Stanford’s calling
Private alumni donations fund big-time university expansions

ELECTION NOTICE
See page 28 for important information regarding the August 2009 election of Officers and Executive Board members.
Almost two months after the propositions failed in California’s Special Election, the budget deficit continues, mounting beyond $22 billion, while the national deficit is in the trillions. We’ve grown numb to what these high numbers really mean, because we hear them so much. However, we are not numb to the effect they have on our members and the working men and women in this country. Nationally, the construction industry is experiencing unemployment numbers that haven’t been seen in decades. As a result, organizations that have always provided assistance to union members, such as Union Plus, Working America and United Way, are now providing the following programs that may be helpful during this economic crisis:

- Union Plus at UnionPlus.org is now offering financial tips and aid for union members, such as a hotline for credit and housing counseling at (877) 833-1745 and a mortgage assistance program at (800) 848-6466. These are just a few of the programs offered.

- Working America has a Web site devoted to folks dealing with unemployment or in need of legal assistance during these tough, financial times. Visit UnemploymentLifeLine.com for financial tips.

- United Way-Labor Community Services, a program that supports the interests of union men and women through partnerships between labor and the community, offers many union-member services at yourlocalunitedway.org or (866) 490-5361.

I would also like to inform you that the Board of Trustees recently made arrangements with financial planning firm Morgan Stanley Smith Barney to provide you education and advice about your annuity monies. Before, members (myself included) had annuity monies we had no control over. Now, Local 3 is giving you the power to manage your plan or make fund selections to get the best bang for your buck based on your individual situation. I am no expert on these professionals, I found them helpful and easy to understand. You can now contact financial team members Jeff Breiningher at (510) 486-2467/800) 543-9087 or Thomas Goode at (916) 984-3319 if you have any questions or need advice. Please note: Their help is free to members and their spouses. You will be getting a letter with more information about this benefit, and more information will be forthcoming in Engineers News.

The Board of Trustees has also approved an extension of the Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) Card Reimbursement Program. For more information on this program, please contact Safety Director Dave Harrison at (707) 429-5008. On another note, I’d like to congratulate former Business Manager Tom Stapleton on his tenure serving on the California High-Speed Rail Authority Board. This board is responsible for planning the future 800-mile high-speed train system in California and will guarantee jobs and infrastructure improvements throughout the state. Stapleton was appointed to the board because of his experience in the labor industry and had served since its inception in 1996. I am pleased to announce that upon his retirement, I was appointed to the board by Assembly Speaker Karen Bass. While Stapleton’s shoes have always been big to fill, I promise to rise to the task in representing what is best for this state’s infrastructure and for our union as a whole. I look forward to continuing his hard work and hope to see his goal of breaking ground on this major project realized in the next couple of years. I previously served on the CAL-OSHA Standards Board Subcommitteee for Certification of Crane Operators and will use this knowledge as well as my experience in the construction industry and as your business manager to aid the board in getting this project underway. As you all know, voters approved Proposition 1A on the November 2008 ballot, and it is this board’s job to see that America’s first, high-speed rail train system gets built. It will get us back to work and save the state billions of dollars each year – two major things we are all seeking right now.

In closing, I thank you all for your positive attitudes, encouragement and your willingness to volunteer your time even when it’s not easy. Your perseverance is why I do this job. You are an example to me and to all Americans. I see it in the ralliers against Road Machinery (see page 7), in the folks who ask questions at our district meetings and in the retirees who are never short on wisdom. Time and time again, you rise to the challenge, and this time is no different.

CORRECTION TO JUNE ISSUE

In Business Manager Russ Burns’ column in the June edition, the first sentence of the fifth paragraph should have read: “I’ve been working closely with the Trust Fund Appeals Committee to help participants in the OE3 California Annuity Plan...”
Dutra tower makes history; headlines

Dutra’s 105-year-old water tower – a Delta landmark and the tallest structure in Rio Vista, Calif. – was dismantled by union crews in May, making history and local headlines.

According to The Sacramento Bee, the two-tank tower stood tall at 160 River Road for more than a century, providing drinking water and canning services for various owners, including the Del Monte Corporation. Between 1910 and 1920, the tower was considered Del Monte’s premiere shed as well as the largest asparagus cannery in the world. The top part of the tower was used to flow asparagus through the cannery on a flume. Ninety percent of the world’s canned asparagus, primarily white asparagus, was packed there.

The Stockton Record also featured Dutra Fabrication union workers dismantling the more than 130-foot-tall tower and a McPherson Crane & Rigging crew assisting onsite. According to its story, in the 1960s, the tower sprang a leak, and its tanks have been empty ever since. The Dutra Group took over the property in 1990 and agreed to donate the tower to the Discover the Delta Foundation.

Even the San Francisco Chronicle covered its dismantling, which drew a crew of about 100 media outlets, city leaders and resident historians. A school bus full of fourth-graders was also present.

The tower will be refurbished, then transported by barge across the Sacramento River and reassembled at its new location about half-a-mile away at the Discover the Delta Information Center at the corner of Hwy. 12 and Hwy. 160.

With patience, we push forward

I had the privilege of attending an informational rally at the San Jose Public Employee office recently. More than 125 rank-and-file members attended the event, along with Treasurer William Kalani Mahoe, Public Employee Director Don Dietrich and several job stewards and business agents. To make a long story short, the city of San Jose should be embarrassed. Never in my life as a union representative have I seen such an insult to this membership. The union negotiated in good faith with zero wage or benefits increases for two years, but the city came back with an “offer” to waive all meet-and-confers, do away with retirement and increase co-pays for medical among other takeaways. Then, without any further negotiations, the city plans to implement a last, best and final offer. I’m not sure it could have been any worse.

We realize that everyone is “taking it on the chin” in these tough times, and we know cities and counties are not exempt, but to go backward is ridiculous. The members at this rally all stood strong and pledged to stay together proving an injury to one is an injury to all. The membership is more than willing to do their part to help the city, but the city also needs to recognize that the workers are a vital part of San Jose’s economy. The mayor and City Council need to respect our issues instead of implementing a substandard agreement. We will keep you informed as things progress. For more public employee news, see page 8.

I do have some better news: We officers were able to secure language for a retirees’ supplemental check. We met with Associated General Contractors (AGC) and started the process so we can get our retirees some relief to help supplement their retirement. We still have a long way to go before money is available, but we are closer and will keep you informed. In this situation and in all others regarding the economy. Nothing goes forward as quickly as we’d like, but we must continue chipping away no matter how tedious it may feel, and this membership’s support and patience all along has helped us do this. For that, I thank you.

I would also like to thank the staff for being diligent about conserving costs by cutting back on office-supply purchases and energy consumption. Fuel costs have also decreased thanks to more carpooling. So far, the Local 3 staff has saved 10-11 percent more than last year at this time and will continue to save more as the year progresses.

It was great to see the retirees again this year at the May 30 Retiree Picnic at the Rancho Murrieta Training Center (RMTC). We had another great turnout, and the staff did an outstanding job preparing and cooking for the event. I know that for myself and the other officers and staff, it is always a special day when the 50-year members receive their well-deserved watches and clocks. The whole experience definitely makes you proud to be part of this organization. It is quite the milestone in one’s life. With a lot of luck, hopefully I will get my turn in about 25 years.

Don’t forget: We are going to have our next Semi-Annual Event at the RMTC too. It should be a wonderful day, since we’re combining two celebrations — 40 years of the apprenticeship program and 70 years of Local 3. Both accomplishments are something we should be very proud of. Please bring your families and enjoy yourselves.

Be safe, and support your union. Remember: An injury to one is an injury to all.
Despite hard times, Local 3 continues to give back

$35,000 donated to Make-A-Wish; ‘Griff’ honored as Labor Honoree of the Year

When times are tough, as we know they are right now, it is even more important that Local 3 upholds its commitments to help those in need.

With that said, I’m proud to report that for the 36th year, we were able to raise enough money through sponsors for the Legislative Labor Business (L.L.B.) Charity Golf Tournament held May 30. With 240 participants this year, we were able to donate an impressive $35,000 to the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Sacramento and Northeastern (NE) California through the Operating Engineers Community Service Fund.

The Make-A-Wish Foundation is a charitable, nonprofit organization that has granted wishes to children with life-threatening medical conditions since 1980. Since its inception in 1983, the Sacramento/NE chapter has granted more than 3,000 wishes. With the funds raised from this year’s L.L.B. tournament, the foundation was able to grant six more. We have photos of the six smiling children who directly benefitted from this money: A 7-year-old girl suffering Neuroblastoma and awaiting a bone marrow transplant was able to visit Disney World. A 17-year-old boy received a laptop. These small gestures allow these kids to live out their childhood dreams and raise their spirits during a tough time.

Another special element of this year’s L.L.B. tournament was recognizing Local 3 member John “Griff” Griffin as Labor Honoree of the Year. Business Manager Russ Burns and I were able to present him with a plaque thanking him for his commitment to the 90-week strike against Valley Power. He walked the picket line nearly every day, educating possible customers and demonstrating the strength of our great union.

Giving back has been a theme for Local 3, as we were also able to help those less fortunate through the Hawaii Food Bank, which, in turn, was able to help our unemployed members by providing them with food and canned goods. For more information on this program, please read Hawaii’s district report.

It’s no secret the country is facing some serious financial problems with an economy resembling that of the Great Depression, but we need to keep things in perspective. The best cure for our own troubles is to help others. As you can see, we’re not just talking the talk – we’re walking the walk.

I’d like to thank all the members, staff and affiliates who helped in these charitable endeavors. I strongly believe that what goes around, comes around. We will get out of our financial difficulties. Until then, stay strong and keep things in perspective.

Are things starting to look up?

At the time of this writing, U.S. construction spending rose for the first time in six months while existing home sales rose 3.2 percent. The stock market recently went over 8500. Are these real indicators that things are starting to look up? We can only hope. Time will tell. This information really means nothing when you are not working. Like we have said over and over, put people back to work at a union wage and watch how fast this country fixes itself.

Another thing I have been closely watching and find encouraging is President Obama’s series of steps aimed at overhauling the U.S. Tax Code. Existing law makes it possible for companies to pay lower taxes if they create a job in Bangalore, India, for example, than in California. American companies and businesses currently employ tens of thousands of people in India alone. For years, we have watched U.S. companies close down and move overseas, and our past administrations have basically rewarded them by giving tax breaks for taking jobs away from the American people. Finally, we have a president in office who says he is going to do something to help bring jobs back to the American people.

Why would companies move overseas to begin with? Because they are able to make huge profits by outsourcing, and past leaders of this country supported it. Under Obama’s new plan, companies would not be able to write off domestic expenses for generating profits abroad. The goal is to reduce the incentive for U.S. companies to base all or part of their operations in other countries. It’s not surprising that a majority of the Republican Congress is expected to resist Obama’s plan. It’s time to start fixing this country, and we can start by creating more American jobs on U.S. soil.

Be safe.
If Guam builds it, we may come

Aloha, Local 3 members.

For the past two years, I’ve been working closely with U.S. Sen. Daniel K. Inouye and his staff from Hawaii about the upcoming military work in Guam. Inouye and his staff estimate construction work for the new military installation in Guam to be worth about $54 billion. If that is where the work is, then we should seriously look into setting up an operation there for our members. With that in mind, we are currently working on a plan to visit Guam and assess its work situation. Considering that the rest of the United States is not sure how much stimulus money will be released within the next 10 to 12 months as well as the state of the current economy, we have to look at alternative plans to get our members back to work. Guam could help keep us afloat until California, Utah, Nevada and Hawaii are able to figure out their respective state budgets and turn their economies around. By staying strong, using our resources and exploring all possible opportunities that come our way, we as a union can pull through these difficult economic times together.

VOTE

Does one vote really matter?

History proves that one vote matters. Adding or subtracting one plays a vital role in politics, as it does in the field: Gradesetting, surveying, load charts or any other job duty you can name. The most important number is one – especially in that one vote we all have the privilege to cast.

The U.S. Census Bureau recently figured there were 221 million people of voting age in the United States. Statistics show that only about two-thirds of eligible voters have actually registered to vote.

Local 3 members have registered to vote in numbers greater than the national average, and with some 40,000 members, we carry some clout. If one vote can change an election, imagine what 40,000 could do.

Throughout the course of American history, one vote has shaped our nation forever. The states of Texas, Idaho, Oregon, Washington and even California were admitted to the union by one, single vote.

According to U.S. founding father Thomas Paine: “The right to vote ... is the primary right by which other rights are protected.”

