BUSTIN' LOOSE

After a 3-year water dispute, Independent Construction begins first phase of the mammoth Country Club at Gale Ranch in Dougherty Valley

Inside...
Why we must vote
Key races for Nov. election
Anti-"saltin" legislation
Westridge Center in Salinas

Photo by Steve Moler
I don't know of anyone who has begun a career as an Operating Engineer with the idea that he would one day become Business Manager of the largest and greatest local union in the construction industry. I know I didn't.

All of us who worked with him realized the day would eventually come when Tom Stapleton would decide to step down as Business Manager, but it was not a day we looked forward to. It is a humbling experience and also an honor to receive the support of the officers for this position.

History will show that Tom Stapleton established himself as the greatest Business Manager in the history of this local union. I don't make that statement lightly. Local 3 has been blessed with some very capable leaders throughout its 57-year history. But Tom has been truly a man for his times. I don't believe any Business Manager has been faced with taking this union through times as tough as we have experienced.

When he was first elected in 1982, we were in the middle of a recesser and the union was broke. He came in and made hard and even unpopular decisions. He laid people off, cut salaries and slashed expenses everywhere until the union got back on its feet financially.

He revamped our apprenticeship training and spearheaded an aggressive job monitoring program to clear the books on companies who were cheating on wages and apprenticeship manning. We sent a lot of scum-bag contractors packing out of this state.

When medical costs went through the roof in the late 1980s, Stapleton did what had to be done to save our health and welfare plan - amid a lot of criticism from those who didn't have the backbone to make unpopular decisions for the sake of the members.

When a former officer in Hawaii tried to secede from the union, he fought hard to protect the livelihood of our 5,500 members in Hawaii and won against incredible odds. When the political wolves came out after the 1994 elections to dismantle our prevailing wage laws and destroy the labor movement, Tom brandished his well-worn sword and gave the battle cry once again.

Tom never picked a fight when he didn't need to, but he never backed away from one, either. He represents the very best in a union leader, and we can all be thankful we had him at the helm these past 14 years.

But now it's time to move on. We can't afford to sit around and think about days gone by. Our enemies are still gathered around us and there is no time for rest. We must take the best of what we have achieved and carry those programs forward, and we must continually improve.

We need to invest in organizing. We cannot let our enemies whistle away our livelihood bit by bit until there is nothing left. We've got to dig in our heels and go out and organize the non-union sector - do a more effective job of showing workers and employers alike that this union has a lot to offer them.

We've already set a goal to improve our apprenticeship training program. With the increases we negotiated for apprenticeship training in the last contract, we'll have a little more money to get the job done.
Doser takes the helm

Officers unanimously elect Don Doser as new Business Manager after resignation of T.J. Stapleton

The 14-year term of one of the most experienced and respected union leaders in the construction industry ended this month as Tom Stapleton, Business Manager of the Operating Engineers Local 3, submitted his resignation.

Don Doser was sworn into office as Local 3’s new Business Manager on July 29 by Stapleton, while he and the Local 3 officers were attending the California Labor Federation Convention in Los Angeles. As called for in the Bylaws, a mid-term vacancy in any of the six Constitutional offices is filled by a vote of the remaining officers within 30 days of the vacancy. Doser, who had served as the union’s President since 1998, received a unanimous vote of support for Business Manager from officers Jerry Bennett, Rob Wise, Max Spurgeon and Pat O’Connell.

The officers also elected Vice President Jerry Bennett to serve as Local 3’s new President. Pat O’Connell was elected Vice President and Max Spurgeon elected as Treasurer. Recording-Corresponding Secretary Rob Wise retains his current office.

Marysville District Representative Darell Steele was elected to serve as the new Financial Secretary.

A 38-year veteran of the construction industry, Doser brings a wide range of experience to his new job. Born in Missouri in 1943, Doser came to California as an infant and attended college at Utah State College at Logan on a full football scholarship, where he majored in secondary education and industrial education.

Following college, Steele played for a short time with the Oakland Raiders until a hip and knee injury forced him to end his professional football career.

Steele went to work in the construction industry in 1965, working for Gay F. Atkinson. He was initiated into the Operating Engineers Local 328, working on construction projects in Arizona. In 1973, Steele transferred to Local 3, where he worked as a heavy-duty mechanic and operated heavy equipment on a variety of projects in Northern California, including the Warm Springs Dam project in Sonoma County and the Sea Ranch project near Mendocino, Calif.

Steele was hired by Stapleton in 1983 as a business agent in the Santa Rosa District. He later worked as an organizer and was eventually promoted to Assistant Director of Organizing, before becoming District Representative in Marysville in 1988.

Steele has served as Financial Secretary for the Marysville Central Labor Council, President of the Henry & Wise County Committee in Marysville and as a member of the Yuba College Vocational Advisory Committee. He is a graduate of the Harvard Trade Union program and has had additional course work in employee benefit plans, negotiating and arbitration.

Treasurer Max Spurgeon has been a member of Local 3 since 1966. He worked for Kaiser Permanente, West Valley Construction, Hood Pipeline, J.C. Betzman and Gordon H. Ball on numerous projects throughout the South Bay.

Since 1972, Spurgeon has worked for Local 3 as a dispatcher, JAC coordinator, business agent, assistant district representative and district representative in the San Jose district. He served as a Local 3 Auditor from 1991-1994 prior to becoming Financial Secretary in July 1994. He was reelected to that office in August 1994 prior to being installed this month as Treasurer.

Can’t from previous page.

And perhaps the most urgent goal of all during the next two months is to increase the political awareness and involvement of our members. Every Local 3 member and his or her family must understand that their job, like it or not, exists because of politics. That’s a fact of life in the construction industry. If we don’t invest in our own political action, we have no one to blame but ourselves when the paychecks quit coming in.

All I ask of our members is to give this new administration a chance to prove itself worthy of the task at hand. I never asked for — and I never got — a free ride in my life. I don’t want one now.

In my younger days, I used to box. I learned that you can never let your opponent see fear. I’ve been through my share of tough times. I’m not perfect, but one thing I can say is that I never back away from a tough situation. With your support, I think we can win the fights ahead.
Why we must vote!

Anti-worker, anti-union factions in Congress seized the political agenda in '94; now it's up to union members themselves to take it back in November

By Steve Moler
Assistant Editor

What a difference two years can make. The euphoria and optimism generated by the Republican landslide in the November 1994 election have so quickly faded into a mood of voter frustration and disappointment. The GOP's "Contract With America" has been a huge failure. Only three items in the contract have become law. The contract's principal architect, House Speaker Newt Gingrich, is now one of the most unpopular politicians in the country. A Times-Mirror poll taken in late 1995 showed that most Americans pin much of the blame for their worries on the Republican-controlled Congress. The words "Contract With America" were completely absent from speeches and the GOP platform at this month's Republican convention. Why?

The 'Contract On American Workers'

The contract has produced, as Vice President Al Gore said at a March AFL-CIO legislative conference, "the most anti-working family Congress in 220 years." Instead of improving the livelihoods of average Americans, the contract has proven to be a powerful political weapon to further weaken the U.S. labor movement. Here's what the contract has inflicted on union members and their families:

- A bill to repeal the Davis-Bacon Act, which would eliminate prevailing wages on federally financed construction projects.
- Opposition to raising the minimum wage instead is more from $4.25 to $5.15.
- A national right-to-work bill that would prohibit unions and employers in the private sector from negotiating "union shop" or "union security" agreements.
- Attempts to gut Medicare and other social programs that help low-income and middle-class Americans.
- The TEAM Act, which would allow employers to form company unions.
- Huge tax breaks for corporations and the wealthy.
- Anti-"salting" legislation that would allow non-union employers to legally deny employment to union organizers (see details page 9).
- Cuts in worker safety.

