If you can't make it, mine it.

Material from Syar's quarries in Northern California helps produce a vast amount of products that makes life easier.
The booming economy's hidden benefits

The U.S. Labor Department announced an amazing statistic last month, a figure I would have never dreamed possible just eight years ago, when our nation plunged into the depths of the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression.

The government reported in May that the national unemployment rate fell below 4 percent for the first time since January 1970, a stunning turnaround from the early 1990s, when the national unemployment rate hovered at about 9-10 percent and California's construction unemployment at times soared to as high as 40 percent.

The robust economy has not only helped many Local 3 members recover financially from those lean years of the recession, but is providing the resources members need to build economically for the future. Last year, for example, over 23 million hours were reported to the Local 3 pension plan. To find a better year we would have to go back to 1979, when over 33 million hours were reported. In the 1980s and 1990s, the range was between 22 million and 27 million hours per year.

Building a security blanket

The high number of hours our members are working is not only producing fatter paychecks, but is helping to build financial strength and security into our fringe benefits. In the 1980s, for example, the average number of hours a member worked per year was about 1,500; in some years it was closer to 1,400. Working at the 1,500-hour-per-year level in 1999 would have added $1,687.50 to the construction members' monthly pension check. But construction members worked on average closer to 1,800 hours in 1999. At that level, the monthly pension increased would be a hefty $292.50, or $3,570 more than at the 1,500-hour level. What a difference 300 more hours a year can make.

The robust economy not only brings higher monthly pension payments, but also allows the trustees to significantly improve other pension benefits. Since I became business manager, the trustees and I have been making improvements not only for current and future years, but retroactive all the way back to when a member first started working in the field as a Local 3 member. For example, the 3 percent pension increase that went into effect Jan. 1, 1999, covers the member's entire length of service. The recent trend of pension improvements covering the member's entire length of service helps every member: younger members, those nearing retirement and retirees already receiving a pension.

Helping retirees

The high hours our active members are working also benefit retired members. We have always been concerned about maintaining the retiree health and welfare plan in the face of rising health care costs, particularly for prescription drugs, which are not covered by Medicare. Despite these increases, we were able to eliminate the $100 yearly deductible effective Jan. 1 of this year.

All of these improvements have been made while maintaining the financial soundness of the plan. An astonishing statistic demonstrates just how solid our pension plan is. If money stopped flowing into the pension fund today, there would still be sufficient assets in the system to provide full benefits for life not only to every retiree and beneficiary currently drawing a Local 3 pension, but to every vested active member. There aren't many pension plans in this country that can make that claim.

Since the recession abated on the West Coast starting about six years ago, we have been able to steadily improve the health and welfare plans for active members. Since I became business manager nearly four years ago, I have made it a priority to build the reserves of our active health and welfare plans. This is done to cover the cost of the hour banks, which maintain your coverage when work is scarce, either during economic downturns or during winter months. Also, rising medical and prescription costs mean more reserves are needed.

The great work picture has also allowed us to restore and add benefits to the Northern California, Northern Nevada and Hawaii plans. Last month, for example, I announced that the trustees, which consists of representatives from both the union and employers, agreed to add orthodontics to the California health and welfare plan. We also greatly improved well-child care to include all routine pediatric immunizations and office visits. We are also evaluating improvements to the Utah plan. But keep in mind that the employer trustees of each fund have to approve anything we propose.

As your business manager, I'm pleased to say that the heavy amount of work we now have-- and will probably have for the next few years-- puts money directly in our pockets as well as into our fringe benefits, which we rely on to give us financial stability.
Hertzberg Sworn in As New Speaker
New Calif. Assembly leader is a strong supporter of working families

Calif. Assemblyman Robert M. Hertzberg, a Democrat from Southern California, was sworn in as the new Assembly speaker in April. Hertzberg replaces Assemblyman Antonio Villaraigosa, who cannot run again for the Assembly because of term limits.

Hertzberg, whose 40th Assembly District covers most of the San Fernando Valley in Los Angeles, is a strong supporter of organized labor. Hertzberg was first elected to the Assembly in 1996 and in 1998 was named chair of the Assembly Rules Committee, one of the most powerful positions in the Legislature. Hertzberg will be termed out in 2002.

Study: union construction workers are more productive

A study by Steven G. Allen, an economics professor at North Carolina State University, has confirmed what the unionized construction trades have been claiming for decades: that union construction workers are considerably more productive than their non-union counterparts.

In the first large-scale statistical study ever done on the productivity in the U.S. construction industry, the study found that union construction tradespeople are about one-third more productive than non-union tradespeople.

Based on information covering all sectors of the construction industry collected nationwide by the federal government, the study found that output per employee is at least 29 percent greater in unionized establishments in construction, Allen reported.

"If this extra productivity is entirely attributable to labor, then union members are at least 38 percent more productive than non-union workers in construction," he added.

In addition, the productivity findings suggest the reason for higher union wages is that union work is more efficient, and that is what allows union contractors to compete with non-union firms, the professor said.

One of the reasons for the superiority in union productivity, Allen speculated, is the unionized construction trades' insistence on apprenticeship programs, resulting in union workers being better trained than non-union workers.

Allen pointed out that other recent studies indicate that output per hour worked is 24 percent greater in unionized operations than in non-union manufacturing industries.

Trades Must Work Together and Organize to End Disputes

During the past few months, I've focused on three issues critical to protecting our work and our reputation. So that we remain aware and on guard, I'd like to briefly address each issue once again.

To prevent other trades from stealing our work, Operating Engineers must report jurisdictional disputes. Sacramento District Rep. Frank Herrera, Special Rep. Dave Young and I have been put in charge of helping to end jurisdictional disputes for good. But we need your help. If you see a member from another craft operating our equipment, tell your business agent. We'll handle it from there.

Organizing is the most effective way to permanently end jurisdictional disputes. The success of our union depends on it. We make progress and enjoy success because we work hard and don't take shortcuts. Others must follow our example. To be a labor leader rather than a labor faker, crafts must stop stealing and start organizing.

As members of a union, we share an important goal with other unions. Though we go by different names, our purpose is the same: to protect and improve the conditions under which we work. We must keep our actions toward each other positive. It's tough enough fighting with employers; it's even tougher when we're fighting each other. An injury to one is an injury to all, so let's work together.

If you'd like to be an Operating Engineer, call the Local 3 district office nearest you. Remember, we want everyone to be an Operating Engineer. But if you're not, respect our jurisdiction.
THE CAMPAIGN ISSUE OF EDUCATION

Is Gov. George W. Bush's plan for improving education really viable? Or does Al Gore have a better plan?

By Amy Modun • Associate Editor

Seventh in a series covering the issues and candidates of the 2000 election season.

Many Americans believe education is the most critical issue in this year's presidential election. A good education, they believe, provides invaluable opportunities and increased financial security. As the November election nears, presidential candidates George W. Bush and Al Gore continue to debate their fundamental differences over education reform. A strong supporter of public education, Al Gore believes monetary aid to schools must be increased, while George W. Bush believes public schools will improve if competition with private schools increases.

School Vouchers

One of the ways Bush believes competition can be increased through vouchers, a system where money from failing public schools is transferred to private schools. Parents whose children attend a failing school would receive an annual sum, usually around $1,500, from the state or federal government. With the money, parents could use it toward tuition at a private school of their choice.

The escalating debate raises questions about the equality and constitutionality of vouchers. Republicans believe vouchers will create competition between public and private schools, forcing public schools to make drastic improvements. But by siphoning money away from the schools that need it most, some voters fear vouchers will make it extremely difficult for public schools to make improvements. Many people also believe voucher programs violate the U.S. Constitution because they use taxpayer funds to pay for religious schools.

Since the average cost of private school is $5,400 per year, the $1,500 voucher would only cover a fraction of the tuition cost. Very poor families would not be able to send their children to private schools. These children would remain in the failing schools as money and resources are drained away. On the other hand, wealthy families with children already attending private schools would receive the voucher. This would represent a huge wealth transfer in which millions of dollars in tax money would wind up in the pockets of the wealthiest Americans. Essentially, the Bush plan would help the wealthy and hurt the poor.

