Empire Ranch
Local 3 workers lead the way
Tax-cut pie offers crumbs, not slice

As I write to you now, the U.S. Senate is voting on a final version of Bush's proposed $1.35 trillion tax cut. Anti-labor politicians say the bill is weak; pro-labor candidates say it is too aggressive. From the perspective of labor, I'd like to share with you how the tax cut will impact you and your family, as well as other working families throughout the country.

The Bush tax cut is not intended for the working class. It is intended for big business and the rich. If you don't fall under these categories, don't expect to get much more than crumbs from Bush's tax-cut pie. Sixty percent of the tax scheme benefit will go to the wealthiest 10 percent of America. Forty-five percent of benefits will go to the wealthiest 1 percent. Unless you've won the lottery, you'd better put your forks away because the tax-cut pie won't be enough to feed everyone under Bush's plan.

According to the AFL-CIO, Bush bestowed the following gifts on big business and the wealthy during the month of March. Here are just a few:

- Bush aided with business to push the first-ever congressional repeal of worker safety and health protection.
- Bush's budget proposal leaves Medicare open to raiding to pay for his millionaire tax cut. Bush also ignored needs for a strong Medicare prescription drug benefit, proposing an inadequate version that would give no help to middle-income seniors, would rely on private insurers rather than the trusted Medicare program and would be up to the states to implement.
- Bush's administration decided against fixing the massive census undercount of people of color, children and the poor.

Besides the huge giveaway to the wealthiest few, the president's plan includes privatization of Social Security, an opt-out of federal minimum wage increases for individual states and massive tax cuts in basic protections for working families.

While Bush squanders your tax money on a cut that does you no good, here's what could be done with some of that same money:

- For $375 billion, every Medicare beneficiary could have prescription drug coverage.
- For $185 billion, the nation could provide every child a place in a modern, wired classroom.
- For $315 billion, Medicaid coverage could be extended to 12 million adults and children for whom coverage is desperately needed.

The Bush plan is based on 10-year surplus projections that economists say are unreliable. If those projections turn out to be wrong, we'll be back in huge deficits again, just like we were before Bill Clinton became president.

Act now, call your senators today toll-free at (800) 718 - 1008. Tell them to say no to Bush's millionaire tax cut.

If you're interested in keeping a closer watch on Bush's actions in office, especially those that could affect labor, visit the AFL-CIO Web site at www.aflcio.org/bushwatch. Let's keep an eye on him.

A word about retirement

You don't have to agree with everything in Engineers News, though the staff tries hard to bring you the best written, best edited and best looking paper possible (see In The News).

But some places give lip service about life after retirement. By comparison, one thing Local 3 does well is help its hard-working members prepare financially for life after the time clock.

After all, what good is working long and hard for 20, 30 or more years if you're in no shape to enjoy yourself? Is your family served?

To help answer that question, last month we started a series, Living to Retirement by Amy Modun, our new managing editor. During the next several months she will profile Local 3 members who made lifestyle changes in hopes of living longer, healthier lives.

Few of us, least of all me, are perfect in the lifestyles department. All we ask, brothers and sisters, is to think where you want to go with the help of Local 3.

Last but not least

Finally, I'd like to recognize and thank the Public Employees for their support and loyalty to Local 3. We're proud to represent you, and we hope to continue making gains on your behalf. Shoulder to shoulder, we can take organizing to the next level.
Labor group cites *Engineers News* for excellence

Local 3 staff recently was cited for six major awards in recognition of work done for *Engineers News*, the union's official newspaper.

Judges for the Western Labor Communications Association, during its annual conference in early May, presented three first-place and three second-place awards.

The winners and categories were:

- Don Doser, editor and business manager of Local 3, first place for overall best for newspapers of eight pages or more.
- Former Managing Editor Steve Moler and Amy Modun, formerly associate editor who replaced Moler early this year, won first place for best series for a year-long look at the issues at stake in last November's general election.
- Modun won first place for best column.
- Modun won second place for best feature story for her coverage on the expansion of the Port of Oakland.
- Moler won second place for best news story for his coverage of last summer's Semi-Annual aboard the USS Hornet.
- Finally, Moler won second place for best in-depth analysis.

Empire Ranch works - thanks to the workers

Rob Parish is a friend of ours.

Apprentice gradesetter Tina Marshall agrees. So does 15-year surveyor Jaime Salcedo, as does soon-to-retire equipment operator John Sutic.

Parish is a Sacramento-area development consultant brought in at the 11th hour to save Empire Ranch, a regional housing project of 2,600 homes on 3,500 acres in Folsom east of Sacramento. Initially proposed nearly 10 years ago, it was headed for oblivion because of legal and political skirmishes.

It won't be news to any of you, but roadblocks to construction projects often means fewer jobs, less progress and hurt morale as people become worried the project is threatened and may be doomed.

That's where Empire Ranch was heading, and a lot of insiders thought it was tough and go on whether it would ever get off the ground.

But in stepped Parish, who used his savvy and experience to get it on track.

In short, he gave it credibility - and good-paying jobs to hundreds of Local 3 members like Marshall, Salcedo and Sutic.

It's no secret

The No. 1 reason Parish cited for the turnaround? The quality and in-depth experience 179 Local 3 workers brought to the general contractor, Teichert Construction.

Details elsewhere in this issue explain the project's history, and the role party chiefs like Salcedo have played in helping layout what promises to be a Northern California showcase. But read Parish's from-the-gut reasons why experienced, well-trained and motivated union workers are far superior to non-union freeloaders who have no long-term stake in projects - or project leaders.

Parish should know. He's been in the business more than two decades, and his daddy, granddaddy and brother Max Parish were Local 3 members.

Workers such as Marshall, Salcedo and Sutic said they work hard for Parish because Parish works hard for them. Paperwork hassles are kept to a minimum. Friendly, one-on-one relationships foster open communication. And Parish-sponsored barbecues, employee get togethers and a group picture help say thanks for sweating out 12-hour days six days a week, and for "putting up with me," as Parish told Engineers News.

Thanks back.
Cleaning up
Local 3 members volunteer time, equipment collecting trash, debris

OLIVEHURST, Calif. - New Local 3 member Chad Robertson would have gone jet skiing.

Seven-year member Brent Props would have spent the day flying his Cesna 182 airplane.
And Ronnie Pace, a 17-year member of Local 3, would have spent the day panning for gold near the Plumas County town of LaPorte.

"There's still quite a bit of gold up there," Pace said wishfully.

Instead, Robertson, Props and Pace - along with nearly two dozen other Local 3 members headed by District Rep. Frank Rodriguez of Yuba County - joined about 60 neighbors one recent sunny Saturday to pick up trash.

“We worked hard and the results were worth it,” Rodriguez said. “A special thanks goes out to everyone who helped, from our newest members of Local 3 to some of our best local leaders.”

Helping lead the Local 3 members and other volunteers during the second-ever, day-long East Linda and Olivehurst Community Clean Up were three Yuba County elected officials.

