In full swing

Sacramento concrete pumper back in action after rain delay

IMPORTANT ELECTION NOTICE

See page 19 for important information regarding the August 2006 election of Officers and Executive Board members.
For The Good & Welfare
By John Bonilla, Business Manager

November ballot to include bond package, legislative fix

Local 3 celebrated a big win last month when the California Legislature voted to place an infrastructure bond package worth $37.3 billion on the November ballot. This is the largest bond package in state history and one that holds great promise for Local 3 Operating Engineers.

If approved by voters in November, the bonds will cover $20 billion for road and transit improvements, $10.4 billion to refurbish and build new K-12 schools, $4.1 billion for levees and flood protection and $2.85 billion for housing.

The bond package also includes dollars for maintenance of our existing infrastructure to keep our state Craft Maintenance members on the job.

As I said, this is a huge victory for our membership in terms of providing tremendous work opportunities for us in the years to come. Remember, though – the battle is not over. In order for us to see this transportation funding become work for our membership, we have to ensure this bond package passes at the ballot box in November.

Bylaws update
Switching gears to another important topic, I want to give you a brief update on what's happening with the review and revision of our bylaws.

I first informed you about the decision to review OE3’s bylaws at the most recent March Semi-Annual Meeting. Since then, I have assembled a bylaws review committee of officers and staff to develop recommended changes in our dues structure and other subjects necessary to bring our bylaws into the 21st Century. These recommendations will be considered and revised by a rank-and-file member committee that will bring a final recommendation to the membership for approval.

One of the committee’s top priorities is to ensure the protection of our members’ identities. The committee will be looking into alternatives to printing members’ Social Security numbers in full for identification purposes and also working with the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) to ensure our bylaws conform to the IUOE’s Constitution.

I’ll be sure to keep you informed of the committee’s progress.

In the meantime, let’s remember to work safe during this busy summer season.

In solidarity,

John A. Bonilla
Business Manager
IUOE General Vice President

A 63-meter concrete pump is used to pour concrete for a new parking garage at Sac State.

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Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3
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In the News

Caltrans Workers Memorial 2006

Caltrans workers, families and friends attended the Caltrans Workers Memorial at the California State Capitol April 19 to pay their respect to fallen workers Daniel Broeske, Sean Merriman, Jackie Ray Aldridge and all highway maintenance workers who have died on the job. Each construction cone represents a Caltrans worker who has made the ultimate sacrifice in making California’s roadways safer. See more pictures from this memorial ceremony and the May 4 memorial ceremony at the Susanville maintenance facility on pages 1 and 4 of Public Employee News.

Representing Local 3 and the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE), Dennis Bonnifield, the director of the Central Office for State Unit 12, addresses the audience at the April 19 Caltrans Workers Memorial in Sacramento.

Rohnert Park CATs help a neighbor in need

The Operating Engineers Community Action Team (OE CAT) in Rohnert Park District 10 spent the last Saturday in April lending a helping hand for a neighbor in need. Working with a community revitalization organization called Rebuilding Together, the CATs were connected with Muriel Belhumeur of Santa Rosa, who needed help with some repairs around the house. The CATs spent the day there, helping her replace a broken oven, install a handrail and clean and trim up the yard. Coincidently, they found out Belhumeur’s son, Chuck, is also a Local 3 member!

It was a day of service and a day well spent for all involved. Thanks to those who participated, especially Local 3 member Richard Howell.

A bump in the road for Bush

President Bush’s popularity in recent polls suggests his chart may really look like this. More Americans than ever before are pessimistic about the way he is handling his presidency. A recent survey found his approval rating fell to 32 percent, the lowest it’s ever been since he took office. An astounding number of voters – 62 percent – didn’t agree with many of his decisions or actions, especially his handling of the recent gas price surge, which has gas prices at a record average of $3.14 a gallon in California.

Talking Points

By Bob Miller, President

More on pension trends

I’m writing my column this month as we finish our round of meetings and presentations about Local 3’s pension. First and foremost, I’d like to tell every Local 3 member who attended the meetings, how proud I am of you. Most of the meetings were much longer than our usual district meetings, and the subject — your pension — is one that strikes an emotional cord in everyone, including me. Every one of us has a strong interest in our financial future, especially during our retirement years.

You never hesitated in asking the questions that needed to be asked about your pension and the steps the trustees have taken to restore its financial health. From your questions, I learned that most members really took the time to gain an understanding of the underlying causes of our funding challenge and the difficult but necessary actions that must be taken to preserve and protect our pension fund for current and future generations of Local 3 members. The courtesy you showed your officers, staff and each other during the meetings was unmatched by anything I’d ever experienced in all my years as a member.

I’m confident that with your help and support, we are now headed in the right direction. You’ve been asked to make tough choices, and once again, you’ve proven that Local 3 members are up to meeting every challenge head on. However, like I said during the meetings, not every worker is given an opportunity to have a choice in what happens with his or her pension.

When I returned to my office after the meetings, a new study was on my desk. According to Watson Wyatt Worldwide, the largest U.S. companies continued to shift from traditional pensions to 401(k) plans during 2005. In an analysis of retirement plans at Fortune 100 companies, studies show that 37 percent offered a traditional pension to new hires in 2005, compared with 42 percent in 2004 and 50 percent in 2003. Meanwhile, the percentage of companies offering workers only a 401(k) or other type of defined-contribution plan increased from 25 percent in 2004, to 36 percent in 2005. In 2003, only 17 percent offered just a defined-contribution plan.

The new study further confirms the national trend we discussed with you during our pension presentation. Increasingly, employers are shifting all retirement investment risks to their workers. Worse yet, most workers don’t get any say in the decision. Their employer simply tells them how it’s going to be — take it or leave it. I don’t think this approach will give workers much loyalty or any reason to stay with an employer. I also think that over time, it’s going to have disastrous consequences for many workers’ retirement savings.

Fortunately, as a Local 3 member, you do have a say in your retirement future. The choices can be difficult, but you have an opportunity to decide what’s best for you and your family. Having a voice and a choice is another example of the union advantage.
On the job: Hwy. 149 Project will save lives

After many years of deliberation and some difficulty, the Hwy. 149 Project is up and running. The last stretch of road between Chico and Oroville, Hwy. 149, is two lanes and intersects with highways 99 and 70—an intersection infamous for its traffic accidents and deaths. Thanks to the Hwy. 149 Project, the two lanes will be widened to four lanes, and the dangerous intersections will be replaced with interchanges. The joint-venture project is at an estimated cost of $120 million and includes the creation of frontage roads and concrete bridges. Granite Construction of Watsonville will do the earth-moving and road-building, and FCI will build the bridges. Both companies will employ about 44 to 55 members at peak season.

Currently, about 20 members are working in the dirt with scrapers and dozers. Local 3 met up with them on the job late May.

The project is expected to end in 2009, which means plenty of work for members.
INSIDE NEGOTIATIONS
By Frank Herrera, Vice President

Times – they are changing

I recall the time not long ago when $1.25 per year over five years was considered an unprecedented increase at the bargaining table. Back then, defined-benefit plans were as common as an excellent fringe benefits package, and the term, “pension restoration” wasn’t used, because we didn’t need it.

Today, we’re living in a different world. It’s the post-9/11, 21st Century global marketplace, and as they say, “times – they are changing.”

Our economics package has doubled in the last five years. Doubled, brothers and sisters, meaning we need $2 to $2.50 to maintain the benefits we have come to know and expect.

Pension restoration, which was once a non-issue, is today a necessity and therefore, one of the key issues we’re currently dealing with at the negotiating table. Another key issue is health and welfare. Though an increasingly complicated, contentious issue, it remains one of the most important to us and our families.

Ultimately, we know what we’re up against in these changing times, and we know what we want and what we need. The good news is that Local 3 understands all of this, and your negotiators are doing everything possible to move us forward in the right direction. We are constantly working to protect our good wages, benefits and our defined-benefit plan. This is priority.

Keeping our priorities straight, we’ve made some great progress on a number of contracts this summer. For example, we had a strong round of negotiations in the rock, sand and gravel industry in Northern California, with a $9 an hour increase over four years at five of Teichert’s plants. Our members at Teichert’s Vernalis plant in Stockton came away with an increase of $2.50 an hour this year and a total increase of $7.50 an hour over three years.

Each of these rock, sand and gravel contracts covers health and welfare, retiree health and welfare and pension restoration, as does the contract with JF Shea in Redding, in which we negotiated $5.18 over a three-year span.