With all that said, thousands of Americans – even Operating Engineers, still don’t register to vote.

Why?

Some people are involved in their community rather than politics. They see problems like violence and education as so large that their opinion won’t make any difference. They view politicians as out of touch with reality and self-serving, and they would rather not take the time to learn or “play” the political game. They think political solutions take too long to have any impact.

Others say they would rather not vote than vote for a candidate they do not respect. They are turned off by negative campaigning and the role money plays in campaigns. They feel it is just as much a right not to vote. But according to yet another great philosopher, Plato: “One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics is that you end up being governed by your inferiors.”

Your vote matters immensely in construction, since it is elected politicians who lobby for funding to get jobs passed.

Your vote does matter. A vote here, a vote there, and pretty soon it adds up to real power for your community, your schools and your work picture.

If you’re unregistered and want to stay that way, the Voice of the Engineer (VOTE) Department wants to know why. We’re also interested in why some of you are registered. Please contact us at (916) 993-2047, ext. 2508, to share your story.

What is the most memorable job you’ve worked on?

“Sutter Creek Bypass: I was there for three years. Good variety of stuff. There weren’t but two Local 3 guys on the job when I started but ended up all Local 3 at the end of the season.”

– Rick Scronce, District 30 member

“Feather River Levee: There are 20 scrapers that keep me busy. I like the pressure to get them fixed.”

– Jesse Greer, District 60 member

“Flood fights in ‘97.”

– Shawn Freitag, District 60 member

“Kirby’s PG&E Plant for Keith Madera.”

– Zane Moro, District 80 fifth-step apprentice
Unfortunately, the union can’t turn around every job the non-union successfully bids. I would however, like to share a few Local 3 success stories.

Recently, a Local 3 business representative was monitoring the status of a project as it went through the bidding process. With help from a signatory employer, he identified some issues with the non-union bidder – this low-bid contractor did not meet the qualifications required by the awarding agency. Subsequently, a complaint was logged, and after a tremendous amount of hard work and dedication by the agent, the non-union contractor was disqualified from the project, and the contract was awarded to a Local 3 signatory employer. That non-union Southern California contractor was forced to leave town with nothing to show for its efforts.

Another case involved a project awarded to a non-union contractor that had a debarment hearing pending for numerous prevailing-wage violations. An experienced Local 3 business representative caught wind of this issue and brought it to the attention of the awarding agency. After careful review of the situation and some political maneuvering between the union and the agency, the agency rejected all bids, and the project will now go back out for re-bid. These efforts give signatory employers another opportunity to sharpen their pencils and hopefully pick up the job.

Recently, two districts working together led a protest against a non-union sub-contractor listed to perform a portion of a water-treatment project. Qualifications required the contractor to have a certain level of experience in that type of work and to perform the work with a certain type of equipment. The sub-contractor had neither. Though the awarding agency told Local 3 it could not formally protest the bid under the current protest policy, the agency listened to the complaint, and once the evidence was clearly stated, the agency made this unofficial statement: “I think you will be happy with the results of our decision,” indicating that the contractor in question would not reach the job site.

One final example of Local 3 success: A business representative attended a recent city council meeting where a project contract was to be awarded to a non-union construction company. The owner of the non-union company happened to be a “union” firefighter employed by the city. This contractor has repeatedly thumbed his nose at Local 3 over the years, and although the project was eventually awarded to the contractor, the complaints by Local 3’s agent were duly noted by the city council. At the end of the meeting, the city council announced that the current policy would be amended to no longer award contracts to individuals employed by the city. This is a huge success for our signatory contractors that seemed to always come in second in the bidding.

These are four prime examples of the success Local 3 has accomplished on behalf of its members within the last month.

Hetch Hetchy is an example of what our political involvement can do

In the past, I have written about construction projects, large and small, long-range and short-term, that provide jobs for our members. This month, I am happy to report on a groundbreaking ceremony I recently attended for the Tesla Water Treatment Facility. This project is the initial phase of a series of projects that will repair and improve an aging water-delivery system known as Hetch Hetchy. The Hetch Hetchy Water System begins in the Sierra Nevada Mountains inside the northern boundary of Yosemite National Park. Snow melt and rain water are captured behind O’Shaughnessy Dam and piped across the state to the city and county of San Francisco.

This system was originally built in the 1920s and has received some improvements since then, however, it is in a state of impending catastrophe. The directors of Hetch Hetchy and the citizens of San Francisco recognized the serious need of repair for this huge water system and knew it would not be a quick fix or a low-budget project. To fund this major undertaking, a sales-tax increase was placed on the ballot in San Francisco in the November 2002 election. The tax increase was approved, and since then, enough funds have accumulated to begin work on the construction projects. Seven years after the sales-tax increase passed, a groundbreaking ceremony was held and work started on a project that will eventually provide tens of thousands of work hours for our members. This work could not have happened at a better time. With the collapse of the housing and private-work market, our members are solely reliant on tax-generated public-works projects such as this.

The Hetch Hetchy Improvement Project is an example of the good things that can happen as a result of our political involvement. Our members walked precincts and made telephone calls to ensure passage of the funding mechanism that is now providing work at a very critical time. There will be projects or events in the future that will also need the support and participation of our members, and I sincerely hope you will be there when called. The work that is generated may provide you with a job.
Vice President Carl Goff at the Tesla press conference.

From left: Local 3 member Louie Luna instructs San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom on how to operate the backhoe for the official groundbreaking.

Water system improvement upgrades begin in Tracy
28,000 jobs slated during next decade

Story by Mandy Jessup, managing editor; photos by Dominique Beilke, art director

San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom and San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) officials joined Local 3 Vice President Carl Goff in Tracy, Calif. at a recent groundbreaking ceremony for the largest, ultraviolet water-treatment plant in California – the third largest in the nation. This $112 million Tesla Treatment Facility will create thousands of jobs as part of the Hetch Hetchy Water System Improvement upgrades passed by voters in 2004 after a sales tax passed in 2002. The entire span of upgrades will create more than 28,000 jobs and nearly 11 million craft hours.

Five specific projects are slated through 2019, which means steady jobs for Operating Engineers and most notably new apprentices. The Tesla facility is scheduled for completion in April 2012.

Goff commented about the project’s important role in the lives of apprentices who struggle to find work in today’s hard economic times: “These are the types of projects that will go on for years and years where you can indenture the young men and women into the programs, start them out right here and have them working for years and years to come.”

“This has been a long journey,” Goff said – one that “offers opportunities for trade unions to get to work with companies that aren’t historically signatory with local unions.”

Goff also welcomed company PCL back to Northern California.

This is one in an occasional series about the ongoing projects from the Hetch Hetchy Water System Improvement upgrades. Stay tuned for further news.

Unit 12
By Gladys Perry, business representative

Unit 12 members have special connection to JFK

Ryan Starkey and his father, George Starkey, are both Unit 12 members out of the Petaluma Yard. Ryan has worked for Caltrans for three years and is now an equipment operator I. His father has worked for Caltrans for nine years and is an equipment operator II on a landscape, tree, bridge and guardrail crew.

Ryan’s grandfather/ George’s father, Ray Starkey, was a Torpedoman on the U.S. PT 109. Then-lieutenant John F. Kennedy was the captain of that boat in the Pacific Theater during World War II. When the boat sunk, Kennedy was awarded for saving surviving crewmembers.

Before Kennedy’s life-saving efforts were known, George recalls a phone call his mother received informing her that her husband was lost and presumed dead with the sinking boat on Aug. 2, 1943. Ray’s hometown in Garden Grove, Calif. even mounted a plaque in the town plaza with his name listed as one of the dead. When Ray returned, he took his son George to see the plaque. His name was eventually removed.

George also remembers his father helping with Kennedy’s presidential campaign. He vividly remembers answering the telephone when Kennedy called.

When Kennedy won the election, George’s parents were invited to the inauguration. They rode in the parade with the rest of the PT 109 survivors and attended the galas. George’s mother sat in the stands with Claudia “Lady Bird” Johnson. Not too bad for a working class man who worked in the oil fields.

After President Kennedy was elected, Hollywood came calling. A book was written about the PT 109 and later a movie. Because the president could not be involved in the day-to-day history and re-creation, Ray became the technical advisor for the film. Warner Bros. wired and dined him and introduced him to Sir Alec Guinness and Henry Fonda. Ray never received any money for the production, nor did any of the other survivors. They were, however, invited to the movie premieres, the Wax Museum in Buena Park, Calif. where an exhibit of the PT 109 was displayed, and “The Tonight Show” in New York, so they could tell their stories. George and Ryan have the pleasure of being related to a working-class family man who was treated like royalty and mingled with powerful politicians and celebrities. Ray even had bodyguards and signed autographs with actor Cliff Robertson.

President Kennedy had a profound presence in the Starkey household. Anyone old enough to remember knows where they were and what they were doing on Nov. 22, 1963, the day Kennedy was assassinated. It was George’s 17th birthday.

George’s father was at work when he heard Kennedy had been shot. Ray was hoping JFK would survive, but a reporter showed up at Ray’s job during lunch and broke the news that he had not. Ray put his sandwich down on an oily bench and wept uncontrollably.

What a proud heritage and legacy to pass down in the Starkey family. It is true that ordinary people can do extraordinary things.

From left: Ryan and George Starkey hold the original inauguration invitation to the swearing in of John Fitzgerald Kennedy and Lyndon Baines Johnson as president and vice president of the United States on Jan. 20, 1961.
The future of health care

There is a lot of talk about health-care costs and government intervention in the health-care industry. In the last several years, health-care costs have spiraled out of control. I can remember negotiating contracts in the mid 1980s, and we never talked about health-care costs. Most government agencies provided fully funded health care. Of course, the cost was minimal, a few hundred dollars a month for a family plan compared to $1,300 a month now. The average cost of a family plan per employee is upwards of $15,000 a year. It doesn’t matter if you are making $40,000 or $100,000 a year, the cost per employee is the same. This includes retirees.

In previous years, employers readily offered fully funded health care in lieu of pay increases. We are in a different ballgame now. When fully funded health care was $400 a month, it was 12 percent of a $40,000 annual salary. At $1,300 a month now, it is a 39 percent cost of a $40,000 annual salary.

Something has to change. At the current rate, health-care costs will double every six years. By the year 2015, monthly premiums may well be in excess of $3,000 a month. Pretty soon, the cost of health care will be more than an employee’s average salary. I have hope that our new leadership in Washington, D.C. will finally bring forth a national health-care plan that will give some relief to the runaway cost of health care. Neither the employees or the employers can continue to fund these increases as projected.

Operating Engineers Local 3 will be rolling out a Voluntary Employee Benefits Association (VEBA) plan in the very near future as a mechanism to help fund retiree health care. This is the likely future of health care for retirees.

The next quagmire

By Fred Klingel, business representative

Tension is growing, fear is showing and everyone is wondering how to deal when jobs are slated for decimation.

The fiscal year 2009-2010 budget for the city of Santa Cruz is striking fear in all employees. We were advised last month that the city is hemorrhaging to the tune of an $8 million shortfall for the coming budget year with an additional shortfall from the library. Rumors further fuel the angst about being laid-off or having time off without pay. No one knows for sure when it will end, but I hope soon. It boils down to hope and having faith. Economics is a cyclical business, and what goes down, sooner or later, goes back up.

Unfortunately, this is not an isolated incident. What is unusual is we have members who are city employees but work within the library system, which is not run by the city but by the Joint Powers Board. This board consists of city administrators from the county and cities throughout the Santa Cruz area. They work independently from the city budgets and mainly survive from sales taxes collected throughout the county. The conundrum: When the library system falls short on funds, how does it get replenished and continue to service the various libraries throughout the county? Do employees get laid-off or furloughed, or do they take cuts in pay and benefits? The dilemma is that all are city of Santa Cruz employees, and two of the units are Local 3 members. Are those members different from the members who hold city positions? Do they have the same bumping rights, and do they have the ability to bump someone from a city position?

We have existing contracts with the city, but we have no contract with the Joint Powers Board. The city has an agreement with the Joint Powers Board. This reminds me of the Abbot and Costello routine of “Who’s on first?” “What’s on second?” and “I Don’t Know’s on third.”

Everyone wants action immediately. The first action tends to be on the backs of our members, whether it is concessions in pay and benefits, furloughs or layoffs. The “working stiffs” almost always get the shaft. Yes, I would agree that labor costs are a large part of municipal or district budgets, but what about expenditures, investments and general operations? One of the drivers of increased labor costs is the programs and projects that city administrators, politicians and the general public want in place. Without labor making these programs and projects possible, they cannot exist.