They were:
Al Amaro, a member of the Yuba County Board of Supervisors representing the First District, who said the effort benefited everyone.
"This is a win-win situation for the county, Some people see this as taking sides. But I see it as something that's in the best interest of the community. By working together with Local 3 we achieve goals."

Mary Jane Griego, also a supervisor, representing the Third District. "This effort by Local 3 will be done in one quarter of the time that it would be anybody else - and that's what you get with skilled, experienced labor. Local 3 is very aggressive in working with the local community. They're not afraid to work, or to organize," Griego said, adding with a nod toward the idling fleet that included one end-dump truck, six 10-wheelers; two loaders, two backhoes and one street sweeper. "Look what they've got here."

Virginia Black, Yuba County sheriff, who helped organize the initial event a couple of years ago as a way to improve community relations as part of the Community Oriented Policing and Problems Solving program, agreed with Griego. "This is phenomenal," Black said, citing the turnout for a program aimed at

Freshman Yuba County Supervisor Mary Jane Griego plants flowers for an Olivehurst business.

"We weren't involved then," Rodriguez said about the first year.

Veteran union members, including plumbers, pipefitters and laborers, pointed to themselves as examples of those who have benefited from the effort.

Although not presently an annual undertaking, Community Clean Up may someday be a regular event that includes planting shrubbery and other neighborhood improvements, Black said. Landfill disposal fees were waived, and there was 368,000 pounds collected this year, more than triple the 70,000 pounds collected the first year, officials said.

"We weren't involved then," Rodriguez said about the first year.

Veteran union members, including plumbers, pipefitters and laborers, pointed to themselves as examples of those who have benefited from the effort.

Volunteers collect everything from pails to mattresses as part of the day-long event to provide free hauling for Yuba County residents.
"We're here to help," Jim Gholson of Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 228 said, explaining why 15 members participated in the clean up. "We want to make this a better community to live in."

Richard Conrad, a Local 3 member since 1968, agreed — perhaps a bit grudgingly. Had he not helped, he would have spent the day fishing.

"With a cold can of beer in my hand," Conrad said.

Helping provide equipment, staffing and other support were: Patterson Sand and Gravel; Baldwin Construction; Tischert Construction; Rockford Corp; Goodfellow Brothers Construction; Ebersol Sweeping; the state Department of Water Resources; FiveWay LLC; Bertolini Trucking; and Butte Sand and Gravel. In addition, Pacific Bell contributed $500, and the Sheriff's Team of Active Retired Seniors provided lunch of barbequed tri-tip, burgers, salad and homemade dessert.

Volunteers load rubbish onto a dump truck, which hauls it to a landfill where fees were waived to promote the community-service event.

Yuba County Sheriff Virginia Black helps pick up debris as part of her Community Oriented Policing and Problem Solving Program.

Volunteer tips
Planning is essential for community-service projects

EAST LINDA, Calif. - When about 80 volunteers showed up near daybreak to pick up trash one recent Saturday in Yuba County, the event provided a golden opportunity to build good community relations. At the same time, it laid the groundwork for successful relationships with residents, local officials and elected leaders.

"It doesn't hurt that the area's policymakers see our union members as a resource willing to work hard for worthy causes," District Rep. Frank Rodriguez said.

Points should other Local 3 districts consider something similar include:

- **Notify the media:** These types of events are genuinely worthwhile, and coverage helps your local newspaper, radio outlets and TV stations fulfill their public-service responsibilities. The result should be greater public awareness of your worthwhile volunteerism. At the same time, be prepared to be interviewed, and know what comments you may want to make.

- **Keep your calendar in mind:** Community leaders love annual events, but this may not always fit your schedule. Consider doing something every two or three years so don't burn out your hard-working members.

- **Think teamwork:** Bright orange T-shirts were provided to volunteers in Yuba County. This makes it easy for residents and law enforcement officers to see who is working. It also provides a strong visual for TV or news photos. Most important, the "uniform" promotes team spirit.

- **Savor a job well done:** When it's over, enjoy the satisfaction of helping your neighbors. Besides, someday it may be you that needs their help.

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Forklift safety certification

Is this trip necessary?

You may be wondering why formal training and certification are necessary. According to OSHA statistics, 85 people die and nearly 100,000 are injured every year due to unsafe forklift operations. Furthermore, a study reported by the National Institute for Occupational Health and Safety indicated that trained operators of powered industrial trucks reduced their rates of error by 70 percent when given proper safety training. Operators who wants to run a forklift must become certified and carry a card proving they have fulfilled all requirements before they can legally sit in the seat of a forklift. The OSHA standards also state that if an employee was hired before July 15, 2000, the initial training and evaluation of that employee must be completed by July 15, 2000. Any employee hired after July 15, 2000 must be in compliance with the regulations prior to being assigned to operate a forklift.

A forklift is a versatile and useful piece of equipment that can lift and carry heavy loads of various sizes. Unlike the larger construction equipment, forklifts are extremely maneuverable in tight, enclosed and confined spaces. Many of us have run one at some time or another in our careers, and our experience proves that forklifts are designed for a specific use, such as moving pallets of material, lumber, pipe and small heavy loads.

There are new requirements today set by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration that states "only trained and authorized operators are permitted to operate them." This means that employers must verify that equipment operators know about the safe handling of forklifts.

Our goals are to ensure that our members receive the best training available and to provide employers with top-notch certified operators in accordance with OSHA standards. Therefore, we designed a course to provide training in the safe operation and maintenance of a forklift in compliance with the OSHA Standard 1910.178, as well as hands-on training that simulates workplace situations of an Operating Engineer.
Earth-moving standards

One area that must be addressed is the scope of the OSHA standard as it applies to vehicles intended primarily for earth moving. In contrast, the standard does not apply to earth-moving equipment even when used with a forklift attachment, which includes loaders, even though their buckets and blades are replaced with forks. While loaders, skid-steer loaders and similar equipment with forklift attachments are not covered, it is recommended that employers who use these attachments provide the forklift safety training and emphasize the safe use of this equipment with specialized attachments.

Upon completion of the course, trainees will know the characteristics of forklifts such as weight, capacity, stability and rear-wheel steering, as well as an understanding of all the information given on the data plate and decal information requirements.

Lastly, our certification class also features a demonstration of the proper safety equipment requirements (i.e., overhead guards, the load backrest extension, operator restraint devices and pedestrian warning devices or back-up alarms).

We have been certifying apprentices and journey-level operators for more than a year. Thus far we have certified 749 members for the safe operation of forklift equipment. Once a member successfully completes requirements, he or she receives a personalized laminated certification card, which must be renewed every three years from the date of certification.

For more information on class schedules and other courses, read the Engineers News or check our Web site www.oce3.org.

