges pending regarding the city taking accumulated vacation away from our membership. On a positive note, we recently defended the termination of a member in this unit and won.

Chowchilla Police Officers’ Association: The union is currently finishing up a re-opener in our contract that will bring our members’ package up to the surrounding agencies in the area and allow the city to retain its current staffing.

Firebaugh Police Officers’ Association: We are in difficult negotiations at this time.

Clovis Public Works Employees’ Affiliation: The union is currently at impasse with the city and has an outstanding ULP charge with the Public Employment Relations Board (PERB).

Porterville City Employees’ Association: This unit signed a two-year agreement that will bring our members’ wages up to comparison with surrounding cities. This was a hard fight that couldn’t have been won without the dedication of the bargaining team. Well done!

Retiree medical benefits a race to the bottom in San Jose

By Bill Pope, business representative

In late October, the City Attorney’s Office for the city of San Jose issued an opinion that severely impacts current and future retirees represented by Local 3.

The opinion concluded that recent changes in the co-pay provisions for the Kaiser Plan and the Blue Shield HMO plan, effective Jan. 1, 2008, now affect all current retirees and future retirees. However, these changes to co-pay provisions result from actions involving the city, other unions and unrepresented employees apart from Local 3 bargaining units. The actions include an arbitration decision, a negotiated agreement with the Architect and Engineers’ Association and the city’s imposition of the benefit changes on unrepresented employees.

The San Jose Municipal Code requires the city to pay for the premiums of the lowest-cost plan for current and future retirees. As a result of the actions mentioned above, the lowest-cost plan was switched from Kaiser Single and Kaiser Family to Kaiser Co-Pay Single and Kaiser Co-PayFamily. Before the switch, a Local 3 future retiree could select either Kaiser Single or Kaiser Family at no out-of-pocket cost, because the city is required to pay the premiums of the lowest-cost plans. Now, based on the opinion by the City Attorney’s Office, future and current retirees are responsible for all co-pays for doctor visits and increased co-pays for prescription drugs.

Local 3 objected to the city’s actions and filed a grievance on the city’s unilateral imposition of this benefit change on Local 3 current and future retirees without agreement from the union’s city employees. We are currently waiting for a hearing.

Since we’ve been waiting, the city manager wrote a memo to the San Jose City Council recommending the city undo the switch for a year. On Jan. 8, 2008, the city council approved the city manager’s recommendation of leaving the retiree medical plans the way they were with no co-pays for calendar year 2008.
Gearing up for what’s to come in Lake County
By Mike Minton, business representative

I worked for the city of Long Beach for 31 years, retired, came to work for Local 3 and worked out of the Fresno office for two years before transferring to District 60. In all my experiences with the city of Long Beach, the many bargaining units and employers in District 50 and all the units and employers I’m handling in District 60, I have never seen any person, department head or employer more out of touch with reality and so in-tune with practicing the “good old boy” philosophy than in my dealings with Lake County. It is my misfortune to have to deal with a management that has absolutely no regard for the law, policies and procedures, ethics or morals. Every time I turn around, an employee is being fired or suspended for some possible infraction that at the very most should warrant a reprimand. In many instances, all the employee did was question a department head regarding some issue.

The problems are not unique to one department within the county, and it makes no difference if you are a new hire or a 20-year employee. Management’s opinion, which is supported by the Lake County Board of Supervisors, is that the employee should be happy just to have a job with the county. Employees have absolutely no rights, whereas management and the board of supervisors are above the law. To turn things around in Lake County, we need to replace the entire board of supervisors, and the new board needs to replace Lake County management with people who are compassionate, fair, knowledgeable and who believe most employees are good, hardworking, responsible people.

I will be the first to admit not all employees who claim they are being treated unfairly or are disciplined without warrant are entirely innocent. Quite often, the employee has committed some policy violation or even broken the law. It is how the employer handles the situation that is important. Who can argue against an employer who looks at the violation in a fair and consistent manner and renders an appropriate and unbiased decision? This is what we, as union representatives, try to accomplish. We want the employee treated fairly and with respect. An employer can render a recommendation from as little as a verbal reprimand to termination in some cases, or they could admit there is no violation and act accordingly. All we ask is for the employer to be fair, impartial and consistent.

Unfortunately in Lake County, this is not the practice. No one is safe, unless you are management or one of the good old boys, and then you are free to do whatever you want.

How obvious is it that in one department, all union members have been fired with the exception of one? What’s wrong when you have a probationary employee fired for not passing probation even though the employee’s evaluations were above standard with the exception of the last one that got the employee fired, and that was given after the employee refused sexual advances from the supervisor? Why would a 20-year employee get fired for not having the time to do the boss’s work besides the employee’s own work? When is it right to suspend employees because they went to the department head to complain about their supervisor humiliating them in front of other employees?

These are just a few of the issues facing Lake County employees every day. Local 3 is dealing with these issues, and we have brought in our attorneys. Lake County supervisors, department heads and politicians: Don’t think just because we’re quiet right now that we’ve gone away.

Local 3 and its Lake County employees are still here, and we’re gearing up for what is to come.

For those of you living, working or traveling through Lake County who happen to see a county employee, offer a wave, a smile and a job well done. Tell them to hang in there. They deserve it. We’re in this together.

Meet Chauncey Hendley
Monterey Regional Waste Management District
By Heidi Mills, managing editor

In his own words, Chauncey Hendley is “just a man trying to feed his kids,” but his supervisors and Local 3 representative will tell you he brings much more than that to his workplace and his union. As a Heavy Equipment Operator (HEO) at the Monterey Regional Waste Management District, Hendley works eight hours a day every week, rain or shine. He said the consistency of the work and his paycheck are what he likes most about his job.

Along with six other HEOs, Hendley runs all kinds of equipment – dozers, compactors, scrapers, ejector trucks, road graders, excavators and loaders – to transport garbage across 475 acres of landfill. More than 50 Local 3 public employees maintain the district’s yard, Material Recovery Facility (MRF) and scales, ensuring all garbage, sand and concrete gets where it needs to be.

“We push it all,” Hendley said. And by “all” he means 800 tons of waste a day from the Monterey Peninsula.

“They bring it in, and we beat it down and bury it,” he said.

The material used to bury the landfill waste is dredged by a crew of Operating Engineers working in the Santa Cruz Harbor. This transfer of dirt from Local 3 construction hands to Local 3 public employees has amounted to more than 360,000 yards since the dredging began in 2001.

Taking in this material from Santa Cruz along with all of the incoming garbage keeps everyone at the district on their toes. Hendley said he doesn’t mind it, though, because the work is consistent, and that is what’s most important to him.

“I like it here,” he said. “My job pays the bills and takes care of my kids.”
Despite some challenges, 2007 was another solid year for the Operating Engineers Federal Credit Union (OEFCU). With the membership’s loyalty and support, the Credit Union had another year of exceptional performance. We increased in asset size to more than $821 million, experienced healthy growth in deposits and loans (more than 10 percent net) and continued to offer competitive rates and yields to our members.

The default of thousands of sub-prime home loans last year triggered a credit crisis that has had a ripple effect on the economy and industries worldwide. The downturn in the housing market has affected the construction industry, which in turn affects Local 3 members. Although we have experienced an increase in loan delinquencies, the Credit Union still saw unexpected growth in loans in 2007. Credit-concious members continued to choose OEFCU for their Visa cards, home-equity loans and other consumer loans. In return, we remain faithful to our commitment to the Credit Union philosophy of “people helping people” and will continue to work with members in financial distress to find practical solutions for their situations.

In 2007, we witnessed members, young and old, migrating from the traditional banking methods to paying bills online and taking advantage of services, such as eBanking and eStatements. Our enhanced, member-friendly website has brought the Credit Union into the homes of thousands of members and supports the surge in the number of members registering as online eBankers. Members should know that as their needs change, so will our products, services and delivery methods.

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

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

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

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

Debt Management Plan - Consolidate your credit card payments, lower payment amounts and even reduce or eliminate interest and fees to get out of debt.

Monday–Thursday, 8am–6pm; Friday, 8am–5pm; Saturday, 8am–5pm (PT)

Operating Engineers #3
Federal Credit Union
Union STRENGTH • Union PURPOSE • Union PRIDE

Committed to philosophy of “people helping people”
California High-Speed Train to create work for Operating Engineers

Members urged to approve high-speed bond in November

A bond proposal to build nearly 800 miles of high-speed rail in California is being prepared for the upcoming General Election in November 2008. With voter approval of the bond, construction is likely to begin as early as 2011 on a statewide system of high-speed trains that will move people and goods like never before. The rail system will connect California's major cities, traveling at speeds up to 220 mph.

Local 3 supports the measure for the hundreds of thousands of jobs it will create for Operating Engineers throughout the estimated 10-to-20-year construction timeline. The union is currently moving forward with a campaign to promote the high-speed rail bond measure and will keep the membership informed of its progress. Stay tuned to learn more about how you can get involved. Read more online at www.eahighspeedrail.ca.gov.