So, who gets cut first? If the employee gets cut, the rest will have to pick up the slack, which means doing more with less manpower and less time. The results are obvious: More work; less time to do it in; flaring tempers; more sick leave; increased accidents; more work-related illnesses; higher costs; and, ultimately, chaos and a very sick working environment. Cutting programs and projects in the public sector should be the first priority. That leaves the employees to do their jobs properly, because they can now cover the empty positions that have been previously created. So, how do we deal with this? We must take it one step at a time through negotiations, which are not just concessions from the employees. There must be concessions from the counties, cities, districts, politicians, programs, projects and the public.
It’s all about the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors

By Rick Davis, business representative

Much is happening in my units, but this month I’ll focus on El Dorado County, where I have been at the table for 24 months with my Trades and Crafts Unit and my Probation Unit. The county has decided that now is fast-track time. After dragging the negotiation process out for two years, the Board of Supervisors has given the county negotiator her walking orders to get the contracts done and move on. The county plans to force the employees to either take their last offer, which is not acceptable, or get it forced down their throats. I guess the county will just have to force it down our throats. I offered the county a zero contract many months ago, but the Board of Supervisors was not interested. The board wants takeaways, even though the main takeaway they want does not save the county any significant money from either of my units. I have learned that the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors can only understand the most simple proposal when it is explained with construction paper and crayons – anything above that and they are completely lost.

The flavor-of-the-month issue for the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors is what is defined as “time worked.” I will agree that there is a problem with overtime. Money could be saved by redefining time worked in some units in the county, but probation and trades and crafts is not where the problem is. Instead of focusing on where the problem actually is, the board will punish all the employees for the abuse that another unit is responsible for. El Dorado County Board of Supervisors: You just might have a difficult time finding employees to plow snow when winter comes back around. As you have been told by some department heads, most overtime is controllable. The board probably takes the same position as interim Human Resources Director Judith Kerr, as she stated in our last negotiation session, “Until it reaches a crisis, there really is no worry, and if it happens, then we’ll worry about it.” Roll the dice, Board of Supervisors – you’re gambling that the roads can be cleared at the most inopportune time. The union tried to make concessions on this issue and offered proposals that would have dealt with the county’s wants and still met the concerns and needs of the employees. “No” was the response from the board, “We want it all.” I am really looking forward to winter coming back around. Tahoe, Placerville Department of Transportation (DOT) – your day is coming.

At the time of this article, I am getting ready to take a vote on the county’s last, best and final offer. I am not supporting it and neither is anyone on the negotiation team. I guess by the time this article is published we will have gone to impasse, and the county will have imposed their last offer. This is the way things are going for public employees throughout the state. It is unfortunate. My advice to all employees: Do your job. Do what is required of your position, but do nothing else. I know many of you go the extra mile and take great pride in what you do and how you do it, because you were raised to have a good work ethic. But, as the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors clearly expressed, what you do and how much you care doesn’t really matter. All that matters is what they think and what they want.

In my next article, I’ll update you on El Dorado County Corrections, Plumas County negotiations, Sierra County and what California’s state budget is doing to all of us. Take care of yourselves, and be careful out there.

Union members will be victorious in economic crisis

By Dave Gossman, business representative

The reality is our nation is facing economic and financial downturns similar to the Great Depression of the 1930s. Our grandparents and parents faced the challenge with hard work, dedication and unyielding determination to survive and be prosperous. They were victorious, and we all benefited with years of economic prosperity. The union and its members will be here for years to come and will grow stronger as time goes by. I firmly believe our children will look back at us with the same reverence as we look at our forefathers. Within a few years, our economic conditions will turn around, and we will claim victory.

The future will bring new changes in the services counties and cities provide. City and county governments will change priorities and look for the most efficient economic solutions. There will be new working conditions and classifications of assignments. There will be attempts to change retirement planning and health-care benefits.

In my current contract negotiations, I find there are two types of city administration personnel. In some cities, the administration is easily identified by their black-hooded, tattered robes, stern facial expressions, heartlessness and cold words. Their philosophy is to cut labor jobs, save management jobs, cut retirements and increase health-care costs.

The second group of city administrators wear white suits and dresses, show concern and honesty, smile, communicate well and are good listeners. Their philosophy is to save jobs and look for solutions in the best interests of their cities and employees, such as saving money in health benefits and protecting employee pensions.

To give some examples, the union has been working with the city of Santa Rosa. The City Council approved 24 layoffs for the Parks and Recreation Department. The union and city worked together to fill vacancies, re-train personnel and negotiate a layoff health-benefits package. As of June 30, we lost only a couple of members. I foresee these members being re-hired by the city in the future.

In San Francisco, I completed contract negotiations for the Institutional Police Officers Association and the San Francisco Probation Department supervisors. The union and city of San Francisco agreed to extend the current contract for one year without any loss in wages, benefits or layoffs.

In Antioch, we lost six members and are due for layoffs. The city presented a proposal and indicated that we take it or start handing out pink slips. The union membership made concessions to work 36 hours a week and deferred pending pay raises to save additional jobs. The city refused any layoff benefit package.

Times are difficult for everyone, but let it be known: The union will continue its vigorous fight to save jobs, wages and benefits. City administrators wearing white and working with the union will survive and prosper. City administrators wearing black better look out. The future is very bleak for you. You will not be around in a few years. Union members are standing tall and are determined to maintain their quality of life, wages and benefits now and into the future.


July 2009 | 9
OEFCU celebrates 45 years of service

In 1964, Operating Engineers Local 3 Business Manager Al Clem spearheaded the effort to create a credit union that could offer Local 3 members and their families a broad range of affordable financial services. In February 1964, the Credit Union’s first official financial report showed assets of $9,682, loans to members in the amount of $2,082 and a total of 243 members. Just 10 months later, the Credit Union increased in asset size to $265,562, funded $236,306 in loans to members and grew to a total of 2,931 members. Two services in particular played a large role in the Credit Union’s expansion – payroll deduction and vacation-pay transfer. These programs made saving convenient for members.

From its first home within the Local 3 headquarters on Valencia Street in San Francisco, the Credit Union has expanded its operations to 22 branch offices in Northern California, Nevada, Oregon, Utah and Hawaii. Total assets as of December 2008 were more than $830 million. We have funded more than $3 billion in low-cost loans and returned more than $380 million in dividends since the Credit Union’s first year of operation. The Credit Union now proudly serves more than 80,000 members, providing a full range of products and services from savings accounts and checking accounts to debit cards, VISA, a variety of consumer-loan products, home-equity and real-estate loans, a 24-hour Touch Tone Teller and an around-the-clock Internet branch at oefcu.org – a far cry from where we started 45 years ago.

Through the years, we have taken great pride in serving our members. In return, our members have shared some comments about Operating Engineers Federal Credit Union (OEFCU) that we would like to share:

“I LOVE the Credit Union. All three at the branch know 80-90% of the members by name and their family members. It feels like when I come in or call I am talking to a friend. I am appreciative of the suggestions I have been given over the years to improve my credit score. I am very supportive of the Credit Union and its employees. I am planning on utilizing the VISA as much as possible in the future and will look for the rewards card information.

“I appreciate the Balance program. My wife and I are trying to buy a house and Balance has been working with me to get my credit cleaned up to get me in position.”

- Stockton branch member

“I have been a union member for 43 years. We do all our banking at the Reno branch. We find it easy to do all our banking and checking with the Credit Union. I even do some moving money around by computer, and for this old lever-puller, that’s something! Everyone has been so friendly and helpful with helping my wife and I do all our banking. Everyone seems to go out of their way to be helpful.”

- Reno branch member

Union members and their families have shown their support for the union movement by banking with OEFCU, a member-owned, 100 percent union financial institution. By providing members an option for financial services beyond those offered by non-union, for-profit institutions, our members have the opportunity to meet their day-to-day and major financial needs.

OEFCU is proud that we have been the financial solution for our members since 1964. Members’ needs may be different from what they were when we first opened our doors, but whether it be as simple as lending you a hand in buying a vehicle or as complicated as restructuring your mortgage loan, we’re here for you.

Find Financial Balance.

In a world with many financial obligations and options, it’s no wonder money management often seems overwhelming. That’s why our Credit Union has partnered with a financial fitness program called BALANCE. Through this partnership, you now have access to free and low cost financial counseling services.

Infoline
Financial information is available Monday-Thursday 5am-8pm, Friday 5am-5pm, and Saturday 8am-5pm (PST).

Money Management Counseling
Certified financial counselors help you develop both short and long term financial strategies.

Debt Management Plan
Consolidate your credit card payments, lower payment amounts, and even reduce or eliminate interest and fees.

Credit Report Review
A counselor will review your credit report with you, making sure you know your rights. BALANCE can even provide a low-cost credit report.

Toll Free 888.456.2227 or www.balancepro.net

Operating Engineers #3 Federal Credit Union
Union STRENGTH - Union PURPOSE - Union PRIDE
www.oefcu.org - (800) 877-4444
Celebrating 45 Years of Service!
Operating Engineers Local 3 is one of the charter members of the California Health Care Coalition (CHCC). CHCC is a membership organization of 42 private- and public-sector employers, unions and health and welfare trust funds representing about 3 million Californians determined to improve the quality of health-care services and reduce costs without losing benefits.

What problems does CHCC address?

Poor quality: California ranks 50th in health-care quality, according to a recent Commonwealth Fund report comparing the states on health-system performance.

High costs, high prices and misaligned incentives: Poor quality care is tremendously costly. Experts routinely estimate that 30 to 40 percent of health-care spending reflects poor quality care. High prices further add to high costs.

Little performance disclosure or accountability: Despite decades of alarming statistics, scant progress has been made toward meaningful improvement in the safety, appropriateness and quality of care. A major obstacle to reform is the lack of publicly collected and reported performance data on hospitals and physicians.

Check back for more information on CHCC.

Surviving spouse medical plans

If you die while covered by the Pensioned Operating Engineers Health & Welfare plan, your surviving dependents may continue their eligibility for benefits. The specific benefits involved and the payments due will depend on the situation.

If you were a retired employee (other than an owner-operator) who elected the 60-month guarantee Pension and died before receiving 60 monthly Pension payments, your surviving spouse can continue the benefits he or she had before your death until 60 months from the effective date of your pension award. To do so, your spouse will need to make monthly payments in an amount determined by the board. Your spouse can continue the benefits your children were receiving until they cease to be eligible dependent children by paying the applicable premiums for them.

In any other case (including all cases involving owner-operators), your spouse will be able to continue eligibility for all benefits except hearing aid, chemical-dependency treatment and vision-care benefits by making monthly payments in an amount determined by the board. (This type of continuation is also available to a spouse who has reached the end of the 60-month period described above.) Your spouse can continue benefits for your children (except hearing aid and vision-care benefits) until they cease to be eligible dependent children by paying the applicable premiums for them.

If you are an active Operating Engineer and should die after becoming eligible for a Pension but before your Pension-effective date, your surviving spouse will be eligible for benefits under the Pensioned Operating Engineers Trust Fund after your hour bank is exhausted and can no longer provide coverage under the active plan. To begin and maintain coverage under the Pensioned Operating Engineers Trust Fund, your spouse will need to make the required monthly payments. Your spouse will also need to pay the required premiums for any eligible dependent children he or she wants to cover.

For more information, please contact the Trust Fund Office at (800) 251-5014 or the Fringe Benefits Service Center at (800) 532-2105.
We asked: You gave – Local 3 awards dirtiest jobs
This month’s winner: Cleaning out the crusher

In the spirit of the Discovery Channel’s hit TV program “Dirty Jobs,” a show that highlights hard-working men and women and the jobs they do day to day without complaining, Engineers News wanted to recognize OE3 members who do the same. We received several suggestions. Here’s the best so far.

Story and photos by Jamie Johnston, associate editor

Cleaning out the cone crusher at the end of a long, hot day is a dirty, dusty job, but somebody has to do it, and at the Cottonwood Creek Sand and Gravel Plant, that somebody is Logan Schoefer.

His task starts around 3 p.m. – quitting time for the Terex Pegson Advanced Crusher System.

After the Terex crushes pea gravel one-inch mix with water all day, mud and dirt accumulate in what’s called the bowl of the crusher. If it’s not cleaned out regularly, this can turn into an expensive problem. While some crushers can go a week or so without being cleaned, the machine currently running at the Cottonwood plant needs it done daily.