RMTC course inclusive

The course we give at RMTC covers all OSHA requirements. The program contains a variety of training materials including classroom lectures, written material and videotapes. This is followed by a practical exam, in which the trainee operates the forklift through a predetermined course using a Clark 17-ton forklift that has a rated capacity of 15,000 pounds or a Lull Highlander 2, all-terrain high lift vehicle.

The information presented on forklifts will enable operators to identify and define truck components and their functions.

SCHEDULE OF TRAINING COURSES

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CCO Practical Test Dates

- June 11-15
- June 18-22
- June 25-29
- July 2-6
- July 9-13
- July 14-15
- July 21-22
- July 28-29
- Aug. 4-5
- Aug. 11-12
- Aug. 18-19
- Sept. 29-30
- Oct. 6-7
- Oct. 13-14
- Oct. 20-21
- Oct. 27-28
- Nov. 3-4
- Dec. 26-28
- Dec. 29-30
- Jan. 2-4, 2002
- Jan. 7-11
- Jan. 12-13
- Jan. 19-20
- Jan. 26-27

Note: Times for practical testing may vary depending on available daylight. Practical tests in July and August will be determined according to class size.
Local 3 cleans up at El Dorado Disposal

The firm's 80 workers vote for better pay, greater voice

"Workers who stand up and fight for their rights will always be successful in organizing with Local No. 3."  
- Business Manager Don Doser

Fed up with management's broken promises, low pay and disrespect, the 80 drivers, sanitary engineers, welders, mechanics and recycling workers at El Dorado Disposal and Waste Management recently organized with Local 3.

From the start, workers proved to management that they were united. Every day for five weeks, management campaigned one on one with workers and held mandatory anti-union meetings in an attempt to divide workers by classification. The workers, in response, organized three marches on the boss and numerous solidarity rallies. Pro-union workers also circulated numerous petitions demanding an end to anti-union meetings and recognition of the union and wage increases of 10 percent for the drivers and 50 percent for the lowest-paid workers, some of whom only made minimum wage.

The resolve of the workers was so strong that drivers would infiltrate anti-union meetings and circulate pro-union petitions, and then demand recognition at the end of the meeting. At every union meeting the workers took on management's dirty tactics and lies. The arrogance of Waste Management was clearly apparent when an anti-union consultant informed a group of workers that they were simply not worth more money.

"He told me to my face that I was not worth $10 an hour," Gail Capozzelle, a weigh master at the facility, said. "They brought in a union buster to scare us out of organizing. Instead, he talked us into it." In spite of the management campaign, workers stayed united and voted yes to Local 3, 50 to 21. We look forward to continuing the campaign until the El Dorado workers gain respect through a contract.

GARbage JUICE?

WASTE MANAGEMENT IS WASTING TAXPayers' DOLLARS

- Waste Management is under federal investigation.
- Waste Management subjects workers to unsafe working conditions.
- Waste Management floods our county with garbage juice from its leaky containers.
- Waste Management forces its drivers to operate unsafe vehicles.
- Waste Management litters our roads with trash.

Tell Waste Management to stop using our tax dollars to terrorize workers.

If you have any questions please call:  
Steve Bruce, district manager  
(530) 626-4141

Health care update

In the last few weeks the health care division added 39 new members to Local 3's rolls. This comes from the hard work of internal organizing by the staff at the health care division. The division has also recently negotiated new contracts at Mount Grant Hospital as well as the Elko General Hospital Non-Registered Nurse Unit.

organizing hotline

(877)674-6493
Workers beware

Overexposure to sunlight takes its toll

Because of their chronic exposure to the sun, construction workers should make extra effort to use hats, protective clothing and sunscreen. Members should also pay particular attention to the warning signs of skin cancer.

Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer in the United States. The three major types of skin cancer are the highly curable basal cell and squamous cell carcinomas and the more serious malignant melanoma.

The American Cancer Society estimates that a combined total of about 1 million new cases of basal cell and squamous cell carcinomas and an additional 47,000 new cases of malignant melanoma occur each year. It's expected that skin cancer will claim the lives of almost 9,600 people.

Although death rates from basal cell and squamous cell carcinomas are low, these cancers can cause considerable damage and disfigurement are left untreated. When detected and treated early more than 95 percent of these carcinomas can be cured.

Malignant melanoma, the most rapidly increasing form of cancer in the United States, causes more than 75 percent of all deaths from skin cancer. This disease can spread to other organs, most commonly the lungs and liver. Malignant melanoma diagnosed at an early stage can usually be cured, but when diagnosed at a late stage is more likely to spread and cause death.

Who is at risk?

Although anyone can get skin cancer, people with certain characteristics are particularly at risk. The risk factors for skin cancer are:

- Fair to light skin complexion
- Family history of skin cancer
- Personal history of skin cancer
- A large number of moles
- Freckles (an indicator of sun sensitivity and sun damage)
- Chronic exposure to the sun
- History of sunburns early in life
- Atypical moles
- Large number of moles

Skin cancer warning signs

Asymmetry - One half of the mole does not match the other half.
Border irregularity - The edges are ragged, notched or blurred.
Color - The pigmentation is not uniform.
Diameter - Greater than 6 millimeters, or about a quarter-inch. Any sudden or progressive increase in size should be of particular concern.

Keep alert

Early detection and treatment can prove crucial with melanoma. Even a large number of normal moles (more than 50) can be a risk factor.

Tips on preventing skin cancer

- Avoid exposure to the sun wherever possible, especially from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., when the sun’s rays are the strongest.
- Don’t use tanning beds or sunlamps.
- Wear protective clothing and hats.
- Seek shade or make your own shade.
- Use sunscreen with SPF 15 or higher which has both UVA and UVB protection.
- Check your skin yourself regularly for signs of skin cancer.

If you see an area on your skin that looks unusual, consult a doctor.

Pension update

Members covered by Local 3’s Pension Trust for Operating Engineers have recently been sent their annual pension statements. These statements inform members of their standing as of Dec. 31, 2000.

Members often call the Fringe Benefits Center with questions regarding their statements. The most frequently asked questions are answered below.

Question: What is the pension fund?
Answer: The Pension Trust Fund for Operating Engineers is a plan that allows members to earn a monthly pension benefit when they are eligible to retire. To be eligible for a pension benefit at retirement, members must have at least five pension credits earned when they are eligible to retire.

Question: What does vested mean?
Answer: Generally, vested means you have earned the right to a monthly pension benefit when you are eligible to retire.

Question: If I am not vested, can I lose pension benefits?
Answer: Yes. If you are not vested and you incur a permanent break in service, you will lose the pension credits you had earned.

Question: How do I earn credited service (pension credit)?
Answer: Credited service is based on hours worked and contributions from your employer as required by the collective bargaining agreement. You need at least 1,000 hours reported by your employer, per calendar year, for full year of credited service. Fractional credit may be earned if you work at least 350 hours but less than 1,000 hours.

Credited service is currently granted as follows:

- 1,000 or more 1 year of credited service
- 750 to 999 hours 3/4
- 500 to 749 hours 1/2
- 350 to 499 hours 1/4
- Less than 350 hours no credit

Question: If I work more than 1,000 hours during a year, can I earn more than one year of credited service?