We are the working class

We are the working class. We make up the majority of our country. We work side-by-side for our lives to function according to our lifestyle as free Americans. As a father and husband, I want to provide a comfortable, healthy and secure life for my family. We all work for a goal, and that goal can be anything you wish, but we must share the path to achieve it.

As union affiliates, we must encourage and support all union activity, because in turn, those efforts will be recognized and make a positive difference for us all. Through our growing numbers and ongoing support, we will have the ability to control our destiny as individuals.

We must educate others and embrace the youth of our communities with the benefits of being union. We get better pay, better health benefits, better pensions, and we are enabled to exercise our labor rights as the working class. Non-union workers are not given these advantages. Be it inspection, surveying, operating, food distribution, firefighters, nurses, maintenance or plumbing – if it's union, we are all together striving to live the American Dream.

These are some thoughts during a time when support is critical within the very structure of our own local. I encourage anyone who looks forward to a prosperous future to consider these words, to look around day in and day out, and take notice of the many who share this common fact of life: We are the working class.

Rancho Murieta Training Center
for apprentice to journey-level operators
By John Teller, director of training and Tammy Castillo, director of apprenticeship

Upgrade training season extended

The Rancho Murieta Training Center (RMTC) is offering two-week journey-level upgrade training classes this summer:

- June 9 – June 20
- June 23 – July 3
- July 14 – July 25
- July 28 – Aug. 8

This is the perfect time to take advantage of training to upgrade your skills. These two-week classes are offered at the full-service RMTC, where dorms are available from Sunday nights through Thursday nights. Breakfasts, lunches and dinners are served Monday through Thursday, and breakfast and lunch are served on Friday. All trainees should bring their own toiletries, pens and notepads. All classes include hands-on training, so work attire is required.

Available classes include:
- Backhoe/Excavator
- Blade
- Compactor
- Crane
- Dozer
- Electronic Trouble Shooting
- Forklift
- Gradesetting
- Loader
- Lubrication & Service
- Scraper
- Scraper
- Welding
- Welding

You are eligible to train if you meet all of the following conditions:
1. Journey-level operators must have worked for an employer who pays into the Training Fund.
2. Must have had at least 350 hours reported to the Trust Fund by the employer in the previous and/or current calendar year.
3. Must be current on dues.

Contact your local Job Placement Center dispatcher to sign up. The RMTC staff hopes to see you soon!

Investigating ignition systems

When you turn the key in your vehicle to the on/start position, what is it that makes your engine run?

On gasoline engines, turning the vehicle on energizes the ignition system that in turn, provides a spark at the right moment that lights the air-fuel mixture providing the power.

An example of an ignition system is shown below:

When you turn the key on, the power from the battery is sent to the coil, which jacks up the voltage from the 12-volt battery to the voltage needed to make a high energy spark – 25,000 to 60,000 volts, depending on the vehicle’s age.

Diesel engines don’t use spark plugs, so instead diesels turn on the fuel supply to run. To stop, diesel engines turn off the fuel supply. Heat from compression and fuel-injection timing determines when the air-fuel mixture starts to burn, as shown above:

Turning the key switch to the on/start position sends battery power to the starter that in turn, sends power to the fuel-shutoff solenoid.

The latching fuel-shutoff solenoid (shown below as 1) activates and latches to the fuel “on” or “run” position with momentary power from the motor terminal on the starter solenoid. The solenoid latches to the fuel “off” position (key switch in the off position) with power from the C terminal on the key-start switch.

Some solenoids are equipped with a manual-shutoff button (shown above as 2). Depressing the button latches the solenoid to the “off” position. There is no provision for manually latching the solenoid to the “run” position.
Fringe Benefits
By Charlie Warren, director

WHAT IS THE OPERATING ENGINEERS HEALTH & WELFARE TRUST FUND?

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

WHEN AM I ELIGIBLE?

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

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

BANK HOURS

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

WHO DO I CALL TO CHECK MY ELIGIBILITY?

It is the member’s responsibility to keep track of eligibility. Members may do so by calling the district office, Fringe Benefits or the Eligibility Department at the Trust Fund office. Members should always call if they have questions regarding coverage or eligibility.

HOW DO I SIGN UP?

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

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

IS MY FAMILY COVERED?

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

HOW DO I ADD OR DELETE A DEPENDENT?

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

WHEN CAN I SIGN UP FOR KAISER OR HEALTHNET?

There is no specific open-enrollment period. Eligible participants may change health plans anytime during the year; however, you must remain in the plan you select for a minimum of 12 months unless you move out of the HMO’s service area. Any change in plans will be effective on the first day of the second month following the date the completed enrollment form is received by the Trust Fund office.

WHO CAN I TALK TO IF I NEED MORE INFORMATION?

You may call the Trust Fund office at (800) 251-5014 or (510) 433-4422 or the Fringe Benefits Service Center at (800) 532-2105 or (510) 748-7450. For medical claims assistance or information, call (800) 251-5013.

REFER TO SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION FOR FULL DETAILS

Retiree Picnic

Don’t forget to mark your calendars for the upcoming Retiree Picnic held at the Rancho Murieta Training Center on Saturday, June 7.

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

Unit 12 contract negotiations

It’s going to be a battle all the way

Unit 12 has been busy conducting pre-negotiation meetings with our membership, and we recently received the following letter from one of the heavy-equipment mechanics who attended a meeting in the Fresno Hall. We thought the rest of the membership should also read the letter. With budget cutbacks, it’s going to be a battle all the way for a new contract, but with the support of the members and the ability to vote into office the people who are union friendly, we will WIN! Keep your letters coming, and thank you.

Last night I attended my first union meeting. It was very informative; I would encourage everyone to go. I have heard that some people are happy with the pay and benefits they have and don’t want to make waves. The fact is the governor wants to take away from what you have. Left to him, he would reduce your pay, take away two holidays a year, reduce your retirement benefits and raise the retirement age from 55 to 65. Sounds good, doesn’t it? For those of you who say, “The union doesn’t do anything for me,” that is where you are wrong. If not for the union, all of this would have already happened. The state doesn’t give us all these benefits because they feel generous; it is all fought for by the union. I just recently came to the state from the private sector, and trust me, it is hard to keep a job that offers the benefits the state has. If you’re happy with what you have, you have to keep pushing to keep it. Don’t be afraid to make some waves. Left to the governor, he will pull the boat out from under you and leave you in the waves on your own.

The second thing I learned is VOTE. At 41 years old I have never once voted. My reasons, like a lot of you I’m sure, are: one, I think politicians talk a lot of crap to get elected and then don’t follow through once they do; and two, I don’t like to take the time to follow all the issues and what all the candidates’ positions are. Now, I’m not too sure you can change my position on the first point, but the union can help with the second. It’s as easy as calling your rep. at election time and asking: “Who do we like?” With 250,000-plus state employees we have the power to sway a vote any way we want, but we need voters. This doesn’t apply to just parks – it’s ALL state employees. Please share this information with any state employee you know.

Get out there, speak up, be heard, and push for what you have and what you want. Thank you for your time.
Seventy-three-year-old Gardner Downer is no stranger to construction, nor is his family. His grandfather, Gilbert H. Downer, was the first inventor of the tractor excavator in 1906. It was 46 feet long with a single tiller wheel in front, a “labor-saving device,” it was said to be, although Gilbert never patented it, since he thought the industry would change before it was needed. How wrong he was!

Even though Gardner never met his grandfather, his labor spirit and intellect was passed on to him and his two brothers, Gilbert and Kenneth, both Local 3 members. His nephew is also a superintendent in the Stockton area, and Gardner’s father was also a construction contractor.

More than the unique invention of his heritage, what is most interesting about Gardner is the passion he has for the construction industry. “I loved going to work every day. Every morning, we’d all get there 45 minutes to catch up and drink coffee,” Gardner said. The crews he worked with were his family, and all day long, they made it fun for each other.

“I’d tease everybody and pull pranks; I made going to work fun.” He recalls putting a 3-foot-long bull snake in the lunch box of an operator whose wife found it at home later that day. One time, his crew members bolted him into the “blue room” or outhouse!

In his 51 years in the industry, Gardner remembers when “work” was a lifestyle, even though the cabs were often topless without any air conditioning or heaters.

Safety is also a new concept, since Gardner remembers running a boom between power lines, because no one told him it was a safety hazard. He recalls an older operator on the job telling him: “Son, when I feel my hands starting to tickle, I’ll know I’m too close to the wires.”

“We lived by the seat of our pants,” Gardner said. “And we loved it.” Gardner recalls working with current District 80 Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC) Coordinator Jesse Vasquez back when he was just a kid, “the best mechanic I ever worked with,” Gardner said.