Trouble spreads to the states

The November '94 landslide also spread to the states, where the GOP grabbed 10 new governorships and extended their control of 18 state legis-
Dramonstrators rallied on Capitol Hill July 9 in support of an increase in the minimum wage and against the Team Act and national right-to-work bill.

In California, where Republicans took control of the Assembly for the first time in 20 years, all hell broke loose.

Assembly Republicans immediately pursued a harshly anti-worker, anti-union agenda, introducing right-to-work legislation, bills to abolish the eight-hour work day and, of course, orchestrating the all-out assault on prevailing wages, which has become a political migraine headache for the construction trades. Much of this harmful legislation, however, was killed in the state Senate thanks to the Democrats’ razor-thin majority.

If the Robert Dole-Jack Kemp ticket wins the presidency and Republicans maintain control of Congress, and if the GOP gains control of both the Senate and Assembly in California, there won’t be anyone left to protect working families. Right-to-work and repeal of prevailing wages would likely become a reality at the state and federal levels, as would many other anti-worker laws. The goal of organized labor in November is to prevent this kind of disaster from raising havoc on American workers and their families.

There’s hope

Public opinion polls and focus group studies suggest that labor not only can attain these goals but can exceed them. In fact, the political currents could reverse themselves much like they did for the Republicans two years ago. The Democrats have a decent shot at recapturing one of the houses of Congress, most likely the House, and retaining the White House. In California, the Democrats have a reasonably good chance of retaking the Assembly and strengthening its hold on the Senate.

But this level of success hinges on union members voting in large numbers. That’s why the AFL-CIO on the national level and Local 3 here in California have launched their most ambitious political action programs ever. The AFL-CIO is training some 10,000 activists to work in every congressional district. The federation is also educating union members and their families and establishing large voter registration and get-out-the-vote drives.

Taking it to the streets

Local 3, in cooperation with other unions in California, will focus most of its attention on protecting the Democratic lead in the state Senate and winning back the Assembly. Local 3 is recruiting rank-and-file members in every key electoral district to serve as “precinct captains” who will work on phone banks, deliver campaign materials, assist in absentee ballot application drives and get-out-the-vote campaigns.

An important component of the AFL-CIO and Local 3 political action programs is identifying candidates who support labor unions and the plight of their members. Local 3’s Executive Board and district Political Action Committees (PACs) are currently interviewing and evaluating candidates who meet these criteria.

Our kind of candidates

On the following pages — and in subsequent issues of Engineers News leading up to the election — are analyses of key races for national, state and local offices within Local 3’s jurisdiction. The union has identified candidates in each race who have demonstrated strong support for issues and policies vital to Local 3 members and their families.

These candi-
Turning the tide

Key races labor must win to blunt the assault on prevailing wages and other anti-worker campaigns

If Local 3 is to be a major player in the campaign to halt the Republican assault on prevailing wages, it must help accomplish two major goals on election day. First, the political party most supportive of unions and working people, the Democrats, must regain a majority in both the U.S. House of Representatives and the Senate and maintain control of the White House. Second, Democrats must keep control of their slim majority in the California Senate and take back the Assembly.

There are several congressional and state legislative races discussed here that are essential to accomplishing these goals. Other important races will be discussed in subsequent issues of Engineers News. The following short profiles are intended to help you make a final decision on November 5. We encourage members to clip these pages and use them on election day to refresh their memory.

1st Congressional District

All of Del Norte, Humboldt, Mendocino, Lake and Napa counties, parts of Sonoma and Solano counties

MICHELA ALIOTO (D) vs.
FRANK RIGGS (Incumbent R)

Michela Alioto

- Opposes Davis-Bacon Act repeal
- Opposes cuts in Medicare, Social Security, student loans
- Favors raising minimum wage
- Opposes TEAM Act

Alioto is a bright, energetic rising star in the Democratic Party. She spent the past two and a half years working in the White House for Vice President Al Gore as a domestic policy advisor. Before that, she worked as a White House transition liaison for the Department of Health and Human Services.

Alioto, who became paralyzed from the waist down at age 13 after being thrown from a ski lift at Heavenly Valley, also served as Disability Constituency Coordinator on the Clinton-Gore campaign in Little Rock, Ar., where she briefed then-Governor Clinton on disability issues. Alioto also worked on the Dianne Feinstein for Governor campaign.

Alioto, who pulled off a stunning March primary victory against four tough Democratic opponents, is now in a strong position to defeat Riggs and become Congress' youngest woman. According to a March poll by Fairbanks, Maslin, Maullin & Associates, 47 percent of those surveyed said they would vote for Alioto on election day, while 36 percent said they would support Riggs, with 17 percent undecided. Alioto's strong support of unions and workers' issues make her an ideal candidate to vote for on November 5.
VIC FAZIO (Incumbent D) vs. TIM LEFEVER (R)

**Fazio**
- Supports prevailing wages
- Voted to raise federal minimum wage
- Voted against TEAM Act
- Voted against corporate welfare

For the past three elections, the Republican Party has been desperately trying to take this seat out of the Democratic ranks. In both the 1992 and 1994 elections, incumbent Democratic Vic Fazio ran up against tough races against Republican Tim Lefever. Fazio will face Lefever for the third straight time this November. Labor needs to get out the vote because in both ’92 and ’94 races Fazio won by margins of around four percent. This year’s race could be even closer.

Fazio has been such a strong labor supporter over the years, it’s hard to determine where to begin discussing his accomplishments. To give you an idea of just how important Fazio is to Local 3, you might recall in last month’s Engineers News, in an article on pages 4-5 titled “Building Bridges,” Fazio was instrumental in obtaining $9 million in federal funds for building West Sacramento’s Daniel C. Potteress Bridge, which when completed will open up a 10-square-mile area of the city to massive commercial, industrial and residential development that will keep dozens – if not hundreds – of Operating Engineers working for the next 20-30 years.

VIC FAZIO (incumbent D) vs. F

On the national level, Fazio has been one of the strongest advocates of union members in Congress. Time and again he has voted in favor of pro-labor bills such as the Family and Medical Leave Act, motor-voter ERISA preemption, OSHA reform, extended unemployment benefits and the Workplace Fairness Act, which would have prohibited employers from permanently replacing strikers.

During the current 104th Congress, Fazio worked to prevent Davis-Bacon Act repeal and voted in favor of the minimum wage increase. He also voted against a bill, HR 2401, that would have allowed private sector employers to pay workers compensatory time off instead of cash overtime wages. He also voted against the TEAM Act, which would have allowed employers to form company unions, and he voted against the 1996 budget reconciliation bill, which would have permitted corporations to withdraw “excess” money from pension funds to be used for health care and other employee benefits.

1st Assembly District

**STROM-MARTIN (D)** vs. **MARGIE HANDLEY (R)**

Virginia Strom-Martin
- Strong union activist
- Supports prevailing wages
- Favors raising state’s minimum wage
- Favors strong workplace health & safety protection

Labor’s goal of helping the Democrats retake the Assembly starts here in the 1st Assembly District, where longtime Local 3 supporter Dan Hauser cannot run because of term limits. Labor needs to elect Hauser’s Democratic replacement, Virginia Strom-Martin.

Strom-Martin is a very good candidate for union members to support because of her positive positions on labor issues. She wants to help the Assembly turn the tide of dangerous anti-worker extremism that has prevailed since the Republicans gained a small majority in the 1994 election.

She would oppose any attempt to weaken or repeal prevailing wages and overtime rules. She’s in favor of raising the minimum wage so that low- and middle-class families can make ends meet. And she’s a strong proponent of workplace health and safety.