Answer: No, one credit in a calendar year is the most you can earn. However, if you have more than 1,000 hours, the value of your credit increases.

Question: How is the value of my credit determined?

Answer: The formula used to determine the value of credited service is hours reported times contribution rate times benefit factor. This equals your benefit.

Example:

- Hours: 1,400 hours worked.
- Contribution times 3.75 contribution rate = $250.00
- Benefit factor times 3 percent equals $187.10 per month at full retirement age.

Question: When am I vested?

Answer: Effective Jan. 1, 1998, the plan adopted a five-year vesting schedule. To be eligible for five-year vesting, a participant must have at least five pension credits without a permanent break in service and be or she must work for a contributing employer at least one hour on or after Jan. 1, 1998.

For the period Dec. 1, 1976 through Dec. 31, 1997, the requirement for vesting was 10 years of credited service, without a permanent break in service. Different rules were in place prior to December 1976.

NOTE: If you are not vested and you fail to earn any credit in a calendar year, you will no longer be a participant. You will again become a participant when you have 500 or more hours reported in a calendar year.

Question: What is the annual pension statement about?

Answer: The annual pension statement informs you of your standing in the fund as of Dec. 31, 2000. It shows you the value of your credited service, and any contributions that have been made to your account.

Question: How do I earn credited service hours?

Answer: Credited service is the number of hours you work and the contributions that are made to your pension account.

Question: How do I review my pension statement?

Answer: You can review your pension statement online at www.pensiontrust.org or by calling the Fringe Benefit Center at (800) 532-2105.

Question: Can I earn credited service hours while I am out of work?

Answer: Yes, you can earn credited service hours while you are out of work. However, if you are out of work for an extended time, you may not earn any credited service hours.

Question: How do I determine if I am vested?

Answer: Generally, vested means you have earned the right to a monthly pension benefit when you are eligible to retire.

Question: If I work more than 1,000 hours during a year, can I earn more than one year of credited service?

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Question: If I am not vested, can I lose pension credits?

Answer: Yes. If you are not vested and you incur a permanent break in service, you will lose the pension credits you had earned.

Question: When would I incur a permanent break in service?

Answer: In general, you would incur a permanent break in service when you fail to earn any credited service for five consecutive years. There are certain exceptions, grace periods, such as limited extensions for disability. If you are out of work for an extended time, check with the Trust Fund office to determine the effect on your pension benefits.

Finally, members should always feel free to call the Fringe Benefit Center at (800) 532-2105 or the Pension Trust Fund office with questions regarding their pension benefits.
Local 3’s credit union provides car buyers with value, service

Choose a 100-percent union organization for your vehicle loans from Local 3’s own credit union, Operating Engineers Local 3 Federal Credit Union (OEFCU), giving you the opportunity to support the union movement.

When you choose OEFCU, a union financial institution, you support our union and the entire union movement. Why take out a vehicle loan from a non-union organization when OEFCU is available to serve you?

If your vehicle loan is now with a non-union bank or other institution, contact the credit union at (800) 877-4444 to learn what your savings each month may be if you refinance with your credit union.

Credit Union Web site gets car shoppers rolling

More and more Local 3 members are finding that the road to a new dashboard begins with a keyboard. From their PCs, members log onto Local 3’s Federal Credit Union Web site to find their next vehicle. Members in California and Nevada click on the Credit Union Direct Lending (CUDL) icon from the credit union’s homepage at <http://www.oefcu.org>.

Clicking this icon lets you quickly and easily research trucks and cars. You can compare invoice price, the manufacturer’s suggested retail price and options. The CUDL link also includes Kelley Blue Book for researching new or used vehicles.

Using the site’s Credit Union Fleet Program link you can request a quote from up to three dealers in your area. Up to three CUDL fleet dealers will contact you with pricing. Once satisfied with the price you receive from one of these dealers, visit that dealer and request OEFCU financing through the CUDL system.

The CUDL network makes it possible for participating dealerships to give you an answer on your OEFCU loan in minutes, even on weekends, holidays and evenings when OEFCU isn’t open. You can use the CUDL link, <http://www.oefcu.org>, to find the dealer nearest you. Or you can call (800) 877-4444, or any OEFCU branch.

If beginning your car or truck search by computer is not for you, OEFCU still has time- and money-saving options for you. For example, once your vehicle loan is pre-approved at OEFCU, California members can call the credit union’s free Auto Buying Consultant (ABC) service with the specifics of the vehicle you want. The credit union ABC staff will locate your vehicle, negotiate with the dealer for the best price, and help you through the paperwork. In most cases the vehicle of your choice can be delivered to your home or work. Again, California members can call the special Auto Buying Consultant line (800) 326-9552 or e-mail autobuying-consultant@oefcu.org.

Any OEFCU branch can help you by giving you Kelley Blue Book values for the car you are looking to sell or buy, as well as the dealer’s invoice cost and the cost of options on new vehicles. You will be armed with the information you need to negotiate the best price at the dealership.

Applying for a pre-approved new or used vehicle loan at OEFCU’s low rates is the best place to begin your truck or car search. And applying is easy. You may call any branch at (800) 877-4444 or apply 24 hours a day, seven days a week at <http://www.oefcu.org>.

CREDIT UNION MEMBERS ONLY — RAIN OR SHINE

Super Select Pre-owned Vehicle Sale

Saturday, July 21
8 am - 2 pm

OEFCU Headquarters
6400 Village Parkway

Corporate Motors
6250 Florin Road, Sacramento
(across from Florin Mall)

OEFCU Headquarters, 6400 Village Parkway

Corporate Motors
6250 Florin Road, Sacramento
(across from Florin Mall)

2 LOCATIONS

OEFCU Headquarters
6400 Village Parkway

Corporate Motors
6250 Florin Road, Sacramento
(across from Florin Mall)

Super Select Pre-owned Vehicle Sale

Saturday, July 21
8 am - 2 pm

OEFCU Headquarters
6400 Village Parkway

Corporate Motors
6250 Florin Road, Sacramento
(across from Florin Mall)

CREDIT UNION MEMBERS ONLY — RAIN OR SHINE

More than 150 cars! Most still under factory warranty

Huge selection of cars, trucks, vans and sport utility vehicles

No cash needed....

100% financing available

.500% Auto Pay discount

1/4 %

Loan Rate Discount Day of Sale Only

OEFCU Headquarters
6400 Village Parkway

Corporate Motors
6250 Florin Road, Sacramento
(across from Florin Mall)

OEFCU Headquarters
6400 Village Parkway

Corporate Motors
6250 Florin Road, Sacramento
(across from Florin Mall)

Vehicle Information Hotline: 1-800-999-9476 • For Loan Information: 1-800-877-4444 or 925-829-4400

CREDIT UNION MEMBERS ONLY — RAIN OR SHINE

More than 150 cars! Most still under factory warranty

Huge selection of cars, trucks, vans and sport utility vehicles

No cash needed....