Currently, we’re halfway through negotiations on a contract with Anrack of Sacramento and looking ahead to another round in Martis Valley up near Truckee. I’ll be sure to keep you posted on these and the other negotiations we have ahead of us this summer.

This is our busy season. Let’s remember to think safe, act safe and be safe – and don’t forget, times may be changing, but some things never change: Local 3 is here for you and because of you.

In solidarity.

TECH NEWS
By Testing, Inspection and Surveying Director Dean Dye and Business Representatives Ed Wodzienski and Rob Jones

BRAIN TEASER

Problem 112: What is the station of the BCR on the left lane? What is the station of the ECR on the right road? What is the curve data for the curb return?

The solution and more problems can be found at www.profsurv.com; click on the “Problem Corner” link.

From left: Towill Party Chief Jeff Gray, Allied Engineering Chainman Joel McCarthy and Towill Party Chief Enrique Aguilar work together in San Jose.

This month in OE3 history

The Engineers News monthly publication began in March 1943, which makes its historical accounts more than 63 years old. Stories range from giant 500,000 year-old tusk excavations to dozers lost in rivers. While some stories are archaic (dollar amounts and the mention of Candlestick Park), many revolve around issues prevalent today, such as flood repair/control and the constant need for voter awareness and participation. This special section will highlight past events (by headline) based on the current month. Clearly, Local 3 has come a long way and will be around for a while!

What happened this month in OE3 history, 50 years ago?

• “Local 3 at peak status; record season now on”: In June 1956, Local 3 boasts its “biggest season in the history of Central-West region’s construction industry” with members totaling more than 16,000. Today, Local 3 boasts more than 40,000 members.

• “Labor wins prevailing wage provision in U.S. road bill”: In June 1956, the Senate passed and sent to a House-Senate conference committee a huge highway-building bill after labor scored a major victory in the Senate adoption of a Davis-Bacon “prevailing wage” section. Without this Davis-Bacon section, contractors could undercut wages as they saw fit. Local 3 enjoys the benefits of Davis-Bacon protection today.

• “Sacramento busy on subdivisions”: In June 1956, the article comments: “all phases of the construction industry – dirt-moving, concrete pouring, steel erection and pile driving – have increased considerably … in the grading of housing sites on the many subdivisions in the area surrounding Sacramento.” Today, the growth of subdivisions surrounding Sacramento can be seen from all directions, creating good jobs for members.
Safeguard your identity

According to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), identity theft is the fastest-growing crime in the U.S. The FTC estimates 10 million individuals will fall victim to identity theft in 2006. Anyone can become a target, because identity theft can take on many forms. The best defense against identity theft is education – knowing what it is and how it works, what the current scams are and how to protect your personal information. Keeping yourself informed can help you avoid the many frustrations and costs associated with being a victim of identity theft.

Identity theft occurs when someone steals your personal information for financial gain. Identity thieves are looking to steal as much of your identification as possible, including your name, address, phone number, date of birth, Social Security number, credit card and bank account numbers and sensitive information, such as your mother's maiden name.

A variety of methods are used to gain access to your confidential data. Thieves will rummage through your mailbox and trash looking for bank and credit card statements or pre-approved credit offers. They will take whatever information you leave around on your desk and in your wallet. They will also look to buy personal information about you from inside sources, such as store or office employees who have access to your personal records. A new wave of sophisticated cyber-thieves are tricking people into disclosing their account numbers and PINs by impersonating financial institutions in e-mails. Some high-tech thieves are sending virus-laden e-mails that install programs on your computer to track your online activities to steal your passwords and account information.

With your personal data in hand, crooks can make unauthorized transactions on your existing accounts, apply for new credit cards, open bank accounts and purchase cars by taking out loans – all in your good name. To help minimize the possibility of becoming a victim, consider following these safety precautions:

Safety begins at home. Reduce the amount of sensitive information you share. Real it only when it's absolutely necessary. Limit the number of credit cards you carry in your wallet. Leave your Social Security number and other personal documents at home in a safe place. Be careful of what you put in the trash. Shred documents that contain any personal information, including pre-approved credit offers. Deposit outgoing mail containing payments at official post office boxes instead of using your mailbox at home or work.

Reduce the paper trail. Limit the number of checks you write. Instead, use your debit card to buy groceries or fill your car at the gas station. Also, pay your bills online with Bill Pay to help reduce the possibility of your checks being stolen, cashed or counterfeited. Your union-owned credit union, Operating Engineers Federal Credit Union (OEFCU), uses layers of encryption technology to ensure all of your online banking and bill payments are safe and secure from cyber hackers. Finally, sign up for Direct Deposit, in which your Social Security and pension checks, payroll or dividend checks can be electronically deposited securely into your credit union account.

Examine your financial statements. Review charges on your credit card and promptly reconcile your bank statements. Find out when financial statements and plastic cards are due to arrive. If they’re late, contact the appropriate party.

Monitor your credit report. Unless you check your credit report, there’s often no way to tell if identity thieves are using your name. Fraudulent acts can be detected by reviewing recent activity, account inquiries and incorrect addresses that appear on your report. You are entitled to one free credit report each year from the three major credit-reporting bureaus – Equifax, Experian and TransUnion. Go to www.oefcu.org, and click on “Credit Report” under the Consumer Center for more information on credit reports and how to obtain one.

Internet safety. Be wary of unsolicited e-mails, even those that look legitimate. Fraudulent e-mails can be cleverly disguised to look as if they were sent by organizations you know and trust. Legitimate businesses will never send unsolicited e-mails asking you to verify or update sensitive information. If you open an unfamiliar e-mail by mistake, avoid sending a reply, clicking on a link or opening an attachment. Always avoid sending any sensitive information via e-mail, as most e-mail is not encrypted.

Shopping online. When ordering merchandise online, be sure the transaction is encrypted to prevent unauthorized access. To show your transmission is encrypted, some browsers display a small icon in the lower-right corner of the screen that looks like a lock or key.

Maintain your computer. Internet users should install a personal firewall to prevent unauthorized computer entry. Load anti-virus software, and update it regularly to protect your computer from viruses, worms and other attacks that can lead to your personal data being stolen. Keep your browser updated, and download security patches as they are released. Deleting files before disposing of an old computer won’t erase your information. Instead, use a strong “wipe” utility program to remove sensitive data.

If you become a victim, follow these steps to protect yourself against further damage:

1. Obtain a free copy of your credit report at www.annualcreditreport.com or (877) 322-8228.
2. Contact one of the three major credit-reporting agencies to place a fraud alert. In turn, the agency will notify the other credit bureaus. A fraud alert helps prevent further fraudulent activity.
3. File a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission at (877) ID-THEFT; (877) 438-4338.
4. File a police report.
5. Send dispute letters to each credit-reporting agency along with a copy of your ID Theft Affidavit. The affidavit is available at www.consumer.gov/idtheft. Keep copies for yourself and send via certified mail with return receipt requested.

It can take just seconds for you to become a victim of identity theft, and unfortunately, those few seconds may lead to several months of headache and several thousands of dollars in clean up of your good credit. Taking simple, precautionary steps to protect your personal information is the best way to deter identity thieves. For more information on identity theft, visit www.oefcu.org. If you suspect your personal information has been compromised, immediately contact an OEFCU Member Service Representative at (800) 877-4444.
Your dental plan

The benefits described below are available whether you are enrolled in the Operating Engineers Health & Welfare Comprehensive, Kaiser or Health Net plans.

Dental benefits provide coverage for services ranging from checkups and cleanings to dentures. The following chart provides a convenient, quick-reference guide to your dental benefits.