Strom-Martin has a solid background in union activism. During her 23 years as an elementary school teacher, Strom-Martin was her California Teachers’ Association chapter president, a negotiator for 14 years and a grievances representative from 1989-91. At the state level, she recently served as the chair of the CTA’s Women’s Caucus, and she represents 400 west Sonoma County teachers on the CTA’s policy making body, the State Council of Education.

Strom-Martin’s opponent, Margie Handley, is a longtime Republican activist with close ties to the Reagan and Buchanan governments. She’s the daughter of millionaire industrialist Robert Harrah and is president of Harrah Industries, a real estate development and non-union equipment sales company in Willits. She used to own the non-union asphalt and aggregate company Hot Rocks Inc. until she sold the plant several years ago.
8th Assembly District

HELEN THOMPSON (D) vs. ED SCHLENKER (R)

Helen Thompson
- Raised in a union family
- Supports prevailing wages
- Favors raising state's minimum wage
- Strong transportation proponent

Most of Yolo and Solano counties and a small part of Sacramento county

With long-time pro-labor Democratic Assemblyman Tom Heinig not able to run because of term limits, labor desperately needs to hang on to this seat if it wants to retain the Assembly. The Democratic candidate in this race, Yolo County Supervisor Helen Thompson, would make an excellent replacement. Thompson has been endorsed by Heinig and just about every labor organization in the area, including Local 3.

Thompson, who was raised in a union family, has demonstrated strong support for labor over her 22 years of elected public service. She is running against Republican Solano County Supervisor Ed Schlenker, who is a friend of labor.

Thompson, who reared three children, strongly supports public policies that favor working families. She favors prevailing wages and raising the minimum wage, as well as policies that will improve public education. With 12 years on the Davis school board and 10 years as a supervisor, Thompson has expertise in the areas of land use planning, criminal justice, solid waste management, economic development and transportation.

She chaired the 1987 I-80 Strategic Transportation Study, which led to changes in the way federal highway funds are allocated to local governments so that these local jurisdictions can be more flexible in solving local transportation problems. She also chaired the Capital Corridor Policy Committee, which deals with commuter train service between Sacramento and San Jose.

In a district that's 51 percent Democrat and 35 percent Republican, Thompson has a good chance of winning. But the district cannot be taken for granted because Schlenker, a moderate Republican, has the ability to pick up substantial swing votes.

9th Assembly District

DEBORAH ORTIZ (D) vs. RICHARD DAVIS (R)

Deborah Ortiz
- Supports prevailing wages
- Favors raising state's minimum wage
- Opposes right-to-work
- Strong record of supporting families and communities

Most of the urban areas of Sacramento

Like the 8th Assembly District race, term limits is forcing out another long-term pro-labor Democrat, Phil Isenberg. This district has been in the hands of Democrats for decades, and labor cannot afford to lose this seat.

The race for Isenberg's replacement is between Democratic Sacramento City Councilwoman Deborah Ortiz and a relatively unknown Republican named Richard Davis. Ortiz has the backing of just about every labor union in Sacramento, including Local 3, because of her longstanding support of labor.

If elected, she would vigorously oppose right-to-work and any attempt to repeal prevailing wages. As a city councilwoman, she introduced resolutions, both of which passed, in support of prevailing wages on city public works projects and a November ballot initiative that would raise the minimum wage from $4.25 to $5.75 per hour.

Ortiz exemplifies the American Dream. Her mother raised Ortiz and her four brothers on Aid with Families of Dependent Children. But despite those economic disadvantages, Ortiz rose above to earn a bachelor's degree at the University of California at Davis, then went on to earn a law degree at the University of the Pacific in 1987.

These common roots make it easy for Ortiz to relate positively to the concerns of working people. As a city councilwoman, she has had the courage to challenge some of Sacramento's most powerful and notorious slum landlords, writing an ordinance to make absentee landlords more accountable for their property. Since then, more than 500 homes and commercial buildings have been improved and numerous crack houses closed.

Ortiz has also been strong in other areas of community development. She went after problem alleyways, closing some and turning others over to adjacent homeowners, with the result that prostitution and burglaries have decreased. Ortiz also has worked to bring back the city's graffiti abatement coordinator and has involved hundreds of volunteers in cleaning up graffiti.

Ortiz's compassion for average people and interest in strong communities will undoubtedly spread to her work as an assemblywoman, where she appears to make significant contributions in the areas of education, crime, housing, budget and finance, and workers' rights.
Not again!

Congressional Republicans seek to weaken workers' rights, this time by introducing bills that would allow employers to fire 'salts'

It's amazing how the moment American workers get the slightest break from federal labor law, Republicans in Congress immediately step in to snatch it away.

A recent U.S. Supreme Court decision demonstrates how the process works. Last December, the high court ruled, in NLRB v. Town & Country Electric, that paid union organizers, or "salts," are considered "employees" under the NLRA and, therefore, are subject to the same legal protections as any other employee.

The decision means that when Local 3, or any other union, uses salts in organizing campaigns, employers can't legally discriminate against the organizers because of their union membership or union activities. If the employer does retaliate against a salt for these reasons, they will be committing an unfair labor practice (ULP) and subject to legal action.

Shortly after the Supreme Court decision, however, the Republicans in Congress launched a vigorous legislative campaign to reverse the high court's decision. Rep. Harris Fawell (R-Ill), introduced on March 29, the "Truth in Employment Act," HR 3211, which would amend Section 8(a) of the National Labor Relations Act by allowing an employer to deny a job to "any person who seeks or has sought employment with the employer in furtherance of other employment or agency status."

Three months later, Sen. Slade Gorton (R-Wash.), introduced on June 28 a companion bill, S 1925, that would amend the NLRA so that employers would not be obligated to hire "any individual whose primary purpose is to represent a union in an organizational struggle." Several other Senate Republicans also support S 1925, including Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott (R-Miss.), Majority Whip Don Nickles (R-Okla.) and Nancy Kassebaum (R-Kan.), chair of the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee.

The non-union employer group Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) sought the legislation in an attempt to blunt the AFL-CIO's highly successful Construction Organizing Membership Education Training (COMET) program, which the federation's Building and Construction Trades Department launched several years ago to regain membership and market share lost over the past 20 years. COMET, which Local 3 began earlier this year, educates members about why trade unions need to organize, then trains both staff and rank-and-file union members how to organize non-union companies using salts and other organizing techniques.

In introducing the bill, Gorton said in a statement: "This legislation will not jeopardize a union's legitimate rights. Unions clearly have a right to organize workers and a right to seek a job wherever they choose, but they do not have a right to harass small business owners and jeopardize the jobs of their employees."

"COMET is not about harassment," said Local 3's COMET Special Rep. Bob Miller. "It's about breaking the law. Union employers don't discriminate against employees because of union affiliation, but many non-union employers do. They don't want union activism on their jobs because they fear the activists will tell the truth about the advantages of unionism. So they refuse to hire union supporters, and in so doing, break the law. They should pay."

Trade unions have been highly successful at winning cases involving retaliation against salts. Two recent decisions stand out. In the first case, the NLRB ruled in late 1995 that H. B. Zachry Company committed a ULP when it failed to consider for employment 18 applicants, all members of the Brotherhood of Boilermakers, who had written "voluntary union organizer" on their job applications. The board ordered back pay for those who would have been hired if not for the company's "unlawful conduct."

The board also found that H. B. Zachry illegally terminated a union supporter and unlawfully issued two disciplinary reprimands to another worker, threatened other employees with reprisals for union activities, and offered overtime to non-union employees to dissuade them from supporting the union.

In the second case, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit ruled in May that Tualatin Electric, a non-union electrical contractor working on a project in Wilsonville, Ore., illegally discharged an employee, Edward Campbell, a member of IBEW Local 48, when the company discovered he was a salt.