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Vehicle Information Hotline: 1-800-999-9476 • For Loan Information: 1-800-877-4444 or 925-829-4400
EMPIRE RANCH

Nearly 200 Local 3 members spearhead construction of giant housing project

Story and photos by Ray Sotero, Associate News Editor

FOLSOM, Calif. — The hostage crisis has long been over.
In its place is a construction job boom where Local 3 members are helping survey, grade, excavate and level what promises to be a Northern California housing showcase.

Under key leadership from a pro-union consultant and with hard work by nearly 200 members of Local 3, one of the most ambitious home-development projects in the region promises to be a textbook success story for union teamwork.

Though now the project is well underway, with about 300 homes constructed and hundreds more being built, the future of the balanced-use development east of Sacramento didn’t always look so bright.

A long battle

Initially proposed nearly 10 years ago, struggles came early for the 2,800-home project spread over 3,500 acres east of Folsom near the border of Sacramento and Eldorado Counties north of Hwy. 50.

Uncertain approval, legal battles and jurisdictional disputes threatened construction of Empire Ranch, according to accounts cited by builders, labor leaders and Folsom city officials.

In short, many supporters feared the long-planned project was doomed.

Then, in the fall of 1999, Rob Parish of Development Consulting Services got the call to work on the project.

"The project was being held hostage by easements, entitlements and various lawsuits," Parish told Engineers News.

The outlook: Political, financial and business support was weakening, and coordination of construction was spotty at best.

For example, some of the first home builders had in-track improvements in place prior to installation of off-site facilities that provided sewer and water to the project.

In other words, a disjointed approach threatened the credibility of Empire Ranch.

"The project was looking for somebody to help coordinate and organize construction activity out there," Parish said about circumstances before the hiring of his firm, Development Consultant Services. "We were challenged, basically, with getting sewer, water and utilities completed in a three-and-a-half-month window. We did, and that’s what got us through the hurdle and phase one of the project completed."

Credibility proven


Continued on page 14
Forward scouts

Often overlooked, surveyors serve as modern-day explorers of development projects

Story and photos by Ray Sotero, Associate News Editor

FOLSOM, Calif. - During the 1800s, they often ended up dead, lost or forgotten.

Today, getting killed on the job is a rarity and getting lost is a near impossibility.

But engineering surveyors - also once called scouts and explorers - still are often forgotten or taken for granted, interviews with workers showed. Sometimes described as unsung heroes of a multi-billion dollar construction industry, they could be called modern-day pathfinders, going first where dozers, graders and earthmovers will follow.

"Surveyors are usually (among) the first and last workers on every job," Local 3 Technical Business Rep. Jim Horan said. "They're the ones doing the initial topography survey, followed by a survey of the perimeter boundary and then the lot survey showing where the homes will go.

"When it's all over, they go back and do an 'as built' assessment showing where everything is for the record.

"Not much would get done without surveyors."

Horan should know. Himself a former surveyor, Horan noted that renowned Pacific Northwest explorers Lewis and Clark and four former presidents were surveyors and, when the West was wilder, many surveyors died in the field - or were never heard from again.

"Guys were killed by Indians and everything else," he said.

Interviews with surveyors at the 3,600-acre Empire Ranch, a major mixed-use housing development in Folsom east of Sacramento, reflected many modern-day advances.

Two-person teams still assess the land, stake out development sites, then return to follow up. Long before bulldozers arrive to plow between the stakes, these men and women essentially show the way for development.

Beyond their toolbox, however, surveyors must be skilled in using high-tech aids such as laptop computers, global positioning systems, data collectors and built-in calculators. These and related up-to-date techniques are taught by member employers in conjunction with Local 3-sponsored Northern California Surveyors Joint Apprenticeship Committee, according to policies cited by Floyd Harley, program administrator.

"They use both the old techniques and the new," Harley said.

Jaime Salcedo, party chief for Psomas, which is providing surveying and geospatial services for the Tschert led Empire Ranch project, and a self-proclaimed product of Local 3 training, said the housing project has been a rewarding challenge.

"A lot of people don't understand what we do," Salcedo, a 15-year member of Local 3, said during a recent interview from a mountaintop overlooking Empire Ranch. "When I tell them I'm a surveyor, they say 'Oh, you're the guys behind the instrument all day. They don't realize you're laying out a multi-million dollar piece of structure in one day, with two points or three points of reference.'"

More than 50 major pieces of heavy equipment, and nearly 200 members of Local 3, work at Empire Ranch.
Accuracy is crucial

"It has to be right the first time, otherwise you won't be employed, or a bridge or a powerhouse or a tunnel won't get built on time," he said.

Indeed, Salcedo, who has overseen the Empire Ranch project for three years, and fellow surveyors Gregg Hapai and Juan R. Romo said the hardest part about their careers often is handling corrections between the engineer's design of a project and the contractor.

"If there's a mistake on the drawing, we put it on the ground," Salcedo said. "Although a lot of times we catch those mistakes, oftentimes we don't. The contractor builds it or goes to build it and then comes directly to the surveyor. "Your layout wasn't right," when what really happened was the design wasn't correct.

"That's the hardest part, when a surveyor is blamed for something he has no control over."

Those frustrations aside, Salcedo, Hapai and Romo agreed other aspects of the job make it rewarding. These include using the latest technological improvements, working outside, troubleshooting - and bashing in new vistas.

"You learn something new every day and you're not doing the same thing every day," Romo said. "You're doing a variety of jobs. Yesterday I was in Redding by the river doing topography. The week before I was in San Luis Obispo doing GPS. I love it."

Hapai agreed. "What's nice is one day you'll do topography. The next day you'll do boundary. The next day you'll do construction staking."

Empire Ranch offers other challenges. Salcedo and his crew must ensure development goes around existing oak trees and archaeological sites that mostly are rocky outcroppings once used by native Americans as sharpening stones. These must be preserved, he said.

They also complete preliminary work allowing for wetland and drainage areas.

"We lay out the environmental aspects of the job, which would be fencing out wetlands or fencing out trees and stuff like that, including the rocky outcroppings, Salcedo said. "One of the big things is canyon drains because the ground has so much relief that we have to set up for that."

The team also maps out where individual home sites will be. Because much of the project is on hilly slopes, it's easy to see how almost every site will be at a different elevation - a major attraction to the development, the men said.

"All of that adds to the overall plan, enhancing the architecture," Salcedo said. "It gives the buyers different views. If you're down in the flatland, you'd be looking at your neighbor's windows because it's all the same elevation. Here, elevation may change 20 feet from lot to lot."

"It'll give beautiful views."

Again, the surveyors emphasized, much of the final product depends on the accuracy of their work.

"In my opinion, surveyors don't get the credit they deserve," Salcedo said. "(People) just see the machines moving the earth.