Which means a lot coming from a man who worked right up until his retirement in 1997 and then went back to work for seven more years after that. Work was never a burden, since Gardner started from the ground up doing whatever was asked of him, digging ditches, working with his hands, until he could operate any equipment, mostly underground work; there was nothing he couldn’t do.

Today, Gardner keeps many shifts at the local Carmichael coffee shop, visiting with a crew of retirees there. He gets in as much fishing as he can and hopes that the history of the industry and the remarkable invention in his family remains a part of people’s conversation long after he passes on.

But judging by the way he tells a story and the photos he has to share, chances are his wish will be granted.

Local 3 inspector spearheads fundraising effort for Valley Power Strike Fund

After reading about the Valley Power strike in a recent edition of Engineers News, Local 3 Inspector Jeff McPeeks decided to take it upon himself to start fundraising for the workers’ strike fund. Taking it first to his co-workers at the Antioch Power Plant, McPeeks also rounded up donations from several other community supporters, including 3D U.T., Inc. and the Holy Rosary Antioch Catholic School. Local 3 inspectors and several other union members at the power plant contributed to the fund, including Boilermakers Local 549, Carpenters Local 152, Ironworkers Local 378 and Pipefitters Local 342. All contributions to the strike fund will be used toward health-care coverage for the striking workers and their families. Thanks so much to everyone at the Antioch Power Plant for the generous donations and especially to Jeff McPeeks for his pro-active support of the Valley Power strikers!
Not since the year 2003 has Local 3’s Semi-Annual Meeting been held aboard the USS Hornet aircraft-carrier museum in Alameda, Calif. But on March 30, 2008, thousands of members, families and friends toured the most decorated warship of WWII. They had fresh sandwiches on the flight deck with marvelous views of the Bay, participated in the flight simulator, toured the Apollo Room, visited the health-fair exhibits and then listened in for the Semi-Annual Meeting and Business Manager Russ Burns’s State of the Union Address, which covered a number of important issues, including:

- Local 3 has more than $14.1 billion worth of work slated for 2008 within our four-state jurisdiction in addition to the work already on the books for the year.

- The Local 3 officers are working toward restoring our Pension Plan on all fronts:
  - We conducted an extensive search for a new pension manager and retained Investment Performance Services, LLP (IPS) to manage our pension fund. IPS serves more than 125 Taft-Hartley clients with assets exceeding $25 billion.
  - We hired Horizon Actuarial Services, LLC, one of the nation’s largest actuarial and consulting firms with a focus on serving Taft-Hartley plan sponsors.
  - We hired a new Executive Director for the Trust Funds, Tom Hendricks, who brings more than 25 years of experience as an administrator for a wide range of pension and health funds.

- At Local 3’s request, our new prescription benefit manager, Caremark, has a call center dedicated solely to the customer-service needs of our membership. Compared to our previous prescription-service provider, the union is saving $8 million to $10 million with Caremark over its two-year contract term.

- The International Union of Operating Engineers and every other Operating Engineers local in the nation including Local 3 will collectively support one candidate for president to send a powerful and consistent message across the nation. With help from our membership, we can ensure our new president will address the issues and concerns most critical to union working families.

Following the Good of the Order, Operating Engineers Local 12 Business Manager and International First Vice President Bill Waggoner addressed the membership and thanked the Local 3 officers for the invitation to attend the Semi-Annual Meeting.

Despite a little wind, the sun was out and everywhere you turned, people were visiting, taking photos on one of the ship decks or talking about naval history or union business. See the attendees in action:

Before boarding the ship for a tour, Ellie and George Naill pose for a picture.

Rec. Corres. Secretary Rob Wise visits with Ted Wherry onstage after the Semi-Annual Meeting convened.

Twenty-nine-year member Angel Naranjo reads about the Gemini Capsule aboard the USS Hornet.

Two-year member Arthur Cruz gets his blood pressure checked at the Semi-Annual Health Fair.

Apprentice Matt Johnson gets some tension out at the massage booth.

Sixty-two-year member Harold Puckeylow and Cameron Martell look at one of many history displays aboard the USS Hornet.

From left: Thirty-two-year member Juan Carri with Treasurer Dan Reding and Business Manager Russ Burns before the March 30 Semi-Annual meeting on the USS Hornet.

On the top deck of the USS Hornet, Ralph Pritima and Curtis Carter pose for a photo with the Bay behind them.
Operator Kelley Grosso, his son, Kelley Jr., and their dog, Taylor, tour the USS Hornet March 30 as part of the Semi-Annual Meeting in Alameda.

From left: Vice President Carl Goff stands with members Chris Larson and Tom Peckelis.

From left: Member Vincent Ulep helps member Darryl Law register to vote as part of the Voice of the Engineer (VOTE) member-to-member voter registration drive.

Apprentice Tim Cross (right) hears about the USS Hornet’s navigation bridge from a tour guide.

Retiree Ralph Perez gets his cholesterol checked.

Nevada Local 3 members and their families arrived by bus to attend the March 30 Semi-Annual Meeting.

From left: Thirty-two-year member Juan Carrillo visits with Treasurer Dan Reding and Business Manager Russ Burns before the March 30 Semi-Annual Meeting on the USS Hornet.

Members Albert Vesely, Carl Swanberg, James Griego and Clayton Krinard visit while going through the Health Fair.

From left: President Fred Herschbach, six-year member Darren Reynolds and Financial Secretary Jim Sullivan.

Matt Carstensen and his son, Nathan, smile for the camera during the meeting.

Clarita and Jim Melton get a good seat before the Semi-Annual Meeting begins March 30.
**BURLINGAME**  I Highway work remains steady

In spite of current economic conditions, work remains relatively steady in District 01. Although the work picture is not “red hot,” things should pick up since spring is here, and summer is on the horizon. Public works projects continued during this past winter, while private work took a hit due to the fall in the housing market; however, not all private work was laid to rest, as several members are working for Bay Cities at Hamilton Plaza. This project will provide a shopping center for residents living in Southern Novato. North Bay Construction continues work at the Vintage Oaks Mall in Novato, as Kiewit and O.C. Jones break ground on the San Rafael Corporate Center.

For the coming season, work will remain steady on projects funded by tax dollars. Highway work will continue for years, as all three counties in District 01 upgrade water, sewer lines and waste-water treatment plants. Larger projects, such as the Bay Bridge, the San Francisco Mission Bay Development and the San Mateo County Devil’s Slide Bypass are a few ongoing jobs.

With summer just around the corner and good weather on the way, it’s time for everyone to go back to work!

The work picture is improving with the public works sector.

Work continues on Hwy. 101 through Santa Rosa with MCM Construction working on bridge structures at College Avenue and Ghilotti Construction doing the surface work. This project should continue for another nine months.

The Confusion Hill Bypass Project on Hwy. 101 in Mendocino County continues with MCM and Ladd Construction gearing up for spring. West Coast Bridge and Case Pacific are still going strong at Ten-Mile Bridge on Hwy. 1 north of Fort Bragg.

Argonaut Construction has many projects throughout the district, including the city of Santa Rosa overlay project at $82 million, Sonoma County roads at $1.5 million and the city of Covel sewer improvements at $3 million. Argonaut also has two jobs involving underground improvements followed by resurfacing affected streets in the Railroad Square and Brookwood Avenue areas.

North Bay Construction continues work on the sewer-trunk upgrade for the city of Rohnert Park. This job involves boring under Hwy. 101 and two creeks. North Bay is also working in the Julliard Park neighborhood. The company completed the underground improvements and continues grinding and paving. North Bay is also scheduled to start the $1.4 million River Road widening and access project.

Work continues at Kaiser Hospital in Santa Rosa with Maxim Crane hoisting steel.

Ghilotti Construction is doing the initial site work at the $35 million Memorial Hospital expansion in Santa Rosa.

Terracon Construction has the Moorland Avenue Sewer improvement project in Santa Rosa.

Future projects ready to bid or start include the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria Casino in Rohnert Park with a Project Labor Agreement (PLA). This project may involve $1 billion worth of construction over time and will be done all union.

The Measure M tax monies are being spent where they’re needed – on our roads. The Hwy. 101 widening – Windsor to Steele Lane – is scheduled to bid in June with a value of $100 million.

In Lake County, several large overlay projects are bidding at this time, including the $10 million Hwy. 29 Lower Lake and the $8.7 million Hwy. 20 Upper Lake.

Congratulations to 65-year member James Johnson. His son made a special plaque for him with all his service pins.

Now that spring is here, and the public works sector is looking busy, hopefully all our union brothers and sisters can get back to work and have a great season. Please work safe, and do a great job for our union employers.

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**ROHNERT PARK**  I Measure M aids road improvements

Fifty-three-year member Joseph Mazza (middle) receives his 50-year clock from District Rep Ken Oku, Financial Secretary Jim Sullivan, Vice President Carl Goff and Rec. Corres. Secretary Rob Wise.