Tualatin had appealed to the Ninth Circuit after losing a 1992 NLRB decision, which found that the company had illegally discharged Campbell because of his union activities. The board had also ordered Tualatin to stop harassing employees about their union activities and ordered Campbell reinstated at the Wilsonville project. The Ninth Circuit, in upholding the earlier NLRB decision, said remedies for victims of anti-union discrimination do not contain any exceptions for the construction industry.

In case after case, the NLRB and the federal courts have upheld the rights and protections of workers to seek union representation free of fear and intimidation. But if Republicans get their way, all that will change -- most likely for the worse.

If you haven't taken a COMET class, now is the time to sign up at your district office for a Saturday or winter class. Let's build a Local 3 COMET army and start increasing our market share by organizing.
A shopping center that will make you drop

Granite and subcontractor Stevens Creek Quarry are doing the site work on the Westridge Center, soon to be Monterey County's largest shopping center

Driving north out of Salinas you can't help but notice the cluster of construction activity on the south side of U.S. 101 just passed Laurel Drive. Scattered amongst the 20 or so pieces of heavy iron are the familiar dark green pickup trucks of Granite Construction.

The project, one of the largest currently underway in Monterey County, is the Westridge Center, which when completed next spring will be the largest shopping center in the county -- 650,000 square feet of retail space on 85 acres.

The center will feature large discount and outlet stores, including Office Max, Bigelow Carpet Outlet, Lucky Combo and a Wal-Mart, which is almost finished. The center will also have 25 smaller parcels for other business to purchase and build stores on.

Granite's Monterey Bay Branch started the site preparation in March. When the dirt work is completed in mid-September, Operating Engineers will have completed the underground for 6,500 feet of 24-72-inch cast-in-place concrete pipe, 14,750 feet of RCP pipe, 10,500 feet of sanitary sewer, and 15,000 feet of water line. In preparing for parking lot and roadway paving, Granite will also lay down 95,000 tons of sub-base, 61,000 tons of Class 2 base, 25,000 tons of sand, and 35,000 tons of AC.

Project Superintendent Brent Edelman says the project is on a fast track, with the Wal-Mart scheduled to open by Thanksgiving and the Office Max by Christmas. Construction on the Lucky Combo is scheduled to begin this fall and be completed by May of next year. Another major component of the project is the one-mile extension of North Davis Road from Laurel Drive to Boronda Road. An interchange at U.S. 101 and Boronda will be built later.

Westridge has provided up to 20 Operating Engineers with good work all season, a real bright spot in an area that hasn't seen many large dirt jobs in recent months.
A portion of Granite's crew is from left: Arnold Jaquez (backhoe), Tim Carilli (loader), Mike DeArmond (field superintendent), Andy Wootton (foreman), Ed Briggs (710), Chuck Schlong (710) and Rick Salsedo (330) and Business Rep. Frank Rodriguez.

Local 3 members Robert Moore Jr. (backhoe), Troy Blair and Timothy Watlington (apprentice).

On the one-mile extension of North Davis Road are, from left, John Molchan (gradesetter), Bill Dayton (blade), Charlie Merrill (623 scraper) and Brent Edelman (project superintendent).

Survey crew from Sandis Humber Jones is from left: Bill Mullings (party chief), Glen Burnside (rod-chain) and Pall Rice (party chief).

Steven Creek Quarry's crew is from left: Milt Petersen (foreman), Len Williams (blade), Roy Rocha (compactor), Local 3 Business Rep. Frank Rodriguez, Dan Austin (compactor), Joe York (scraper), Dennis Garrington (scraper), Scott Buttlar (gradesetter), Jim Vosburgh (mechanic), Jeff King (blade) and Larry Montero (water truck).

Photos by Steve Moler
Dougherty Valley springs to life

After a 3-year water dispute, Independent Construction begins 1st phase of the mammoth Country Club at Gale Ranch development

In the October 1994 Engineers News, in the special election pull-out section, appeared two obscure, seemingly insignificant Local 3 endorsements for the East Bay Municipal Utilities District board: Kathy Foulkes for Ward 3 and Frank Mellon for Ward 7.

Today, these two individuals -- who, by the way, won their races -- are key reasons why 40-50 Operating Engineers are moving dirt on the first phase of the mammoth 11,000-home Country Club at Gale Ranch in Dougherty Valley near San Ramon, Calif. The Foulkes and Mellon endorsements are yet another example of how Local 3's political action creates jobs for Operating Engineers.

Before 1994, Gale Ranch, a $4 billion, 30-year housing project that will eventually be home to 30,000 people, was dead on the drawing board. After the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors approved Gale Ranch in December 1992, the EBMUD board rejected the project. The four environmentalists who had taken control of the seven-member board said there wasn't enough water to supply the project. The supervisors and other critics accused the EBMUD board of using water to pursue a no-growth political agenda.

After EBMUD sued the county board of supervisors, and the supervisors countersued, Local 3, in cooperation with the developers -- Shapell Industries and Windemere Ranch Partners -- began working behind the scenes to get the environmentalists replaced by more reasonable board members.

After the 1994 election, the EBMUD board emerged with a 5-2 'pragmatic majority' that included Foulkes and Mellon. The new board was much more interested in finding new sources of water, including tapping the American River. After months of closed-door
Water Project. If the developers are unsuccessful after seven years, EBMUD will annex and serve Dougherty Valley.

Independent Construction started moving dirt on phase 1 last fall and has been going full-bore all summer. Phase 1 involves moving about 11 million yards, including roughly 4 million yards of subexcavation, for 1,200 house pads and an 18-hole championship golf course. Operating Engineers are moving about 45,000 yards on a good day.

With Gale Ranch in full-production, now that an agreement has been reached, Operating Engineers will be working in Dougherty Valley for years to come, thanks in part to Local's support of those two obscure and seemingly insignificant EBMUD board candidates.
ARP bids farewell to T.J. Stapleton

Tom Stapleton, Local 3 business manager and chairman of the board of ARP, Inc., announced last month that he’s stepping down from his duties as business manager. It is with great appreciation and respect that the ARP staff and I wish Tom and his wife Mary a very enjoyable and fulfilling retirement.

Over the years Tom has been a forceful advocate for Local 3 members and their families. Those members and spouses who have used ARP’s services especially owe much to the direct efforts of Tom. It was through his advocacy that the ARP survived the early years through good times and bad.

All the ARP grassroots coordinators, members and spouses, and treatment providers join the ARP staff in wishing Tom a very well-deserved happy retirement.

ARP gains more support

Our thanks to Tom, the officers, the Local 3 and employer negotiating committees for the recent successful negotiations of the Northern California Master Agreement. Advocacy on the part of the negotiating committees made it possible for the ARP to continue expanding services to the employers and the union members. The bottom line is that this is further recognition that when the ARP assists an Operating Engineers or spouse, the benefits are not limited to just the member’s family. The union and the employer mutually benefit by the member’s increased productivity, decreased absenteeism, reduced use of health and welfare benefits and decreased on-site accidents.

The ARP will be placing in the near future an emphasis on training in the workplace. This is so Local 3 employers may satisfy mandated training requirements for drug and alcohol awareness under U.S. Department of Transportation regulations and other applicable mandates.

Thanks to each one of you for your successful efforts on behalf of the ARP.

Annual ARP picnic

Come and join the ARP staff at Azure Acres for our annual picnic to be held Saturday, September 14, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. This year we have a Hawaiian theme, so dress in your grass skirts and leis. Guest speaker will be Everett W. from Long Beach, Calif., who has been clean and sober 41 years.

There will be live music by the Buddy Kind Band (rockin’ blues) and clowns and face painting for the kids. Bring your families, friends and your appetite for a wonderful day of fun and fellowship.