**General plan features**

- **Maximum benefit**: $2,500 per calendar year, per individual
  - Orthodontia (available only to dependent children through age 18) has a separate maximum of $2,500 per lifetime
- **Calendar-year deductible**: none

**Benefits for covered services and charges**

**Diagnostic services:** Fund pays 100% of usual, customary and reasonable charges
- Oral examination (once in any six-month period)
- Bite-wing X-rays (once every six months)
- Emergency palliative treatment
- Specialist consultation

**Preventive care:** Fund pays 100% of usual, customary and reasonable charges
- Prophylaxis – cleaning (first two treatments in any calendar year)
- Oral examinations, specialist consultation
- Sealants (for children under age 14 only)

**Basic services:** Fund pays 85% of usual, customary and reasonable charges
- Full mouth X-rays (once every three years)
- Other X-rays (other than bite-wing X-rays)
- Study models, space maintainers
- Oral surgery
- Fillings
- Endodontics – treatment of the tooth pulp
- Periodontics – treatment of gums and bones supporting teeth
- Night guards (when prescribed for bruxism)

**Crowns/cast restorations:** Fund pays 85% of usual, customary and reasonable charges
- Crown, jackets and restorations (if teeth cannot be restored with fillings)

**Prosthodontics:** Fund pays 60% of usual, customary and reasonable charges
- Construction or repair of fixed bridges, partial or complete dentures

**Orthodontia (for dependent children through age 18 only):** Fund pays 80% of usual, customary and reasonable charges for an eligible, dependent child, up to the lifetime maximum of $2,500
- Corrective, interceptive and preventive orthodontic treatment to realign natural teeth, correct malocclusion and provide pre-orthodontic development evaluation

**Recommended pre-determinations**

Before treatment is received for the following dental services, it is recommended that the proposed treatment plan be submitted to the fund for review and an estimate of the benefits that will be payable:
- Treatment involving any type of prosthetic device, including dentures, implants, bridges, crowns, jackets and inlays
- Any type of procedure that might be considered cosmetic in nature
- Any periodontal treatment estimated to cost more than $500

Obtaining a pre-determination allows the fund to advise you and your dentist ahead of time whether a procedure will be covered and, if so, the amount payable. This will also advise you of the amount that will be your obligation. Pre-determination need not be limited to the services described above. You may obtain a pre-determination on any proposed dental treatment plan.

The dental claim form may be used to obtain pre-determination. A box is provided on the form for you to indicate with a check mark that pre-determination is being requested. You may obtain dental claim forms from the Trust Fund office or the Fringe Benefits Service Center.

For information about your dental plan or to obtain claim forms, contact the Trust Fund office at (800) 251-5014 or the Fringe Benefits Service Center (800) 532-2105.

**Student coverage for summer**

Reminder for members covered with the Operating Engineers Health & Welfare Trust Fund: Your dependent children ages 19 through 23 will have health and welfare coverage during the summer break. Proof of full-time student status must be provided to the Trust Fund office for the prior spring semester or quarter and at the beginning of the fall semester or quarter to ensure uninterrupted coverage.

**Retiree Picnic: Saturday, June 10**

Don’t forget to mark your calendars for the upcoming Retiree Picnic at the Rancho Murieta Training Center Saturday, June 10.

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

At the Administrator’s Exchange in Newport Beach, Calif., International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) General President Vincent Giblin used the phrase “make no mistake about it” over and over again. He used this phrase to drive home his point that funds negotiated for training, whether at the international or local level, should be used for training and not to create bank accounts. The purpose for training funds and the Department of Labor’s current guidelines on training trusts are very clear: All funds allocated to training should be used for training or the enhancement of training.

President Giblin spoke about the lifeblood of all locals coming from the heart of the training centers. Apprenticeship programs are the future of our unions. If we are to take back our market share, we must be able to provide a better product than what the signatory employer can get off the street corners of America today.

Make no mistake about it, Giblin said he expects the administrators of every local in the IUOE to have the same vision. In making this statement, he made available negotiated discounts for the purchase of equipment, simulators and numerous other training aids. He asked the administrators to look at their individual programs, instructors and curriculum and require that all instructors have a vocational teaching credential. He also noted that all good hands don’t necessarily make good instructors. The destiny of our future lies in the hands of the trainer.

All trainers at the Rancho Murieta Training Center (RMTC) are required to have a vocational teaching credential. Those who do not currently hold a credential are in the process of obtaining one.

The RMTC remains committed to apprenticeship training, journey-level upgrade training and community involvement. We will meet the challenge. Those who cannot do it or who are not willing, cannot stay.

See you on the next one.

A glimpse inside the classroom

When construction apprentice and journey-level operator training courses aren’t in session, it’s time for another kind of training at the RMTC. This spring, the Ranch hosted an urban search and rescue training for firefighters from across the U.S., a Disaster Site Worker training for Local 3 staff and a construction inspector apprentice class. The pictures below offer a glimpse inside the classroom of each.

Apprentices tour Teichert Aggregates

On May 8, the RMTC Construction Inspector Apprentice Class toured the 1,000-plus-acre Teichert Aggregates Perkins Plant in Sacramento. Led by Plant Manager Michael Cunningham, students visited various sites within the entire facility, from rock crushing plants to pre-wash facilities. Teichert Aggregates specializes in concrete, concrete sand and rubberized asphalt and mines 3.5 million tons of aggregate each year. Teichert Aggregates employs about 60 Local 3 members.

The Construction Inspector Apprentice Class is a new class offered at the Ranch. This is the class’s third group and the first class to ever attend the Teichert plant, which is where the knowledge they receive in class – certification in asphalt and concrete testing – is put into action.

Apprentice Royelle Hair has been a Local 3 member for six years but signed up for the four-week class to “get more training, become more well-rounded and versatile in the industry.”

CCO Practical Test

New CCO candidates and candidates who have passed the written portion of the CCO exams should contact Pauline McCullough at (916) 354-2029, ext. 225, to schedule an appointment or obtain CCO information on the Practical Test.

2006 CCO Exams

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<tr>
<th>Exam</th>
<th>Deadline for application</th>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. 27</td>
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<td>Oct. 22</td>
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<td>Dec. 10</td>
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Our legacy

Since the recent rollover of the new Union Membership Express (UM-EXP) dispatch system, I’ve heard nothing but good comments from members and dispatchers alike about its benefits. This is certainly encouraging news, but as I was walking through the office the other day, I happened across an old typewriter-written manual for dispatchers from 1966, and it was an unusual experience, reading the dos and don’ts that asked that everything be hand-written.

These tasks must have required tedious patience and endless record-keeping. Today, we just pull up a computer page, type a few small phrases, and we have all the information we need. Yet, there is something to be said for the amount of work this organization has dispatched through decades, even with those outdated systems.

I work in the midst of such histories every day. The Contracts Department is filled with shelves of old contracts, and even though the contents might not be all that interesting today, the older dates and the ways things were once done were once done do speak to the longevity of this great organization.

Take for instance our original Health and Welfare plan. It was started with 5 cents an hour, and today, it is justifiably one of the strongest, most dependable facets of our plan and is at a 7.4 percent increase compared to the national average of 9.9 percent for construction.

And yet, studies show that even with these great gains within our individual organization, corporate employers continue to try and carve away at working families’ benefits, decimating health care coverage from 68 percent to 64 percent in the past four years and making the quick shift to eliminate defined-benefit pension plans like ours.

The mentality of “out with the old, in with new” stems from our individual organization, corporate employers continue to try and carve away at working families’ benefits, decimating health care coverage from 68 percent to 64 percent in the past four years and making the quick shift to eliminate defined-benefit pension plans like ours.

The mentality of “out with the old, in with new” stems from the need to weaken the stronghold unions across the country have worked so hard to gain up until this point. According to the International Labor Communications Association (ILCA), fewer than half the people in this country know what unions do, and even those who “get it,” have already forgotten what we started the fight for. They’ve arrived with their benefits intact without an appreciation for the long road it took to get here. But if you sit down with a couple of retirees, they’ll surely tell you. With fire in their eyes, they’ll talk about how hard it was, how they sat in meetings deciding if pensions and health care plans would ever pan out. They worried about contributing their 5 cents, even though the contents might not be all that interesting today, the older dates and the ways things were once done do speak to the longevity of this great organization.

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Organizing Incentive Program

Help your union organize, and you could earn a free T-shirt or even one quarter’s window dues. It’s all part of our new Organizing Incentive Program recently approved by the OE3 Executive Board to motivate Local 3 members to help us organize (and help other workers achieve a better life).

Here’s how it works:

• Must be a current Local 3 member.
• Cannot be employed by Local 3.
• Must initiate an organizing drive by either a phone call or through personal contact with a district representative, business agent or an organizer. Must get “logged-in.”
• If the contact results in enough signed authorization cards to file a National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) election petition, you get an “Only the strong survive, ORGANIZE” T-shirt.
• If the contact results in an election win or a signed contract, one quarter’s window dues will be awarded.
• The business manager will present T-shirts and dues credits at quarterly district meetings.