Kiewit remains steady with a six-day work week at Devil’s Slide since September 2007, thanks to a mild winter. With dry weather ahead and the bond money being released, work will pick up. Public utilities, paving projects and upgrades at our schools should get out-of-work members back at it this summer.

The Hwy. 175 Granite Quarry crew includes Larry Logan, Howard Mayberry, Steve Huff, Neil Banham, Terry McIntire, Kevin David Jr. and Danial Jara.

ROHNERT PARK

Measure M aids road improvements

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Now that spring is here, and the public works sector is looking busy, hopefully all our union brothers and sisters can get back to work and have a great season. Please work safe, and do a great job for our union employers.
Another work year is underway for our members. We hope it will be a better year than the last one. The public work picture looks better this season compared to last year. As we all know, the private side is still in a slump, but hopefully the situation will improve soon.

Some projects continue from last year, and some new ones are starting. Granite is back to work on the Hwy. 20 job and hopes to finish this year. The company is also on the Hwy. 149 job in Butte County again and will finish this year or early next. Granite is also busy in the Oroville pit and the Hwy. 149 pit. DeSilva Gates is going strong on the $75 million Hwy. 70 job south of Marysville that will widen and bypass the four-way stop. DeSilva Gates is still working on the Hwy. 99/Hwy. 20 job in Yuba City. McGuire & Hester continues on the $10.8 million Plumas Street job in Yuba City. Baldwin Contracting keeps members busy as does Lannon Construction, E-Ticket, Omni Pipeline and Jaeger Construction. Work is ahead in the Chico area, since Sierra Nevada Construction is the low bidder on the $6.7 million Hwy. 99 widening. Viking Construction has a $1.15 million bridge repair/replacement near Durham in Butte County. DeSilva Gates keeps busy on the Plumas Arboga interchange. DeSilva Gates is doing a bridge replacement at the Teesdale interchange. Vulcan is doing a bridge replacement at the Teesdale interchange.

Granite is paving in Sierra County for $3.5 million, and MCM is doing a bridge replacement at the Teesdale Weir for $7 million.

At the time this goes to press, we hope to have started on the power plant north of Williams – a great job worth $600 million. We’ll keep you informed.

Negotiations are ongoing for an important and difficult contract for Unit 12. These members deserve every dime we can get them. It has been a fight, as the state has had continual financial problems. We all need to support them in their fight for better working conditions and pay. The next time you’re traveling on the highways, doing water sports, going to the fair or using any kind of state recreation facility, take a minute to thank our members who keep them in top shape.

Granite is paving in Sierra County for $3.5 million, and MCM is doing a bridge replacement at the Teesdale Weir for $7 million.

Some projects continue from last year, and some new ones are starting. Granite is back to work on the Hwy. 20 job and hopes to finish this year. The company is also on the Hwy. 149 job in Butte County again and will finish this year or early next. Granite is also busy in the Oroville pit and the Hwy. 149 pit. DeSilva Gates is going strong on the $75 million Hwy. 70 job south of Marysville that will widen and bypass the four-way stop. DeSilva Gates is still working on the Hwy. 99/Hwy. 20 job in Yuba City. McGuire & Hester continues on the $10.8 million Plumas Street job in Yuba City. Baldwin Contracting keeps members busy as does Lannon Construction, E-Ticket, Omni Pipeline and Jaeger Construction. Work is ahead in the Chico area, since Sierra Nevada Construction is the low bidder on the $6.7 million Hwy. 99 widening. Viking Construction has a $1.15 million bridge repair/replacement near Durham in Butte County. DeSilva Gates keeps busy on the Plumas Arboga interchange. DeSilva Gates is doing a bridge replacement at the Teesdale interchange. Vulcan is doing a bridge replacement at the Teesdale interchange.

Granite is paving in Sierra County for $3.5 million, and MCM is doing a bridge replacement at the Teesdale Weir for $7 million.

At the time this goes to press, we hope to have started on the power plant north of Williams – a great job worth $600 million. We’ll keep you informed.

Negotiations are ongoing for an important and difficult contract for Unit 12. These members deserve every dime we can get them. It has been a fight, as the state has had continual financial problems. We all need to support them in their fight for better working conditions and pay. The next time you’re traveling on the highways, doing water sports, going to the fair or using any kind of state recreation facility, take a minute to thank our members who keep them in top shape.

We invite members and their families to come down Wednesday nights to the hall for dinner at 468 Century Park Drive. Just call the hall at (530) 743-7321 on Tuesday to let us know how many to expect. We hope to see you there.

Granite pit members put in the years

Even with a decline in the private market, our work picture looks good this year. The state has funded many commuter and light-rail lines, including the West Valley Line, the Airport Line, the Utah County line and the Mid-Jordan Line – all totaling $860 million and all done with union labor.

Geneva Rock is on a two-year, $70 million project widening Redwood Road from Bangerter Highway to Saratoga Springs. W. W. Clyde is working in Spanish Fork Canyon on a road-widening and water-line project. Granite has several paving projects including the Riverdale Road Project. During the last day of session with the legislature, a $45 million bond was approved for the city of St. George for a new airport. Once the land is secured, construction should begin next month. $100 million was also approved to begin acquiring right-of-way for the $3.5 billion I-15 widening project for Utah County. Work should start as early as spring of 2010.

A special thanks to all the retirees and actives who attended the March 6 St. George district meeting.

We’d like to recognize the following longtime members working for Granite Construction in the Walker Pit: Dan Holt, Rick Clift, Jack Clifford, Paul Cooper, Russ Bauer, Mark Oliver and Jerry Clift. All have close to 30 years or more in Local 3 and were awarded pins by Business Rep. Brandon Dew and Dispatcher Ken Prescott, who also used to work at the pit.

Our Apprentice Spotlight this month is on Danny Udy. Danny has been in the Utah Apprenticeship program since July 2006. He is a fifth-period apprentice and works for Clyde-Geneva Constructors on the Legacy Highway Project operating a loader, trackhoe and forklift.

Make a note: Our upcoming district picnic is May 31. Call the hall at (801) 596-2677 for more details.

Mark your calendars for the Retirees’ Golf Tournament!

When: Thursday, May 29, 2008
Where: Copper Golf Club
975 West 2600 South
Magna, Utah
Cost: Actives/Guests – $28 per person, Retirees – no charge. Cost includes 18 holes, golf cart and prizes!

Please contact Secretary Kayci Dunn at (801) 596-2677, and have your money in no later than Friday, May 16 to reserve your place!
NEVADA  I  Elko mine work “booms” for N.A. Degerstrom

Work in Northern Nevada is increasing after a slow start. At the Reno-Tahoe International Airport, Granite Construction is working on the aprons. Q&D Construction is building the new baggage-claim section and Sierra Nevada Construction is performing the earthwork for the new control tower. The warmer weather allows companies to resume projects remaining from last year, such as Road and Highway Builders in Hazen on Hwy. 50, in Carson City and on the Hwy. 395 Bypass with the help of Jarrett Foundation and Connolly Crane Service. Granite Construction resumed work on the V&T Railroad. On the RED Development in Sparks, Q&D Construction, Merit Electric, High Sierra Sweep and A&KW Crane Service pick up the pace.

Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) projects went to bid across the state. Sierra Nevada Construction picked up projects in Rye Patch and Pumpernickel Valley – both on I-80 between Lovelock and Battle Mountain. These projects will keep our members busy. Another project near Battle Mountain is also being advertised for bid at the time of this printing. The Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) awarded a project to Sierra Nevada Construction on Sparks Boulevard and advertised a project on Greg Street, both in Sparks. Other public works projects include Granite Construction’s street rehab job and Reno-Tahoe Construction and Cruz Excavation on projects for Truckee Meadows Water Authority. In the private sector, Bragg Crane and Pacific Rim Construction are working on the Peppermill expansion.

With the work scene picking up, please be careful out there. Wear your safety equipment. We look forward to seeing you at our May 8 district meeting at the Best Western Airport Plaza Hotel and Conference Center in Reno. Don’t forget our annual picnic at the Lazy 5 Regional Park May 10.

From Elko

N.A. Degerstrom, Inc. is reopening the Spirit Mine, a barite mine. A small crew worked all winter on the road into the mine and will also do the mining. N.A. Degerstrom, Inc. also has two crews finishing a leach pad at the Phoenix Mine outside of Battle Mountain owned by Newmont Mining. The company is also mining and hauling at the Getchel Mine owned by Barrick and mining barite at the Rossi Mine north of Battle Mountain.

Bid opportunities are plentiful and several signatory contractors are heavily bidding on the upcoming work. It looks like a promising work year for this area. Gold reached a historic high at the $1,000 mark, which drives the local economy.

Canyon Construction completed a nature trail for the city of Wendover and is preparing to start work for the McGill-Ruth Water District constructing a wastewater-treatment pond expansion.

Sterling Crane started a job for a roaster shutdown at Newmont Mine.