Trust Fund begins new Prudent Buyer network

Members covered by the Operating Engineers Health & Welfare Trust Fund and the Pensioned Operating Engineers Health & Welfare Trust Fund recently received a mailing describing important changes to their plan. Please be sure you read the material. If you have any questions, contact the Trust Fund Service Center at (510) 433-4422 or (510) 670-3090 or the Fringe Benefit Service Center at (510) 748-7450.

Prudent Buyer network

As of July 1996 the Prudent Buyer is the new network and utilization review provider for the Operating Engineers Health & Welfare Trust Fund and the Pensioned Health & Welfare Trust Fund. This new network is much larger than the old one and includes hospitals, physicians and other health care providers throughout Northern California and parts of Northern Nevada and Oregon.

A new network directory and Prudent Buyer/Diversified Pharmacy identification cards were included in the recent mailings. If you did not receive yours, be sure to contact either the trust fund or fringe benefit service centers.

New home pharmacy program

In addition to the new Prudent Buyer network, a new prescription drug benefit has been added. By presenting your Prudent Buyer/Diversified Pharmacy card at participating pharmacies, you will pay only $5 per prescription or refill for generic drugs or $10 when a generic drug is not available or when your physician requests no substitution. You will no longer have to pay the full cost of your drug and then wait for reimbursement from the trust fund when you go to a participating Diversified Pharmacy. Refer to your recent mailing for a list of participating pharmacies and detailed information on this new benefit. This new program includes a mail-order option out of Pennsylvania.

The Medco National Rx Services mail-order prescription drug program is no longer available as of July 1, 1996.

American Diversified’s mail order program

American Diversified Pharmacies Inc. is still available for your use. They have been providing personalized prescription service to Operating Engineers and their families for over four years. American Diversified Pharmacies is located in the Operating Engineers building in Sacramento.

American Diversified Pharmacies is convenient, easy to use and offers several advantages:
- No out-of-pocket expense to you
- No claim forms to file
- No waiting for reimbursement
- Your physician may call or fax your prescription directly to the pharmacy
- American Diversified will obtain refill authorization for you
- Prescription’s shipped directly to your home
- Walk-in services available
- Toll-free customer service line at 800-568-2177
- Toll-free fax line 800-568-2174
- New orders shipped the next business day
- Pharmacist available for drug information 24 hours a day
- Friendly personalized service

Important Note: Retirees or spouses who are enrolled in one of

cont’ on page 17
Paying college tuition can be tough, but Stacy McCarthy found it impossible. The daughter of Local 3 member Roger McCarthy of Acampo, Calif., Stacy won a Rotary Club Scholarship for study at the University of San Jose in Costa Rica. But the university didn't accept travelers checks for tuition payment and any check written on U.S. funds would take six weeks to clear.

Fortunately, they took VISA. The only problem was that Stacy's credit limit was too small. So Stacy sent a fax to Roger, and he in turn got in touch with the credit union, which raised Stacy's credit limit by securing the VISA with some of Roger's savings. "The card worked out extremely well," Stacy said, "I'm not sure what I would have done."

If your family includes members in the "nest-leaving" age, you should know that your credit union has a variety of helpful options for assuring access to funds, establishing credit and keeping track of finances.

**Affordable VISA flexibility**

The credit union offers several choices to members and the young adults in their families who need a VISA card. Local 3 member Chris Carmine of Dublin and his wife Karen made their daughter Cara a cardholder on their credit union VISA account when Cara left home last fall to study at the University of California at Davis.

Being able to use her VISA card in a college town, where out-of-area checks are usually questioned, proved very convenient. Instead of writing several checks each month, Cara simply charged most of her purchases, then writes one check per month to pay the VISA bill.

Adding a cardholder to your credit union VISA account costs $5, and the fee can be deducted from your savings or checking account or charged to your VISA. The transaction can take place in any branch or by mail. You will need to make the request in writing to add a cardholder to your VISA account and supply that person's name and social security number.

As a cardholder on your account, your son or daughter will not be establishing credit under his or her own name. As account owner, you will be responsible for payment. If your child is 18 or older and a credit union member, he or she can apply for a credit union VISA and upon approval begin establishing a credit history. Some families opt to co-sign their child's credit application. In that case, the son or daughter, as primary applicant, will be establishing a credit history. Parents or other co-signers should also know that after a history of on-time payments is established the son or daughter may apply for a VISA under his or her own name with no co-signers.

The advantages of a credit union VISA are worth discussing with the young students in your family before they leave for school. That's because students arriving on or returning to campus will be met with aggressive campaigns by commercial banks to make them VISA holders.

"They line the halls of Memorial Union at Davis," Cara says. "The banks are always in front of the bookstore offering VISA cards, not just in the first weeks of school but year-round."

Many of the VISAs offered on campus tease applicants with low interest rates that can climb after a few months to as high as 19 percent. That is not the case with VISA cards offered through your credit union. Our low rates are fixed, protecting you even if interest rates rise. In addition, our Gold, Classic and Savings Secured VISAs have no annual fee, give you a 25-day grace period and have no cash advance transaction fee.

**New check card coming**

Beginning at the end of September, the credit union will offer a check card with a VISA logo that can be used to make purchases in any of the millions of places worldwide where the VISA logo is displayed. It's called a check card because it works just like a check -- the money is withdrawn from your checking account, not charged to any credit card. The check card can also be used to withdraw funds at ATMs or point-of-sale terminals like those at the supermarket check-out.

These check cards will be every bit as convenient as cards from any other financial institution, but you won't be paying the high checking account fees commercial banks must charge to assure a profit for their stockholders. You will save yourself the time and effort of stopping to get cash at a branch or ATM before you shop. You won't have to carry a cumbersome checkbook or worry about the security problems that go along with carrying a significant amount of cash.

**Smooth sailing for one Local 3 family**

Credit union member James Hollingsworth lives in Hood River, Ore. He uses the free Touch Tone Teller service and the mail to conduct business with the credit union, usually through the Stockton or West Stockton branches. As a joint owner on the account, James is able to help his son Joseph and Jeremy, both of whom are in the Navy. He is able to resolve any account problems -- a real help when you consider calls aboard ship cost $6 a minute. He can also make funds available to them by transferring funds from his credit union account into their credit union accounts. Joseph and Jeremy can use their ATM cards to access the funds, "That way there are no Western Union or transaction fees," says James. "I can make the transfer with a phone call to the credit union."

Any parent or other individual can deposit money into a member's account if they have the member's name and account number. I spoke to several members who take advantage of this feature; they say it's faster and more convenient than having to respond to a request for funds by mailing a check. Of course it's only possible to do this if you and your son or daughter are credit union members. You can join the credit union for life with a minimum $5 deposit into a regular savings account. And once you join members of your immediate family are also eligible to join.
How to enhance your employability

It's mid-summer and work has yet to hit its peak. So far, this year is not as good as last year was at this time.

I would like to remind all apprentices and journey upgrades about the need to become more employable. One way to accomplish this is getting extra training such as BATC and Hazmat. The Engineers News carries dates and times of these classes, or you can call the dispatch office to get information.

BATC, which stands for Bay Area Training Corp., provides safety training for refinery work, which has slowed down a little but could pick up again. As a result, you need to keep this certificate active.

Hazmat is a 48-hour course the first time, then an eight-hour refresher course each year thereafter. You need to keep your certification active, so check the Engineers News for class schedules or call your dispatch center.

Along with these two employment aids is of course our upcoming hands-on training sessions. There may be some repeats of what has been offered before, but each year technology advances, so we have a tough time keeping up with all of the new equipment.

Hans Haselbach of Haselbach Instruments Co. will again give classes on the latest surveying developments over this past year. This is an excellent chance to get hands-on experience with new equipment and a great working knowledge from Hans. Our other classes will assist you in keeping up with new ideas and short cuts to a more productive job performance.