Accountability

Instead of taking money away from schools that need improvement, the Gore plan would offer $500 million per year in federal aid to help schools turn around. Gore would offer signing bonuses to attract new principals and teachers to schools that need new leadership. The plan would measure a school's progress based on a proven system of evaluation (National Assessment of Educational Progress) and would require states to set education standards and identify schools that don't meet them. Under the Bush plan, taxpayers would fund private schools, which are not required to set or meet any standards.

The Texas education myth

Since the beginning of his presidential campaign, Bush has boasted about gains Texas students have made during his tenure. Bush points to rising test scores on the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS), especially among minorities. But as a growing number of education experts examine Bush's claims, many are finding some serious weaknesses in the supposed progress.

Since figures for improvement are based on TAAS scores, experts worry schools emphasize test drilling over conventional teaching methods. Under Bush's accountability system, teachers who fail to raise their students' test scores each year could lose their jobs. Instead of spending time on other creative activities that encourage curiosity and intellectual growth, teachers must focus much of their energy on preparing pupils for TAAS questions. Skeptics believe this effort does not give students a true understanding of subjects despite the increase in scores. Evidence for this was found when education researcher Steve Klein gave a 1996 math test to students in 20 Texas schools. Even though TAAS scores showed a steady rise in math scores among minorities, Klein's test revealed that the gap in minorities' scores persists.

The results suggest disturbing factors might be causing the increase. With so much pressure to improve TAAS figures, some educators are taking desperate and illegal measures to ensure job security. In Houston, three teachers and an administrator resigned after changing answers on their students' score sheets. And in Austin last year, the school district was indicted after administrators tampered with tests to improve grades.

(continued on next page)
The ugly truth

Texas has had one of the highest dropout rates in the country, with one in every three Texas students dropping out. Bush's influence as governor hasn't helped the situation. In fact, some researchers say his accountability system only frustrates more students and drives them to quit school each year. The Intercultural Development Research Association in Texas officially estimates that almost 31 percent of white students, 49 percent of black students and 53 percent of Hispanic students have quit school over a three-year period. And the trend continues; the group says. Even worse, a Texas state panel will determine if administrators are deliberately underestimating dropout figures.

As more struggling students quit school, overall test scores improve. For a rise in TAAS scores, Texas pays a serious price.

Gore's plan

Gore's proposal would triple the number of charter schools in addition to reducing class size so that students can receive more individual attention. He supports the largest increase in education spending in 30 years, yet all his proposals will be fully paid for within a balanced budget. In 1997, Congress, with Gore's support, passed the HOPE scholarship program, giving students a $1,500 tax credit to help make the first two years of college more affordable.

Recently Gore proposed to build and modernize 6,000 schools. Modernization would help schools set up telecommunications networks for distance learning, increase access to the Internet and improve computer software.

For after-school care, Gore worked to provide care for nearly 400,000 children each year. If elected, he intends to expand the after-school care to cover 1 million children each year.

As part of his plan to help public schools, Gore has fought to bring 1 million new teachers to the classroom. To keep teachers accountable, he supports raising teacher and student standards at the national level. To monitor states' educational progress, Gore would require states to ensure that all new teachers pass rigorous subject-matter tests. For elementary school teachers, Gore's plan would ensure that teachers understand research-based practices for teaching children how to read. As an incentive for teachers in high-poverty schools, Gore supports an across-the-board salary increase of up to $10,000.

Stakes are high

After examining both candidates' programs, Bush's is based on the unproven principles of privatization, while Gore's focuses on providing our educational system with the resources it needs to succeed. Rather than draining money from schools that need it most to schools that need it least, Americans must seriously consider the potential consequences and vote accordingly.

Next month: An in-depth examination of the campaign issue of health care.
MEMBERS MUST UNITE TO MEET RIGHT-TO-WORK CHALLENGE

Speaking out

So-called "right-to-work" laws sound so deceivingly attractive one might mistake the term for an all-American sound bite. But the truth is they don't give anyone the right to work, the right to a job, or anything else. What workers do get, though, are lower wages and benefits—and ultimately a lower standard of living.

Right-to-work laws bar the union and the employer from negotiating into a contract a "union security" clause, which requires all employees who benefit from the agreements to share the cost of collective bargaining. Right-to-work laws are obviously intended to undermine the unions by creating a division in the workforce, a recipe for lower wages and poor working conditions.

Workers must look to themselves and their collective strength as Local 3 members to achieve justice. Yes, I am telling you brother and sister in all 340,000 members to achieve justice. Yes, I am talking to you brother and sister Casper, Wyo., back in March. Through the insight of our Rldness

It's vital that non-union co-workers are educated on the values and fairness the collective bargaining process brings to working men and women, but we must explain it in such a way that they will gain self-respect for themselves knowing they will play a part in controlling their own destiny when they make application to join Local 3.

The undesirable atmospheres created in the workplace by right-to-work laws - putting one worker against the other - can only be countered one way, and that is through collective bargaining, uniting as one voice. Again, that is achieved through educating the workers about what unions are really all about. They need to understand what is meant when we say "United We Stand."

Our key to success will be greatly dependent on our members' willingness to exercise peer pressure with non-union workers on the job sites and convey to them the benefits of being union members, such as job security, improved wages and benefits, career training, improved work environment, and the increased job opportunities. All these advantages equate to a better quality of life.

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Workers participating in a general strike at McCormick Harvester Co. in Chicago, four workers were killed, and anarchists called a public rally the following day at Haymarket Square to protest the police brutality. As the peaceful protest drew to a close, a bomb was thrown into the police line, killing one and wounding many. The incident kicked off an intensive campaign against labor leaders and other activists, and eight anarchists were later framed for the bombing.

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Wednesday, May 3-10: Women's Awareness Week, sponsored by the Coalition of Labor Union Women.

It's like I told our brothers and sisters in the district meeting in Cooper, Wyo., back in March. Through the insight of our Business Manager Don Doser, Local 3 has committed the necessary resources to initiate the resurgence in the workforce, a recipe for lower wages and poor working conditions.

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May 2-5: In 1886, Philip Murray was born in Blantyre, Scotland. He was the USWA's founding president and head of the Congress of Industrial Organizations from 1940 until his death in 1952.

Henry Ford's opposition to collective bargaining was in evidence on this day in 1937, when company goons attacked United Auto Workers (UAW) organizers at the "Battle of the Overpass" outside of the River Rouge plant. Though General Motors and Chrysler signed collective bargaining agreements with the UAW in 1937, Ford held out until 1942.

In 1959, delegates of the Insurance Agents' International Union and the Insurance Workers of America, having ratified the merger agreement at their respective conventions, convened as delegates of the merged union, the Insurance Workers International Union. The 15,000-member union merged with the United Food and Commercial Workers in 1983.

In 1895, the Ladies Shoe Binders Society was formed in New York.

30th Anniversary of the Memorial Day massacre at Chicago's Republic Steel plant in 1937. Police attacked strikers, killing seven, wounding 100.
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA MECHANICS FIGHT CORPORATE GREED

Corporate takeovers have changed the equipment rental and sales industry across the country. National and international corporations have taken over family-run businesses to quickly expand into a region. Feeling powerless against these corporate giants, many mechanics maintaining our equipment are caught in the middle and must deal with these profit-driven corporations.

But that's not the case at a couple of Northern California rentals. Workers at Construction Machinery Inc. (CMI) and Prime Equipment joined forces with Local 3 to take on their employers. The roads they traveled to get here might be different but their goals are the same. They want a voice in their future.

LOCAL 3 CHALLENGES CMI

Mechanics at DeNardi Equipment in Livermore always felt they were treated right. The shop wasn't union but most workers were happy. It wasn't until CMI bought DeNardi and expanded into Northern California that workers decided to take a serious run at organizing. Citing safety, benefit and wage concerns, workers contacted Local 3.