Granite Construction was awarded the California Trails paving job at the Interpretive Center outside of Elko.

The proposed start date for dirt work at the Northeastern Nevada Regional Railport is July 1. Bidding started April 29.

Organizer Allen Strong continues productive meetings with non-union companies in the Elko area.

STOCKTON  I  Maxim erects steel for Stockton County

Summer is here, and the work picture is picking up. Independent Construction has the first phase of the Alternative Intake Project – a three-phase project lasting nearly three years. Phase I consists of building a setback levee to protect the future water pumping plant and a one-mile-long access road from Hwy. 4 to the pumping plant site. Phase II includes construction of a water pumping plant. Phase III includes laying 12,150 feet of 72-inch concrete pipe up to Old River and then tunneling under Old River with 96-inch cast-in-place pipe. The project’s value is estimated at $84 million.

Work continues at the $109 million County Administration Building Project in downtown Stockton with Maxim Crane erecting steel. At the controls of the 230-ton crawler crane is Jimmy Jentry with Oiler Drew Koupa at his side. Member Jeff Summers unloads material with a 90-ton truck crane.

AM Stephens performs all underground grading and paving for the new Power Sports Store in Lathrop.

DSS continues work on the $4.2 million Airport Beautification Project in South Stockton at Airport Way and Charter Way. At the Manteca Costco, DSS will perform all underground grading and paving.

Upcoming work includes the Wilson Way Overlay, the $2.38 million 1-5 overlay near Banta from the Graffery Road undercrossing to Paradise Cut, $1.8 million worth of infrastructure work on North Road and $2.8 million in Seven-Mile Slough levee improvements. Many overlay projects in and around San Joaquin County include Hewitt Road, Campbell Road, Archerdale Road, Tokay Colony Road, Forest Lake Road and Escalon Bellota Road.

Congratulations to 25-year-member George Ayala. He has worked at the Teichert Tracy Rock Plant for the last 19 years.

Don’t forget our upcoming July 24 district meeting at the Italian Athletic Club, 3541 Cherryland Drive in Stockton.

Let’s also not forget our Caltrans members on the interstates and highways. Construction hands build the roads and leave, but our Caltrans members have the painstaking work of maintaining them for as long as the roadways exist. When you see them on the highways, please give them a brake.
SACRAMENTO  I Public works projects boom in district

Spring is approaching, and as the season changes, so does the working environment. According to all indicators, the anticipated public works projects are becoming a reality. The following large contracts are in the design, plan or bid stage:

- Sacramento International Airport, including a hotel/motel, parking garage and terminal – $690 million; the Lincoln Bypass – $172 million; University of Sacramento at Grantline Road near Hwy. 50 – $60 million; Heavy Operating Vehicle (HOV) lane construction in Citrus Heights and Roseville, west of Placer County line to Miner's Ravine Bridge – $44 million; Department of Forestry and Fire Protection facility replacement in Georgetown – $34 million; Gravity Sewer Pipeline, 3.14 miles from the Lincoln Waste Water Treatment site to Athens Avenue – $19.4 million; Cameron Park Community Center – $13.3 million; Latrobe Road Realignment, widening and bridgework – $10.2 million; Pleasant Grove Boulevard and Hwy. 65 in Roseville, bridge widening and ramps – $9 million; road widening and improvements at Cirby Way in Roseville – $8 million; Walnut Grove Sewer Project – $16.8 million; Metro Air Park Water and Sewer Treatment Plant – $8 million; Wiley Wetland Preserve Project landscaping, storm sewer and water lien – $6.2 million; North Natomas Community Library – $9 million; Cache Creek Casino Expansion – $60 million; Balfour Beatty’s Vineyard Surface Water Treatment Plant – $182.5 million; C.C. Myers’ West El Camino Bridge Replacement – $4.9 million; T&S Construction’s in-line booster pump station in West Sacramento – $4.6 million; Teichert Construction’s White Rock Road Realignment and widening – $3.1 million; and Kiewit’s phase one of the Folsom Dam Project.

- DeSilva Gates, Tidelands Construction and W.M. Lyles are working at UC Davis. Manson and Maxim Crane are completing projects at the Cemex Cement Facility at the Port of Sacramento. The Taylor-Shea Northwest Interceptor phases one and two have signatory sub-contractors Blue Iron and Viking Drillers. The Balfour Beatty Freepoint project is moving along using signatory subcontractors Case Pacific and Walter C. Smith. Balfour Beatty also has a pumping station at the south end of Sacramento County on Clay Station Road. SNG is finishing the Del Paso Boulevard project. Teichert continues work at the East Natomas Education Complex. Collet Construction has stadium upgrades on the Inderkum and Natomas High School football fields.

- Aggregate plants are trying to keep workers busy by doing material load-out and maintenance projects. Rinker/ Cemex has remained steady throughout the slow season. RGW is finishing the Grant Line/Hwy. 99 overpass and interchange, while shifting over to the Sheldon Road/Hwy. 99 project. Sterling P. Holloway is clearing trees and brush at this site. Teichert, Marques Pipeline and Hatton Crane are working on sites at the Elk Grove Promenade Mall. Steve P. Rados is busy with the Northwest Interceptor No. 9 in Citrus Heights and has segments one and four of the Freeport Pipeline. R&S is using Preston Pipeline, Zayas Excavating and Berkel & Company to move forward at the Crocker Art Museum. Duran & Venables and Szeremi Sweeping are keeping the roadway paved and clean. Navajo Pipelines is working on various jobsites around downtown Sacramento. Maxim Crane had the unique opportunity to work at the state capitol building setting materials on the dome section. A lot of pre-job planning went into making sure the job went off without a hitch, and this news was referenced in last month’s edition.


- Congratulations to 45-year service-pin recipient Jack Whitcomb and longtime Layne Christensen employee Steve McKay for his 30-year pin! Other congratulations go to Larry Uhde, James Gray, Orin Stuart, Harry McKnight, Jose Valdovinos and Virgil Smith for their many years of service.

From left: Vice President Carl Goff, 40-year member Virgil Smith, Business Manager Russ Burns and Treasurer Dan Reding.
FRESNO  I  Full calendar ahead in district

Spring is upon us, and the work picture looks much brighter than in recent months. Some projects in the area include Blackstone/Bullard Avenue Improvements – Henderson Construction; Friant Road to Copper River Surfacing – Don Berry Construction; Ashlan Avenue Surfacing/Blythe, Hwy. 99 – Tri County Grading; Madera Ranchos Liberty High School – Tri County Grading; and Atwater Freeway Interchange – Bay Cities Paving.

The Hwy. 180-East project started with Security Paving as the general contractor, JWT Engineering performing the dirt work and Floyd Johnston Construction performing the underground. Emmett’s Excavation is working on Hwy. 190 shoulder-widening near Poplar, and RGW Construction has shoulder-widening in Mendota.

Several members have been dispatched to Kiewit Industrial Co. and Cattrac Construction at the power plant at Panoche Road and I-5. This project will be completed in various phases over a two-year period.

Upcoming projects that have gone to bid but have not been awarded as of this writing include the $9.8 million Visalia Phase Two Landfill Project and the $15.1 million Hwy. 198/Hwy. 63 Widening Project.

Members’ Night Out is every Wednesday at 5 p.m. at the hall, 4856 North Cedar. Join chefs Amundson, Phillips and Prichard for “hot off the grill” feasts. The horseshoe pits are back in commission, so get your teams together and claim your bragging rights!

“A Day with the Grizzlies” is planned for Sunday, May 18 at 2 p.m. If you and your family are interested in attending this game, contact the district office at (559) 229-4083 for more information.

Thanks to everyone who attended the Feb. 14 and April 16 district meetings, and congratulations to the newly elected Grievance Committee for 2008: Robert Moock, Jesse Harper and Danny Henry. The newly elected Market Area Geographical Committee consists of Tabatha Berstler, Ronald “Chip” Wagner and Tom Salmon.

By attending district meetings, you get the most up-to-date information, and you get your questions answered.

Work is on everyone’s mind, as it should be. For those on the out-of-work list, please remember to keep your registration current, and inform the district office of any new telephone numbers and addresses. Consider registering on other districts’ out-of-work lists, and be ready to travel. In past years, the work has come to us, but now we must go where the work is. In addition, take advantage of journey-level upgrade training. Journey-level operators must work for an employer who pays into the Training Fund, must have had at least 350 hours reported to the Trust Fund by the employer and be current on their union dues.

Congratulations to the following apprentices for their advancements: Ricardo Hernandez, Dustin Smart, Mike Darnall, Kyle Vanderpool, William Sario and Eulises Torres. We would like to remind all journey-level operators that the apprentices are our future. They will be taking our places when we retire. The question is: Who do you want to take your place when you retire – someone you helped to train or someone you did not share your expertise with?

Our condolences to the families of Tommy Flanagan and Robert Parker.