If you have an organizing lead, all you have to do is contact your district office. After hours, you can leave a message with the district or call our organizing hotline at (877) ORG-NIZE, (877) 674-6493.

OE CAT

By Cindy Tuttle, Political Director

Efforts put into action

You did it. By a large majority, the California Legislature put one of the largest bond packages in history on the November ballot, and it was done because of your signatures, the signatures of politically-minded OE3 members across the board. But you may be telling yourself, I didn’t sign a bond initiative. You’re right! But you did sign our Proposition 42 fix initiative, and this put pressure on the legislature to include a permanent Prop. 42 fix in their bond package. With the onslaught of our signatures, we were able to gain the leverage within the legislature to make them realize they needed to put a Prop. 42 fix in the bond package, and they needed to do it soon.

This bond measure and Prop. 42 fix, now firmly placed on the ballot, is the very outcome of your efforts put into action. If this package is passed on that November ballot, you can bet the work opportunities for us all will be tremendous for years to come. With a majority of those funds earmarked within the bond package for transportation, infrastructure and levee repairs, we can set our eyes on the real prize, getting our message out, rather than becoming sidetracked by a heavily-funded opposition campaign against our original initiative.

Worth noting is the balance among Republicans and Democrats over this issue. While many issues separate them, they were able to come together and see this bond measure and Prop. 42 fix as a positive for both sides; they were able to set aside their other differences and focus on the outcome of this issue for all. This is a hard lesson, but it also plays a part in our own organization. We must look to the future, united, banding together for our rights as the largest construction trades local in this country. We must continue to fight for every single bond measure, initiative and candidate who understands the value of working families and labor rights.

Congratulations on your efforts, and like the bipartisan efforts necessary for getting this bond measure and Prop. 42 fix on the ballot, may you gather united to continue contributing as you have done for decades to this great organization.

The next battle: voting to get the bond measure passed in November. Stay tuned!

OE CAT members took to the streets in full force with District 17 members, staff, family and friends, picking up more than 20 bags of trash along Kaneohe Bay Drive on Oahu.

SAFETY

By Guy Prescott, Director

Summer safety classes

OSHA 10-HOUR CONSTRUCTION SAFETY
June 19-20 RMTC 7:30 a.m.
Aug. 28-29 RMTC 7:30 a.m.

OSHA DISASTER SITE WORKER
(Note: The OSHA 10-Hour Construction class is a prerequisite for this class.)
June 21-22 RMTC 7:30 a.m.
Aug. 30-31 RMTC 7:30 a.m.

40-HOUR HAZWOPER
June 19-23 RMTC 7:30 a.m.
Aug. 28-Sept. 1 RMTC 7:30 a.m.

EIGHT-HOUR HAZWOPER REFRESHER
June 20 RMTC 7:30 a.m.
June 23 RMTC 7:30 a.m.
Aug. 29 RMTC 7:30 a.m.
Sept. 1 RMTC 7:30 a.m.

FIRST AID
July 19 Alameda Headquarters 8 a.m.

COMPETENT PERSON TRENCHING & EXCAVATION
June 7 Sacramento District 8 a.m.
Aug. 10 Alameda Headquarters 8 a.m.

Call Asst. Safety Director Marshall Massie at (916) 354-2029, ext. 244, to sign up for classes. Class sizes are limited and available on a first-come basis. All classes are subject to cancellation if minimum enrollment requirements are not reached.
Three-generation Local 3 family full of life, labor, love

By Mandy Jessup, associate editor

There's a big love story: love for labor, love for family and love for the union. While it may sound like a movie with all that love mixed in, spend 10 minutes with 56-year Local 3 member Don “Big Don” Lebon and you'll see love written all over his face. It's a love of running scrapers, which he still does for hours on end, a love for his wife of 54 years, Ellen, and the family they share and a love of his good life – one built and based on the joys of work.

Don Lebon joined the union in May 1950 and will tell the story fondly. In 1947 at 19 years old, he was running a tractor for the late Frank A. Freitas – also an OE3 member – just after World War II. Don recalls that he was allowed in the union as long as he had his own tractor. They eventually got him one, and he's been on it ever since. Freitas's daughter, Ellen, would become the love of Don's life, and they would marry in 1952 – “only after,” Ellen joked, “he became a union man.”

“The union has benefited me my whole life,” Ellen explained with a smile.

Big Don jokes and smiles about most things, too – like the way he literally slept on the tractor (after work), he worked so many hours. He runs tractors, forklifts, backhoes and all manner of scrapers, including the first hydraulic Cat scraper. All this running is in the present tense, since Big Don hops on equipment as often as he can to this day.

He's paved land from Oakland to San Jose, worked on Garin Park and the water tower in Hayward and did some subdivision work in Danville, Calif.

Best memory: Big Don was running a scraper when the instrument broke down. To the amazement of the other operators at a loss without the technology, Big Don used the top of a barn roof in the distance to make the line. To this day, Big Don prefers what he knows – the sound and feel of the equipment beneath him.

Advice to apprentices: “Learn to relax in the seat. You're running the tractor. The tractor's not running you!”

While these three generations of OE3 operators share the love of the work (they are often working on the same jobs), they come from vastly different periods of technology. Big Don swears by the manual scrapers and says operating is more about the feeling of the equipment beneath him. He prefers to gauge himself by the sound and feel, while Donny prefers the automatic models.

Both Lebons think future operators have an advantage for the skill because of the popularity of video games that encourage eye-to-hand coordination.

Donny hopes all future operators do it for the love of the work and not just for the money, because life's too short to spend not loving what you do.

And this three-generational family certainly loves what they do and the union they're in. Big Don swears he was “built right in the seat,” as an operator. Ellen Lebon agrees.

“We live a business,” Ellen said.

Big Don wakes up to ride those tractors or scrapers every day.

So business is good.
In full swing
Sacramento concrete pumper back in action after rain delay

Story by Heidi Mills, managing editor
Photos by Heidi Mills and Mandy Jessup, associate editor

The record-long rainy season in Northern California this spring affected almost every Local 3 contractor in the area, pushing back project completion dates and delaying start times for new projects. These contractors and the members working for them had to wait it out until the first full week of sunshine at the end of April, early May. Only then were they back to work, smack-dab in the middle of the busy work season. But they were ready for it. After all, Local 3 members are "proud, skilled, productive, committed and always the best!"

Associated Concrete Pumping

One Local 3 signatory back in full swing when the weather turned was Associated Concrete Pumping, a company well-known and respected as "the only locally owned, union concrete pumping company in the Sacramento area."

Associated was more than ready to break ground on several new projects – since no new jobs had started since all the rain – and pick up where they left off on several others, including a job at California State University, Sacramento – Sac State, Cosumnes High School and Jr. High School and the Roseville Energy Park.

With 40 rigs and dozens of Local 3 employees, Associated does everything from patios to high rises in Northern California and Northern Nevada.

"Essentially, we do anything that requires moving concrete from point A to point B," Associated Owner Art Fink said. "That's what we've been doing for 27 years."

The job may require a line pump, a dragline-hose pump where there's no boom (so they run a hose on the ground from the truck), a 31-meter or a 63-meter – Associated just takes them as they come, because the company has the right equipment and the right people to do it.

Young operator, big rig at Sac State

At 23-years-old, Local 3 member Zack Hiatt is by all accounts a young Operating Engineer. But don't let his age fool you. Hiatt may be young, but he is as ambitious and confident as he is wise, and he is experienced beyond his years.

After finishing high school, Hiatt began working part-time for Rexco Concrete Pumping in Sacramento while taking some classes part-time at Sierra College. It didn't take long before he realized how much money he could make as an Operating Engineer and how much he liked the work, so he joined Local 3 and began making his way up the ladder.

Today, Hiatt is working for Associated Concrete Pumping, running a 63-meter concrete pump, the largest of its kind on the West Coast. He has almost five years in the union and is considered by his peers to be one of the most skilled pump operators around.

It's no wonder one of Hiatt's former co-workers and fellow members calls him an "all-star." Another fan of Hiatt's, 17-year Local 3 member Chris Juell, is currently working with him on the job at Sac State – they're pouring concrete for a six-story parking garage on campus, across from the Broad Athletic Facility and Stadium.

"I admire the guy," Juell said of Hiatt. "It's a lot of responsibility controlling that thing [the concrete pump], but he has no problem with the responsibility. He does it like it's easy."