"Though Local 3 has very talented, very knowledgeable operators, they still need us to be able to tell them, 'Here's where you want to build it. ' "

A scraper awaits the next phase of the Empire Ranch project, which calls for grading much of the hill in the background.
Union versus non-union
Third-generation Operating Engineer, now a developer, values Local 3 workers

Folsom, Calif. — Asked to compare Empire Ranch workers with non-union personnel, project consultant Rob Parish of Development Consulting Services quickly cited many tangible advantages to hiring Local 3 union workers.

Among them:
"The respect and camaraderie the workers have."
"The willingness to go that extra mile for you without having to be asked."
"Enjoying the job."
"Showing up for work and not being concerned with what you're being tasked with that day."

Most important — and the biggest — advantage of union workers is their professional knowhow, he said.
"There's a definite difference in quality — it's far superior to anything a non-union person is going to bring."
Parish should know. His father and grandfather were Local 3 members, and he drew on that experience when faced with the challenge of a multi-million project where Local 3 members contribute directly to about $145 million of construction.
It boils down to depth of background, Parish said.
"Fundamentally, the difference is the training that union members receive and the depth of experience that they're exposed to on a daily basis."

Another plus is what Parish calls, "The continuity of working with the same group of people, job after job after job."
"There's not anybody out here that I couldn't walk up to and be greeted with a smile and a handshake. They enjoy every minute that they spend out here. You get the most out of anybody who comes to work in that kind of environment."
"These people are family, and we treat each other that way."

— Ray Sotero

Local 3 members spearhead construction

Continued from page 11

"It essentially created the credibility that this project needed; that it could produce subdivisions," Parish agreed.

Since then, Local 3 members and others have been working shoulder to shoulder, up to 12 hours a day, sometimes seven days a week, using up to 50 major pieces of equipment, to launch Empire Ranch. He estimated Local 3 members help with about $145 million in construction.

When completed, the project will include an 18-hole public golf course, a greenbelt, hiking paths, a pedestrian bridge, three schools and preservation of as many native blue and silver oak trees as possible.

Since 1992, for example, there have been two major revisions in the size of the project, reducing the number of lots by 700 and preserving 1,100 oak trees, Scott Johnson of the Folsom Planning Department said.
"The developers have been willing to lose lots to make it a better project," Johnson said.

The success of Empire Ranch couldn't have occurred without the help of trained, experienced and motivated members of Local 3, insisted Parish, whose father, grandfather and brother Max belonged to Local 3.
"I'm a third-generation Operating Engineer that has a tremendous amount of respect for these tradespeople," Parish said. "Local 3 members are the folks who truly are making all this happen."

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Season starts well
Three-year contract okayed with San Jose Water

This year is off to a good start with surveying hours showing double-digit increases over the same period last year.

Also, please call your local dispatch office when you return to work for your former employer. This saves everyone time and makes it less difficult for the dispatchers to fill staffing requests.

Contract resolved

With all the activity going on, I neglected to mention that in the midst of a long merger process between San Jose Water Company and American Water Company, a three-year contract was negotiated between Operating Engineers and San Local 3, in conjunction with the Utility Workers Union of America, intervened in the hearing at the Public Utilities Commission to invoke the rights of protection for the members in the merger process. Special recognition goes to Roosenboom, who provided the commission with information that would affect every member of San Jose Water Company if the merger went through. The merger was called off and San Jose Water will not be merged into American Water. As ratepayers and union members, we should also credit PUC staff for the dedication and effort that went into these hearings.

The work picture looks good for construction in both private and public sectors. Provided no late rains, we should head toward another busy season.

Work safe and take time to teach the apprentices.

Does President George W. Bush favor the rich and Big Business over working families?

Keep your eye on him.

Visit BushWatch at www.aflcio.org/bushwatch
What about "club drugs?"

During the past few months, a few members have asked me about club drugs. In fact, this increased level of interest makes me wonder if there are some fools out there who use these drugs not only in clubs but also in the workplace.

Right now none of the club drugs are included in the screening tests that can identify drugs in the workplace. I checked with SAMSHA/CSAP. That stands for Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration/Center for Substance Abuse. Donna M. Bush (no relation to you know who) is chief of the drug-testing section. She is clearly worried about the increasing use of club drugs, especially one known as Ecstasy. It seems not only are college students stupid enough to use these drugs, but they have become quite popular among some members of the military, and traces are now showing up among people working in safety-sensitive areas. Bush said that CSAP plans to develop a screening test that can identify club drugs in the workplace.

An overview

For those of us not involved in the drug scene (yes, we are an absolute majority) and therefore not up to date on the latest craze, let me fill you in. Club drugs have for some time now been quite popular with adolescents and young adults who attend raves, all night dance parties and extended concerts. When you ask these (your?) kids why they take these drugs, they claim that they get energy and increased stamina from them. That may be true in some cases but this is not the whole story.

Club drugs are potent and pose serious health risks for users. They are usually produced illicitly and often contain contaminants which add to the risk of unpredictable effects. They can easily be slipped into the drink of an unsuspecting person because they are colorless, odorless and tasteless. When combined with other sedatives or alcohol, club drugs dramatically enhance sedation or intoxication. This often sets the stage for date rape and sexual assault.

The most common club drugs:
- MDMA, also known as Ecstasy.
- GHB, also called G and liquid Ecstasy.
- Ketamine, also called Special K.
- Rohypnol, known as Roofies.
- Methamphetamine and LSD.

The effects

All of the drugs have deleterious physiological effects that are unpredictable in onset and may be triggered by only a small amount of these drugs. Ecstasy first saw the light of day as an appetite suppressant. Only later was it discovered that it has stimulant and hallucinogenic properties, that it increases heart rate and blood pressure, and causes confusion, depression, anxiety and paranoia. The effects last up to six hours and psychological effects can last for weeks. In high doses, Ecstasy can cause heart attacks, stroke, convulsions and it tends to permanently impair serotonin levels in the brain.

If you insist on risking your sanity and health, try GHB – but, please, not in front of your children. Coma and seizures have been reported when GHB and speed are combined, and withdrawal effects include insomnia, anxiety, tremors and sweating. Onset is within 10 minutes and effects last up to four hours.

Then, of course, there is always Special K. It is a cousin to PCP and commonly used as a veterinary anesthetic. It is, unfortunately, effective as a date-rape drug. The user experiences feelings ranging from weightlessness to full-fledged, out-of-body or near-death experiences. Fatal respiratory impairment is not uncommon. Long-term effects include impaired learning and memory, high blood pressure, delirium and depression.

A recipe for suicide

If you can't handle the miseries listed above, you may want to try a little Rohypnol. It will intoxicate you but I can assure you that you won't remember much of anything that happens while you are under the influence of this drug. Mixing it with alcohol often results in a successful suicide, a quality this drug shares with other benzodiazepines. Frequently its use also results in both physiological and psychological dependence.