“If it wears out, you’re looking at $15,000,” Schoefer said.

So, in he goes.

Through a small opening at one end of the machine, Schoefer shimmies his way – on his back – across its conveyor belt to the bowl of the Terex Pegson Advanced Crusher System.

Member Logan Schoefer shimmies down the conveyor belt to the bowl of the Terex Pegson Advanced Crusher System.

While inside, Schoefer has to chip off the side walls of the bowl where the sand builds up. Because the space is so shallow, Schoefer does this while lying on his back or stomach. Every time he chips something off, it falls on his head.

“You can see my hat’s not white,” he said. Neither are his safety goggles, the mask covering his mouth, his jumpsuit or his knee-high, black rubber boots.

And remember: This plant is in Cottonwood, a small town about 20 miles outside of Redding, Calif. where temperatures can top 100 degrees in the summertime. Add that to the heat put off by the machine itself, and you have quite a sauna. The lube oil that runs the machine comes out at a blistering 175 degrees, right where Schoefer is working. Even though it’s off when he’s inside, it stays pretty warm.

Schoefer must make the trip in and out of the crusher at least twice before the job is done (most times three or four) to run the belt and remove what he’s chipped off before going back in to finish. Each time he gets out, a dust cloud follows him and explodes with his every move, like “Peanuts” Pig-Pen. Add water and Schoefer’s sweat, and you’ve got quite a mess.

“I’ll get dirty. I’ll get sweaty,” Schoefer said. “It looks like I work hard.”

At the end of his day, Schoefer wipes mud from the corners of his eyes and cleans away his “dirt sideburns” that stream his face. But, as the saying goes, “dirt don’t hurt,” and Schoefer rarely complains. Growing up on a local dairy, he’s no stranger to dirty jobs. Like dairy work, Schoefer’s current job is an important one. At the plant, he cleans the crusher that makes the mix used in asphalt.

So, to Schoefer and all the other Local 3 members who do the messy tasks a job requires, we thank you.

Honorable Mentions

Master Mechanic

“My husband is a master mechanic and a member of Local 3. I think there at least needs to be an honorable mention to the individuals who have to wash the aftermath of hydraulic bath clothing, scrape the thick, blue grease off the floors as the spouse walked in the house with their boots on, and to the children who want to give Daddy a hug when he walks in the door but end up smelling like they took a bath in gasoline and need one themselves, and to Poison Control, whom we have called way too many times and are so nice to laugh when you try to explain your toddler has blue teeth from where they chewed on Daddy’s shoelaces that had lube from when he was greasing the zerts on the dozer that day. Here is to all the dirty men, women and families of Local 3.”

– Anne Sutheimer Rice, on behalf of member Jeff Rice

Bag-house Cleaner

“Here is my nomination for dirty jobs – not a one-time job, but a regularly scheduled dirty job: Bag house cleaning. Anywhere – cement plant, asphalt plant, concrete plant, etc.”

– Member Greg Tedesco

Thanks to all the members who sent in their dirty ideas. Because there were several good suggestions that met the criteria, we will be profiling another dirty job soon. Keep sending us suggestions – call (916) 993-2047 or e-mail jjohnston@oe3.org.
The Donut not for dunkin’

It’s Saturday morning, and one of your goals is to change the engine oil in the truck. Selecting the correct viscosity of oil is important, but what about the oil’s performance level and category?

The American Petroleum Institute (API), established on March 20, 1919, is responsible for the Engine Oil Licensing and Certification System (EOLCS). This is a voluntary licensing and certification program that authorizes oil marketers who meet specified requirements to use the API Engine Oil Quality Marks – the API Service Symbol “Donut.” This program is a cooperative effort between oil manufacturers, U.S. vehicle and engine manufacturers, the Japan Automobile Manufacturers’ Association and the Engine Manufacturers’ Association.

The API Service Symbol Donut, as seen on many oil containers, is divided into three sections:

Section 1 – The top of the Donut shows the performance level, which indicates the oil performance level for both gasoline and diesel engines. The letter “S” (Service) followed by another letter indicates oil suitable for gasoline engines. The letter “C” (Commercial) followed by another letter/number indicates oil suitable for diesel engines.

Section 2 – The center of the Donut indicates the oil’s viscosity grade. Viscosity is a measurement of an oil’s flow characteristics or thickness at certain temperatures. The first number, or the 15W in 15W-40 oil, indicates the low-temperature viscosity. This will determine how quickly an engine will crank in winter and the ability of the oil to lubricate engine components at low temperatures. The “W” does not indicate weight, but rather this number is the “winter,” or low-temperature viscosity.

Section 3 – The bottom of the Donut indicates whether the oil has energy conservation properties in the “S” category or if the oil meets the CI-4 PLUS requirements in the “C” category.

An Energy Conserving Oil has passed the test that measures an oil’s ability to conserve energy. An individual may not realize a fuel savings by use of this oil, but widespread use, such as in a fleet application, should result in an overall savings of fuel.

The CI-4 PLUS designation indicates oil formulated to provide a higher level of protection against soot-related viscosity-increase and viscosity-loss due to shear in diesel engines.

So when it’s time to change the engine oil, don’t only select the correct viscosity, but also select the proper oil for your application by referring to the API Donut.

For more information, visit apicj4.org/EngineOilGuide2006.pdf.

Information located in the Energy API Engine Oil Guide.
Tell me a story

Local 3’s 70th anniversary brings 70 years worth of members to picnic

Story by Mandy Jessup, managing editor; photos by Mandy Jessup and Dominique Beilke, art director

This year marks Local 3’s 70th anniversary, so for the May 30 Retiree Picnic, some of the union’s oldest and finest suited up in their best to meet and mingle with members their own ages and those who came after them.

For 67-year member James Roy Ledbetter and his wife, Alice, the Retiree Picnic is something they’ve attended for decades. A member since 1946, Ledbetter is one of Local 3’s oldest and proudest. He will share stories with anyone willing to listen about his time in the union.

Another regular picnic attendant, Leonard Matthews, flashes his gold honorary membership card like a king’s crown. Even though he gets around on a motorized Lark, “I don’t have to seek out people to talk to; they just come to me,” he said. A member since 1948, Matthews sits proudly telling stories like Santa Claus might.

Forty-year member Ken France came to the event via plane, an RV-6 model he built himself.

“I don’t like to drive anymore, and fuel’s expensive,” said France. He cut his travel time from the Bay Area in half.

Retiree Bob Olofson appreciates the drive and covered 720 miles from Utah. He came to the event four years ago to get his 50-year clock, and he’s been hooked ever since.

“I came with my truck and my tent,” he said.

France is one of many who stayed the night in the field nearby the event at the Rancho Murieta Training Center (RMTC). He is also one of many who enjoyed the dinner the night before and the breakfast the day of cooked by retiree and baker standout Norman Mueller. Mueller is famous for his food, especially his many different cookies, which he bakes from scratch.

“My mother taught all us boys how to cook,” Mueller mused. He comes every year with apricot sandies, peanut butter sandwiches and homemade caramels. He also brings along his son, Ken.

Retirees and their families and friends also come to the Retiree Picnic for its food – pit-roasted meats, baked beans, salad and ice cream.

They also come to be honored and to honor the 50-year members who paved the way for the next generations. Local 3 salutes you all for making this 70-year-old union what it is today.
Leonard Matthews has been a Local 3 member since 1948. He visited old friends May 30 while riding around on his Lark.

Sixty-seven-year member James Roy Ledbetter and his wife, Alice. Ledbetter was one of the oldest retirees in attendance May 30.

From left: Forty-eight-year member Bob Cooper and 42-year member Ralph Fletcher enjoy themselves at the Retiree Picnic held at RMTC May 30.

From left: Brothers Johnny and Mac Tiner have more than 90 years of OE3 service between them.

Sixty-year member Bud Simmons and his wife, Vi, browse photos at the history book booth.

A member since 1953, Bob Olofson drove 720 miles from Utah to attend the May 30 Retiree Picnic.

Fifty-year honoree Jim Meyers stands between his sons, 28-year member Bryon and 24-year member Herb.

Twenty-five-year member JD Cox is served tri-tip by President Fred Herschbach.

From left: Rec. Corres. Secretary Jim Sullivan and Retiree Max Weaver Sr. visit before lunch.

From left: Thirty-five-year member Richard Patters and his father, 50-year honoree Don Patters.

Fifty-year honoree Jim Vega shakes hands with Business Manager Russ Burns.

Retirees and their families enjoy lunch.

Vice President Carl Goff and Business Manager Russ Burns chat with Domenic Romano in the serving line.

Fifty-nine-year member Ken Judd and Shirley Brown arrive in style on one of the shuttles RMTC provides for the day.

See more photos at oe3.org
Stanford’s calling

Private alumni donations fund big-time university expansions

Story and photos by Mandy Jessup, managing editor

Founded in 1885, Stanford University rests in California’s Silicon Valley and is world-renown as one of the most prestigious, private universities in existence. Its alumni founded companies such as Nike, Yahoo! and Hewlett-Packard, to name a few.

Architect Frederick Law Olmsted, who created New York’s Central Park, designed the physical plan for the university that opened after six years of planning and building. Construction workers were still preparing parts of the campus when its doors opened more than a century ago.

Today, Stanford University continues to expand beyond its more than 49 miles of roads, 88 miles of water mains and some 670 major buildings that incorporate 13.1 million square feet. Local 3 members are onsite to help construct those expansions and upgrades, which are largely possible through alumni donations.

Current construction includes eight new buildings and a parking structure – possible only through hundreds of millions of dollars in donations from Stanford School of Business Graduate Philip Knight, co-founder and chairman of Nike athletic apparel. Consolidated Engineering Lead Instructor John Hyslop shared this story with Engineers News while onsite of the new parking structure. Knight’s role in these upgrades adds a whole new meaning to the well-known brand-name for Local 3 members.

Just as diverse as the university’s students trudging across campus are the signatory companies working alongside them. These include Bigge Crane and Rigging, Conco, Top Grade Construction, Preston Pipelines and Consolidated Engineering. Crane operators, testing-and-inspection crews, mechanics, concrete-pump operators and a whole host of heavy-equipment operators break up concrete, erect structures, lay waterlines and pump concrete.

Such construction has been ongoing since the 19th century. Today, Local 3 members hope this work continues. Stanford University employs them just as it will one day employ its own students.

Oiler Dan Allen didn’t go to college but is thankful for this one. He assists Bigge Crane Operator Michael Dickson.

“I go where they need me,” Allen said. And Stanford needs him right now.
Twelve-year member Cheston Cordova works for Top Grade Construction at Stanford University's expansion project.
Secret to health: Focus on your diet and lifestyle habits

By Dennis Douglass, Local 3 member, District 10

Being a heavy equipment operator entails long hours, lots of traveling and exposure to noise, dust and diesel fumes. These factors, in addition to possible improper diet and lack of exercise, can increase the risk for health issues.

A healthy diet and exercise program take a lot of effort and discipline, similar to when we were apprentices. We had to learn and develop skills that were to become second nature to us. For years, my first stop on my way to work every day was for a giant coffee and a couple of donuts. In mid 2003, I had a wake-up call with the symptoms of a heart attack at the age of 53. Coincidentally, this was the age that my father died of a heart attack. After a lot of tests, it was determined that my arteries were showing signs of damage and scarring from all the years of abuse and neglect. Since I can remember, the lifestyle that I grew up on and continued until the age of 53 was a diet of eating primarily meat several times a day. This diet also included eating dairy products, eggs and bread. All of this was eaten in excess with practically no vegetables and fruit. Whoops! Wrong health plan!

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Around December 2003, I went to my regular doctor for a checkup during winter layoff time, because I was not feeling well. At my doctor’s visit I was told that all of my levels were out of control and that the 10 or so medications I was taking was for high blood pressure, Diabetes, acid reflux, cholesterol, etc. were no longer working. He said I needed to try different medications and start insulin for Diabetes. There was no way I was going to take any more medications. I already had enough problems and side effects with what I was already taking. Not only was I not going to start new ones, but I was going to stop taking what I was currently on. My doctor’s reply was that if I quit all the prescriptions, it wouldn’t be long until I was in a hospital facing severe problems that may not be fixable.

I went home and told my wife about the disastrous doctor’s appointment and that I was through with taking medications … and whatever the results were, so be it. In addition, I told her I was going to the union hall to see if I could take an early retirement, because I needed to turn my health around. At the union hall, I discussed my early retirement with a former business representative. Instead of retiring, he recommended I make an appointment with Dr. Alan Goldhamer at TrueNorth Health Center (TNHC). He handed me the phone and said: “Don’t put this off.”