In memory of Robert Parker 1914 – 2008

Robert Parker recently passed away in the Fresno District. Born in 1914, Robert was one of the oldest and best union members we’ve had and will be sorely missed by all. His amazing life was featured in the October 2007 issue of Engineers News. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family, his friends and all those he touched.
EUREKA  I  Rock plants ready to go

It wasn’t a bad winter as far as weather goes, but the work was slow. We had a few local contractors doing some cleanup of last year’s work, and this kept some hands busy. The Alton Interchange is not going to start until next year with the possibility of a little work at the end of this year. The Mad River Bridges may also be postponed. Unfortunately, we hoped these projects could pull us out of the slump.

On a better note: Mercer Fraser was the low bidder on the emergency Martin’s Ferry Bridge worth more than $4 million. Granite was the low bidder on several jobs worth about $7 million to $8 million, including paving and bridge-repair work in Eureka and the Blue Lake area.

Wahlund Construction picked up more than $400,000 worth of work in the area. The local rock plants built up nice stockpiles, so if something breaks, they will be ready to go.

Have a safe and productive season.

REDDING  I  Shasta Constructors gets good bridge jobs

With the work season starting, the following projects continue in District 70: Shasta Constructors is working on the Hilltop Overpass, the North Street Bridge in Anderson and other bridge projects. Kiewit is in the second year of the Cypress Street Bridge job in Redding. Golden State Bridge (GSB) is finishing up on the Pit River Bridge and was awarded the $60 million Dana-to-Downtown job in Redding. Tullis, Inc. recently started the Bonneyview Road widening and $10 million worth of roadwork in Mt. Shasta. J.F. Shea has a paving job near Burney and some subcontractor work for GSB on the Dana-to-Downtown project. Steve Manning picked up an $8 million road-rehab job in Tehama County and will start Hwy. 89 Deadhorse Summit and Lassen Park as soon as heavy snow is cleared from the project sites.

In political news: The District 70 Political Action Committee (PAC) met with candidate John Wilson and endorses him for the Shasta County District 2 Supervisor in the upcoming June election, so get out the vote!

FAIRFIELD  I  Sierra paves the way at night

Greetings from District 04. Although work during the first part of 2008 was slow, Ghilotti Bros. Inc. was recently awarded the largest Caltrans I-80 paving project Solano County has seen in years. Starting this month, Ghilotti crews will be responsible for placing more than 300,000 tons of asphalt on I-80 in east and westbound directions starting at North Texas in Fairfield and ending shortly after Leisure Town Road in Vacaville. Five signatory companies bid the project, but thanks to the project management team of Senior Estimator Kevin Derm, Project Manager Marc Armstrong, Paving Manager Jesus Valencia and General Superintendent Fred McDonald, Ghilotti will keep many Operating Engineers busy for the next year and a half.

O.C. Jones has highway work on I-80 from Tennessee Street in Vallejo to American Canyon Road. The company will soon put more members to work on a Hwy. 12 widening project. Rudolph & Sletten started work on the new Verizon Cellular building across the street from the Fairfield Hall, and M. A. Mortensen Company started work on a windmill project in Rio Vista.

At our first quarterly district meeting March 20, we proudly initiated three new members including our longtime Secretary Lisa Halsey-Gunther, who is now the Substance Abuse Coordinator at the Ranch. Apprentice Steven Meyer and Journeyman Patrick Moran were also sworn in at the meeting. Roque Flores was our lucky raffle-prize winner, taking home a new, portable DVD player. Rick Bowen was also recognized at the meeting for his organizing efforts with Morrow Equipment.

Fairfield Agent Angelo Cellini recently handed out service awards at Syar’s Napa Quarry. Senior Operator and Job Steward Clint Pendergrass and Asphalt Plant Boxman Scott Holmes received their 25-year pins. Asphalt Plant Operator Mike Harms received his 25- and 30-year pins. We would also like to congratulate Chris Fernandez who advanced to journeyman status in March.

This political season is an important one, so don’t forget to get out the vote June 3!
District 20 is gearing up for work this summer, and while many large projects are underway or beginning, the work picture is tight. If you are out and about and see a company you do not recognize, call the hall at (510) 748-7446 or contact your business agent so they can investigate. We have many “tools” in our tool belts to make sure any companies coming in from outside the area are abiding by prevailing wage laws and apprenticeship standards.

We successfully concluded negotiations with Peterson Power and have ratified a good agreement. A number of tough issues were tackled, such as required Homeland Security and background checks. The bargaining unit ratified the agreement, and Local 3 and Peterson Power are now enjoying the benefits of a contract that rewards hard-working Local 3 members. Hats off to the stewards for putting in such hard work: Truck Shop Steward Bob Howard, Parts Steward Bruce Meinert, Field Service Steward Cort Zimmerman and Power Generation Shop Steward Carl Smith. These guys put a lot of personal time and effort into achieving a great agreement.

Due to our heavy involvement with the Port of Oakland, we scored a huge victory in the Oakland City Council in March. The Oakland Army Base was recently turned over to the city, and there was a big push to rezone large swaths of this acreage for parks, light industrial or residential from its current heavy industrial status. With pressure from Local 3, the Longshoremen’s Union and other craft unions, the Oakland City Council voted to preserve the Oakland Army Base as an industrial-use area for the Port of Oakland. This action dovetails with Local 3’s goal of long-term job creation and the city of Oakland’s plans to substantially expand the Port of Oakland for projected increases in use as trade expands. The victory equates to Local 3 members doing the demolition and excavating of the Oakland Army Base to make way for greater port expansion. Jobs building docks for container ships, paving roads for port trucking, constructing rail systems for the movement of goods in and out by train along with continued dredge projects will continue decades into the future. All of this will occur under an all-union Project Labor Agreement (PLA).

Our district picnic is scheduled for Sunday, July 27 at Kennedy Grove in San Pablo. Back by popular demand is our mouth-watering menu of corn-on-the-cob, tri-tip, chicken, garlic bread, beans, salad and more! Of course we will have cotton candy to get the kids wound up and a jump house to work off all the sugar! We’ll also have horseshoes and volleyball. Bring your gear; we’re trying to get a softball game going. The more the merrier. Join us for a fun day not to be missed!
Health and Wellness 101: Get a good night’s rest

Adequate sleep is something we all take for granted at one time or another. Surprisingly, a large percentage of us do not get enough sleep to function optimally on a regular basis. Poor sleep affects mood, personality, mental capacity and physical performance.

Stress is the number one factor in restless sleep, insomnia and night tremors. The trick to leaving stress outside the bedroom door is to allow sufficient down time before going to bed and to ensure the sleeping environment is comfortable and suitable to your relaxation needs. During this down time, everyone should avoid:

• Caffeinated drinks – coffee, tea, soda
• Paying bills in bed
• High-impact aerobic exercise
• Eating heavy meals
• Using tobacco products

All of these actions stimulate the mind and body and may cause sleep disruption.

A tell-tale sign of inadequate sleep is the way you feel the next morning and throughout the day. Do you feel just as tired or more tired after waking up than you did when you went to bed? Do you remember the number of times you woke up during the night? Do you try to make up lost sleep time on the weekends? If you answered yes to any of these questions, you should evaluate your sleeping patterns, and make some simple changes in your lifestyle. To consult with a nurse regarding these issues, call (866) 676-0740 or visit Matria Healthcare at www.ecorsolutions.com.

Take care!

Please note: In addition to the regularly scheduled business during this round of district meetings, the membership will be updated on the Local 3 Pension Fund. As always, we encourage all members to attend their district meetings. Please note the new dates and locations for the April and May meetings.

MAY 2008

5th District 10: Rohnert Park
(location change)
Double Tree Grand Ballroom
1 Doubletree Drive

5th District 17: Kapolei
(location change)
Kapolei High School Cafeteria
91-5007 Kapolei Parkway.

6th District 17: Maui
Maui Beach Hotel
170 Kaahumanu Ave.
Kahului

6th District 01: Burlingame
Transport Workers Union
1521 Rollins Rd.

7th District 17: Hilo
ILWU Hall
100 W. Lanikaula St.

8th District 17: Kona
King Kamehameha
Kona Beach Hotel
75-5660 Palani Road

8th District 11: Reno
Best Western Airport Plaza Hotel
1981 Terminal Way

9th District 17: Kauai
Hilton Kauai Beach Resort
Orchid Room
4331 Kauai Beach Drive
Lihue

JULY 2008

10th District 20: Oakland
Sheet Metal Workers’ Training Center
1720 Marina Blvd.
San Leandro

10th District 04: Fairfield
Veterans’ Memorial Building
427 Main St.

24th District 30: Stockton
Italian Athletic Club
3541 Cherry Land Drive

24th District 50: Fresno
Veterans’ Memorial Building
453 Hughes Ave.

It’s picnic season: Save the date!