Together with union organizers, CMI employees went to the shop and confronted CMI Vice President Gary Young on the morning of Feb. 7. The workers demanded Local 3 recognition. Young recognized Local 3 and set an initial bargaining date. But it only took one phone call to a union-busting attorney to start a war. The next day Gary Young denied that he recognized the union and refused to attend negotiations. Local 3 filed suit with unfair labor practice charges. After a thorough investigation by the federal government, a complaint was issued against CMI. But the fight didn't end there. The company still refuses to bargain. Workers and union organizers are taking it to the streets and to CMI's parent corporation, Cook Inlet Region Inc.

MEMBERS BATTLE PRIME EQUIPMENT

Since the 1950s, Clementina has had a contract with Local 3. With shops in San Francisco, San Mateo, San Jose, Oakland, Martinez, Stockton and Sacramento, Clementina supplied equipment on many union sites.

On Aug. 28, 1998, Prime Equipment entered the scene. After Prime consummated the asset acquisition, they initiated a protracted legal battle with Local 3 in an attempt to go non-union. With a management team from Texas moving in, most skilled union mechanics moved on. Prime brought in non-union help from as far as Utah and Texas to fill the gap. Eventually Prime hired a skilled local workforce. These workers are helping to organize today.

The federal government ordered Prime to enter negotiations with Local 3. The current Prime workforce seized the opportunity and fights for many benefits current members of Local 3 enjoy. Prime still defies the federal court order by paying lawyers to stall in court. But workers are determined to take the fight to the jobsite and to Prime Equipment's parent corporation, Atlas Copco. Atlas Copco is also the parent corporation of an American construction institution, Milwaukee Tool Corp., famous for its electric hand tools.

If you have information on Prime or CMI, please call the organizing hotline at (877) 674-6493. If you encounter CMI or Prime Equipment mechanics in the field, encourage the fellow members to stay strong. Let them know Local 3 stands with them in their fight for respect on the job.

WANTED

Construction Machinery, Inc.

CMI is an equipment dealership/rental yard providing equipment on many construction sites across Local #3. Based in Livermore, CMI focuses on Hitachi, Ingeroll-Rand, and Volvo products. On February 7th the mechanics at CMI joined with union organizers, confronted management and demanded recognition! CMI management recognized #3 as the bargaining agent of the workers and set an initial bargaining date.

CMI has since refused to bargain in good faith and Unfair Labor Practice charges have been filed with the National Labor Relations Board.

If you find CMI equipment please contact:
Steve Stewart @ (510) 748-7446
or
Bill Feyling @ (408) 690-6822

If you encounter CMI mechanics in the field encourage the brothers to stay the course and let them know Local #3 stands with them in their fight for respect on the job.
FRINGE BENEFITS STAFF HERE FOR YOU

In addition to the phone services provided to members, the Fringe Benefits Service Center also schedules visits to all district offices. These visits make benefits information and services more accessible to members. The visits also give you a chance to come by and meet with a benefit representative. You can ask questions and receive personal attention relating to your health & welfare and pension benefits.

The current district visit schedule:

SACRAMENTO
Wednesday, June 14

YUBA CITY
Thursday, June 15

STOCKTON
Wednesday, June 21

FAIRFIELD
Thursday, June 22

SALT LAKE CITY
Thursday, June 29

EUREKA
Thursday, July 6

Fringe benefits center visits district offices

With great sadness, Local 3 announces the death of Don Jones, the former director of the Fringe Benefits Service Center, district representative and business agent. Don was director from May 1983 to December 1992. During his long tenure, he continued the tradition of prompt, responsive service to Local 3 members. He took great pride in helping individuals understand their benefits plans.

He was quick to go to bat for anyone who needed an advocate.

"Don't put your doctor on a pedestal," he used to say. "Stand tall and let him know what's on your mind. After all, he's just a mechanic anyway. And not a very good one sometimes."

As an honorary member of Local 3, Don joined in 1962 and worked in the field until 1982. After, Don worked as a business agent in Marin County. He became director of fringe benefits in May 1983. He retired from Local 3 in April 1993. In July 1993, he returned to work for the union and was assigned to the San Francisco district office, where he worked as an agent before becoming the San Francisco district representative. He retired again in January 1997.

The fringe benefits staff extends its deepest sympathy to his wife, Francis, and to his children Michael and Cindy.

Fringe Benefits Service Center provides toll-free number

Benefits plans are not always as easy to understand as they have been in the past. Business Manager Don Doser and other officers realize this and have focused on quality service so members can understand and maximize their benefits.

The Fringe Benefits Service Center is located in Alameda. Our toll-free number provided benefits assistance and answers questions you might have. Fringe benefits does not use automated phone systems or voice mail. Representatives are available to assist members. You may also obtain your Summary Plan Description booklets and claim forms through this office. If you need any information or assistance, call the Fringe Benefits Service Center at (800) 532-2105 or (510) 748-7450.

Benefits representatives are also available to assist you at the following district offices:

- Honolulu (800) 660-9126 • (808) 847-2189
- Reno (800) 922-6100 • (775) 857-4440
- Salt Lake City (800) 662-3630 (Utah only) • (801) 596-2677

Editor's note: Last month's column printed articles entitled "Play it safe with your medications" and "Safe use of medications at home." These should have indicated that they were reprinted with the permission of Kaiser Permanente. We apologize to Kaiser Permanente for this omission.
Eureka offers first aid class

A special adult CPR/first aid class was held at the Eureka District office at the request of Mercer Fraser Construction Company. The class was held in two four-hour blocks on Wednesday and Thursday evenings. Twelve Operating Engineers attended.

Ron Gragg requested the class. He said Cal/OSHA Mining and Tunneling Safety Engineers issued informational memorandums requiring the training. Mercer Fraser has several rock plants, crushers and hot plants in the areas. Most of these fall under the jurisdiction of the Mine Safety and Health Administration. Federal regulations requires selected supervisors to be trained in first aid. First aid training must also be made available to all interested employees. Finally, federal safety standards requires a person to be trained and readily available at surface operations where five or more workers are employed at once.

1. Tom Andersen and Dave Dibble practice CPR while Don Young and Gary Price assist.

2. Eugene Floyd performs rescue breathing under the watchful eye of Chris Canevari.

3. Members of the Eureka first aid/CPR class.
DeSILVA GATES goes the extra mile

I'm pleased to note the level of professionalism DeSilva Gates displayed in helping the survey apprenticeship program prepare the field for our May 13 Hands-On Competition. I was scheduled to meet with the equipment operator at 7 a.m. sharp on May 4. I arrived at 6:30 a.m. and the crew was already there waiting for me. Driver Bobby Jo Kilpatrick and Operator Tim Peterson did their respective jobs with precision and a professional attitude. Again, I salute Mick Stangrover of DeSilva Gates for helping us make our Hands-On Competition successful. And a special thanks to Bobby Jo Kilpatrick and Tim Petersen.

Equipment furnished by DeSilva Gates.

1. Driver Bobby Jo Kilpatrick.
3. Operators Tim Petersen, left, and Bobby Jo Kilpatrick know that teamwork gets the job done.

Figure this one out

Three guys call room service to order two large pizzas. The delivery boy brings them up with a bill for exactly $30. Each guy gives him a $10 bill, and the delivery boy leaves. When he hands the $30 to the cashier, the delivery boy is told a mistake was made. The bill was only $25, not $30. The cashier gives the delivery boy back five $1 bills and tells him to take it back to the three guys who ordered the pizza.

On the way back to their room, the delivery boy has a thought. These guys did not give me a tip. He figures that since there is no way to split $5 three ways anyhow, he will keep two dollars for himself and give them back three dollars. He knocks on the door and one fellow answers. He explains the mix-up in the bill and hands the guy the three dollars. The pizza boy departs with his two-dollar tip in his pocket.

Figure this one out

Remember: $30 - $25 = $5, right? $5 - $3 = $2, right? So is there a problem?