Juell, himself a pump operator, is also very good with responsibility and with what he does. Being an Operating Engineer is second-nature for him, since it's in his blood. His father retired from Local 3 earlier this year.

"Everything that goes in here," Thorpe said, while pointing to the ground, "I'm responsible for checking before it gets buried with concrete."

Thorpe works for Local 3 signatory contractor Signet Testing Labs with another Signet employee, Shane Benson, who was initiated into the union in April. Benson requires him to work ahead of the concrete pump and behind the ironworkers, ensuring all of the parts and pieces being used are the right size and placed in the right position.

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Once a member of the "criss" and "crosses" of rebar than anyone else on the Sac State jobsite.

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The work at Sac State, Cosumnes High and Roseville Energy Park will finish up on time. Pires said he is almost ready to go.
“Everything that goes in here,” Thorpe said, while pointing to the ground, “I’m responsible for checking before it gets buried with concrete.”

This process of checking the buried parts in technical terms is called “concrete placement inspection,” which Thorpe explains is essentially quality control. It requires him to work ahead of the concrete pump and behind the ironworkers, making sure all of the parts and pieces being used are the right size and placed in the right location.

Thorpe works for Local 3 signatory contractor Signet Testing Labs with another Signet employee, Shane Benson, who was initiated into the union in April. Benson is responsible for another type of quality control that involves running tests on the concrete before it goes through the pump. The concrete has to be monitored constantly, especially for a pump as large as the 63-meter.

Only four other concrete pumps of this size are in use today. The majority of Associated’s projects requires the use of concrete pumps ranging from 31 meters to 58 meters.

“Carlyle said he uses the joystick controls to telescope in and out and “goes by experience and feel” to get the job done.

Loader Operator Steven Pires works with Carlyle at the Cosumnes High jobsite and is responsible for keeping the hopper filled with rock and sand. The work takes a lot of concentration and is continuous, but that’s fine by him.

He said he loves the benefits of being a Local 3 member and is only 100 hours away from being a journey-level operator. If it stays dry, Pires will almost certainly have his hours by summer’s end.

“The rain kept us away for awhile, but we’re back at it now,” Pires said.

Roseville Energy Park

Associated’s crew at the power plant in Roseville is also back at work after the long rain delay. This job utilizes the work of Concrete Pump Operator Terry Neeley on a 55-foot Putzmeister. He is pouring concrete footings for one of the new buildings for the Roseville Energy Park, a natural-gas-fired electrical facility.

Neeley started out as a line pump operator and worked his way up by practicing with the booms in his spare time. Once, when the original pump operator called in sick, Neeley got the break he wanted and has been operating pumps ever since.

“We’ve been waiting to break ground because of the rain,” Neeley said about his current project in Roseville. “March was pretty dang slow, since it rained about 28 days.”

But now the roses are blooming, the pumps are pouring, and Neeley’s sunburned face shows that work is back in full summer swing.

Rain, rain – stay away

As long as the weather cooperates, these concrete pumpers will stay busy, and the work at Sac State, Cosumnes High and Roseville Energy Park will finish up on time for the on-time start of the next one.

Here’s to clear skies.
Winter storms have wreaked havoc in District 10. March had a record-breaking number of rainy days. The rain continued to pelt the area in mid April, causing landslides and pavement failures. Storm-damaged roads in Sonoma, Mendocino and Lake counties will exceed $25 million.

In Sonoma County there are more than 80 storm-damage sites. Fifteen roads have closed or have reduced lanes. Damage to the roads could reach $6 million or more, and continuing rains would exacerbate the situation. In Mendocino County crews are working to reopen 16 closed roads from the New Year's storm, and the price tag is expected to exceed $11 million.

In Lake County, the cost of the New Year's storm reached $4.7 million, which doesn't include the damage of the March and April storms. Counties are hoping for reimbursement from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), but not all the repairs will be paid for by the federal government; the federal emergency declaration covers only the New Year's storm.

Many types of damage, including landslides, are judged on a case-by-case basis.

Many of our local contractors have been busy on emergency work for Caltrans and other municipalities. Mendocino Construction is working on a slide on Hwy. 162 past Dos Rios Road, and members are getting good hours on this job in spite of the weather. Mendocino also has repair work and “rip-rap” on Hwy. 128 by Yorkville.

Granite Construction has a crew working between the rains to repair a section of roadway washed away by recent storms on Hwy. 128 between Boonville and Yorkville. The company also has a crew doing storm-repair work at Paradise Cove on Hwy. 20. Granite hopes to have the rest of its projects fired up by mid May.

Ghilotti Construction repaired a sinkhole on Hwy. 101 between Cotati and Hwy. 121 for Caltrans. The company also started the Hwy. 101 Steele Lane widening project, which was delayed more than two months from the Feb. 13 start date due to weather.

MCM Construction started work on the Hwy. 101 widening project.

Oak Grove Construction repaired a landslide on Fitch Mountain for Healdsburg.

North Bay Construction reports that since rain has stopped, the company can go to work. It has many new projects to start and finish and will have lots of overtime this year. The company plans on working six-10s right away. Some North Bay projects include: Santa Rosa Junior College in Petaluma for $7 million, Canon Manor in Cotati for $10 million, Columbus Parkway in Vallejo for $9 million, Wilson Street (phase two) in Vallejo for $9 million, Benicia Distribution System in Benicia for $6 million, along with the Martin Farm subdivision, the Meda subdivision and the

District 10 is happy to announce the March 24 birth of Josh and Nycole Cooper's son, Austin.

Remember: If you are recalled to your employer, call the hall and let the dispatcher know.

As this season gets going, there will undoubtedly be a lot of overtime. This means working hard, long days and weeks under many climates and conditions. Always remember to THINK SAFE. An accident that takes a split second to occur can end or change somebody's life forever.
FROM REDDING

**District honors Moellman**

Redding District 70 is pleased to honor 25-year member Jim Moellman. Jim worked 27 years for Caltrans in Susanville and received a 25-year service award from the state of California at his March 30 retirement party.

Of the many friends and family who attended, it was a fellow co-worker who described Jim as one who “will be remembered as a good man to work with, with a great sense of humor,” and a man “unsselfish with his knowledge and who shared it freely with others.”

Nearly all agreed that Jim’s personality will be missed the most on the job.

District 70 congratulates him on his years of service and his happy retirement.

FROM FAIRFIELD

**Breakfast-inspired picnic changes things up**

Breakfast was the word at the April 29 Fairfield District picnic at the Cordelia Fire Station, and the word was good! Rather than the traditional lunch district picnic, District 04 decided to do things differently this time around. Instead of steak, they served eggs, bacon, and pancakes and instead of salad, there was fruit. For members who stayed a little later, there was birthday cake and a clown complete with Fairfield factory Jelly Belly jelly beans for the kids. The raffle offered fun for adults, including wine-inspired gift baskets and a Harley rental for the day. Members, their families and friends left with full bellies and big smiles.

Financial Secretary Russ Burns and Business Manager John Bonilla serve hot breakfast to Anna Davis, Billie Andersen and 55-year member Andy Andersen.

Secretary Lisa Halsey gives Robert “Bobcat” Havlin and his wife, Marvel, the hard sale for the District 04 picnic raffle tickets.

Getting an early start, Retiree Roy Caster and his wife, Shirley, were among the first in line for the Fairfield District picnic breakfast.

President Bob Miller visits with Vina Slagle and 56-year member Bill Slagle at the April 29 Fairfield District breakfast picnic.

From left: Marc and Sharon Nicholson and Organizer John Galeotti’s daughter, Megan, and his wife, Sharma, enjoy some breakfast pancakes.

Member Enrique Aguilar and his wife, Joan, pile on the breakfast at the Fairfield District breakfast picnic at the Cordelia Fire Station.

From left: Judy Cunningham and 56-year member Bert Cunningham visit with 51-year member Jack Taddei and his wife, Madeline.

From left: Raquel Willis, Dessarae Willis and eight-year member Robert Willis.
The Fresno District managed to have a good turnout for the Fresno Annual Golf Tournament, despite the threat of rain. Sixty golfers played at the Airways Golf Course on Saturday, April 22, under cloudy skies. The day was filled with good fun, food and friends. The first-place team, consisting of Ralph Sewell, Arum Dicochea, Doug Goodloe and John Still, had a score of 55 (yes – 55!). Richard Crain and his team placed second, while Clyde, Wayne, Del and Kelly Broyles finished “dead-ass” last. The Broyles’ team may have finished last, but they walked away with trophies for their honest efforts.