What better way to celebrate spring than a picnic? District picnics, held throughout our jurisdiction every year during the spring and summer months, have become a family tradition at Local 3. Business Manager Russ Burns and the officers invite you to get involved in your union, and attend the picnic in your district. It’s guaranteed to be a good time for the whole family.

District 04: Fairfield
Saturday, April 19
District 30: Stockton
Sunday, May 4
District 11: Nevada
Saturday, May 10
District 12: Utah
Saturday, May 31
District 60: Yuba City
Sunday, June 8
District 90: Morgan Hill
Saturday, June 14
District 70: Redding
Saturday, June 21
District 01: Burlingame
Sunday, July 13
District 20: Oakland
Sunday, July 27
District 80: Sacramento
Sunday, Aug. 3
District 10: Rohnert Park
Sunday, Aug. 10
District 50: Fresno
Saturday, Sept. 6
District 17: Hawaii
TBA

The Retiree Picnic is Saturday, June 7, 2008 at the Rancho Murieta Training Center (RMTC).

District 60: Yuba City
Sunday, June 8, 2008
11 a.m.
Durham Park in Durham
Menu: barbecued pig, tri-tip, corn-on-the-cob, baked beans, homemade ice cream and beverages.
Cost: retirees $5, children under 10 are free, adults $10
We’ll have a raffle, sno-cone machine, clown and games.

District 90: Morgan Hill
Saturday, June 14, 2008
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Christmas Hill Park, 7050 Miller Ave., Gilroy, CA 95020
Menu: tri-tip, chicken, hot dogs, salad, beans, ice cream and refreshments.
Cost: retirees and children under 10 are free, adults $10 or $12 (day of the event)
We’ll have a raffle, sno-cone machine, bounce house and cotton candy.

District 70: Redding
Sunday, June 21, 2008
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Anderson River Park
Menu: pitted roast beef, green salad, barbecued beans, bread, fruit, ice cream and beverages
Cost: retirees $6, children are free, adults $10
We’ll have a raffle, band, dancing and games.

Honorary Membership

The following retirees have 35 or more years of membership in Local 3 as of March and are eligible for Honorary Membership effective April 1, 2008.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Member Number</th>
<th>District</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dee Beal</td>
<td>1514665</td>
<td>99: Out of Area</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anthony Borba</td>
<td>1547342</td>
<td>10: Rohnert Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simon D. Flores</td>
<td>1079822</td>
<td>50: Fresno</td>
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<tr>
<td>John A. Lorenzen Jr.</td>
<td>1142783</td>
<td>10: Rohnert Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rudy Nebreja</td>
<td>1519461</td>
<td>17: Hawaii</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leo Ott</td>
<td>1427839</td>
<td>90: Morgan Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arden Rummel</td>
<td>1542856</td>
<td>01: Burlingame</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Zilich</td>
<td>1126175</td>
<td>60: Yuba City</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**New Members**

**District 01: Burlingame**
John McCormack

**District 10: Rohnert Park**
Matt Black
Jose Castaneda
Josh Colum
Clint Merz

**District 11: Nevada**
Craig Varney

**District 12: Utah**
Jose Arellano
Nikki Balliett
Ted Dalton
Travis Elsbury
Waylon Fanworth
Ryan Gallegos
Mary Lawrence
Tonga Perez
Raymond Steffensen

**District 17: Hilo**
Nathan Bee
Keola Chow
Rueben Hoopii
Rowland Melim

**District 17: Kauai**
Elijah Hines
Alex Santiago

**District 17: Oahu**
Andrew Akau
Jaybrielle Akoi
Jesus Barayuga Jr.
Dean A. Borling
Kaleo Dunaway
Jaynealyce Furtado
Kanani Hulama
Beau Kaneshiro
Keli Liborio
Jesse McMoore

**District 30: Stockton**
Juan Alvaredo
Shane Ledbetter
Albert Rodriguez
Greg Taggart

**District 80: Sacramento**
Douglas Glavez
Jeff Saint-Vincent
Corey Schroeder
Troy Shuls

**New Contractors**

**District 01: Burlingame**
Dbar, Inc

**District 11: Nevada**
Pipe Jacking Unlimited, Inc.

**District 17: Hawaii**
Central Island Crane, Inc.
Pacific Isle Equipment Repair, Inc.

**District 20: Oakland**
Broom Boyz, LLC
Northgate Excavation

**District 30: Stockton**
Fulfer Repair, LLC
JU Funes Excavating Grading & Paving
Tom’s Earth Moving & Excavation

**District 80: Sacramento**
ECI Aggregates, Inc.

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**2008 GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**District 01: Burlingame**
Bradley Parres
Gene Pratt
Jeffrey Scott

**District 04: Fairfield**
Mark Fitzgerald
Ronald Kultti
William Pursel

**District 10: Rohnert Park**
Randy Bryson
Alec Giddings
Darcy Harlan

**District 11: Nevada**
James Corless
Mitch Gallagher
Jonathan Moon

**District 12: Utah**
Michael Holliday
Gordon Purell
Robert R. Taylor

**District 17: Honolulu**
James Arthur Sr.
Trevor Hugo
Richard Lacar

**District 17: Hilo**
M.K. Akau Jr.
John Sauer
Russell Tam

**District 17: Maui**
Alvin Kuehu
Donald Poepoe
Darrel Waikiki

**2008 MARKET & GEOGRAPHICAL AREA ADDENDUM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**District 01: Burlingame**
Imro Shair Ali
David Daneluz
Alan Rathjen

**District 10: Rohnert Park**
Brennan Bailey
Steve Carney
Charles Richardson

**District 11: Nevada**
James Arthur Sr.
Trevor Hugo
Richard Lacar

**District 12: Utah**
Jon Bambrough
Barry Ratcliffe
Trux Thurston

**District 20: Oakland**
Tabatha Berstler
Tom Salmon
Ronald Wagner

**District 20: Sacramento**
Josh Buhlert
David Dokes
William Johnston

**District 40: Eureka**
Kevin Reynolds
Frank Rojas
Hugh Shannon

**District 70: Redding**
Kenneth Gill
Trent McGrew
Michael Tauscher

**District 80: Stockton**
Douglas Zachary

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*From left: Mark Teesdale, Don Louderback and Bill Noble were elected at the Feb. 21 meeting in District 60.*
The BEST Show on Tracks
June 20-22, 2008
Dan Best Ranch, Woodland

Featuring the largest gathering in the history of antique BEST, Holt and Caterpillar tractors – all makes and models represented and welcome. Admissions: $10/day or $25 for the entire show plus access to Heidrick Tractor and Truck Museum. More information at www.bestshowontracks.org.

Do you have an upcoming event you’d like to share with your fellow Local 3 members? Give us a call or drop us a line, and we’ll post it in the newest section of Engineers News, the Member Bulletin Board.

- Phone: (510) 748-7400, ext. 3491
- Fax: (510) 748-7401
- E-mail: hmills@oe3.org

Please list the name, date, location and brief description of the event, along with your registration number.

DEPARTED MEMBERS

Baldwin, Donald
Eugene, OR
District 99
02-03-08

Haynes, Clifford
Penn Valley, CA
District 80
02-16-08

Keanaina, Francis
Holualoa, HI
District 17
02-05-08

Kirkham, Thomas
Elk Grove, CA
District 80
02-19-08

Koli, Abraham
Pahoa, HI
District 17
01-29-08

Lindgren, Arnold
Pleasanton, CA
District 20
02-12-08

Matus, Andrew
Watsonville, CA
District 90
01-25-08

McNeely, Paul
Trentonmont, UT
District 12
01-01-06

Millora, Laurence
Waianae, HI
District 17
11-19-07

Otremba, Romeus
Roseville, CA
District 80
02-11-08

Ramirez, Frank
San Jose, CA
District 90
02-05-08

Reed, Manin
Fair Oaks, CA
District 80
01-24-08

Reimann, William
Hercules, CA
District 20
02-10-08

Sanchez, Robert
Sparks, NV
District 11
01-03-08

Stuart, Douglas
Winnemucca, NV
District 11
01-13-08

Thompson, Walter
Modesto, CA
District 30
04-18-07

Fowler, Concha.
Wife of Fowler, Curtis
01-20-08

Haycock, Shirley.
Wife of Haycock, Garn (dec)
01-30-08

Lawrence, Harriett.
Wife of Lawrence, Anthony (dec)
02-24-08

Lindgren, Mary.
Wife of Lindgren, Arnold (dec)
02-25-08

Monahan, Bonnie.
Wife of Monahan, Thomas (dec)
02-18-08

Sheets, Tina.
Wife of Sheets Jr., Ivol
02-12-08

Smeaton, Marie.
Wife of Smeaton, Verne
02-05-08

Stromer, Meda.
Wife of Stromer, William (dec)
02-26-08

Trubold, Leona.
Wife of Trubold, Joel (dec)
12-20-07

Yamashita, Midori.
Wife of Yamashita, Yukito (dec)
02-02-08

Women Building California Conference
May 17-18, 2008

The 7th Annual Statewide Conference for Women in the Trades is May 17-18, 2008 at the Marriott Oakland City Center. This conference invites women working in the construction industry to network and develop skills and strategies to recruit, retain and promote leadership of women on the jobsite and in their unions. For more information, call (916) 443-3302 or visit the conference sponsors online at www.sbcet.org – State Building and Construction Trades Council of California and www.tradeswomen.org – Tradeswomen, Inc.