Each of the three guys originally gave $10 each. They each got back $1 in change. That means they each paid $9 each. But nine times three equals 27. The delivery boy kept $2 for a tip. And 27 plus two equals 29. So where is the other dollar?
Move your checking account to a union credit union

If you're not checking with your union credit union, this is a good time to start. Actually, there's never a bad time to take your financial business to a union. Why keep a checking balance at banks that have bankrolled union-busting efforts? Why use checking services from any financial institution that isn't 100 percent union?

When you open a checking account with OEFCU, your monthly checking costs will drop considerably. Checking with your union credit union offers all the checking conveniences offered by a major financial institution. We offer a check card that can function as a debit card and is accepted at any location that takes VISA. Using a check card at the supermarket to get cash back lets you take care of your grocery and cash needs at the same time while avoiding ATM surcharges. The check card lets you pay for your purchases with plastic even though the funds come directly from your checking account. There is no bill at the end of the month. It's easy to track spending because your monthly statement will show the name and location of each check card transaction.

Many members like the combination of Internet banking and check card use when managing their finances. For example, if you use your check card to buy stamps at the post office one morning, you can view your checking account by entering our secure Internet branch and the amount, time and location of the transaction will be posted that same morning. You see exactly where and when you made purchases without waiting for your monthly statement.

Please contact any credit union branch or call (800) 877-4444 to learn how to apply for an OEFCU checking account. Ask your member service representative about checks with the statement "This Payment Made Possible by Union Wages" above the signature line. You may also order checks with the Local 3 logo.

To enroll in the credit union's free Internet branch visit www.oefcu.org and press the home banking button on the home page, then follow the easy on-screen instructions.

New features on Credit Union Direct Lending Web site

From the credit union's Web site www.oefcu.org, you may link to www.cudirect.com. This is the Web site of Credit Union Direct Lending (CUDL). CUDL is a network of dealerships in California and Nevada. At CUDL dealerships you may apply for and get an answer regarding your vehicle loan in minutes. This is true even on weekends and evenings when the credit union is closed. It's easy and eliminates a separate trip to the credit union.

The cudirect.com Web site has been updated to include the CUDL Fleet Direct Program. From this site you may access Chrome's Web Carbook to research new or used vehicles. You may also request a quote on a new vehicle from participating dealerships. For more information about CUDL, other free credit union services for vehicle shoppers or joining the credit union, please call (800) 877-4444 or (925) 829-4400.
If you can’t make it, mine it

Material from Syar quarries in Northern California helps produce a vast amount of products that makes life easier

By Amy Modun, Associate Editor

Many people don’t realize how much modern society relies on rocks. We use them to build our hospitals, highways and homes. These structures require a high-quality material found only in a couple of places in the United States. Northern California happens to be one of them.

Syar Industries is one of the largest rock producers in the country. Its main location is at the Lake Herman Rock Quarry in Vallejo. There, 75 Operating Engineers mine, drill, blast and shoot enough aggregate to supply Napa, Santa Rosa and Richmond with needed material. The bline rock itself consists of volcanic material called pillow basalt, a round, clumpy mineralized type of rock formed in a marine environment. After removal, it can be used to create a wide range of products. Lake Herman Plant Manager Mike Burneson said there’s almost no limit on what you can produce with the right kind of rock.

“If you can’t make it, mine it,” Burneson said.

But before it leaves the quarry, the rock must meet several standards. If it’s not initially suitable for concrete, rock dust is added so the material can be used in fill. Making sure the rock stays up to standard is one of the most challenging aspects of the entire process. Job foreman Tony Cowham explained.

“The rock must be up to spec. The product is up to spec about 50 percent of the time. This is definitely the toughest part of the job,” Cowham said.

Like Cowham, many of the 75 Operating Engineers work in the central area of the quarry where the raw material is. Most refer to it as the pit. Since only weather doesn’t affect rock mining, the same way it affects dirt jobs, Operating Engineers work year-round in the pit. Most of the operators, loaders, scrapers and dozers can be found in action as they have been since the plant began operating in the 1960s. Since then, demand for rock-related products has increased so dramatically that Syar opened several more plants and distribution centers in Napa, Sonoma, Solano, Yolo and Monterey counties.

Perseverance gets the job done

In the Napa quarry, Syar uses most of the rock for decorative purposes rather than concrete production. The main attraction, however, is its vast machine shop where Operating Engineers receive and repair broken equipment that comes from the various rock plants. Once a piece of machinery is sent to the Napa rock shop, mechanics trouble-shoot to determine what needs adjusting or replacing. Operating Engineer Tom Vella works at the Napa rock shop and said his 23 years of experience come in handy when trouble-shooting.

“First the field mechanics bring in the machine from the field. Ideally, they’ve already done the trouble-shooting and know what needs fixing. Often though, we end up doing the trouble-shooting. This takes the most time. Fixing is the easy part,” Vella said.

As the rock shop lead, Eric French said he mainly coordinates everyone and spends his time between quarries looking for spare parts.

“There’s no really bad part about this job. I just keep my nose to the grindstone. I just keep working. Perseverance is my motto,” French said.

One big family

Life at the rock for Operating Engineers might not be a cake walk, but many feel it’s well worth the hardships. In fact, most operators at Lake Herman and Napa have been there for 10 years or more. Some say it’s like a big family, Tony Cowham thinks so.

“Everyone gets along fine, feels like a family of working people. That’s a really nice place to work,” Cowham said.
1. Equipment in the machine shop at Napa Quarry.
2. The Rip-Rap area in the Lake Herman Quarry.
4. Operators blast rock to make it available for mining.
5. Local 3 member Don Helmick repairs machinery in the Napa shop.
6. Plant Manager Mike Burneson, right, with the Lake Herman Quarry Operating Engineers.
FROM ROHNERT PARK
NEWS FROM THE
districts

FOUR NEW CONTRACTORS SIGN WITH LOCAL 3

ROHNERT PARK - Before we report of District 10 work, we want to congratulate District Representative Gary Wagnon. Gary was recently appointed to State of California, Department of Industrial Relations, Construction, Logging, Mining and Drilling Wage Board.

Second, a reminder to those who want to attend our annual picnic. We will again hold our picnic at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds in the Founders Grove area. Mark your calendars for Sunday, June 25. You can purchase your tickets at the district office in Rohnert Park at 6225 State Farm Drive, Suite 100. Or you can call the office at (707) 585-2487. Cost is $10 for adults, $5 for retirees. For children 12 and under, hot dogs are free. There will be live music and entertainment. Checks should be made to District 10 barbecue. We will offer hundreds of dollars in raffle prizes. Barbecue hours are 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Food will be served from noon until 2 p.m. Come enjoy a day of fun in the sun.

The next regular district quarterly meeting will be held on June 12 at the Discovery Inn in Ukiah. Again, mark your calendars. Nominations for the election of officers will also take place at the district meeting.

Memorial Day weekend is our next holiday. The district office will be closed Monday, May 29. For those of you who haven’t paid your second quarter union dues, you will be suspended as of the second business day of June. Please call your district office if you have questions.

WORK PICTURE IN ROHNERT PARK DISTRICT OFFICE

Since the beginning of the year, the Rohnert Park district representatives have made company calls to non-union contractors in our area. Some of our efforts are paying off. Our district is happy to announce that Rick Savola Backhoe Service, Tauzer Street Sweeping, Mike Brown Electric, All Access Bobcat and Taylor-Bailey have all signed with Operating Engineers Local 3. We wish all of these companies much success and look forward to working with them. We also welcome 12 new members.

Projects that have been recently awarded are as follows:
- Fort Bragg, Noyo River Bridge, retrofit and new construc-
RENO - Nevada's Labor Commissioner Terry Johnson wants to change how the prevailing wage is determined. The prevailing wage for different crafts is set each year after contractors submit survey data to the labor commissioner for review. Organized labor always helps this survey, but Johnson wants to change this.

Currently, if the majority of a classification of workers employed in a region is paid the same wage, then that is the prevailing wage. If there isn't a majority then the prevailing wage is set at the rate paid to at least 30 percent of a classification of workers. Johnson proposed eliminating the 30 percent alternative. Instead, he proposed setting the wage on a weighted average rate paid to a classification of workers.