I scheduled an appointment with Dr. Goldhamer immediately. I was surprised to learn the center had been in operation for more than 20 years and had been recognized by the union. Operating Engineers had discovered that the facility could benefit our members and made the wise decision to make stays at TNHC a covered benefit under certain circumstances. The stays at the center involve fasting, changing to a plant-based diet, exercise and education. It is customary to stay a couple of weeks to maximize the personal health benefits. In short, the longer you can stay, the more successful the outcome. TNHC’s program is similar to a drug and alcohol rehab program, except that it is for correcting improper eating habits (such as no more junk food and fast food). I learned that to be healthy I would have to stay away from all processed foods.

I was warned that the experience would not be easy and that it would require a 180 degree turnaround from my current lifestyle … not just temporarily, but for the rest of my life. I learned that severe health conditions sometimes require drastic measures, which could possibly include water fasting and/or juice fasting. I learned that fasting helps your body heal itself, because fasting helps with detoxification. I went through the program and accomplished a 21-day, water-only diet. By the time I was finished, I lost 44 pounds. The benefits of losing the excess weight quickly was critical. It helped me get an immediate new start. I no longer needed my medications and was told I could stay off them as long as I stuck with my new, healthy lifestyle. The biggest benefit of the 44-pound weight loss was I was able to reduce my sleep apnea. I was able to sleep more soundly than I had in many years. With proper sleep came more energy. My quality of life changed dramatically.

In 2007, I had a follow-up angiogram. When the angiogram was completed, the heart surgeon was very surprised at what he found. Based on my past problems, tests, history and previous MRI, which showed exterior evidence that the arteries had been damaged and did not appear to be in good shape, he was not expecting to see what he saw on the inside of my arteries. He stated that the interior of the arteries looked good, clear and as healthy as a 20-year-old’s. He stated that I had a blockage that was able to clear itself, because the arteries were open. If the blockage had not resolved, I would not have lived. He told me that whatever I was doing in regards to my diet, I should keep doing. He also told me that, especially given my history, I should give up red meat.

Was my experience at TNHC a success? I can tell you that I would not be alive now had I not implemented what I learned at TNHC. It’s not easy to change 50-year-old habits, but hopefully I will have 50 more years to get it right. I would like to encourage other members and their families to look into this program. It changed my life, and I’m certain it has the potential to help others. These changes will benefit not only you but your family and friends as well. If I may, I’d like to relay a closing message to my fellow union members: Don’t put off living a healthy life. I can guarantee it will catch up to you.

TrueNorth Health Center is located at 1551 Pacific Ave. in Santa Rosa, Calif. You can call the center at (707) 586-5555 or visit healthpromoting.com. TrueNorth Health Kitchen provides healthy meals on a weekly basis (for local pick-up and/or delivery in the Santa Rosa area) and can be found online at truenorthkitchen.com.

Did you make a healthy lifestyle change that has improved your quality of life?

If so, contact Engineers News:
by phone: (916) 993-2047, ext. 2505
by fax: (916) 419-3487
by e-mail: mjessup@oe3.org

Dennis Douglass, left, sits with Dr. Alan Goldhamer in the courtyard at TrueNorth Health Center (TNHC).
**BURLINGAME**  District stays on top of political activism

Thanks to everyone who attended our picnic; we hope to see you all next year.

There is light at the end of the tunnel with work picking up and the economy slowly recovering.

Robert A. Bothman and O.C. Jones are steadily working at Canada College in San Mateo County. On Hwy. 101 in San Mateo, DeSilva Gates and R&L Brosamer continue widening a new bridge and sound walls. Pacific States is doing the demo work on the center divide.

Redwood City will soon have a new Costco. Demolition of the old building, formerly Price Club, was done by Ferma Corporation. The grading and paving will be done by J.J. Albanese, and Pacific Underground Construction is handling the trench excavation. This job is employing more than a dozen Operating Engineers.

Granite Construction is staying busy along the Peninsula Rail corridor making improvements to rail crossings. Shank and Ballou Beatty are employing five operators to sink two shafts for the Crystal Springs Bypass tunnel that is part of the Hetch Hetchy Water System Improvement Plan. See inside this edition for more details on Hetch Hetchy.


Make a difference: Contact the Burlingame Hall at (650) 652-7969 to sign up as a volunteer.

**NEVADA**  SB 201 promises road projects ahead

With summer underway, everyone hoped most projects would be in full swing. Unfortunately, the economy has not been very compliant. The stimulus money has allowed the state to release more projects than anticipated, but it has not offset the lack of projects produced by the private markets. On the state level, our Senate and Assembly passed Senate Bill (SB) 201, which allows local governments to approve certain fuel taxes for their needs. This bill allows Washoe County to supplement its monetary needs for road projects. It could result in more than $35 million in the first year.

Granite is finishing up most of the dirt work on the Nevada Pacific Parkway in Fernley. The company is underway on projects in Lovelock and Nightingale and is also busy on the Reno-Tahoe Airport, state Route 28 at Spooner, state Route 430 at Pagni Lane and the city of Reno street rehab.

Rees Enterprises is doing the crushing for Granite and Road and Highway Builders. Q&D Construction is finishing the V&T Railroad and U.S. 95 projects, while getting ramped up on its projects at Mill City, Winnemucca and McCarran Boulevard in Reno. The company has also picked up jobs at three schools in Elko, Carlin and Jackpot.

Frehner Construction and Road and Highway Builders are getting ready to start projects on U.S. 93 and Golconda. Sierra Nevada Construction is working on a tank and waterline in Eureka, Peckham Lane in Reno and a portion of the city of Reno street rehab. Reno-Tahoe Construction continues on the Mogul Bypass Pipeline near Verdi along with the Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA) main replacement on Pyramid Highway. MKD Construction is finishing its Incline Village project and is headed to Eureka for a project. Cruz Excavating is working on a water main at the Stead Air Base, and Aspen Developers has a project at Kingsbury Village.

Asphalt and concrete plants along the peninsula have increased their tonnage. EBI Aggregates, Granite Rock and Central Concrete Supply are working overtime.

In San Francisco, work on the new San Francisco City College Chinatown campus started. Tucker Engineering is performing the dig-out, and Avar and Viking Substructures are performing the drilling and shoring. Work is going ahead on the long-awaited Transbay Terminal with the next phase awarded to signatory Webcor.

In Marin and the northern part of District 01, staff has been working with the building trades and our political allies to support the construction of a new, high-efficiency hot plant in Petaluma for Dutra Materials.

The District staff would like to thank the volunteers who attended a rally in San Francisco in opposition of a strict historic building preservation plan that would block billions of dollars worth of construction projects in the city. The San Francisco Building Trades and Local 3 are supporting a more reasonable version of the plan.

Keep in mind: Newmont membership meetings are the first Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m., and the construction members’ meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. in the Elko office at 1094 Lamoille Highway.

Congratulations to Keno and Leslie Sanchez on the May 16 birth of their daughter, Sariah. The new parents, along with big sister, Sierra, are proud of the new addition to their family.

We hope everyone had a wonderful Independence Day holiday. Please be careful out there. Remember: With the heat of summer in full force, keep yourself hydrated and dress appropriately.

This month’s Apprenticeship Spotlight is on fourth-step Apprentice Steve Rodriguez. He is enrolled in the Lube Tech training program and is currently working for Granite Construction.
STOCKTON  I  Treatment plants create big work in district

The Stockton District staff thanks all the members and their families for showing up and making the May 3 district picnic one of the best ever. Despite the wet weather, we still had one of the biggest turnouts in history. There was plenty of great food, good music and fun to be had by all. We were even joined by some of our labor-friendly politicians, such as Congressman Jerry McNerney and state Sen. Lois Wolk. Congratulations to Retiree Vernorn Baumbach on his 50-year clock and pin that were presented to him during the event by the Local 3 officers.

Work in the district is moving along. George Reed is going full-bore on the Keyes Improvement project with subcontractors Mozingo and Syblon and Reid. The company also started the second phase of the state Route 219 widening in Salida. DeSilva Gates started work on the $4 million Fink Road Landfill project in Crows landing. Mozingo Construction broke ground on the 83.9 million Old Town Utility replacement project and is keeping members busy on various projects throughout the area. Teichert Construction (Turlock District) has night paving on the 84.4 million state Route 132 overlay project. Pacific Mechanical Corporation is keeping a few members busy at the Modesto Tertiary Wastewater Treatment Plant. Some of the projects on the horizon include the $16.5 million Oakdale Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade project, the $23.1 million Hughson Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade and expansion and the $9.4 million Emerald Sewer Trunk Line. These are just a few of the projects out to bid at this time.

To all District 30 members: Thank you for your cooperation on the jobsites. If you see anything out of the ordinary, don’t hesitate to call the Hall at (209) 943-2332.

Yuba City  I  Jobs go union like never before

Yuba City District 60 finally has work coming this way. Several new projects have started along with some left over from last year.

DeSilva Gates will be going strong on Hwy. 70 in East Nicolaus and on the Tudor Bypass project – worth about $100 million total. Teichert, Environcon and Inquip are working on the Marysville setback levee. MCM is working on the Bear River Bridge on Hwy. 70 and in Butte County on Butte Creek. Teichert, Environcon, Inquip and new employer Magnus Pacific Corp. are starting the second phase of the Natomas Cross Canal.

Granite Construction is busy with the $8 million Hwy. 99 widening project near Biggs. Sierra Nevada Construction is also continuing work in Biggs and won the bid for widening Hwy. 99 in Gridley. Knife River is still working on the East Avenue/Manzana Road construction projects and paving I-5 between Willows and Corning. Sierra Nevada, like Teichert, has various overlooks throughout the district.

RGW (from Livermore) was the successful low bidder on Live Oak’s $17 million waste-water treatment plant. T&S Construction got Greenville’s waste-water plant.

Independent Construction will soon start the fourth phase of the Butte County Landfill Modular.

The abovementioned jobs are huge, as these jobs have gone to non-union employers in the past.

North Bay Construction and George Reed Construction have seen success in their bids, as both companies have good projects starting soon. North Bay will be in Williams reconstructing an 1-5 overpass at almost $6 million, and George Reed is the low bidder on the $8.2 million East Nicolaus project.

Many smaller jobs are continuing, and more will start soon. These involve the aforementioned employers, as well as Steve Manning, Ron Hale and McGuire and Hester Construction. The largest project in District 60 is still the $700 million Gemma Power Plant that will employ more than 600 tradespersons at its peak, with 30-40 Operating Engineers.

The shops and plants are still slow but should pick up as construction evolves.

Our Unit 12 members are also hard at it. Caltrans, the Department of Water Resources (DWR), the Department of Fish and Game (DFG), California State Parks, Cal-Fire and our state fair members continue working hard to keep our public assets the pride of California and the nation.

Speaking of public assets, we must continuously remind our elected public servants who they work for. With the state’s fiscal mess constantly on our minds and affecting our jobs, they need to know how we feel. They need to know Operating Engineers build and maintain this state, from its highways to its bridges to its parks.

For more information on these jobs and other jobs in District 60, visit the Hall at 468 Century Park Drive and look at our board, or you can call us at (530) 743-7321.

From left: Fifth-step Apprentice Justin Meinert and 28-year member Keith Wright at the Shimmick Construction Yard in Tracy.

The Apprenticeship/Journey-Level Spotlight is on fifth-step Apprentice Justin Meinert and 28-year member Keith Wright. Both have been working on a Detriot 8V71 two-stroke in-frame overhaul at Shimmick Construction’s new yard in Tracy.

Sutter-Yuba junior’s/women’s pheasant hunts scheduled this year

Junior’s/women’s pheasant hunts are scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 31; Sunday, Nov. 1; Saturday, Nov. 7; and Sunday, Nov. 8 at the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) Nelson Slough Wildlife Area on Hwy. 99 – 20 miles south of Yuba City.

Hunts begin at 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. each day and are for hunters of all experience levels. OE3 members have participated in the past. Don’t miss out.

For an application or more information, please call members Bill Hodges at (530) 755-0847 or Dale Whitmore at (530) 743-5015.
HAWAII I District 17 does it right

Times are tough right now for everyone, but District 17 continues to give and once again has donated food to the Hawaii Food Bank. We thank the members for their time and efforts in taking care of those less fortunate.