We have many events - now and in the future - coming up for the Northern California Surveyors Joint Apprenticeship Committee. A full schedule of CPR/first aid classes for the East Bay, South Bay and Sacramento areas is available all the way through December. You need only check with our office at (510) 748-4143 to schedule this important class.

On September 14, we begin our hands-on classes in which we will also be offering our Topographic Recertification class for all certified chiefs of party who are currently certified in the topographic and hydrographic areas.

As you know, the JAC has stipulated that in order to maintain the chief of party certifications, an individual must pass the specialty area exams that were developed for recertification. Certifications are now issued for three years. At the end of the three years you must test in order to continue that certification for another three years. Further information will be sent to all certified party chiefs. Plan to attend this important class so your certification will remain valid.

On September 14 we will also hold a five-year graduation dinner and ceremony at the Sheraton Palace Hotel in San Francisco. The dinner is being held through the generosity of the Culinary Workers’ JAC and is served courtesy of the NCSJAC. If you graduated at the chain or party chief level between the years of 1991 and 1996, watch for your invitation to this very special event. We want to honor your success.

Hands-On Competition photography

We would like to thank Local 3 member Dave Silva for doing the photography for the May 11 Hands-On Competition, images that were published in the June Engineers News: We unintentionally left out the photo credit for Dave.

Dave has been a Local 3 surveyor since 1964. He has worked as a land surveyor and AGL on such projects as BART and the refineries. He has worked for BKF for the past three years. Dave is nearing retirement and wants to become a professional photographer when his surveying days are over.

Hazmat, BATC certification make you a more versatile employee

During the past few months we have had several requests for party chiefs and rod-chain people who have Hazmat and BATC certifications. In some instances we were unable to fill the orders. This forced the employer to jockey existing employees around to satisfy the contractor's request.

If you are not currently Hazmat certified or have not attended a BATC class, check out Safety Director Brian Bishop's column or contact his office for dates and locations of Hazmat and BATC classes. Remember, the more qualified you are the more employable you become.

District meetings

Your district office holds quarterly meetings that are listed each month in the Engineers News. These meetings provide important information about upcoming construction projects. They also help feel the pulse of local and national politics, lets you know which politicians are working for you and the ones who don't care.

These meetings take up to about two hours of your time once every three months. Don't you agree this is a small investment in your future? A strong way to show you support organized labor is by becoming involved with your local union. Make no mistake about it, the non-union movement is working day and night to take away everything they can.

Remember, unionism isn't just signing your name on a membership form. It's a way of life. Keep focused on the fact that it took thousands of people working together many years to achieve the wages and working conditions you currently enjoy. If you disagree, I invite you to attend any of our retirees meetings. Ask them about tough times. Ask them about poverty wages, the absence of work rules, unsafe working conditions, no health and welfare or pension plans.

Those of you who came into the union through the surveyors apprenticeship program are benefiting from the journey-upgrades who had the wisdom to establish an apprentice and
Political action at work

OAKLAND -- As we gear up for the November election, I want to give special recognition to several Local 3 members who were politically active during the California primary.

The Alameda County Building Trades organized a precinct walk last March in support of Byron Sher, who was running for the 11th Senate District covering a portion of San Mateo and Santa Clara counties. Several COMET graduates, shown in the photo at top right, volunteered to help out. They were from left: District Rep. Myron Pederson, Mike McPolland, Griff Bowles, Business Rep. Joe Tarin, Al La Grange, Charles Husband, Roger Fagan and Jerry Vale. Sher won the special election against Republican Patrick Shannon and now faces Shannon this November.

When we needed members to speak before the Pinole City Council in favor of a union contract on the city hall complex, several COMET graduates came forward to help out. They are shown in the photo at right and are from left: Robert Harcourt, Cras Parker, Kelly Prado and her husband Gene Prado and John Wallace. Not shown was Kart Pless.

These members' participation in our political action program is an example of how we need to get the members involved in the upcoming November election. If you want to join the fight, call your district office and find out what you can do. We need all the help we can get.

Joe Tarin,
Business Rep.

Fringe Benefits (con’t from page 14)

the trust fund’s Medicare Advantage programs through Kaiser, Health Net or Pacific Care are not eligible for these prescription drug benefits. They must use the prescription drug benefit provided by their Medicare Advantage plan.

Eligibility rule

In order to allow sufficient time for the employer contribution reports to be received and processed, and for the eligibility to be transmitted to the Prudent Buyer and prescription drug programs, the Operating Engineers Health & Welfare Trust Fund has adopted the “skip month” eligibility rule. This means that there will be a month between when month-hours are worked and the month of eligibility provided by these hours. For example, sufficient hours worked in July will provide September eligibility, sufficient hours worked in August will provide October eligibility, and so on.

College students covered by the California Health & Welfare Plan

The Operating Engineers Health and Welfare Plan covers unmarried dependent children until age 19. Coverage is extended to age 24 for full-time students, enrolled for nine or more units, at an accredited school or college. This extension of eligibility applies to participants in Kaiser and the regular plans.

Students maintain their student status during the summer months if they are enrolled for the terms preceding and following the summer break.

Students 19 and over are required to submit proof of enrollment from the school’s registrar’s office each semester or quarter. Failure to submit this documentation will result in claim payment delays.

To avoid unnecessary delays, the trust fund office suggests the following: At the beginning of each semester or quarter, submit a completed Student Dependent Certification form to the Trust Fund Service Center. These forms are available from your district office, the Fringe Benefit Service Center or the Trust Fund Service Center. Upon receipt, the trust fund will note the information, and any claims submitted can be processed normally. Have the student make a copy of the certification for his or her records.

Students covered under the Kaiser Plan should, in addition to providing the required documentation to the trust fund office, submit proof of enrollment to Kaiser when requested.

Trust fund records for all dependents are filed under the member’s name and Social Security number. The trust fund office reports that students and schools often send the certifications without identifying information, such as the member’s name and Social Security number. In many cases, the trust fund cannot match these forms to the proper member. It is important to remember the trust fund handles the accounts for thousands of members. Always be sure all correspondence is properly identified.

Retiree meeting

Be sure to check the schedule for the date of the upcoming Retiree Association meeting in your area.

Fresno retirees: Your meeting will be held in conjunction with a pot-luck picnic on Thursday, October 10. Make plans to bring your favorite dish and join us at Woodward Park, Valley View Area, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Picnics in paradise
Hawaii District wraps up round of island get-togethers

HONOLULU — Our district just concluded a very successful round of picnics on each of the islands. The picnics started April 13 on the Big Island, then went to Maui, Molokai, Oahu and finished on Kauai July 21.

All of those who attended had a great time and ate all of the food they could consume. A lot of nice raffle prizes were given away at each picnic. This year's picnics were the best yet, and next year they'll be even better. Come again next year and meet many of your old friends for a good time.

Willy Crozier, Hawaii Stabilization Fund

Maui
May 5, 1996

Photos by Willy Crozier
Molokai
May 26, 1996

Oahu
June 15, 1996

Kauai
July 21, 1996
Local 3 draws line in sand with PCL

SALT LAKE CITY -- About 65 miles southeast of Salt Lake City a battle line has been drawn, a line in the sand, you might say. It is the good against the bad and the ugly, the guiding light of labor versus the darkness of the non-union.

About a $30 million job was awarded to PCL, Civil Constructors out of Tempe, Ariz. The job consists of 7 miles of 96-inch pipe and 7 miles of road work that started in April. Several contacts by District Rep. Kay Leishman and committee was formed led by Paul Johnson, with help from Karl Carter, Jim Carter and Pat Brown. Each committee member was instrumental in spreading the ideals and goals of Local 3 to the other operators.

They spread the word concerning how Congress was trying to repeal the Davis-Bacon Act or water it down. A big point was made to the non-members about taking the fringe money on the pay checks and how this undermines Davis-Bacon wages. The committee felt that momentum was picking up.