At the April 26 workshop and hearing in Carson City, organized labor made sure Johnson knew its views on the changes he plans to make. The contractors and those who spoke made it clear that collective bargaining agreements shouldn't be used to set the prevailing wage. Currently, the labor commissioner recognizes raises negotiated in collective bargaining agreements to increase the prevailing rates each year.

Johnson has a very short time to make the changes. The survey must be completed by July 15 each year. There isn't much time for contractors and unions to compile the information after Johnson makes his ruling. The labor commissioner can't eliminate prevailing wage, but he can make it hard on people who work hard to prevail in each county.

This is yet another reason for you to elect labor-friendly Legislators in the November election.

RENO COMPLETES HAZMAT CLASS

RENO - Northern Nevada Operating Engineers Apprenticeship recently completed instruction of our first 40-hour Hazmat class on March 27 to March 31.

Four apprentices and journey-upgrades successfully completed the class: Andrew Conway, Ken Jones, Doug Perez and Brian Prather.

Also, an Underground Utility Certification class will be offered in June, September and December. Dates to follow. Contact the JAC office at (775) 857-3105 if interested.

Members of the Reno Hazmat class from left: Andrew Conway, Ken Jones, Doug Perez, and Brian Prather.

NEVADA SPRINGS BACK TO WORK

RENO - Nevada, it's spring again. We have a lot of work and some great jobs coming up for bid. Everyone seems to be excited about going back to work.

- Frehner, Granite, Q & D and TW Construction have been successful in getting work. If the weather cooperates, the work will begin soon. Games Construction and Sutter Construction also keep members working.
- Bigge, Bragg and AK & W Crane stay fairly busy. RHB was successful in their bids at Wells & Lovelock. We already have some members working for Wells.
- We attended hearings in Carson City on the prevailing rate. Labor Commissioner Terry Johnson is trying to establish a new set of guidelines that better define the current laws. We hope the changes won't affect the prevailing rate or how it is determined.
- Stacey DeMartin left as our credit union supervisor. We will miss her and wish her well in her new endeavor.

I want to thank our members for all their efforts and hard work. Have a really great and prosperous year.
WYOMING WORKS TO INCREASE UNION SUPPORT

CASPER - Over the past year, District 3 has worked to improve the union. Since Wyoming is a right-to-work state, it lacks a strong local. The entire staff has put forth tremendous effort to change working people's beliefs about the union.

In July 1999, we initiated talks with the Native Americans in both states. With the help of American Indian Initiative CEO Jeffrey Jackson and with the supervision of Business Manager Don Doser and Financial Secretary Darell Steele, we signed an agreement with Lower Brule Tribe in South Dakota. This agreement will bring training to reservations and will ensure that all work done on the reservation will be under union contracts. We believe that at least one more reservation will sign on in May and that others will join the movement soon. This will improve the employment situation for Native Americans and for members of Local 3. Joining also allows Native Americans to work anywhere in the world as a true tradesperson.

The construction industry is gearing up for the season. As usual, the majority of the highway work is non-union. In our efforts to sign more contractors, Steele and District Rep. Jim Scott reached an agreement with Empire Sand & Gravel in Billings, Mont. Last week. This agreement ends an old jurisdictional dispute with the contractor and members of IUOE Local 400. We also signed on OMO Construction, Strong Crane, Helm & Sons, Coggins & Sons, U.S. Field Service, Ridge Crane, BNJ Construction, HL Ostermiller, Ozzie Padder, James Cape & Sons, Beech, Fisher Crane, Crane Construction, Bragg Companies and Sowles Construction.

We are currently negotiating with Ames Construction and expect to sign them by the end of May. Doing so will be a real pain for the non-union sector.

Our Public Employee Division has signed Pennington County deputies, Mead County sheriffs and Custer County Highway Department. In the near future we expect to sign on with the South Dakota Highway Patrol, City of Deadwood, South Dakota Motor Carriers Division, South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Department, South Dakota DOT and Pennington County Juvenile Services.

The word is out now and politicians at the South Dakota Capitol know we're here to stay. Political parties contact our office and candidates want to align themselves with us. They've done their research and know how powerful Local 3 is in other states.

Health care workers at Platte County Memorial won their election back in August 1999 and continue their negotiations. Platte County Memorial is the first county hospital in Wyoming where workers have successfully won union representation. Director of Local 3's HealthCare Division Pete Ford is a powerful negotiator and has been successful in obtaining some excellent language and keeping negotiations on track.

Goshen County Hospital health care workers continue their organizing drive. Other private agencies have also contacted us to express interest in having Local 3 represent them. We're at the threshold of providing health care workers a voice in the staffing inequities and care given to patients and residents in our communities. We're also increasing our power to impact laws that concern health care workers.

District 15 has signed 50 new members in the past 60 days. All have worked extremely hard during the past year to bring the union back to our area and to make it stronger and better than ever.

In March, District 15 held its first membership meeting in Cody, Wyo. The enthusiasm and attendance reflected members' increased support for Local 3 throughout the state.

Focusing more on our members, Safety Department Director Brian Bishop and retired member Don Incardona led a 40-hour Hazmat class in April. There has been a lot of positive feedback from our members on the class. We also scheduled gradechecking classes in Cody, Casper and Rock Springs for May.

Finally, thanks to Doser and others, District 15 will have an apprenticeship program and will receive some much-needed equipment. Thanks, Don.
**DISTRICT PICNICS**

**Rohnert Park picnic**
- When: Sunday, June 25.
- Where: Sonoma County Fairgrounds
- Food: served from noon until 2 p.m.
- Fun: hundreds of dollars in raffle prizes.
- Cost: $10 for adults, $5 for retirees.

**Retirees picnic**
- Don't forget to mark your calendars for the Retirees Picnic on Saturday, June 3 at Rancho Murieta.
- Come up Friday afternoon and stay until noon Sunday if you wish. There will be plenty of parking for your self-contained motor homes and trailers. We'll see you there.

**Fairfield picnic**
- When: Sunday, June 11.
- Where: Peña Adobe Park, Vacaville, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Food: Tri-tip, hot dogs, beans, salad, soda, beer.
- Fun: Raffles, raffles, raffles.
- Cost: $8 active, $5 retiree, free hot dogs for kids.

**San Jose picnic**
- San Jose will hold its annual picnic at Christmas Hill Park in Gilroy on Sunday, July 9.

**FROM STOCKTON**

**PUBLIC EMPLOYEES GUARD LOCAL 3'S JURISDICTION**

STOCKTON - Several members and stewards of the City of Stockton Trades and Maintenance Association attended our last Semi-Annual meeting on the U.S.S. Hornet. At that meeting, Local 3 officers talked about protecting jurisdiction and taking back work that belongs to Operating Engineers. These public employee members took that message to heart.

Many members of the Trades and Maintenance Association work at the City of Stockton's Municipal Utilities Department (MUD), which is a secured facility that requires authorized people and employees to pass through a locked gate. The MUD plant has undergone construction to expand the facility. Many private contractors have worked on the site. Apparently one contractor, F&H Construction, decided to cut a few corners.

This happened the week after the Semi-Annual and member John "George" Sigman had paid attention. He knew the laborer who operated F&H's crane. He also knew this was Operating Engineers' work. George contacted Chief Steward Joe Santella, a senior plant operator at MUD. George reported to Joe what he knew about F&H's crane and the laborer operating it. Joe Santella also paid attention at the Semi-Annual and knew to call District 30 to report the violation. He contacted District Representative Doug Carson who sent Business Representative Tom Aja to the site.

F&H Construction corrected the violation. Under the diligent watch of our Local 3 public employee members, the company must follow the rules. Thanks to members and stewards employed by the City of Stockton for protecting their union brothers and sisters from construction division. This type of teamwork makes the union strong.

by Tami Huber
ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS 2000 Nomination Schedule

Meeting Schedule

All meetings will convene at 7:00 P.M.