The wet weather attempted to put a damper on the Sunday, April 23 Fresno District picnic, but it was still fun for all who attended. Red Morse and Business Rep. Dean Carlson prepared excellent tri-tip, and Public Employee Agent Mike Minton and Gale McKnight kept everyone warm with their tasty chili beans. We thank everyone who helped with this annual event and send a special thank you to Joe and Nancy Ellis and John Marquez for his now-famous “Jungle Juice.”

Heartfelt condolences go out to the family of longtime member Harry Woods of Springville, who passed away March 31. Harry was initiated as a member in September 1946 and worked most of his career with W.M. Lyles. He made it clear to all that he was a union man and struggled for what we enjoy today.

Condolesences also go out to the family and friends of Charles Steele, father of member Mike Steele, who passed away Friday, May 5. Charles was initiated into Local 3 in 1956, had a long career as an Operating Engineer and also served as the Fresno Executive Board member from August 1986 to February 1992.

It is also with great sadness we inform you that District 50 Executive Board Member Robert “Bob” Marsh passed away May 8. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family. Bob served on the Local 3 Executive Board from June 6, 2005 through April 24, 2006. Bob went the extra step to ensure a better life for all Local 3 members and will be greatly missed by all.

* * *

Mark your calendar for these upcoming meetings:
- Special-called nomination meeting: Thursday, June 8
- Fresno District meeting: Wednesday, July 19

FROM FRESNO

Last place gets the first laugh in Fresno tournament

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* * *

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- Special-called nomination meeting: Thursday, June 8
- Fresno District meeting: Wednesday, July 19
**Disaster Response Program started in Utah**

Local 3 is taking a proactive approach to disaster response. Disasters in the past, such as Sept. 11 or the earthquake in Northern California, have taught us valuable lessons on being prepared. With the help of the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE), a disaster program has been started to deal with disasters.

The benefits of the Disaster Response Program are numerous. First of all, Local 3 members and contractors are the most qualified in the field and available for response to emergencies. Our members will be able to use their skills in support of police and firefighters to save lives and property. In addition, members can continue to support and provide for their families as they do a service to their community and country. We look forward to working with our contractors, Utah’s disaster response and local governments to put this program together for the state of Utah.

**District 01 offers good hours, picnic invite**

Burlingame District 01 has had lots of changes. Our much-beloved dispatcher, Judy McPhee, is retiring after serving Local 3 members for more than 38 years. Her first stint was from 1962 to 1969. After a brief absence, she returned to Local 3 in 1976 and is now retiring. The District 01 staff and members want to wish her a long and happy retirement and give her hearty thanks for her many decades of service. She is already sorely missed by all.

We have many new faces in the District 01 office: Dispatcher Craig Thompson, Business Rep. Chris Snyder, Organizer Gary DeRenzi and Secretary Jennifer Hawkins. Please welcome them onboard.

Things are starting to break open in District 01 after a wet winter. The work picture looks like another busy year in the area.

In Marin County, Power Engineering is busy driving sheet out at Stinson Beach. The company is rebuilding a retaining wall on a man-made lake for a homeowners’ association. North Bay Construction, Ghiolotti Bros. and Dutra Materials report a high demand for operators this season.

In San Francisco, FCT’s Bay Bridge job is going strong. The state of California awarded the suspension part of the job to American Bridge Flour Enterprises for $1.4 billion. This means more jobs for members for many years to come on the Bay Bridge project.

Foundation Contractors is driving pile at Beal and Mission for Watercore; these companies are busy all over the city employing many operators. We also have one of the biggest dirt jobs - San Francisco has seen in years with Gordon N. Ball moving more than a million yards of dirt at the old Hunters’ Point Naval Shipyard. Tetra Tech is also at the shipyard doing hazardous-waste removal and soil remediation.

In San Mateo, the work picture also looks good. Now that the rain has stopped and the ground has dried out, many members are going back to work. Peak Engineering and Albanese Concrete are busy on the new Mills Peninsula Hospital in Burlingame, and Top Grade is finishing up the dirt work on the last four buildings at Genentech’s new facility in South San Francisco.

Come one, come all to our district picnic on Sunday, July 9, at Coyote Point Park in Burlingame. We hope to see you there!
Election Committee Members
To conduct the August 2006 election of Officers and Executive Board members


Note: The July edition of Engineers News may be delayed due to the election of Local 3 Officers and Executive Board members.

Reminder: Membership Card
Rec. Corres. Secretary Robert L. Wise reminds you to carry your current Local 3 membership card as proof of your good standing and identification as a Local 3 member. Having a current card with you allows you to participate and vote at meetings.

HONORARY MEMBERS
April 2006
The following retirees have 35 or more years of membership in Local 3 as of April 2006 and are eligible for Honorary Membership effective July 1, 2006.

Norman G. Blair
0935516
District 90

George Bushton
0883736
District 01

Randy Dingee
1446666
District 11

Orville K. Foster
1309069
District 17

Raymond E. Fryer
1054867
District 99

Thomas Garcia
1225503
District 17

Nolan T. Gouveia
1166607
District 17

Harry Green
0908557
District 50

Rafael Guzman
1469598
District 20

Alber Harmer
1238730
District 12

Andrew James
1091205
District 10

Wilbert Jones
1446893
District 99

Vernon B. Langley
1301463
District 99

Laverne D. Lewis
1209147
District 12

Joseph Lopez
1144784
District 17

Jess Orozco
1359787
District 20

Frank Osorio
1216373
District 90

Howard Rhodes
1058485
District 10

Robert Siler
1262993
District 99

Michael A. Strong
1087737
District 99

Larry Torres
1461596
District 04

Alan E. Wagner
1451644
District 20

NEW MEMBERS
April 2006

District 30: Stockton
Dennis Elliott
Don Gentry
Aaron Greenmyer
Tony Howlett
Chad Hughes
Fredly Urias
James Wren

District 50: Fresno
Justin Barnard
Joe Schiedel
Gordon L. Uzzell
Eric Whiteley

District 80: Sacramento
Frank Adair
Michelle Paul

THANK YOU!
2006 OE3 Scholarship Fund Sponsors

2006 Academic Scholarships
First Place - Ed Parks Memorial Fund $6,000
First Place - This Sponsorship Available! $6,000
Second Place - Thomas Morton Foundation $5,000
Second Place - Operating Engineers Federal Credit Union $5,000

2006 $500 Scholarships
To be awarded at the July 2006 Executive Board Meeting
John Bonilla $500
Holt of California $500
Law Offices of Stanton, Kay & Watson, LLP $500
McGuire & Hester Foundation $500
The Refinery Mobile Division, Inc. $500
Wurts & Associates, Inc. $500
Napa Ford $500
Weinberg, Roger & Rosenfeld $500

M. Naraghi Architect - Architecture Planning $500
National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators $500
Preferred Alliance $500
DeSilva Gates Construction $500
CA Construction Education and Research Foundation $500
Randol Murieta Country Club $500
Lindquist LLP, Certified Public Accountants $500
NuWest Insurance Services - Chuck Rosenberger $500
Hemming Morse, Inc., Certified Public Accountants $500
Shimmick Construction Co., Inc. (two awards) $1,000

O.C. Jones & Sons, Inc. (two awards) $1,000
Mastagni, Holstedt, Amick, Miller, Johnsen & Uhrhammer Professional Corporation (two awards) $1,000
Rainier Investment Management, Inc. (six awards) $3,000
The Union Labor Life Insurance Co. $500
Delta Dental of California (three awards) $1,500

Clipper International Equipment Company, Inc. $500
Jayar Construction, Inc. $500
Bay Cities Crane & Rigging, Inc. / Bragg Crane & Rigging, Inc. $500
Hawaiian Dredging Construction Co., Inc. (two awards) $1,000

Mackey Shields, LLC (four awards) $2,000
George Reed, Inc. $500
Bay Counties Civil Engineers & Land Surveyors Association, Inc. $500
Goldman, Sachs & Co. (two awards) $1,000

Questa Engineering Corp. (two awards) $1,000

- In memory of 65-year Honorary Member Paul Hantzsche
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(b)
  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(c)
  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)

  Signature __________________ Social Security No. __________________

  Register No. __________________ PRINT Name __________________

  MULTIPLE NOMINATORS

  We hereby nominate __________________, Register No. ________

  Social Security No. ___ - ___ - ___, for __________________

  (Insert Office or Position)

  Signature __________________ Social Security No. __________________

  Register No. __________________

• NUMBER OF NOMINATORS 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 28, 2006 of 39,316 members is thirty-nine (39).