Talk was centered around Local 3 and its organizing drive. The hot issue was fringe money. But slowly the harassment started. Paul Johnson seemed to be singled out. First came threats about being fired if he could not complete work assignments. Then they wouldn't tell him about shift changes or working overtime.

Business Rep. Verlyn Shumway were at first productive. The project manager made encouraging comments of how close Local 3 and the company were to signing an agreement, asking for a few changes here and there in the contract.

But the company was playing a stall game. Local 3 member Denny Hintze was going to operate the 4000 Manitowoc crane to set the 96-inch pipe. Denny was looking forward to the job because it would be close to home.

Talks dragged on and the company asked Denny to come to work. Denny said if there was no contract with Local 3, he would not run the crane. The company scrambled to find another crane operator. PCL also said they were going to pay the fringe money on the pay checks.

We asked several of our members to man the job so that we could start an organizing drive on PCL. An organizing

Quality operator puts contractor on firm foundation

SALT LAKE CITY -- If you are considering building a very expensive high-rise, you would want to employ a company that has the expertise and technology and skilled craftspeople to start your expensive project.

Schnabel Foundation's Denver Division was awarded a subcontract to do some foundation and shoring work on the new Gateway Towers building that is being constructed on the corner of South Temple and Main Street in Salt Lake City. Local 3 member Mike Archuleta is the only operator employed by Schnabel Foundation on this project. "We have to be done in about three weeks, so Mike's going to be very busy," says Joel, Schnabel's project superintendent.

We want to thank Schnabel for recognizing that along with technology there is still a need for skilled craftsmen like Mike Archuleta.
Ford and Ladd to begin $70 million levee project

STOCKTON -- Work activity in District 30 and Modesto District 31 has finally reached its peak, with Teichert, Granite, George Reed, A.M. Stephens, Burns Paving, Don Lawley, Larry Askland among the successful bidders on millions of dollars worth of work. Ford and Ladd were two successful bidders on the first two contracts for the massive $70 million Levee Improvement Project.

In other construction news, Bart Mays, executive director of the San Joaquin County Council of Governments, unveiled a $4 billion transportation improvement program for the next 25 years with funds from Measure K and other local, state and federal sources. Projects include:

- Altamont Pass Fas Trac Commuter Train
- Widening U.S. 99 between Hammer Lane and the Stanislaus County Line
- Widening I-205 to six lanes with two additional lanes for trucks
- Widening I-5 to eight lanes between Eight Mile Road and Hwy. 4, the Stockton Crosstown Freeway
- Development of 160 miles of bicycle paths
- Widening Hwy. 120 and McHenry Avenue intersection, construction of Park-and-Ride lots
- Construction of a freeway overpass at Jack Tone Road

Delayed projects slow Redding work picture

REDDING -- Work around the district is still slow because several jobs are being pushed back or have been delayed.

Jobs currently underway include MCM Construction on the Diestelhorst Bridge at the Lake Redding Park. C.C. Myers is working on I-5 at the Cottonwood Bridge. The subcontractor, AGRA Foundations Inc. has five operators doing the drilling and boring.

J.F. Shea has the approaches, concrete and paving at the Cottonwood bridge and is finishing up with the Madeline job. The Meloud job is in the final stages. Tullis Inc. is moving along on an I-5 median barrier and various other jobs.

F&H Construction is about halfway done with a pipe job in Weaverville. Essayan's Hard Rock picked up two jobs in Adin and Fallriver. It also has the dirt at Rudolph and Shetlen's project in Yreka on the Fairchild Medical Center.

Balwin Construction of Chico just picked up an overlay on Hwy. 139 from Susanville to Heding Mountain. Fletcher General Construction at Shasta Dam is in the last stages of putting down the cooling curtain. With the divers down at this time, everyone is working long hours and days.

Ron Hale has been keeping busy with his grinder on a lot of jobs plus his own. He is doing some paving for himself and is doing the pipe and some of the dirt work for Essayan's Hardrock.

Kiewit Pacific is paving county roads all over Shasta County, with about 80,000 tons worth of asphalt at 48 different locations. It is also going to pave for Essayons Hardrock on the Hwy. 299 project.


Freeway work brightens work outlook in Fresno

FRESNO -- Work is looking brighter for the Fresno District. Two long-awaited projects have finally begun in earnest with the award of the Hwy. 198 and Hwy. 168 freeway projects, with Kessler as the apparent contractor at press time.

Benco and American Paving are currently working on the Hwy. 41 Jensen overcrossing. Another crew from American Paving is working on Hwy. 43. Other projects include Hwy. 41 in the Lemoore/Hwy. 188 junction and the second phase of the Fresno-Clovis sewer treatment plant. We hope various other projects, both private and public, will keep our members working closer to home for some time.

Also, we hope to get our COMET program up and running in earnest soon and organize more companies for our membership. This year is especially crucial for the entire membership to get out and vote. We need support for the Fresno City Council members who support the working men and women in our area. Through our COMET program we will be asking for volunteers to help in whatever way possible in insure victories this November.

A Pictured above at the June 29 Redding District Picnic are from left: Recording-Corres. Secretary Rob Wise, President Jerry Bennett, 50-year member Virgil Worley, District Rep. Monty Montgomery, 50-year retiree Herman Parker and Treasurer Max Spurgeon.
HONORARY MEMBERS

The following retirees have thirty-five (35) or more years of membership in the Local Union as of July, 1996, and have been determined to be eligible for Honorary Membership effective October 1, 1996. They were presented at the July 13, 1996 Executive Board Meeting.

Donald K. Bryant ........................................... 1022067
Jess M. Cruz .................................................. 1006329
George Fischer ................................................ 1055380
Charles E. Ferrier ........................................... 0568106
Hugh Fish ........................................................ 1019995
James E. Gray .................................................. 0804003
Farris E. Holmes ............................................... 1073429
Shigaku In ....................................................... 1063938
Mato Pacheco ................................................... 1073459
Jim Parrish ....................................................... 0268397
William Pew ...................................................... 0786057
Jesse Phillips .................................................... 0863299
Thomas Spiller ................................................... 1054919
Martin Stone ..................................................... 1009995
Sheikh Tadjik .................................................... 0991177
Forest Wyman .................................................... 1201001

DISTRICT MEETINGS

All meetings convene at 7:00 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 1996

5th District: Alameda, CA
Local 3 Headquarters
1630 S. Logan Rd., Alameda, CA 94502
10th District: Hilo, HI
Hilo H.W.H. Hall
100 W. Lankauku St., Hilo, HI
11th District: Maui, HI
Waikapu Community Center
22 Naka Place, Waipu, HI
12th District: Honolulu, HI
Washington Intermediate School Cafeteria
1633 S. King St., Honolulu, HI
17th District: Kona, HI
Waimea Community Center
Kamuela, Hawaii, HI
19th District: Santa Rosa, CA
St. Eugene’s Church
2243 Montgomery Dr., Santa Rosa, CA
19th District: Kuau, HI
Kauai High School Cafeteria
Lihue, HI
24th District: San Jose, CA
San Jose Dispatch Hall
760 Emory St., San Jose, CA 95126

MOUNT 1996

1st District: Sacramento, CA
Engineers Building
4044 N. Freeway Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95834
10th District: Fresno, CA
Laborers Hall
5431 East Hedges, Fresno, CA
15th District: Eureka, CA
Engineers Building
2805 Broadway, Eureka, CA 95501
16th District: Redding, CA
Engineers Building
28305 Engineers Lane, Redding, CA 96002
17th District: Marysville, CA
Veterans Memorial Center
1705 Elm St.
24th District: Stockton, CA
Engineers Building
1915 W. Broadway, Stockton, CA 95205
29th District: Fairfield, CA
Engineers Building
2640 N. Whaley Way, Fairfield, CA 94533