JUNE 1, 2000
District 01
Special called mtg.
Electrical Workers #617
302 Eighth Avenue
San Mateo, CA

JUNE 5, 2000
District 17
Regular Dist. mtg.
Kauai High School Cafeteria
Lihue, HI

District 40
Special called mtg.
Engineers Building
2806 Broadway
Eureka, CA

JUNE 6, 2000
District 17
Regular Dist. mtg.
Jikoen Hongwanji Mission Special called mtg.
Okinawan Memorial Hall
1731 No. School Street
Honolulu, HI

District 70
Special called mtg.
Engineers Building
20308 Engineers Lane
Redding, CA

JUNE 7, 2000
District 17
Regular Dist. mtg.
ILWU
896 Lower Main Street
Wailuku, HI

District 30
Special called mtg.
Engineers Building
1916 North Broadway
Stockton, CA

JUNE 8, 2000
District 17
Regular Dist. mtg.
Hilo ILWU Hall
100 W. Lanikaula Street
Hilo, HI

District 90
Regular Dist. mtg.
Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall
1960 Freedom Blvd.
Fairfield, CA

JUNE 9, 2000
District 17
Regular Dist. mtg.
King Kamehameha Kona Beach Hotel
75-5660 Palani Road
Kailua-Kona, HI

JUNE 12, 2000
District 10
Regular Dist. mtg.
Discovery Inn
1340 N. State Street
Ukiah, CA

District 50
Special called mtg.
Laborer's Hall
5431 East Hedges
Fresno, CA

JUNE 13, 2000
District 80
Special called mtg.
Sutter-Yuba Board of Realtors
1558 Starr Drive
Redding, CA

JUNE 14, 2000
District 11
Special called mtg.
Engineers Building
1290 Corporate Blvd.
Reno, NV

District 04
Special called mtg.
Engineers Building
2540 N. Watney Way
Fairfield, CA

JUNE 15, 2000
District 12
Special called mtg.
Engineers Building
1958 W. N. Temple
Salt Lake City, UT

District 20
Regular Dist. mtg.
Plumbers 159
1304 Roman Way
Martinez, CA

JUNE 16, 2000
District 15
Special called mtg.
Engineers Building
4925 Wardwell Industrial Dr.
Casper, WY

OFFICIAL ELECTION NOTICE:
Nomination Rules for the Election of Officers and Executive Board Members

Recording- Corresponding Secretary Robert L. Wise, in compliance with the Local Union Bylaws, Article XII, Section 2(b), publishes the following notice:

* NOTICE OF RIGHT TO NOMINATE:
Article XII, Elections, Section 2(i)

Eligibility of Members to Nominate: Every Member of the Parent Local Union and its Sub-divisions (except the Registered Apprentice Sub-Division), who is not suspended for non-payment of dues preceding the first nominating meeting shall have the right to nominate.

* Nomination Forms

Article XII, Elections, Section 2(e)

Nominations shall be in writing and signed by one or more nominators giving each nominator's Social Security Number and Register Number in the form following:

**SINGLE NOMINATOR**

I hereby nominate ___________________ Register No. ___________________

Social Security No. ___________________ for ____________________________ (Insert Office or Position)

_________________________ Social Security No. ___________________

_________________________ Register No. ___________________

_________________________ PRINT Name ____________________________

**MULTIPLE NOMINATORS**

We hereby nominate ___________________ Register No. ___________________

Social Security No. ___________________ for ____________________________ (Insert Office or Position)

_________________________ Social Security No. ___________________

_________________________ Register No. ___________________

_________________________ PRINT Name ____________________________

* Number of Nominees Required

Article XII, Elections, Section 1(a)(b)

The minimum number of eligible nominators required for a candidate for Office based on the Local Union Membership (excluding Registered Apprentices) on February 29, 2000, of 36,071 members is thirty-six (36).

Article XII, Election, Section 1(c)

The minimum number of eligible nominators required for District member of the Executive Board is one (1).
### DISTRICT MEETINGS

All meetings convene at 7 p.m.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JUNE 2000</th>
<th>JULY 2000</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5th</td>
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<td><strong>District 17: Kauai, HI</strong></td>
<td><strong>District 30: Stockton, CA</strong></td>
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<td>Kauai High School Cafeteria Lihue, HI</td>
<td>Stockton Water House Gun &amp; Bocci Club 4343 N. Ashley Lane</td>
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<td><strong>District 17: Honolulu, HI</strong></td>
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<td>Jikoen Hongwanji Mission Okinawan Memorial Hall 1731 No. School Street Honolulu, HI</td>
<td>Engineers Building 2540 N. Wetney Way Fairfield, CA 94533</td>
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<td><strong>District 17: Maui, HI</strong></td>
<td><strong>District 80: Rancho Cordova, CA</strong></td>
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<td>ILWU 896 Lower Main Street Wailuku, HI</td>
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<td><strong>District 17: Hilo, HI</strong></td>
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<td>Hilo ILWU Hall 100 W. Laniakaula Street Hilo, HI</td>
<td>Discovery Inn 1340 N. State Street</td>
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<td><strong>District 90: Freedom, CA</strong></td>
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<td>Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall 1960 Freedom Blvd.</td>
<td>Discovery Inn 1340 N. State Street</td>
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<td><strong>District 17: Kona, HI</strong></td>
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<td><strong>District 20: Martinez, CA</strong></td>
<td><strong>District 80: Rancho Cordova, CA</strong></td>
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<td>Plumbers 159 1304 Roman Way</td>
<td>Machinists Hall 2500 Masonic Drive</td>
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<th>AUGUST 2000</th>
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<td><strong>District 50: Fresno, CA</strong></td>
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<td>Laborer's Hall 5431 East Hedges</td>
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<td>18th</td>
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<td><strong>District 12: Salt Lake City, UT</strong></td>
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<td>Engineers Building 4925 Wardwell Industrial Drive Casper, WY 82602</td>
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<td>24th</td>
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<td><strong>District 01: Burlingame, CA</strong></td>
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<td>Machinists Hall 1511 Rollins Road</td>
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### Legal Ease

**With Union Plus Legal Service, expert advice is at your fingertips.**

Receive free and discounted legal advice from union-friendly lawyers. Benefits include free consultation (up to 30 minutes), free document review, 30 percent discount on complex matters and no enrollment fees. Visit www.unionprivilege.org to find a lawyer near you or call 1-800-452-9425 for referrals (se habla español).

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**Bring Your Dues Card**

Recording-Corresponding Secretary Robert L. Wise wishes to remind all members to carry their paid up local dues card. When attending a semi-annual, quarterly district or special called meeting of the union, your paid up dues card is proof of your good standing status as a member of IUOE Local 3 and your right to vote in such meetings and/or participate in the business of the union.
Our condolences to the family and friends of the following departed members (compiled from the April 2000 database):

Vernon Allen  Livermore, CA  03-12-00
W. Anderson  Sanger, CA  03-27-00
Ernest Berry  Burney, CA  04-07-00
Dran Brown  Redwood City, CA  02-29-00
William Cates  Sweet Home, OR  03-27-00
Daniel Clancy  Shingle Springs, CA  03-28-00
Merrill Cowee  Briggs, CA  03-01-00
Norris Cummings  Redwood City, CA  03-08-00
Donald Davidson  Carmichael, CA  03-27-00
Alvin Fisher  Rio Vista, CA  02-26-00
Lee Hansen  Springville, UT  03-22-00
Darrell Harden  Modesto, CA  02-27-00
Floyd Hawkins  Wellington, UT  04-17-00
Masso Higa  Honolulu, HI  04-23-00
Lewis Jameson  Visalia, CA  03-25-00
Edward Johansen  Kaneohe, HI  04-18-00
Donald Jones  Sebastopol, CA  04-25-00
Andrew Junor  Crescent City, CA  04-12-00
Lars Loader  Provo, UT  01-04-00
John McGrath  Chico, CA  03-17-00
James McGuire  Carmichael, CA  04-16-00
Janelle Morgan  Hawthorne, NV  01-02-00
Bryant Morgan  Oakley, CA  04-02-00
John Negovan  Portola, CA  04-12-00
Edward Nisonger  Marysville, CA  03-15-00
William O'Brien  Martinez, CA  04-11-00
George Phillips  Sacramento, CA  04-06-00
Daniel Pyles  Ely, NV  04-11-00
Howard Ray  Palo Alto, CA  04-08-00
George Rogers  Ceres, CA  03-25-00
Jesse Rosales  Madera, CA  03-28-00
Melvin Sharpe  Chico, CA  04-05-00
Leslie Skager  Wheatland, CA  03-20-00
Norval Smith  Potter Valley, CA  02-29-00
Harvey Stancil  Auburn, CA  03-01-00
John Stenroos  Squaw Valley, CA  03-04-00
Eric Treder  Winton, CA  03-04-00
Glenn Turnbo  Diamond Springs, CA  04-02-00
Jerald Ulmer  Kailua, HI  03-30-00
James Vandiver  Sacramento, CA  04-05-00
Charles Warnow  Fortuna, CA  04-20-00
Floyd Wine  Prineville, OR  03-29-00
John Young  Long Beach, CA  03-31-00