  Article XII, Election, Section 1(c)
  The minimum number of eligible nominators required for District member of the Executive Board is one (1).

Vote right: Check your mailing label for your registration number

In 1997 the Local 3 Election Committee voted to add members’ registration numbers to the address labels for Engineers News. Having the member registration number on the Engineers News label makes it easier for you to properly fill out and return the election ballot with the correct information.

At the May 24, 2006 Election Committee meeting, it was moved, seconded and carried that members who are nominating a candidate for Officer or Executive Board Member must show their dues card to a member of the Nomination Committee in order to verify they were not suspended for non-payment of dues preceding the first nomination meeting (dues paid thru March 2006). This proves they are eligible to nominate before they proceed with nominations, which is a Department of Labor recommendation.
It's picnic time

Retiree Picnic: Saturday, June 10

District 17: Honolulu
Date: Saturday, June 17
Time: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Location: Ala Moana Beach Park
Cost: adults and retirees - $85; children under age 12 - free
Menu: chicken, mahi-mahi, chow mein, rice, teriyaki beef, hot dogs and teriyaki hamburgers for the keiki
We'll also have keiki games, keiki activity table, raffle and door prizes.

District 60: Yuba City
Date: Saturday, June 24
Time: noon - 4 p.m.
Location: Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds
Cost: adults - $10; retirees - $8; children 12 and under - free
Menu: tri-tip, hot dogs, beans and salad
We'll have a bounce house for the kids and a raffle.

District 11: Nevada
Date: Saturday, July 8
Time: noon
Location: Lazy 5 Regional Park, 7100 Pyramid Hwy., Sparks, Nev.
Cost: adults - $8; family of four or more - $20; retirees and children under 5 - free
Menu: pulled pork, barbecued chicken, beans, Spanish rice, coleslaw, salad, tortillas, chips and salsa, ice cream and beverages
We'll have a clown for the kids, games, face painting, balloons and raffle prizes.

District 17: Maui
Date: Saturday, July 9
Time: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Location: Engineers’ Building
Cost: retirees and children under 5 - free
Menu: pit-roasted beef, cross-rib roast, green salad, barbecued beans, bread, fruit, ice cream and beverages
Entertainment will include raffle, band, dancing, games and clowns for the kids.

District 17: Kona
Date: Saturday, July 23
Time: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Location: Anderson River Park
Cost: retirees - $8; children - $4; adults - $10
Menu: tri-tip, hot dogs, beans and salad
We'll have an astro jump for the kids, raffles and prizes. Parking at the gate is $5.

District 70: Redding
Date: Saturday, July 15
Time: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Location: Anderson River Park
Cost: retirees - $8; children - $4; adults - $10
Menu: pit-roasted beef, cross-rib roast, green salad, barbecued beans, bread, fruit, ice cream and beverages
Entertainment will include raffle, band, dancing, games and clowns for the kids.

District 17: Kona
Date: Sunday, July 29
Time: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Location: Keopulani Park, below the soccer fields
Cost: free
Menu: pupus, rice, chicken helka, salad and dessert
Please remember to bring your own lawn chairs.

NEW CONTRACTORS - April 2006

District 01: Burlingame
Fudo Construction

District 11: Nevada
Commonwealth Constructors
Dreamers Chance
Pacific Rim Construction

District 12: Utah
Charken Construction
Newman Construction

District 17: Hawaii
Bobby K Construction
Incredible Concrete Pumping Services
Island Demo
Kiewit Building Group
Perfecto Engineering & Construction Services

District 20: Oakland
M-3 Construction

District 30: Stockton
H & H Mechanical Engineering

District 50: Fresno
Kilbiss

District 70: Redding
JEFCO Enterprises

District 50: Sacramento
David Hillenbrand
Dirtworker Excavation

RIDE TO RENO

It's picnic time again, and for some that means motorcycles. The Ride to Reno is an annual motorcycling event to get OE3 members together for a fun ride to the Reno District picnic. This year's picnic is Saturday, July 8. Those interested in riding or supporting those who do should contact Operating Engineers Community Action Team (OE CAT) Coordinator Theresa Reclusado at (916) 257-6963. If 25 or more people are interested, we may offer T-shirts for the event. Remember: Play hard and ride safe!
DEPARTED MEMBERS

Anderson, Ray  
District 10  
Santa Rosa, CA  
03-28-06

Arguelles, Jose  
District 50  
Los Banos, CA  
03-16-06

Balch, Melvin  
District 50  
Merced, CA  
02-10-06

Brown, Dennis  
District 60  
Yuba City, CA  
02-24-06

Buhlert, Fredric  
District 99  
Placerville, CA  
03-03-06

Clark, Donald  
District 10  
Utah, CA  
02-19-06

Cooper, Harold  
District 99  
El Cajon, CA  
03-14-06

Cooper, Martin  
District 10  
Santa Rosa, CA  
03-28-06

Dulle, William  
District 99  
Tampa, FL  
02-24-06

Erickson, Dale  
District 60  
Grindley, CA  
02-14-06

Hardin, Raymond  
District 80  
Auburn, CA  
03-17-06

Hayes, Bobby  
District 99  
Mount Vernon, MO  
03-23-06

Hoadley, Steven  
District 99  
Aurora, CO  
03-27-06

Kelly, Richard  
District 30  
Stockton, CA  
03-29-06

King, L.  
District 30  
Oakdale, CA  
03-06-06

McDaniels, Melvin  
District 99  
Fulton, MO  
04-10-06

Mitchel, Gerald  
District 99  
Albuquerque, NM  
03-09-06

Martell, Karen  
District 17  
Honolulu, HI  
03-22-06

Martinez, Robert  
District 99  
Las Vegas, NV  
03-18-06

Rasband, Philip  
District 12  
Salt Lake City, UT  
03-15-06

Rosa, Richard  
District 50  
Merced, CA  
02-21-06

Seagraves, Orrville  
District 80  
Winters, CA  
03-01-06

Shinn, Wilford  
District 10  
Westfield, CA  
03-14-06

Smart, C.  
District 60  
Palermo, CA  
03-04-06

Thomason, Charles  
District 99  
Bakersfield, CA  
02-18-06

Thompson, Marcus  
District 12  
Sandy, UT  
01-11-06

Torres, Rudy  
District 99  
The Villages, FL  
03-23-06

Tucker, Val  
District 99  
Blue Mound, WI  
02-10-06

Tuttle, Roger  
District 12  
Delta, UT  
02-22-06

Wagnon, Robert  
District 04  
Dixon, CA  
02-20-06

Walters, Thomas  
District 99  
Currie, PA  
03-15-06

Williamson, Clifford  
District 99  
Sioux Falls, SD  
02-19-06

Winn, James  
District 12  
Richfield, UT  
04-01-06

Wood, Harry  
District 50  
Springville, CA  
03-31-06

Woolley, Lyle  
District 12  
Midvale, UT  
02-27-06

Zabel, James  
District 40  
Eureka, CA  
03-14-06

DECEASED DEPENDENTS

Balcazar, Bertha. Wife of  
Balcazar, Ambrose  
03-07-06

Cooman, Louise. Wife of  
Cooman, Manford (dec)  
03-25-06

Crawford, Clara. Wife of  
Crawford, Thomas (dec)  
03-03-06

Driver, Betty. Wife of  
Driver, Lowell (dec)  
02-13-06

Fazio, Dina. Wife of  
Fazio, George (dec)  
02-19-06

Fisher, Brenda. Wife of  
Fisher, Charles (dec)  
03-01-06

Kauhu, Charlotte. Wife of  
Kauhu, John (dec)  
03-28-06

Kimberlin, Grace. Wife of  
Kimberlin, Kenneth (dec)  
03-17-06

Knepp, Ida. Wife of  
Knepp, Carl  
03-12-06

Minner, Lula. Wife of  
Minner, William  
01-11-06

Muns, Patricia. Wife of  
Muns, Albert  
03-16-06

Pater, Jean W. Wife of  
Pater, Lew (dec)  
02-09-06

Rasmussen, Sarah. Wife of  
Rasmussen, Carl  
04-12-04

Sanders, Lois. Ex-wife of  
Dempsay, Ed  
03-21-06

Thomson, Helen. Wife of  
Thomson, Wilford  
04-10-06

Williams, Marian. Wife of  
Williams, Charles (dec)  
03-20-06

Wood, Janice. Wife of  
Wood, John  
07-21-06

JOIN OE3 On a Seven-Night Cruise to Sunny Mexico

Roundtrip from Los Angeles, departing Jan. 20, 2007

The Diamond Princess

(Standard deposit is $250 per person)

Come along on our fifth OE3 cruise and support the Operating Engineers Local 3 Scholarship Fund. All members, retirees, families, relatives and friends are invited.