I suppose you now understand why Bush and the other folks at CSAP are so concerned about the dramatic increase in the use of these drugs. They are exceedingly dangerous to the user and those in his or her proximity. Of course, denial and stupidity are part and parcel of the human condition and, I suppose, always will be. Let us at least keep the workplace free of these drugs and the fools who continue to use them. If you want to stop, if you want help – call us at (800) 562-3277. We will be there for you.
Construction projects promise strong year

SACRAMENTO, Calif. - Things are looking good out there; the work is busting loose. We believe the construction picture promises to be great for the rest of the year.

From the Sierra Nevadas to the Central Valley, here is some of what is happening:

Granite Construction has an $86 million-plus job on I-80 from Truckee to Floristown. This job entails reconstruction of I-80 and related bridges west of the Fireboard undercrossing to the west end of the Truckee River bridge. This should last more than two years.

Nemours is the signatory subcontractor.

Granite also won the bid on a $30 million freeway reconstruction project from Sunrise Boulevard to Latrobe Road.

Kiewit Pacific has the $65 million Gold Run project, which includes highway rehabilitation, asphalt concrete paving, PCC paving, fiber optics and electrical installation. This job will have other signatory employers.

Goodfellow Brothers has the Wentworth Springs project, which started the first week of May. The firm also picked up the road project on the west side of Uncle Tom's Cabin. In addition, the Richard's Boulevard widening project is estimated at more than $500,000.

Nevada apprentices complete another project

RENO, Nev. - In January and February, apprentices trained on a Red Rock Valley 4-H Club project.

The work consisted of leveling areas for pens, a roping arena and corrals. About 5,000 yards of dirt were moved, which was an excellent training opportunity on dozer, scraper, roller and blade.

This project also provided first-hand experience graderetting in cut-and-fill operations. The work was done during the winter months while the apprentices and some of the journey-level members were unemployed.

Thanks to everyone involved in this project, and a special thanks to retiree Lowell Hunt for his volunteer instructor time.

In other news, natural gas safety classes will be offered again in June. If interested, contact the apprenticeship office at (775) 857-3105.

A few reminders:

The District 80 picnic and softball games are scheduled July 8 at the Loomis Regional Park in Loomis from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. A softball game will follow, with the apprentices playing against journey-level members.

A motorcycle ride to the Reno picnic will be Saturday, July 28 beginning at 7:30 a.m. at the Sacramento office, 4044 North Freeway Blvd.

If you have been recalled to work please be sure to notify dispatchers in the Sacramento office.

For additional information, call (916) 565-6170.
Utah members obtain three-year contract

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah — Heckett Multiserve has ratified a new agreement which will provide wage and fringe benefit increases of $2.40 over the three-year term of the contract, a review shows.

Valley Asphalt and Geneva Rock expect a busy year with paving work. Granite has been awarded a good-sized job on I-15 which began in mid-April. Granite has also picked up the Highland Housing Development job.

In other news:
Local 3 workers recently hung the last bridge girder on the Wasatch I-15 reconstruction project. On hand were the Utah staff. From left are (Photo, top right) Business Reps. Jim Sullivan, Dale Cox, Reid Davis and Anthony Rivera; Phil McChesney, apprenticeship coordinator; and Business Rep. Rick Nelson. The banner in the background is one of many hung on the girder by union crafts on the project.

Brian Bishop held a 40-hour Hazmat class (Photo below) during a recent four-day period, with 14 Local 3 members becoming certified. Four of the members were from the Lower Brule Reservation: Arnold Quartz, administrator; and apprentices Michael L. Fisher, Albert J. Moran and Terry McBride, all of whom enjoyed the warm weather.

Work will pick up with warmer weather, and to help hands with their related training and journey-level upgrade training, we will hold training classes on Saturdays beginning in June.

Friday, May 4, was Katey Tuckett’s last day working for Local 3 and the Utah Joint Apprenticeship Committee. Tuckett worked 26 years for Local 3. We would like to thank her for a job well done and wish her well.

Heather Manwill will take over Tuckett’s position. Manwill has worked in a union office as an executive secretary for three years. Please help us welcome her to our staff.

Reid C. Davis is the new business representative over public employees, KKC, Smith Power and the Wheeler ICM shops.

New Business Rep. Anthony Rivera will be over area 1, northern Utah.

Dale Cox will be over Area 3 and 4, central Utah.

New Business Rep. Rick Nielson will be over areas 2 and 5, southern Utah.

Jim Sullivan is the new district representative. He has been business representative for two years and a member of Local 3 for 12 years. He is proud to serve Utah members.

Special thanks to Julie Frazier and Richard Taniguchi for their outstanding performances and dedication to Local 3.

Apprenticeship news
The training site at Wheeler will be open on Saturdays beginning in June, depending on response. If necessary, it will remain open through August. Please let us know.

We are trying to obtain a track hoe. With luck, we’ll have one soon.
Mission Statement

Local 3 is committed to providing our employers and agencies with the highest skilled union members possible so the union can negotiate the best possible wages, fringe benefits and working conditions for our members. This cooperative relationship aims to improve the employer's competitiveness while raising the living standard and quality of life of union members and their families.

Local 3 is also committed to:

- Electing politicians who support legislation and policies favorable to union members.

- Creating a level playing field for employers in the public bidding process.

- Building the highest quality infrastructure for the public good.

- Providing Local 3 members with a full-service and convenient financial institution, the Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3 Federal Credit Union, to help facilitate members' pursuit of a higher standard of living.

- Providing Local 3 members with a sound pension and retiree medical plan so union members can retire with dignity and financial security.

- Providing quality apprenticeship and journey-upgrade training so Operating Engineers can be the best in their respective industries.

- Improving the public education system through the support of bonds and other financing of school infrastructure.
Remember to always carry your dues card

Recording-Corresponding Secretary Robert L. Wise wishes to remind all members to carry their current Local 3 dues card.

When attending a semi-annual, quarterly district or special meeting of the union, your paid-up dues card is proof of your good-standing status as a member of Local 3 and your right to vote in such meetings or participate in union business.

**DISTRICT MEETINGS**

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<th>JUNE 2001</th>
<th>AUGUST 2001</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>4th</strong> District 17: Kauai, HI</td>
<td><strong>2nd</strong> District 50: Fresno, CA</td>
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<td>Wailuku</td>
<td>1511 Rollins Road</td>
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<td><strong>22nd</strong> District 15: Casper, WY</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1340 N. State Street</td>
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<td>Cannery Workers</td>
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<td>1960 Freedom Blvd.</td>
<td>3557 Oro Dam Blvd.</td>
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YOU HAVE TO ADMIT THAT BUSH...

HAS KEPT HIS PROMISE OF BIPARTISANSHIP.

HOW'S THAT?

BY CONSISTENTLY RIPPING OFF THE AMERICAN WORKER.