Edward Alves  .1192170
F.B. Archer Jr.  .0976072
Fred R. Carrier  .1157759
Richard Cathey  .1194946
Ronald Fialdely  .1175297
William Hebbert  .0861565
Verl Hite*  .1178125
Sam L. Howe  .1175038
Carl Iness  .0800911
Don R. Kiemel  .1070947
Norris Cummings  .1151943
Don R. Kiemel  .1070947
Russell Pierzina  .1133486
Charles G. Price  .1159638
Louis Rodrigues  .1011191
C. Schulte  .1142999
Roy K. Otake  .1195045
Ernestine Ince, wife of John N. Ince  .12-15-99
Anona Lane, wife of John Lane  .04-06-00
Opal Lund, wife of Dale P. Lund  .03-30-00
John Nobriga Jr., son of John Nobriga  .03-27-00
Loreese York, wife of William H. York  .01-14-00
UP IN SMOKE

Using tobacco products may cause you to relapse into all your previous addictions

I have known professionals in the substance abuse field who not only talk about addictions but are addiction everywhere. How about sex addiction? Well, who will make an objective diagnosis? Then there is food addiction. Yes, you need to eat to live. Does that mean you can live a lot if you eat a lot?

Also, just to put the proverbial tongue in cheek, there is breathing addiction. If you hyperventilate, you need to be rehabilitated to slow breathing. The slower you breathe, the more successful is your rehabilitation. Then, I suppose when you stop breathing your rehabilitation has been a smashing success.

Anyway, let's get serious. Until recently, treatment professionals always believed that to quit smoking while undergoing treatment for substance abuse was just too much at one time and too stressful. Well, we may all have to rethink that.

Are all addictions related?

I know a number of very reputable researchers at San Diego State University, the University of Toronto and the Intramural Research Program at the National Institute on Drug Abuse are reaching the conclusion that all drug addictions are related to one another.

Specifically included among the drugs is nicotine. What is suggested here, to treatment professionals is that treatment approaches that do not merely focus on drugs and alcohol, but take other addictive tendencies into account would not only be more comprehensive but would have a better success rate. To put it just a bit differently: Substance abusers who quit using tobacco products do indeed have a better chance of stopping their substance abuse. There is in fact an integral association between nicotine addiction and a craving for other substances.

Of course, at this point nobody is certain - not yet, at least - as to what comes first, the nicotine addiction or drug and alcohol craving. Rarely, however, do you see one without the other. Of the many thousands of substance abusers I have seen during my years in treatment, very few were not addicted to nicotine in addition to alcohol or drugs, or both. It also has been determined that cravings for nicotine also simultaneously elicit cravings for the other drugs abused by a person. This seems to be particularly true in stressful situations whether real or imagined. Yes, some folks bring on stress by imagining it.

The University of Toronto started out with the kind of cute study scientists are so fond of. They studied rats, not just any rat but the even-tempered white ones with pink noses and paws. First, they got these rats to consume alcohol. That in itself is a major task, as I know from my laboratory days. Rats know better than to imbibe. You have to literally drive them crazy before they will lap up milk laced heavily with booze. Then when they are finally and thoroughly addicted, you shave their butt and slap a nicotine patch on that bald spot.

Nicotine use related to other addictions

Wouldn't you know it, the rats significantly reduced their alcohol intake. As these experiments were refined and expanded to include humans (patches were put on their upper arms, of course), it became quite clear that nicotine addiction is related to other addictions. I am quite certain that most treatment providers will include cessation programs as part of other treatment programs.

Those of you who are in recovery need to think about it. If you are rigorously honest, you will probably admit after arguing for a while with the information I presented that you are actively addicted if you currently use tobacco products, and you may well relapse into all your previous addictions. Now, if you want to do something about it, here is what is available at no cost: call 1-800-NO-BUTTS (1-800-622-8887) or if you still chew (and spit), call 1-800-844-CHEW.

This service is made available to California residents through the Tobacco Tax Health Protection Act of 1998 (Proposition 99). This help line offers consultation and counseling by professionals who are trained in the field of smoking cessation. I expect the Health and Welfare Trust Funds in our other jurisdictions will soon offer similar services.

Reminder

When you finally got clean and sober, you promised yourself that you would go to any length to stay clean and sober. Here is a great opportunity to once again bring this promise to life.
FOR SALE: '78 El Dorado Berlitz, like new, 54,000 miles, garaged all time, a few trips, church & grocery stores, excellent, 500 C.I.D., $12,000. call Glenn (919) 665-3986; #1117187.

TIMESHARE, very reasonable, beautiful white sandy beach on North Carolina's outer banks, (Barrier Island), just 5 miles from the monument for the Wright brothers' first flight 6/17/1903, AC, can be traded at all over the world through RCI, tour available, $2,500 each, call Howard (702) 596-3643 or (641) 523-3139, #1148952.

FOR SALE: Savage model 24 power under 22 LR and over 20 gauge $150, Kuger single shot 22 LR & 22 mag, extra cyl plus bell holster $200 + transfer fee, (919)991-5530, #1191119.

FOR SALE: Weatherby mark 5 bolt-action rifle, 375 H&H magnum, like new, $2,950, (707) 425-6816, #2382414.

FOR SALE: ’96 Elkhorn camper, fits full-size long-bed truck, excellent condition, fully self-contained, $7,200, (530) 675-2666, #1198993.

FOR SALE: ’69 Ford Mustang, 351W pi, AC, at, new factory dash, paint, upholstery, tires, ignition, project is practically done, runs & looks great, smog exempt, must sell, baby on the way, $6,000/OBO, call for more info (530) 845-6760.

FOR SALE: 47 acres in Browns Valley, California, beautiful foothills between Grass Valley & Marysville, property is fully fenced, has a seasonal creek & mature pine trees, close to lakes, fishing & hunting, power & phone to property, septic approved, country valued at $60,021, will sell for $32,500 CASH or $35,000 with 20% down, owner will finance, comparable trades considered, (775) 425-3750, #1187258.

FOR SALE: ’58 Porsche Speedster, completely restored, guards red, tan interior, tan top, roll bar, 1750 cc engine, camera racing brochures, show room condition, call Glenn (415) 395-2677, #9991282.

FOR SALE: One Rochester carburetor two-barrel, one marine distributor, one starter rebuilt for a Ford marine 302, all in operating condition, all for $215, (916) 879-2690, #1628844.

FOR SALE: 1.75 acres in Rio Rico, Arizona, located south of Tucson near Green Valley, great building site with electricity, water & power in street to property, fantastic winter weather, $10,000 CASH or $12,000 with 20% down, owner will finance, comparable trades considered, (775) 425-3730, #1117256.

FOR SALE: following items: breeding pair Ernes $500 (both), young goat $60, Alpaca rug $70, fur jacket $50, full-length fur coat $100, Native American style “Pewter Staff,” with crystals & 150, eye catching original Oriental artwork $350, beautiful original 37-year old painting $500, (916) 681-6626 or e-mail <apnak02@aol.com>, #1197241.