In other news: Are you a golfer or interested in becoming one? District 17 members are starting an OE3 golf club that will meet once every other month to play and have fun. All OE3 members are welcome to join. If interested in finding out more information or to become a member, call Darrel Waikiki at (808) 357-5933.

Congratulations to Robert Paik on receiving his 35-year service pin. His photo and other pin-recipient photos are available in an online gallery at oe3.org. Check it out!

EUREKA I Rock, asphalt plants stay steady in area

The PG&E Power Plant is moving along with the decommissioning of the old plant. Day Zimmerman is working under a General President Project Maintenance Agreement (GPPMA). The company will work a 4-10 rolling schedule, and as the project progresses, more operators will be needed. The Eureka District looks forward to working with Day Zimmerman on this project scheduled to last two to five years.

Mercer Fraser’s newest job is the $7.9 million Hwy. 169 project, which includes three bridge replacements along the eight-mile stretch, road-widening, paving and retaining walls. The project is estimated to last 410 working days. Mercer Fraser is also working on the Braeut project, Trinity Village, Willow Creek Overlay, Old Arcata Road and many more. Keep up the good work, Mercer!

Granite Construction is busy moving dirt at the $14.5 million Alton Interchange estimated to last 350 working days. Subcontractors on the job include E.P. Jarrett Foundation, Pacific Boring, CTM Construction and more. Granite also has an overlay estimated at $12.9 million with 225 working days to finish. Granite is getting busy on the $560,000 Crescent City reconstruction, which the company has 40 days to complete. All the rock and asphalt plants are moving right along.

If you are recalled back to work, please call Secretary Carol Swaner at the Hall at (707) 443-7328 to get off the out-of-work list.

Have a safe season.

Fifty-year Retiree Claude Alfson and his wife, Martha, recently received an honorary watch for his many years of service. For more photos like his, visit the OE3 online gallery at oe3.org, and check out the photos in this edition of the OE3 online gallery at oe3.org.

REDWOOD I J.F. Shea, other signatories stay busy in district

New projects are taking off in District 70.

Granite Construction has the Spring Creek/Iron Mountain Mine project – a stimulus-funded project worth $5.5 million. Steve Manning Construction added three new jobs: Paving Hwy. 97/Hwy. 161 near Dorris, road work on County Road 133/New Pine Creek and the median guardrail project on I-5 in Redding.

J.F. Shea Construction continues with its I-5 Dana to Downtown project and has another paving job on I-5 in the Yreka area.

Q&D Construction has a water-treatment facility job at the Herlong Sierra Army Depot.

Tullis Inc is paving streets in Weaverville and has a curve realignment job on Hwy. 299 near Whiskeytown.

Shasta Constructors will be working on a bridge retrofit on I-5 near Weed.

Ron Hale Construction has been paving in Weaverville and Yreka.

The U.S. Department of the Interior listed several projects of interest in our district: The $109.8 million Red Bluff Diversion Dam, the $26 million Battle Creek restoration project and the $4.5 million Trinity River restoration.

Lassen Park hopes to receive $15.7 million in stimulus money. Tehama County also hopes to get a hefty amount of stimulus money added to its $39.7 million to pave I-5 in Red Bluff, which starts this month. Repaving work will also start soon on a three-mile section of Hwy. 99 south of Los Molinos.

Remember: Stay current with your dispatches and registration on the out-of-work list.
**FRESNO**

Members rally against unfair treatment

We hope everyone had a happy Independence Day.

Unionism was alive and well in Fresno, while members and staff rallied for our brothers and against Road Machinery. Patrons of Road Machinery are encouraged to take their business to Pape’ Machinery in Fowler or Holt of California in Los Baños until a contract is put in place. The Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) with Local 3 and Road Machinery expired May 15, and Road Machinery has since refused to bargain in good faith. In addition, the company wants to take away the union’s health and welfare and Pension plans. The members employed by Road Machinery were pleasantly surprised to see Local 3 staging a rally in their favor.

The Fresno District staff thanks the following members for standing shoulder to shoulder and giving their time and support: John Waterbury, Buddy Lawson, Robert Ramos, Ron Hickey, Bob Robinson, Daniel Jaurez, Danny Henry, Jody Recek, Jess Harper, Steve Hansen and Mike Ripley. We encourage all members when called upon to get involved and participate in future rallies and events. This is what unity and brotherhood is all about! For more photos and information on this rally and the one held at the same company’s shop in West Sacramento, see page 32.

As always, we encourage members to continue to take advantage of the journey-level upgrade training at the Rancho Murieta Training Center (RMTC). Recek took the time to upgrade his skills and commented: “I missed a couple of jobs because I didn’t know it [GPS], and it wasn’t going to happen again.”

Some projects in the area include: Emmett’s Excavation – Sugar Pine Trail pedestrian undercrossing, Fresno; Floyd Johnston – storm-drainage facilities, Fresno; Teichert Construction – asphalt on existing pavement at Hwy. 99/Hwy. 152 and Mission Boulevard access road to UC Merced; Cruco Construction – Castle Airport runway pavement-marking, Merced; and Bill Nelson General Engineering – Cortner/Douty storm drain, Hanford.

**MORGAN HILL**

Vesely honored as Unionist of the Year

The District 90 staff hopes everyone had a good Independence Day.

Any member who has received any certification or card needs to bring them to the Morgan Hill District office at 325 Digital Drive, so this information can be entered into the dispatch system.

Work hours are down, though our economy is showing some improvement. Now is the time to prepare for upcoming work: Take advantage of the Rancho Murieta Training Center (RMTC) to improve your skills. You can stay at the Ranch where you’re fed and housed – just drive there with the desire to learn, and they will do the rest.

Grade-checking classes have started in Morgan Hill on Wednesday nights from 6-8 p.m. These classes are free. Call Dispatcher Dennis Garringer at (408) 465-8260 for more information.

May 1 is known as the International Day of Labor, and on this day, a dinner was held at the Asilomar Conference Grounds in Pacific Grove to honor the Unionist of the Year. It is with great pleasure to announce that District 90 member A. L. Vesely was chosen for this award. Vesely has been a Local 3 member for 51 years. He is very dedicated to his family and Local 3, as he has spent many hours phone banking and precinct walking to tell voters about the candidates who support our work. Also in attendance were his wife and two daughters and their husbands, who came from New York and Nevada. Rep. Sam Farr from Carmel, Calif. spoke with Vesely and took a photograph with him. It was a great evening enjoyed by everyone.

Granite Construction’s Monterey Bay Branch had one of the most scenic jobs pushing sand from the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk into the Monterey Bay. D-8 Dozer Operator Ron Murphy worked onsite and is a 25-year member who comes from three generations of Operating Engineers. Murphy is also an expert at this project.

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From left: District Rep. Dean Atturo, Angel Hernandez and Director of Special Operations Bob Miller. Hernandez supports Local 3’s efforts to get a fair contract from Road Machinery.
District 12 members enjoyed a crisp and sunny day for our annual picnic May 9 after weeks of wet weather. The sunshine brought a good crowd of members and their families. Business Manager Russ Burns, Vice President Carl Goff and Director of Special Operations Bob Miller made the trip from California to join us along with Utah's very own Rec. Corres. Secretary Jim Sullivan, District Rep. Dale Cox invited several Utah politicians, including Congressman Jim Matheson, Salt Lake County Mayor Peter Corroon, state Sen. Karen Mayne, Utah Democratic Chairman Wayne Holland and AFL-CIO Utah President Jim Judd. They joined the fun and spoke to our members.

Utah apprentices cook breakfast for the May 9 Utah District picnic. Burns, Goff, Sullivan and Cox presented 25- through 60-year service-award pins and watches to retirees Roger Petty, Cecil Johnson, Lynn Reese, Ray Cummings and John Thornton. Ninety-year-old member Orval Harmer was the oldest retiree at the picnic and stood up and shared a brief story about working on the Golden Gate Bridge. Burns thanked everyone for coming and said he will make it to Utah for more picnics in the future. Goff said it was an honor to be there; Sullivan said this is a four-state union, and we can prosper in these tough times.

Matheson has never missed a picnic and thanked us for our longtime support. He said he is working actively to try and restore Utah's prevailing wage. Our membership appreciates his support on this issue. Corroon discussed the amount of work coming to the Salt Lake area, including three new libraries, a $15 million to $20 million new recreation center, $80 million in various recreation projects and several road projects. Holland thanked the members for all they do and said Local 3 is an outstanding union and an example of how great a union can be. Judd thanked Local 3 for its political activism and for sharing Cox, who is also the Utah AFL-CIO vice president.

The District 12 staff thanks our members for their continued support of the annual picnic. We also thank our officers and political dignitaries for their attendance and send a special thanks to Corroon and Salt Lake City Mayor Ralph Becker for their raffle donations.

ROHNERT PARK I District's car and motorcycle show a success, 72 entrants draw crowd

The District 10 Hot Cakes and Hot Rides 3rd Annual Pancake Breakfast/Car and Motorcycle Show held at the Santa Rosa Veterans' Memorial Building was once again a great success. Members, their families and friends came out to enjoy the excellent food and camaraderie. In the dining hall, folks feasted on hot cakes, sausage, bacon and eggs, while in the parking lot, they checked out the great collection of vehicles and met up with old friends. Retiree Paul Williams won Best of Show Car for his beautiful 1933 Packard. Retiree James Scagilio won Best of Show Motorcycle for his 1999 Euro Russian Military motorcycle. A total of 72 vehicles participated in the contest.

The breakfast was attended by several local politicians, including Sonoma County supervisors Mike Kerns, Efren Carmillo and Shirlee Zane. Zane seized the opportunity to address the crowd about her support for the Employee Free Choice Act (EFCA) and her affection for motorcycles. Vice President Carl Goff and Treasurer William Kalani Mahoe also took advantage of the captive crowd and spoke of the importance of political awareness in these tough economic times.

District 10 would also like to acknowledge and extend gratitude to the folks who volunteered their time and worked hard to cook, serve and sell raffle tickets: James Spain, Corey Spain, Randy Bryson, Patty Jenkins, Tommy Neumainville, George and Ellie Naill, Joel Lanstra, Anna, Katie and Ashley Steffensen, Tony Caldwell, Charles Richardson, Julie Niehaus, Judy Lunde, Rec. Corres. Secretary Office Manager Jennie Armstrong, Lindsey Farley and Danielle Spain.

The day's event finished with a terrific raffle – 10 lucky winners won buckets full of great prizes. Retiree and 70-year pin-recipient James Johnson and his wife, Ruth, won the gas barbecue in the raffle. Ruth said she was going to win it, and her positive thinking and a little luck paid off! Congratulations.
SACRAMENTO  I  Record heat doesn’t keep crowd away

The District 80 staff thanks all the people who helped with and attended the May 16 District 80 picnic. We tried to have it a little earlier this year to beat the heat, but Mother Nature did her thing – temperatures soared a little over 100 degrees. Despite the heat, the food was good, and the event was well attended with more than 200 members, families and friends.

Sacramento District 2008 Volunteer of the Year Tony Lima was honored at the picnic by California Assemblymember Alyson Huber’s office. Lima spoke about the importance of staying active in your union and the good that can be done with a little extra effort from all of us. Congratulations, Tony, keep up the good work!

Hours are still down this year, but there are some high points, such as I-80 work. It’s booming from Roseville to the Nevada border with eight separate projects totaling more than $420 million. When these projects hit peak employment, about 200 members will be needed.

In other news: Teichert has taken over management of Chevreaux Aggregates, which has seven members working full time.

Thanks for checking in on the district. Stay safe.

FAIRFIELD  I  Benicia Terminal awarded highest level of safety

Kinder Morgan announced that its Benicia Terminal has been accepted into the California Department of Labor – Occupational Safety and Health Administration’s (CAL-OSHA’s) Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) as a star site. This is the highest level in the VPP, which promotes and recognizes effective workplace safety and health management. The Benicia Terminal is staffed with 13 Operating Engineers and has had an outstanding safety performance record for the past five years. The terminal provides operations, plant services and mechanical support to the Valero Refinery, including the loading and unloading of petroleum coke and safety stands for sulfur-loading operations.

“This recognition from CAL-OSHA demonstrates that Kinder Morgan is committed to workplace safety,” said Kinder Morgan Vice President of Operations Hal King.

“CAL-OSHA’s recognition of our Benicia Terminal employees’ hard work and dedication to safety led to this award and demonstrates our commitment to operating safely.”