...WITHOUT REGARD FOR PARTY AFFILIATION.
### Departed Members

Our condolences to the family and friends of the following departed members.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<td>Atwater, CA</td>
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<td>Louis Cook</td>
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<td>Robert Dennis</td>
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<td>M. Jones</td>
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<td>Horace McKay</td>
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<td>Glen McKnight</td>
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<td>John Melton</td>
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<td>Andy Miller</td>
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<td>I. Obedoza</td>
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<td>Gordon Plant</td>
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<td>Delbert Rossiter</td>
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<td>Marvin Shelby</td>
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<td>Alvin Tubb</td>
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<td>Robert Villescaze</td>
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<td>Glen Wallscheid</td>
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<td>Samuel Woods</td>
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<td>Richard Zimmerman</td>
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<td>James Zumwalt</td>
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### Deceased Dependents

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Jacqueline Anderson</td>
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<td>Velda Bisher, wife of G. Wayne Bisher</td>
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<td>Barbara Bryan, wife of Warren Bryan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marjorie Douglass, wife of Fremont Douglass</td>
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<td>Grace Ishii, wife of Francis Ishii</td>
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<tr>
<td>Viola Ensworth, wife of Louis Ensworth</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nellie Frasier, wife of Charles Frasier</td>
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<td>Ruth Lodge, wife of Maurice Lodge</td>
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<td>Mary Long, wife of Mike Long</td>
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<td>Emma McKay, wife of Delbert McKay</td>
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<td>Carolyn Nichols, wife of Len L. Nichols</td>
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<td>Louise Perkins, wife of Floyd Perkins</td>
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<td>Margie Riley, wife of Eddie Riley</td>
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<td>Shirley Rumpel, wife of Dean Rumpel</td>
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<td>Jennie Russell, wife of Willard Russell</td>
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<td>Barbara Simpson, wife of R.O. Simpson</td>
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<td>Norma Steele, wife of Dale Steele</td>
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<td>Kishie Wakuta, wife of Mamo Wakuta</td>
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### HONORARY MEMBERS

The following retirees have 35 or more years of membership in Local 3 as of April 2001 and are eligible for Honorary Membership effective July 1, 2001.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Social Security Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>George W. Beatty*</td>
<td>0791459</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Cadinha</td>
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<td>Donald Carlson</td>
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<td>Cal Doelter</td>
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<td>Wilbert Erman</td>
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<td>Andrew Estacion</td>
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<td>Wesley J. Freitas</td>
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<td>Arthur Fuller*</td>
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<td>Adam Ilaban, Sr.</td>
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<td>James Jordan</td>
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<td>Raymond Orman*</td>
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<td>Charles Scalberg</td>
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<td>Rhys Truman</td>
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<td>Thomas Wahler</td>
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* Effective date April 2001
May Day rally

Workers remember 600 Californians killed, 800,000 injured on the job in 2000

Story and photos by Ray Sotero

SACRAMENTO, Calif. - Terry Cantrell came to remember, and he hopes others won't forget.

Cantrell, a union writer whose father, a mechanic, and grandfather, a coal miner, were killed because of separate job-related incidents, was one of about 300 workers who attended the recent May Day rally at the Capitol Park Rose Garden in Sacramento.

More important, Cantrell said the deaths of his family members, as well as others hurt and killed on the job, is a stunning reminder that more protections are needed for workers, their families and to improve work conditions.

Rally organizers said each year an average of 600 workers are killed and 800,000 injured in on-the-job accidents. In addition, thousands more die from occupational diseases, according to former Cal-OSHA official Fran Shreiberg, who served as master of ceremonies.

"That's almost two deaths every workday in this state," Cantrell said. "That's too many injuries and too many deaths."

As Cantrell wrote the names of his family members on a sign, a banner behind the podium listed the 600 workers killed.

Nearly, a wreath of flowers anchored a sign with the names of Sacramento-area workers killed.

Supported by Local 3 and several other unions and community groups, the rally brought together supporters of working families to garner public opinion in favor of legislation improving benefits and protections for workers.

May 1 traditionally is a date to celebrate workers' rights and is known in Europe as International Workers Day. Speakers called for increased protections and benefits.

Attending the rally were several Democratic legislators and union leaders. Worker protections have decreased while workers' compensation costs have dropped, backers of a bill by state leader Sen. John Burton, D-San Francisco, said.

Because of that, benefits in the Golden State are among the lowest in the nation, they said.

The rally ended with a musician playing Amazing Grace on bagpipes, with the crowd joining in to sing together.

The Rev. Bryant Wyatt of Sacramento's Mount Calvary Baptist Church led attendees through an invocation.

"May we learn from this loss, honor the memory of those lost and work toward a safer workplace for all people," Wyatt said.

Everyone prayed.
Gas pipeline and highway projects keep members busy

STOCKTON, Calif. - District 30 expects a busy year.

The biggest job to start is the $39 million gas storage pipeline near Lodi. U.S. Pipeline has the pipeline itself, and it works under the National Pipeline Agreement. Under the agreement, 50 percent of the hands must be hired out of the local hall, and we presently have 26 hands on the job from Local 3. ARB does the pumping station, and has started its portion of the job.

Other work

Work has started on Diablo Grande again, and work is currently underway on the water out-fall. Teichert and Evans Construction have done the Coffler Dam and site work at this small job. By securing a water source, workers will be allowed to proceed with the hotel, water and sewer treatment plants and the road connecting the development to Sperry Road near I-5. Workers will begin a $30 million interchange expansion at Arch Road and Hwy. 99. That is the first step in the Hwy. 99 corridor expansion to six lanes from Manteca to Galt.

There are several jobs starting in the foothills. The biggest is the $39 million Sonora bypass, which bid May 2. Goodfellow & Harris was the low bidder. The project should start by mid-June.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank those retirees who turned out for our recent meetings in Modesto and Stockton. It's a pleasure to see all of you. I'd also like to thank the members who came to the Stockton District meeting April 26th. We had more than 100 members present and we had an excellent meeting.

Mark Aug. 26 on your calendar. That's the date of the Stockton District picnic at Micke Grove Park. We hope to see you there.

- District Rep. Doug Corson

Hawaiian workers ‘turn to’ on Maui and Oahu

HONOLULU, Hawaii - Lionel Cravalho (upper left) of Diversified Machinery works the blade during fine grading operations at the Walmart project on Maui.

On Oahu, (lower left and top right) Delta Construction workers prepare road shoulders and Grace Pacific workers follow behind with the paving.

Also on Maui, (lower right) Goodfellow Brothers and Local 3 members take time out for a picture. From left at the Everett Dowling Kulamalu Project are Tommy Maddela, Morris Ah Nee Jr., Hermann Estrella, Jim Arellano, Wendy Muchabeling, Joe Dison and Stanley Lee.

In other news, 91 Local 3 members attended a recent eight-hour Hazmat refresher course held in Honolulu. Conducting the class were JAC instructor Nelson Umiamaka; stabilization instructor Allan Parker, and instructors Alan Kumalae and Danny Nelson.