FOR SALE: ’79 Swift 40 Keich sailboat, Sparr & Stephens designed, live aboard, electric winch, 34'6", headroom, center cockpit, sliding dodger full enclosure, radar, autopilot, GPS, SSB, refrigeration, stove, microwave, new washer/dryer, watermaker, inverter, electric wiper, rebuilt Perkins 4-108, new bottom 1299, 4 anchors, roller furling, jib, drier & more, slip @ Treasure Island, S.F., $85,500, (415) 486-9851, #1018735.

FOR SALE: ’99 34-ton Dodge quad cap 24-valve turbo diesel 4x4 auto P/W, P/L, AC, CD player, clean pick-up, Like new, 5-speed, $16,000, (707) 425-6816, #2382469.

FOR SALE: 21' ft. Omega Daycruiser, 454 cherry, berkeley jet, bimini top, tandem trailer, seats comfortably, plenty of storage room, includes all my gear, wake & knee boards, vests etc, must sell, baby on the way, $7,000/OBO, (559) 846-2679, #2316771.

FOR SALE: tool box for inside PU., side mount, 12-in deep x 12-in wide x 6-in high, $45, (916) 967-8022, #1079074.

FOR SALE: ‘94 Dolphin Toyota, clean, well maintained, 21-ft, AC, power steering, 5-speed, new clutch May 2000, 100,000 miles, $8,000/OBO, John (916) 489-5400, #1079068.

FOR SALE: Caterpillar 955 track loader, 950-H-94A, with smooth tip bucket, cat backhoe, D4E winch, newly rebuilt (majored engine, turbo & generator), all new rollers, rock guards & augmented sprockets, $20,000 firm, (909) 623-9933, #2289204.

FOR SALE: Gun Digest complete set, $1,200, single copies; Gun Digest, Handloader Magazine, American Rifleman, Frontiers Times True West, 1st & up shooting, (916) 991-9119, #1191119.

FOR SALE: Johnson pickup make for Almond’s, has rebuilt 65-H.P., Wisconsin engine, less than 20 running hours on engine, has a flow blowout on it, $3,800, also for sale, inclusion American 18-H.P. Wisconsin engine, auto transmission, (916) 220-2000, contact Bill (928) 934-5767, #1102836.

FOR SALE: complete home PC, 486 DX4-100 with monitor, color HP printer, Windows 95, other software that is included, 1.5gb hardrive & 56k modem, all manuals are also included, good for student, $250/OBO, (928) 243-2311, #1121516.

FOR SALE: 65 Mustang, V8, 289 engine, original burgundy paint, automatic transmission, radio, heater, black interior, always kept in garage, 2nd owner, California car, perfect condition, $5,000, (530) 650-550, call Glenn (415) 335-2967, #997829.

FOR SALE: 77 Ford LN750, 391 engine, 25-30,000 on new engine, 5-speed transmission w/2 speed rear axle, 10,000X20 Michelin tires, built on equipment built by backhoelader transport, $3,500/OBO, (714) 645-1968 or (707) 425-2812, #1179750.

FOR SALE: Military Macaw, 4 years old, great talker, excellent behavior, not a biter, needs new companion who stays at home, cage and all accessories included, potential owners will be screened, $1,200 firm, best e-mail to: <apnak02@aol.com> (subject HUMMERS) will be able to better answer questions & give info, (916) 961-9628 for message, #1197241.

FOR SALE: Sea Ray Sundance on Roadrunner EZ load trailer, New Merc Cruiser engine complete, impulse loran & depth finder, marine radio & much more, good to very good condition, $15,600/OBO, contact Jim (916) 251-2450, #1166488.

FOR SALE: '69 VW Baja, custom 1776 c.c. bus. trans, new mud tires, line of cooling system, double bar tube bumpers, all new brake system, new carpet, $2,000/OBO, (916) 244-6894, #123676.

FOR SALE: Big D 400, 4-cycle petrols diesel 3 tools box on trailer, $500, call Fred (716) 727-1526, #1219213.

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HONOLULU - Just after midnight on March 6, a rock slide of about 20 cubic yards damaged the road to Oahu's north shore. Fortunately, no one was injured. Unfortunately, the only road to picturesque Waimea Bay was closed. On March 10, the governor declared a state of emergency and mobilized the State Department of Transportation, the Civil Defense Agency and the military to open the road. Soon after, consultants determined the area of the slide was unstable. The road remained closed.

On March 11, the State Department of Transportation hired Kiewet Pacific to construct a temporary bypass road. During the project, Mother Nature created additional concerns when surf up to 20 feet forced local residents to travel around the opposite end of the island. And on March 31, rushing water from the Wamea River washed away 150 feet of the bypass road. Local 3 operators soon repaired it.

On April 10, Goodfellow Brothers was awarded a $7.5 million competitive bid contract to permanently repair the road. The contract requires Goodfellow Brothers to complete the job in 60 days. As an incentive, DOT will award Goodfellow Brothers $6,000 for every day the company completes the road ahead of schedule. On the other hand, the state will levy a $6,000 fine for each day the job falls behind schedule.

With the skill of Local 3 and the crew of Goodfellow Brothers, we estimate making the deadline.

1. Scenic north shore surf spot at Waimea Bay.
2. Local 3 contractor Hawaiian Crane & Rigging erect 16-ups at the Oahu jobsite.
3. Temporary bypass road constructed by Kiewet Pacific.
4. Operator Parker McKeeve Sr., and Rigger Bobby Mau bring down cranes at the Honolulu Airport jobsite.
Rohnert Park District

The Rohnert Park District staff extend its condolences to the families and friends of the following departed: Robert Erickson, on Dec. 30, 1999; Alfred William Soldati, on Feb. 4, 2000; Lloyd T. Pruitt, on Feb. 24, 2000; Arnold Juett, on March 2, 2000; Domingo J. Foncia, on March 2, 2000; Don Smith on April 27, 2000, and Donald A. Jones, the former director of the Local 3 Fringe Benefits Service Center and San Francisco District representative, on April 25, 2000.

The office also expresses its condolences to those members who lost their spouses: Barbara Jean Mollo, wife of Local 3 member Ronald Mollo, on Dec. 15, 1999; Marjorie Lee Cooper, wife of Ray Cooper, on Dec. 30, 1999; Ruth A. Lucas, wife of John Lucas, on Feb. 15, 2000; Lorraine Stark, wife of Derrel Stark, on March 5, 2000.

Also, congratulations to the following members on their marriages: Michael Eller, Parnum Paving, to Kitty Burd on Jan. 14, 2000, in Reno, Nev.; Victor Flores, Linscott Engineering Construction, to Irma Andrea Barragan Barrios on April 1, 2000, in Mexico; Robert D. Schroeder, Weeks Drilling & Pump, to Errin Grimm on April 9, 2000, at Armstrong Woods in Guerneville; Melvin E. Jermon, fourth-step apprentice at Bragg Crane, to Monique Brumfield on April 10, 2000.

ELECTION COMMITTEE BEGINS ITS WORK

Group of Local 3 members to supervise union election

The recently chosen Election Committee, which will oversee the election of officers and the Executive Board this summer, met for the first time May 16 at the Alameda headquarters. The committee members are (back row from left): Gil Anderson, Oakland District; Don Incardona, San Jose District; Jack Short, Fairfield District; Tom Hester, Redding District; Bill Bozeman, Utah District; and Recording-Corresponding Secretary Rob Wise; (middle row from left): Bob Blagg, Stockton District; Ken Bowersmith, Sacramento District; Randy Morgan, Yuba City District; Pete Fogarty, San Francisco District; Sonny Bergau, Hawaii District; (front row from left): Greg Thompson, Wyoming District; Gene Lake, Eureka District; Bob Daniels, Fresno District; and James Caumiant, Nevada District. Not pictured is Marshall Bankert, Rohnert Park District.