We will sail roundtrip from Los Angeles on the beautiful Diamond Princess to Puerto Vallarta, Mazatlan and Cabo San Lucas. We have group rates for three types of cabins: inside cabins at $799 per person, ocean-view cabins (obstructed window) at $899 per person, and balcony cabins (with sliding glass doors to private balcony) at $999 per person. Prices are based on double occupancy. Single, third and fourth passenger (sharing cabin) rates are also available. All rates include a $50 per person, tax-deductible contribution to the OE3 Scholarship Fund. A federal tax of $26.80 per person will be added at the time of final payment. Reservations are made on a first-come, first-served basis, and the above rates may increase as cabin allotments are filled.

This cruise is for anyone who would like a carefree vacation onboard a beautiful floating resort. You may dress casually, eat at several different restaurants whenever you wish, sun beside four pools, relax at the Lotus spa and fitness facility, take in Broadway-style productions and dance the night away at Club Fusion. There is also a Las Vegas-style casino, a nine-hole putting course and one of the best kids’ programs afloat – and much more. Your cruise fare includes all meals and entertainment. Shore excursions, spa treatments, tips, liquor and personal expenditures are not included. To see pictures of the ship and learn about cruising with Princess, visit www.princess.com.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REQUEST A RESERVATION FORM, CALL (888) 713-0441

Reservation forms are also available at your district office and www.oe3.org.

Farewell to a friend

Gerell Lee Conn was a 40-year member of Local 3. He passed away in April.

A dedicated member and friend, Gerell Lee Conn of Acampo, Calif., passed away April 28 at the age of 67. He was born June 14, 1938 in Oakland, Calif. Gerell was a Local 3 Operating Engineer for 40 years, many of which he worked for the Stacy-Whitback Company.

Gerell is survived by his wife, Pat A. Conn and four children: son, Robert Conn, and daughter-in-law, Tammy; daughter, Joyce Conn, and son-in-law, Dennis; daughter, Kelly Tackett, and son-in-law, Al; and daughter, Dianna LaSpada, and son-in-law, Bill. He was a grandfather of 14 and a great-grandfather of 12; brother of Judith Utley, Ronald Conn, Bill Conn and Michael Conn.

Gerell was loved, admired and will be missed by many.
FOR SALE: Brand-new home in Nampa, ID. 2369 sq. ft., 2 story, 2-car garage. Landscaped, with sprinklers in front and back. Large lot: 129 ft. X 60 ft. 3 bedrooms, 2.5 bath. Tile in kitchen with rollout drawers in cabinets. Bay door entry way to covered patio in backyard. Open floor plan. Living room flows into family room, then backyard. Open floor plan. Living room flows into family room, then backyard. Open floor plan. Living room flows into family room, then backyard. Open floor plan. Living room flows into family room, then backyard. Open floor plan. Living room flows into family room, then backyard. Open floor plan. Living room flows into family room, then backyard. Open floor plan. Living room flows into family room, then backyard. Open floor plan. Living room flows into family room, then backyard. Open floor plan. Living room flows into family room, then backyard. Open floor plan. Living room flows into family room, then backyard. Open floor plan. 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District 80 organizes, picnics

As summer starts, the workload is here. It is definitely a busy year ahead. Pacific Mechanical Construction is hard at work with the water treatment plant in Auburn. Balfour Beatty will stay busy for the next year and a half with the Granite Bay Water Treatment Facility. Kiewit will be installing wet utilities and doing some top-side improvements for future subdivisions. Kiewit also picked up the $12.2 million Hwy. 193 Trunk Line Project in Lincoln, where they are installing a regional-trunk sewer.

On Hwy. 80 into Truckee, Teichert has three plants up and running again after being full of snow for the last five months. Teichert Cool Cave is also back in full force. Baldwin Contractors is geared up for a busy season, as well. Teichert’s contract was recently negotiated, and we were able to get them the same raise as in the Master Agreement.

The nearly $500 million Lower Northwest Interceptor is back up and has many of our larger contractors working on it. These include: Kiewit Pacific, Mountain Cascade, Steve P. Rados, Las Vegas Paving, Affholder, Viking Drillers, Blue Iron, Griffen Dewatering and Michael’s Pipeline. Teichert has multiple jobs in the Natomas area and some smaller housing developments in West Sacramento. Granite Construction will soon begin the Metro Air Park Project and will send lots of members back to work.

In Elk Grove, McGuire and Hester perform dirt work for the Sheldon Road widening. This project is just starting due to poor weather conditions and is worth $6 million. Preston Pipelines is also on Sheldon Road handling some pipeline work.

Stacy Witbeck is working in downtown Sacramento adding onto the light rail from the Amtrak Station connecting on K Street. Ranger Pipelines is back to work on a line that started last year at Mather Air Force Base. Ranger is also performing pipeline work on Fruitridge Boulevard.

Blue Iron is working on the Capitol Mall Building Project. The company is also doing some work at the University of California, Davis Medical Center. Navajo Pipelines is working downtown and on the corner of 12th and S streets.

Organizing news

With the help of the Sacramento District staff, Organizer Jim Horan recently signed Dirtworker Excavation to the Master Construction Agreement and the High Sierra Private Work Agreement. Dirtworker Excavation is located in Verdi, Nev., and owned by Scott Townley. The company does grading, underground work, paving and works mainly in the Truckee/Tahoe area.

District 80 welcomes Dirtworker Excavation to our great organization and wants to especially thank the members for their involvement in Local 3; they make this organization and its organizing such a success. It’s teamwork that helps lead to successful organizing.

Stay tuned for more information about the updated Organizing Incentive Program.

The District 80 staff hopes your summer is going well. Stay cool and safe during this busy season.
**Waikiki sewer break keeps members busy**

On Friday, March 24, a sewer break was discovered at about 7 a.m. in Waikiki on the island of Oahu near the Ala Wai Canal. The rupture was a 42-inch force main. This is the third-highest usage sewer line on Oahu. The city and county of Honolulu called on signatory contractor Goodfellow Brothers to assess the problem and make the necessary repairs. At 11 a.m., crews started on the sewer line, working 24 hours – two 12-hour shifts. Each crew included three to four members. During the 120-plus hours, the following Local 3 operators utilized their skills to complete the job: Derek Ava, Daniel Kapu, Humphrey Chai, Clyde Kapu, Henry Salazar, Ervin Hendrix, Kirk Nichols, Ray Young, Jim Dansk, Mike Akiu, Michael Brandt, Al Barcia, Miki Speiler and Dave Rodrigues.

Repairs were completed Tuesday, March 28, but the line could not be tested until the following day, due to the curing time needed for the concrete jacket. By 2 p.m. on Wednesday, operators started backfilling and closing the repair site. Unfortunately, by the time repairs were completed, the city’s only option was to pump about 50 million gallons of raw sewage into nearby Ala Wai Canal, which travels into the Ala Wai Boat Harbor and out to sea. This has been the biggest sewage spill in the state of Hawaii, but at least the city and county of Honolulu could count on the quick response time and skills of our Operating Engineers to do the job!

* * *

**Fine weather draws crowd**

After our cleanup crew completed their tasks and the Budweiser trailer left the parking lot, the Stockton District staff made a quick assessment of our 24th annual picnic. All agreed: We had another successful event. The facility at Micke Grove Park is excellent. The weather was near perfect with a daytime high of 82 degrees. As always, our cooking crew prepared the New York steaks to everyone’s satisfaction, and the asparagus was a real winner. The beans prepared by retired Business Rep. Bob Blagg were also outstanding.

With about 400 members and their families in attendance, all the necessary requirements were met. We hope everyone had a good time, and we look forward to an even better picnic next year.

In closing, we wish to extend a sincere THANK YOU to all the people who volunteered to help make our picnic another huge success.