In the VPP, management, labor and CAL-OSHA establish a cooperative relationship at a workplace that has implemented strong safety and health systems. A workplace must meet or exceed all CAL-OSHA regulatory standards and submit to a review of its programs to qualify for VPP status. Workplaces that implement programs and procedures beyond those required by CAL-OSHA standards receive star status.
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SEPTEMBER 2009

8th District 04: Suisun City Veterans' Memorial Building 427 Main St.
9th District 11: Reno Operating Engineers’ Building 1290 Corporate Blvd.
9th District 80: Sacramento Operating Engineers’ Building 3920 Lennane Drive

10th District 12: Salt Lake City IBEW Local 354 3400 W. 2100 S.
10th District 30: Stockton Italian Athletic Club 3541 Cherry Land Drive
10th District 50: Clovis Veterans’ Memorial Building 453 Hughes Ave.
14th District 17: Honolulu Kalakaua Intermediate School Cafeteria 821 Kalili St.
15th District 17: Maui Maui Beach Hotel 170 Kaahumanu Ave. Kulauli
15th District 40: Eureka Best Western Bayshore Inn 3500 Broadway
16th District 17: Hilo Hilo ILWU Hall 100 W. Lanikaula St.
16th District 70: Redding Operating Engineers’ Building 20308 Engineers Lane
17th District 60: Oroville Southside Oroville Community Center 2959 Lower Wyandotte
22nd District 01: Burlingame Transport Workers’ Union 1521 Rollins Road
22nd District 10: Ukiah Hampton Inn 1160 Airport Blvd.
24th District 20: San Leandro Sheet Metal Workers’ Building 1720 Marina Blvd.
24th District 90: Morgan Hill Operating Engineers’ Building 325 Digital Drive

DEPARTED MEMBERS

Aweau, Paul Kanohe, Hi
District 17
03-09-09
Bailey, John Santa Rosa, CA
District 10
03-29-09
Baker, Vernon Sparks, NV
District 11
03-25-09
Beck, Richard Springville, UT
District 12
03-30-09
Bentzel, R. Fred Live Oak, CA
District 60
03-19-09
Broome, Dale Roosevelt, UT
District 12
03-07-09
Clark, John Hartford, AR
District 99
03-22-09
Cowen, William Carson City, NV
District 11
03-29-09
Dettro, John Redding, CA
District 70
03-21-09
Durkee, Paul Sonora, CA
District 20
03-19-09
Elliott, Gary Georgetown, CA
District 80
12-08-08
Ferreira, Robert Grass Valley, CA
District 80
04-06-09
Fitzsimmons, Lewis Monterey, CA
District 90
03-29-09
Foglia, Phil Oakley, CA
District 20
03-12-09
Gilmore, Rick Elk Grove, CA
District 80
03-08-09
Gomez, Edward Oakdale, CA
District 30
03-08-09
Gouveia, Nolan Hokuoloa, HI
District 17
03-01-09
Hansen, Steve San Bruno, CA
District 01
03-10-09
Harding, Fred Provo, UT
District 12
04-12-09
Haymart, Charles Carbondale, NV
District 31
03-28-09
Higgins, George Walnut Creek, CA
District 20
04-15-09
Horgan, Alfred Jr. Redding, CA
District 70
03-12-09
Houge, Norman Campbell, CA
District 90
10-13-06
Hutchinson, Roy Sacramento, CA
District 80
03-29-09
Jarvis, J Grass Valley, CA
District 80
03-30-09
Kapule, David Waimanalo, HI
District 90
10-04-04
Kinchele, Leo Eufaula, OK
District 99
03-28-09
Lish, Kenneth Sparks, NV
District 11
03-28-09
Little, Willie Stockton, CA
District 30
04-09-09
Lowder, Emil Tracy, CA
District 30
04-16-09
Lytle, Richard Pueblo, CO
District 99
04-22-09
Moreno, Fred Morgan Hill, CA
District 90
04-10-09
Mortensen, Leonard Kanohe, HI
District 17
04-14-09
Ng, Robert Honolulu, HI
District 17
04-12-09
Nickols, James Eureka, CA
District 40
04-08-09
Haymart, Charles Carbondale, NV
District 31
03-28-09
Poli, George Campbell, CA
District 20
04-19-09
Rodemaker, William Yuba City, CA
District 60
04-03-09
Salvo, Ted Pleasanton, CA
District 20
01-14-09
Sampson, Charles Camino, CA
District 80
03-10-09
Seal, Coleman Nephi, UT
District 12
04-10-09
Shotwell, Richard Pleasanton, CA
District 20
04-15-09
Stickell, Robert Pioneer, CA
District 30
03-01-10
Tankersley, Jack Fresno, CA
District 50
03-07-09
Wayland, Gerald Toms Falls, ID
District 99
03-12-09
Weeks, Frank Mountain View, CA
District 90
02-15-07
White, Darrell Chico, CA
District 60
03-11-09
Williams, John Davis, CA
District 80
03-16-09
Wood, Donald Pocatello, ID
District 99
03-02-09

DECEASED DEPENDENTS

Cashada, Marjorie
Wife of Cashada
District 40
04-10-09
Colburn, Barbara
Wife of Colburn, Joseph (dec)
District 50
04-09-09
Deal, Olive.
Wife of Deal, Gerard (dec)
District 30
04-18-09
Dye, Luna
Wife of Dye, (dec)
District 20
04-29-09
Eldred, Joseph (dec)
Husband of Elder, Anna
District 99
04-17-09
Fichtner, Judith
Wife of Fichtner, Melvin (dec)
District 60
04-09-09
Foreman, Shirley
Wife of Foreman, Neal (dec)
District 20
04-20-09
Gates, Esther.
Wife of Gates, Arthur (dec)
District 30
05-08-09
Gilles, Imogene
Wife of Gilles, William
District 50
03-30-09
Green, Allie
Wife of Green, Howard (dec)
District 99
04-17-09
Green, Nancy
Wife of Green, William R.
District 99
02-08-09

Honorary Membership

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

Gerry D. Carmell 1372716
District 12: Utah
John Langan 1281429
District 20: Oakland
Donald W. Morton 0939728
District 99: Out Of Area

DEPENDING DEPENDENTS

John Langan 1281429
District 12: Oakland
Gerry D. Carnell 1372716
District 12: Utah

Meetings & Announcements

Sloughhouse, Calif.
Center (RMTC), 14738 Cantova Way,
at 1 p.m. at the Rancho Murieta Training
Meeting will be held on Sunday, Sept. 20
in the Rancho Murieta Training
Center (RMTC), 14738 Cantova Way,
Sloughhouse, Calif.
Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3 Scholarship Foundation

Giving gifts that last a lifetime

A charity is only as strong as its contributors want it to be, and the Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3 Scholarship Foundation is no exception. Today the Foundation is strong, both financially and in the support it receives from Local 3. It has grown substantially in the last several years, with much of the success due to an increase in donations from members, friends of labor and the employer community. Most contributions come in the form of traditional cash donations, but some have chosen more creative donation methods. Because of tax considerations, some contributions can result in the donors being able to give a gift that is greater than they thought possible. These gifts help build the strength and future of the scholarship foundation and allow the donor to experience giving the gift of a lifetime.

The Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3 Scholarship Foundation offers a variety of ways to contribute:

- **Cash gifts in any amount to the general scholarship fund.**
- **Merit sponsors and memorial and honor gifts.** You can contribute to the scholarship foundation in the memory or honor of a loved one, friend, colleague or to commemorate a special occasion. The Foundation will acknowledge your gift to the person(s) you designate and will also provide written acknowledgement of your gift and the amount. A $500 minimum is necessary to establish a named gift, and there are three donation levels:
  - Merit $500
  - Second-place academic $5,000
  - First-place academic $6,000
- **Bequests.** Gifts made through your will allow you to retain control of your assets during your lifetime and distribute them as you wish upon your death. Many people choose to include a gift to the Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3 Scholarship Foundation. The most common types of bequests are leaving a fixed dollar amount or specific property. A charitable bequest may reduce your estate tax. Consulting an attorney is advisable any time you make or change a will.
- **Securities.** There may be an advantage to giving marketable securities – stocks, bonds or mutual funds – instead of cash. In some cases, you may receive a charitable deduction on your taxes, as well as avoid taxes on capital gains. Consult your financial adviser for details.

If you would like more information on donating to the scholarship fund, or if you have questions, please contact the Foundation’s Treasurer, Rec. Corres. Secretary Jim Sullivan at (510) 748-7400.

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**Yes!**

I would like to support the Operating Engineers Local Union 3 Scholarship Fund.

Enclosed is my contribution in the amount of:

☐ $20  ☐ $50  ☐ $100  ☐ Other $_______

Name: __________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________
City: __________________________________________
State, Zip: __________________________________________
Phone: __________________________________________

Clip out & mail to:

Jim Sullivan, Recording-Corresponding Secretary
Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3
1620 South Loop Rd., Alameda, CA 94502

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Congratulations
Local 3 Scholarship Foundation Award Winners

Local 3 is pleased to announce this year’s winners of the Academic Scholarship Awards. These four deserving students from across Local 3’s jurisdiction were chosen to receive scholarships based on their academic achievements, community service and school involvement. Besides their scholarship award for the first year, each student will receive an additional $1,000 per year from the Scholarship Fund for their second, third and fourth years of college, provided they remain full-time students at an accredited U.S. college.

**First place: $3,000**

Remington Price
Daughter of Michelle Price
Reg# 2190579
Stockton, Calif.

Nicholas Ortega
Son of Charles T. Ortega
Reg# 1875296
Hercules, Calif.

**Second place: $2,000**

Felicia Jin
Daughter of Jane Young
Reg# 2541669
San Jose, Calif.

Michael Devengenzo
Son of Michael R. Develengenzo
Reg# 2243367
Antioch, Calif.
Attention of all Members of Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3 is directed to Article XII – Elections of the Local Union Bylaws, as printed on pages 52 through 70 inclusive, and specifically the following portions:

**ARTICLE XII, ELECTIONS**

Section 3

Elections.

(a) The election of Officers and District Members of the Local Union Executive Board shall be held during the month of August by mail referendum vote of the Membership of this Local Union under the supervision of the Election Committee and a nationally known firm of certified public accountants, selected by the Executive Board, with such other technical and legal assistance as may be provided.

(b) The election shall be conducted by a committee known as the Election Committee, composed of one (1) Member from each District in which nominations will be made. The Member shall be nominated and elected by secret ballot at the regular quarterly or specially called District Meetings by vote of those Members present whose last known address, as shown on the records of the Local Union ten (10) days prior to the first such District Meeting in March preceding the election, was within the area covered by the District. Each nominee shall be a registered voter in the District in which he or she is nominated, shall have been a Member of Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3 for one (5) year next preceding his or her nomination and election, and shall not be a candidate, or nominator of a candidate for any Office or Position.

The nominee for Committee Member in each District receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected, and, in the event he or she is unable, or unwilling to serve, shall be replaced by the nominee with the next highest number of votes, and he or she, under the same circumstances, by the next highest, and so on, until the list of nominees is exhausted.

Additionally, any active or retired Member residing outside the geographic jurisdiction of the Districts of this Local Union may petition the Committee to serve as a non-elected Member of the Committee to serve as the interest of the Members who reside outside the geographic jurisdiction of the Local Union No. 3, as set out and defined in Appendix A to these Bylaws. Petitions to serve will be submitted in writing to the Committee through the office of the Recording-Corresponding Secretary no less than ten (10) business days before the first meeting of the Committee. The elected Committee Members will then vote to accept or reject no more than one of the petition(s) or reject all petition(s).

(c) The Election Committee shall determine whether or not each candidate nominated is eligible. Any candidate found not to be eligible shall be declared ineligible by the Election Committee. The Committee's decision shall be promptly communicated to each such ineligible candidate in writing. Unless the Election Committee's decision is reversed on appeal, it shall govern, and the ballots shall be prepared accordingly.

(d) The Election Committee shall be responsible for the conduct of the election, and specifically: for the preparation of the list of eligible voters, showing the Member's name and last known address as it appears on the records of this Local Union; the preparation and printing of the ballots, listing the nominees for Business Manager first and the Constitutional Officers next, and other positions thereafter in the order in which they appear in Article VII, Section 1 of these Bylaws listing the elected or appointed incumbent for each Office or Position first and the other nominees for the same Office or Position in alphabetical order by their last name (the candidate's name and one occupational classification, that is, classification set forth in collective bargaining agreement that the Local Union has entered into, if any, given by him or her being printed as it appears on the Acceptance of Nominee Form) and envelopes; and the giving of a Notice of Election, by mailing a printed Notice thereof to each Member of the Local Union at his or her last known address as it appears on the records of this Local Union not less than fifteen (15) days prior to the mailing of the ballots to eligible voters.