So long, San Joaquin Slim

Longtime Local 3 member and former Business Agent Walter Meade Talbot, known to many as “San Joaquin Slim,” passed away Feb. 9, 2007. Talbot spent most of his career as an operator in Stockton District 30, though he was most proud of his work on the Alaska-Canada (ALCAN) Highway during World War II. He was a good union man and will be missed by us all.

Cranes, cranes everywhere at CONEXPO

Staff members from Rancho Murieta Training Center (RMTC) were among the 150,000 record-setting crowd at the 2008 CON-EXPO-CON/AGG Event March 11-15 in Las Vegas. This event is regarded as one of the world’s best exhibitions of new construction equipment and technology for the construction industry. It is also one of the largest construction events, with cranes, engines and equipment covering six outdoor lots, three convention halls and several other buildings.

Member’s daughter competes for Miss Rodeo America 2008

Gordon Coffman is a 22-year Local 3 member and mechanic with Agee Construction in Fresno District 50. His daughter, Kadee, is a 22-year-old Rodeo Queen with several titles to her name, including Miss Clovis Rodeo 2004, Miss Rodeo Salinas 2005 and Miss Rodeo California 2007. Kadee recently competed for Miss Rodeo America 2008 in Las Vegas, Nev., where she placed in the Top 10 and was named the Western Regional Scholarship Winner. She is currently working in television as the host and co-producer of TV Horse Source, a televised marketplace for horse lovers to buy, sell and learn about horses. The show airs three times a week on the RFD-TV Channel, through the Dish and Direct TV networks. This fall, Kadee plans to attend Texas Christian University where she will major in Radio-TV-Film, with an emphasis in Sports Broadcasting. Congratulations and best of luck to you, Kadee.
FOR SALE: 2006 Harley Davidson 104 cu.in. V4 Air-cooled, 4 reverse, 1252 hours, 300 mile w/ comparable value (925) 262-0949. Reg# 0289954.


FOR SALE: 2001 Dodge Durango, fully loaded 4x4, 65,000 miles, all-Leica brand, good condition, $8,300. Photo available. Call Mike (510) 755-0858. Reg# 2404475.


FOR SALE: Beautiful 2006 Winnemago Cambriga, 26-ft., 6,000 lb. Superb condition, V10 Ford, leather seats, Class C, slide out, back-up camera, all available options, TV, DVD, complete entertainment center. $80,000 (orig price), now $65,000. Drives like new. Call (775) 883-9628. Reg# 1585149.


FOR SALE: FOR SALE: John Deere Model “50” with single front wheel & wide front end, draw bar, and # “S5” mower 7’ bar. $300.00. Call 209-759-3911 Home (209) 759-3911. Reg# 1136306.

FOR SALE: '94 Chevy K1500, Z71 off road package, 4x4, 5.7L automatic, pw, everything, extra cab third door, recent Goodyear Assurance, AM/FM cassette, electronic Line-X bedliner, tow package w/ brake controller and heavy duty radiator, very clean, non-smoker, synthetic oils used in motor, trans and transfer case. 133,000 miles $8,750.00. Call Rob (559) 599-4868 (pics available). Reg# 2602949.


FOR SALE: Blade pro laserplane. Model 360-21050 in cb control box, 3 coil cables, 1 tracker, large carry case. Control box fully loaded, hasn’t used other items. $3,500. Obo. Call Mike at (510) 755-0858 Reg# 2404475.

FOR SALE: 1973 Fiat Spyder 850 convertible newer top runs great 4 speed on floor seat with newer seat covers newer tires fun to drive and read CID information. 89,500 obo. Call (404) 272-2038 PM or cell phone (404) 431-6223 Reg# 1036886.

FOR SALE: Nice 91 Int'l equipment hauler, diamond plate bed, 35 GVW, DT-466 Turbo diesel engine. Currently non-op. With or without the bed. Asking $10,000. OBO. Call Edward (404) 272-2038 PM or cell phone (404) 431-6223 Reg# 1036886.

FOR SALE: '98 Chevy K1500, Z71 off road package, 4x4, 5.7L automatic, pw, everything, extra cab third door, recent Goodyear Assurance, AM/FM cassette, electronic Line-X bedliner, tow package w/ brake controller and heavy duty radiator, very clean, non-smoker, synthetic oils used in motor, trans and transfer case. 133,000 miles $8,750.00. Call Rob (559) 599-4868 (pics available). Reg# 2602949.


FOR SALE: '94 7-House for Sale in Roseville, Ca. 1602 sq ft with 12x14 Sunroom in a 55+ community; 2 master suites, large living room with in floor heating. $80,000. Contact Raymond (916) 771-0476 or (530) 225-0694. Reg# 0879954.

FOR SALE: ‘79 Apollo Voyager, 27-ft., new 350 engine, everything works. Has flying bridge, sleeps about 6, self-contained, 100 gal. fuel capacity, has ship to shore plus radio, depth finder, she’ll take you anywhere in the ocean, delta or lakes. Comes on 3-hole trade of personal items and/or other construction equipment for sale. Contact phone number (916) 771-0476 or (530) 225-0694. Reg# 0879954.

FOR SALE: Antique “T-BUCKET” Automatic. 350 Chevy, RV cam, Aluminum High Rise, Two 4 Barrels. FUN RIDE!!! E-mail for pictures joysdell@aol.com or phone (530) 945-9837 after 5 P.M. Reg# 1477881.

FOR SALE: 99 Saturn Station wagon, 5-spd trans, 81,000 miles, all interior, all up to tow bar included w/ haul/ups. $3700.00 OBO. Call (559) 875-3554 or (559) 905-2131. Reg# 0982630.

FOR SALE: 25+ acres of fenced flat land in Lebanon, OR. Would make beautiful nursery setup, tractor park, livestock pasture, or whatever your heart desires. For sale: $15,000. Contact phone number (541) 990-9816. Reg# 0931094.

FOR SALE: 1995 VW Cabrio 67,000 miles, automatic transmission. 17 chrome rims, tinted windows, forest green with black top, beige leather interior. Like new! For sale by original owner. Owner accepts 50% down: $26,000 or best offer. Reg# 09458-9024. May 2008

FOR SALE: Used Leica brand equipment, model 1103 TCA total station, long range instrument. Bought new in 2004, 3-second horizontal accuracy, TDS onboard software, Leica onboard software, batteries, 2 chargers, 3 sets of legs, 2 sights with tripods and prisms, all Leica brand, good condition, asking $10,000, call (225) 228-7808 or e-mail leikavender@sbcglobal.net for photos. Reg# 2102550.

FOR SALE: Blade pro laserplane. Model 360-21050 in cb control box, 3 coil cables, 1 tracker, large carry case. Control box fully loaded, hasn’t used other items. $3,500. Obo. Call Mike at (510) 755-0858 Reg# 2404475.

FOR SALE: FOR SALE: 2000 Honda CRF 450X. Very nice bike, hardly ever ridden. New rear tire, new forks. This bike runs and looks new. I will e-mail pics if you want. Sold new at $4750. Contact phone number (408) 761-0766. Reg# 2559744.


FOR SALE: '99 Saturn Station wagon, 5-spd trans, 81,000 miles, all interior, all up to tow bar included w/ haul/ups. $3700.00 OBO. Call (559) 875-3554 or (559) 905-2131. Reg# 0982630.

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Engineers News

Operating Engineers working for RGW, Jos J. Albanese, Central Concrete and Engeo came together in January for a second big pour on the North Dougherty Bridge off Bollinger Canyon Road in San Ramon. The pour involved 2,500 yards of concrete, 47 trucks and three concrete pumps varying in size from 42 to 61 meters. The coordinated team effort of the crews working at the batch plant in Pleasanton to the jobsite in San Ramon made for a successful and on-time completion of the bridge.

Pump Operator Eric Gil runs a 42-meter pump for Jos J. Albanese.

Engeo Inspector Ryan Selvage checks the concrete as it is poured over the bridge.

Pump Operator Tony Fernandez runs a 47-meter pump for Jos J. Albanese.

Engeo Inspector Richard Rose takes test samples of the concrete for the bridge.

From left: Plant Operator Batchman Mark Meinert and Loader Operator Ron Covey work for Central Concrete in Pleasanton.

From left: Loader Operator Larry Flores and Dozer Operator Eloy Perez work for the Dougherty project’s general contractor, RGW.