NOVEMBER 1996

7th District: Novato, CA
Akreda Inn
2804 Marina Drive, Novato, CA
20th District: Ogden, UT
Ogden Park Hotel
247-24th Street
21st District: Reno, NV
Engineers Building
2100 Corporate Blvd., Reno, NV 89522

DEPARTED MEMBERS

Our condolences to the family and friends of the following departed members (compiled from the July 1996 Database):

Robert Barter .................................................. Marysville, CA
John Bateman ............................................... Redon, CA
J. Capps ....................................................... Santa Rosa, CA
Glenn Carstson ............................................. Oakland, CA
Ron Center ..................................................... Brookings, CA
John Carter .................................................... Dustin, CA
Kenneth Cathen ................................. Woodland Creek, CA
Kenneth Crew .................................................. Honolulu, HI
Vern Delova ................................................... Sacramento, CA
Anthony Dinnis .............................................. Pleasanton, CA
Charles Hamlng ............................................. San Jose, CA
Henry Hooke .................................................. Hilo, HI
William Hunt .................................................. Hilo Moon Bay, CA
Chris Hurtt .................................................... Chico, CA
Leithard Jackson ........................................... Salt Lake, UT
Harold John .................................................... Eureka, CA
Harold Johnson .............................................. Spanish Fork, UT
Arthur Johnson .............................................. San Leandro, CA
Alvin Kahler .................................................. Pleasanton, CA
Robert Knares ............................................... San Jose, CA
Dewayne Lutes ................................................ Reno, NV
Glen Lloyd ...................................................... Sandy, UT
Phil Long ....................................................... Fresno, CA
John Mangia .................................................... Antioch, CA
Joe Miller ........................................................ Reno, NV
H. Mobley ...................................................... San Jose, CA
Wallace O’Hara ............................................... Honolulu, HI
Thomas Orsborn ............................................ Stockton, CA
Eugene Pierce .................................................. Stockton, CA
Pete Paulezo ................................................... Chino, CA
Patrick Prater .................................................. San Mateo, CA
Miracle Rasn .................................................... Alta, HI
Sidney Rowland .............................................. Powel, MO
Joseph Ryan .................................................... Pentica, CA
William Salyer .............................................. Reno, NV
Judy Saunders .................................................. Powell, MO
Joseph Sant ..................................................... Pentica, CA
George Warren .............................................. Santa Rosa, CA
Leslie Webb .................................................... Cedar City, UT
Cyril Williams ................................................. El Dorado, CA

Deceased Dependents

Alice Grace (Wife of Edward Grace) ................................ 07/19/95
Margaret Averett (Wife of Theodore Averett) ................. 07/16/95
Barbara Foster (Wife of Alan Foster) .......................... 07/19/95
Lydia Hunt (Wife of Ronald Hunt) ................................ 06/23/95
Nora Baker (Wife of Earl Baker) ................................ 07/19/95
Katherine Lambert (Wife of Frank Lambert) .................. 06/24/95
Phyllis Lynn London (Wife of R.L. London) ................. 07/26/95
Sally Ann McDonald (Wife of Michael McDonald) .......... 07/26/95
Joseph Knapp (Son of Earl Knapp) ............................. 07/16/95
Kathleen Lambert (Daughter of Harold Lambert) .......... 07/16/95
Phyllis Lynn London (Wife of E.L. London) ................. 08/25/94
Kathleen Manning (Wife of Michael Manning) .............. 07/18/96
Kathleen Nye (Daughter of Lester Nye) ....................... 07/16/95
Evelyn Peterson (Wife of Harold Peterson) ................. 07/20/96
Christopher Plackett (Son of Victor Plackett) ............ 02/04/96
Vincent Seigle (Son of Orville Seigle) ...................... 02/04/96
John Shier (Son of Richard Shier) ............................ 07/17/95
Wyeika Tinsley (Wife of John Tinsley) ....................... 08/21/96
Daniel Womack (Son of Ernie Womack) ..................... 03/25/96
Bunny Womack (Wife of Eugene Womack) ................. 07/18/96
FOR SALE: 1975 Oldsmobile Calcutta. 2-dr, hardtop, original car, built 1975. $5,000. 408-327-1155.


FOR SALE: 1990 Ford Tempo GL. 4-dr, 4-cyl, automatic, AC, $1,200. 510-443-5927.


FOR SALE: 1989 Honda. 4-cyl sport utility. 4-cyl, good gas mileage, stereo, luggage rack, $5,000. 415-741-3877.

FOR SALE: 1987 Honda Accord. 5-speed, 123,000 miles, new rotors and brake linings, deluxe steering wheel, $1,500. 510-443-5927.


FOR SALE: 1989 Ford Exploror. 4X4, 10 hrs on prop. $10,000. 510-372-3376.


READY FOR WORK...
New OE3 T-Shirts!

Order your new Local 3 T-shirts now!
Available in black or white,
in sizes L, XL, or XXL.

Fill out the order form below and send to:
Operating Engineers Local 3 /Attn: SELEC
1620 S. Loop Rd., Alameda, CA 94502

No phone to orders please! Allow 3 to 4 weeks for delivery.

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1620 S. Loop Rd., Alameda, CA 94502

RETIREE ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

SALT LAKE CITY - Pi Chapter Picnic & Meeting
Sat. Aug. 24, 1996 12:00 PM
Murray, UT

OAKLAND - Nu Chapter
Wed. Sept. 4, 1996 11:00 AM
Oakland Zoo, Show Bldg.
9777 Golf Links Rd.
Oakland, CA

CONCORD - Mu Chapter
Thurs. Sept. 5, 1996 10:00 AM
Concord Elks Lodge #1938
3904 Willow Pass Rd.
Concord, CA

LAKEPORT
Thurs. Sept. 19, 1996 10:00 AM
Lakeport Yacht Club
56 E 6th Street
Lakeport, CA

SANTA ROSA - Chi Chapter
Thurs. Sept. 19, 1996 2:00 PM
Luther Burbank Center
60 Mark West Springs Rd.
Santa Rosa, CA

WATSONVILLE - Iota Chapter
Tues. Sept. 24, 1996 11:00 AM
VIP Club 1726
1960 Freedom Bldg.
Fresno, CA

SAM JOSE - Kappa Chapter
Tues. Sept. 24, 1996 2:00 PM
Italian Gardens
1500 Almaden Rd.
San Jose, CA

FRESNO - Theta Chapter
Patuck Picnic & Mtg.
Thurs. Oct. 10, 1996 11:00 AM
Woodland Park - Valley View Area
7775 Friant
Fresno, CA

EUREKA - Alpha Chapter
Tues. Oct. 15, 1996 2:00 PM
Operating Engineers Bldg.
2800 Broadway
Eureka, CA

MARYSVILLE - Gamma Chapter
Thurs. Oct. 17, 1996 2:00 PM
Veterans Memorial Center
1703 Elm Street
Marysville, CA

CERES
Thurs. Oct. 24, 1996 10:00 AM
Techemne River Lodge
2129 River Blvd.
Modesto, CA

STOCKTON - Eta Chapter
Thurs. Oct. 24, 1996 2:00 PM
Operating Engineers Bldg.
1916 N. Broadway
Stockton, CA

FAIRFIELD - Chi-Gamma Chapter
Tues. Oct. 29, 1996 2:00 PM
Operating Engineers Bldg.
2050 N. rfatey
Fairfield, CA

S. F. - SAM MATES - Kappa Nu Chapter
Thurs. Nov. 7, 1996 10:00 AM
IAM Air Transport Employees
1301 Rollins Road
Suisun City, CA

IGNACIO - Chi Beta Chapter
Thurs. Nov. 7, 1996 2:00 PM
Alvarado Inn
Novato, CA