The Election Committee shall cause a sample ballot to be published in the July edition of the Engineers’ News preceding the election, and to be promptly posted in the District Job Placement Centers.

The Election Committee shall deliver the list of names and last known addresses of eligible voters, and cause the printer to deliver the ballots and envelopes to the nationally known firm of certified public accountants chosen by the Local Union Executive Board, which firm shall rent a post office box to which the ballots shall be returned.

(e) The certified public accountants shall mail the ballots and return envelopes to the eligible voters on August 9th, 10th, or 11th preceding the election, and shall open the post office box for the first and last time on September 1st next following, at 10 o’clock a.m. of that day. In the event September 1st should be a Sunday or a holiday, the post office box shall be opened by the certified public accountants on the following day, at the same time.

The certified public accountants shall remove the returned ballots, count the same and certify the results in writing to the Election Committee.

The Election Committee or a sub-committee thereof, shall be present at the mailing of the ballots, the opening of the post office box, and the counting of the ballots.

The Election Committee shall make certain that adequate safeguards are maintained so as to protect the secrecy of the ballots.

(f) The Election Committee shall declare the candidate for each Office or Position receiving a plurality of the votes elected, except that the three (3) candidates receiving the highest number of votes for the Office of Trustee and the Position of Auditor shall be declared elected. The certificate of the certified public accountant shall be published in the October edition of the Engineers’ News following the election.

(g) The newly elected Officers shall be installed following the counting of the ballots at a specially called Meeting set for the same day that the ballots are to be counted.

(h) Every Member who is not suspended for nonpayment of dues as of August 9th, the date for the first mailing of the ballots, shall have the right to vote. No Member whose dues shall have been withheld by his or her Employer for payment to the Local Union pursuant to his or her voluntary authorization provided for in a collective bargaining agreement shall be declared ineligible to vote by reason of any alleged delay or default in the payment of dues by his or her Employer to the Local Union.
Eligibility to vote for District Member shall, in addition, be based on each Member’s last known address as shown on the records of the Local Union on August 1st prior to the mailing of the ballots, and each Member shall be eligible to vote only for the nominees for District Member for the District in which such address is located.

Section 4
Each candidate shall have the right to have an observer, who must be a Member in good standing in lieu of himself or herself at the polls and at the counting of the ballots; that is, each candidate shall have the right either to be present or to have an observer be present, but not both, to check the eligibility list of voters, check the ballots, see that the ballots are mailed, be present at the opening of the post office box, and the counting of the ballots. The observer or the candidate may challenge the eligibility of any voter, and the ballots of all voters who may have been challenged shall be set aside, pending determination as to their validity. If the challenged ballots are sufficient in number to affect the results of the election, all challenges shall be investigated by the Election Committee to determine their validity as promptly as possible.

Section 5
(a) Every Member shall have the right to express his or her views and opinions with respect to the candidates; provided, however, that no Member shall libel or slander the Local Union, its Members, its Officers, District Members, or any candidate, where such slander or libel is contrary to the responsibility of every member to the Local Union as an institution or specifically interferes with the Local Union’s performance of its legal or contractual obligations.

(b) Any Member found guilty of violating Paragraph (a) of this Section 5 shall be subject to discipline in accordance with the applicable procedures of the Constitution and Bylaws, and if such Member should be a candidate he or she shall, if found guilty, in addition to any fine, suspension or expulsion, suffer the loss of the Office for which he or she is a candidate, if elected thereto.

Section 6
The Recording-Corresponding Secretary or his or her designee, upon request, prior to or following nomination, of any bona fide candidate for Office, shall distribute such candidate’s campaign literature by mail provided the candidate making such request does so in writing, advising the Recording-Corresponding Secretary of the type of mailing, pays all costs involved, and delivers the literature to the Recording-Corresponding Secretary or his or her designee in an envelope with two (2) copies of the literature, the other items intended to be mailed, and two (2) of the envelopes.

(IUOE directive 6/19/08)

Section 7
When any candidate duly nominated is unopposed for election, the secret ballot vote shall be dispensed with and the Recording-Corresponding Secretary shall cast one (1) vote for such nominees who shall then be declared duly elected to their respective Offices. However the unopposed candidate’s name and office or position shall still be listed on the secret ballot and reflect that the nomination is unopposed. Nomination, Acceptance of Nomination, and election records, including but not limited to the list of eligible voters, the ballots cast, and all challenges and challenged ballots, the certificate of the certified public accountants, copies of all requests for distribution of campaign literature with copies thereof, and envelopes in which mailed, the record of the cost thereof and the amount received for such work, shall be preserved by the Recording-Corresponding Secretary for a period of at least one (1) year.

Your Election Committee maintains secrecy, safety of ballots
Operating Engineers Local 3 Bylaws provide that the Election Committee “shall make certain that adequate safeguards are maintained so as to protect the secrecy of ballots.” Local 3’s voting procedures are carefully designed to protect the secrecy of the voting process.

The following comes from the Election Committee and is a summary of unusual situations concerning the counting of ballots:

- Ballot envelopes that do not contain the required certification, signature, registration number, name or mailing address are invalid and will not be counted.
- Ballots returned without a secrecy envelope will be counted (subject to efforts to protect the secrecy of the ballot.)
- Ballots that are not machine-readable because they are damaged will be reviewed and counted subject to the Election Committee’s discretion.
- Ballots that are signed or bear an identifying mark are invalid and will not be counted.
- Problem ballots not described above are subject to review by the Election Committee.

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.

Special notice for suspended members and applicants
According to the Local 3 Bylaws, you cannot vote in the Operating Engineers Local 3 election of Officers and Executive Board members in August 2009, unless you are a current member. If you are a suspended member or an applicant and want to vote, all required fees and dues owed and all reinstatement of membership paperwork must be paid and processed in full by the end of the business day on Friday, July 31. If you want to vote, contact your district office to make these payments immediately.

A reminder from your Election Committee:
Please notify in writing either the Recording-Corresponding Secretary or your district office of any change in your current address.
OFFICIAL BALLOT FOR THE OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL 3 ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DISTRICT EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

The ballot count will begin at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 1, 2009 at the main offices of the local in Alameda, Calif. Only ballots returned by U.S. mail to Operating Engineers Local 3, PO Box 4006, Oakland, CA 94614, by 10 a.m. on Sept. 1, will be counted.

If you make a mistake on your ballot, lose your ballot or need any materials which accompanied your ballot, you may request a duplicate by calling the offices of Miller, Kaplan, Arase and Co., LLP at (888) 242-7248. Duplicate ballot requests will be processed within 24 hours and sent out by first-class mail.

IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING OUT THIS BALLOT

1. Review the enclosed materials.
2. Mark the appropriate box next to your choice on the ballot by completely filling in the square like this.
3. Vote for up to the number of candidates permitted for each office. If you vote for more candidates than is permitted for an office, your vote will not be counted.
4. When you finish marking your ballot, separate it from the Return Address Form on the bottom of the ballot along the dotted lines where indicated and place the marked ballot into the solid envelope marked SECRET BALLOT ENVELOPE, and seal it.
5. Take the Return Address Form, which is located on the bottom of the ballot, and sign your name where indicated. Place the Return Address Form along with the secret ballot envelope into the double-window business-reply envelope so that the OPERATING ENGINEERS' ADDRESS AND BAR CODE SHOWS IN THE WINDOWS.
6. Seal the double-window envelope and mail. (No postage is necessary if mailed in the United States.)
7. Ballots received by the U.S. Post Office after 10 a.m. on Sept. 1 will not be counted.

Special Election Notice: Unopposed candidates

Article XII, Section 7 of the Local Union Bylaws states in part: “Where any candidate duly nominated is unopposed for election, the secret ballot vote shall be dispensed with and the Recording-Corresponding Secretary shall cast one (1) ballot for such nominee who shall then be declared duly elected to their respective Offices.”

The Election Committee has found that the following candidates have been duly nominated for their respective offices and are unopposed. A white ballot will be cast for each of them on Sept 1, 2009:

**OFFICERS**
- Business Manager: Russell E. Burns
- President: Fred Herschbach
- Vice President: Carl Goff
- Rec. Corres. Secretary: James K. Sullivan
- Financial Secretary: Dan Reding
- Treasurer: William “Kalani” Mahoe
- Trustee: Justin Diston
- Trustee: Steve Harris
- Trustee: Ken Oku
- Auditor: Mark Burton
- Auditor: Don Dietrich
- Auditor: Pete Figueiredo
- Conductor: Kris Morgan
- Guard: Steve Ingersoll

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS**
- District 01: Brad Parres
- District 04: Tim Lassiter
- District 10: James Spain
- District 20: Andrew M. Lagosh
- District 30: Dennis Dortch
- District 40: Michael J. Johnson
- District 50: Ronald “Gus” McClain
- District 60: Luther Slack
- District 70: Stan Green
- District 80: James Graham
- District 11: Dylan Gallagher
- District 90: Michael R. Sierra
FOR SALE: A 1999 753 Ford F250 XLT or Lariat, 460 or 460c, 4 stroke, new top end. $2,200 each; 185 cfm Ingersoll Rand bumper jacks – $200 each; 460 cfm Ingersoll Rand compressor, 6000# cable Auto Crane. 8,3 Cummings. New tires, brakes. Good condition. $8,250. Call (209) 295-2850. Reg# 1837539.


FOR SALE: A 2006 Custom Softail, 96-inch S&S, Revtech 6-speed tranny, 33-inch BDL primary, belt drive, 180 rear tire, 21-inch front wheel. A real showstopper. This bike has very low miles, as it has primarily been a show bike, taking first- and second-place prizes in various shows. Current California registration and insurance. $14,900. For more details, call (530) 356-0527. Reg# 2488979.

FOR SALE: A 1972 El Camino, no putty, straight body, all glass, excellent condition. AS NEW with two-axle trailer. Excellent condition, 430 HP. $450 pounds to the ground. $16,000 invested, make offer. For more information, call (775) 385-8609. Reg# 2282048.

FOR SALE: A 2003 410 Husky 4 stroke, new top end. $2,200 OBO. For more information, call (775) 385-8609. Reg# 2282048.

FOR SALE: Three air/hydraulic pumps. Small 600 psi engine hoist – $200; Tranny jacks, large and small – $200 each; 185 cfm Ingersoll Rand diesel air compressor – $2,000; Gorman Rupp 6-inch John Deere diesel trailer-mounted, semi-trash pump – $8,900; a 2001 GMC Duramax 4WD, 4-door with 135,000 miles – $17,000; a 2000 Cherokee – $8,300; a 1978 Olds 2-door sedan – $2,000. Call (707) 366-0005. Reg# 2215083.


FOR SALE: A 40-foot Park model Clear Vue, two slides, fully furnished, skirting-awning, 7-by-7 shed. Located in the country, full electric, water, sewer paid. $20,000. Call (928) 234-9909. Reg# 1597767.

FOR SALE: A 2006 Mercedes Benz ML350. Has 60,000 miles, great condition, leather, etc. $25,000 – that's below blue book. Call (707) 841-0953. Reg# 0950782.

For Road Machinery, that is.

Road Machinery employs Local 3 mechanics and parts people at its Fresno, West Sacramento and San Leandro repair shops. Since their contract expired on May 15, the company has tried playing hardball with Local 3 by trying to take away members’ union wage and benefit package – a package that has been in place since 1959.

Local 3 publicized the company’s antics by holding a series of rallies in front of Road Machinery’s Fresno and West Sacramento facilities – showing the company the broad community and labor support behind these Local 3 members. Even the police helped out. At each rally, the company repeatedly called the police to silence and eject the union and community supporters, but each time, law enforcement recognized Local 3’s right to publicize this labor dispute, even if that means taking it to the streets and shouting through bullhorns.

District 80’s David Nail and Michael Ford were some of the many members who volunteered their time educating the public.

“This is about solidarity for me,” said Nail, who has seen firsthand the way some companies carry personal gain over moral ethics. Nail handbilled in West Sacramento.

After hearing about the plight of these Road Machinery mechanics and parts people, several signatory companies have refused to do business with the company until it signs a fair contract.

CBS Channel 13 News’ David McCain filmed the ralliers in West Sacramento.

Volunteers rally at Road Machinery’s Fresno facility May 20.