Pouring It On!

Conco Cement Co. makes an 8,300 cubic yard pour at Clark Construction’s Civic Center Complex in San Francisco.

Photo by William A. Porter
A message to our Honorary Retirees

It's been nearly 30 years since a provision was passed in the Operating Engineers Local 3 Bylaws that allowed retired members in good standing with 35 or more years in the union to be designated as Honorary Members who would receive free payment of their dues. At the time this provision was passed, there were only a few hundred Local 3 members who qualified.

However, in recent years the number of Honorary Members has risen considerably. The Constitution of the International Union requires the union to pay per capita tax at the current rate of $6 per month on all members, including Honorary Members. Local 3 is currently paying over $22,000 per month to the International Union on its Honorary Members, and projections are that number will continue to increase. This is a substantial drain on Local 3's budget at a time when the union is spending more time, effort and money to organize the nonunion sector.

Beginning this month in our current round of retiree meetings, we are asking our Honorary Members to help Local 3 carry out our program to organize the nonunion and provide a more stable, secure industry for our members. We are distributing a Voluntary Authorization Form that authorizes the Pension Fund to deduct $6 from your monthly pension check to cover the per capita tax that Local 3 pays to the International Union on your behalf.

We will also be sending out a mailing to our Honorary Members that contains a copy of this authorization form and explains why we are asking you to participate in this effort.

This is a voluntary program. Nothing will be deducted from your pension check unless you sign the authorization form. But we hope you will do so.

We've received a very positive response from our Honorary Members already. Their response can be summed up by one retiree who handed me his signed authorization form. "For everything Local 3 has given me, six dollars isn't very much to ask, Don, if it means helping out the union. We're all in this together, aren't we?"

It is a small contribution that will help Local 3 out in a very big way.
New administration sworn in at Sept. 6 installation ceremony

Local 3 Business Manager Don Doser and the union's five other officers were sworn into office September 6 by IUOE General President Frank Hanley in San Francisco. The six incumbent officers ran for re-election unopposed in last month's union election. Also sworn in were the 14 Executive Board members, union trustees, auditors, conductor and guard.

Five of the 14 Executive Board slots were contested. In District 11 (Nevada), Howard Luzier narrowly defeated Bob Miller by 21 votes. The four other elections were won by the incumbents. In Utah, Shirley Smith defeated Mary Kaye Crosby, and in Hawaii Reynolds "Speedy" Kama defeated three challengers: Charleston Almeida, Richard Lacar Jr. and Charles Wright. In District 50 (Fresno), Larry Braden defeated Michael Sheffield, and in the San Jose District, Michael Sierra won re-election over Milton Peterson.

In his speech to the membership, Hanley reminded the audience of the tremendous responsibility bestowed on the officers in serving "this great local." "It's not easy being a union officer," Hanley said, in this era of union busting, free trade agreements that send good union jobs overseas and shrinking household incomes.

Perhaps the most memorable moment of the ceremony came when Hanley announced that former Business Manager and current IUOE General Executive Board Vice President Tom Stapleton will relinquish his seat on the board to make way for Doser to become a vice president.

"As you know, I think the world of T.J.," Hanley said in making the announcement. "He is one of the best business managers and vice presidents this international union has ever had. T.J. could have stayed on longer if he wanted, and many people would be very happy to keep him. But we have worked it out so that Tom will step aside and I will recommend to the General Executive Board in November that Don Doser become a vice president."

At that moment, Doser received a standing ovation from the estimated 250 union members, staff and guests who attended the installation ceremony.

A Local 3 installation isn’t quite whole without the appearance of one of the union’s longtime supporters—San Francisco Mayor and former California Assembly Speaker Willie Brown. In a brief speech, Brown treated the audience to a nostalgic trip back to the days when, as a state legislator, "I considered the Local 3 printing press my press. We worked out a payment in a way that allowed us to dominate the field of politics in this state as Democrats in both houses of the Legislature for many, many years," he said. "Our working relationship has been a very productive one. The relationship ought to be maintained."

After Brown’s speech, California Senate Pro Tempore Bill Lockyer congratulated the officers, executive board members and other elected union officials and summed up his thoughts in this way: "There are two fundamental issues in politics— with whom and for what," he said. "My view is that healthy politics starts with the first question, with whom. I can say we are with you!"

### Executive Board Election Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Candidate</th>
<th>Votes</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>DISTRICT 11</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Howard W. Luzier</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>52.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bob Miller</td>
<td>186</td>
<td>47.3</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DISTRICT 12</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shirley G. Smith</td>
<td>344</td>
<td>63.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Kaye Crosby</td>
<td>202</td>
<td>37.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DISTRICT 17</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reynolds Kama</td>
<td>540</td>
<td>63.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charleston P. Almeida</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>8.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard C. Lacar Jr.</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>18.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles W. Wright</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>9.4</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Unopposed Candidates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Candidate</th>
<th>Votes</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Jerry Bennett</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Pat O'Connell</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Secretary</td>
<td>Derrell Steele</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Max Spurgeon</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trustees</td>
<td>Ray Helmick, Kay Leishman, John Bonilla</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auditors</td>
<td>Bob Barconi, Bob Miller, Dave Young</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conductor</td>
<td>William &quot;Bill&quot; Burns</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guard</td>
<td>R. Gary Wagnen</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The election was conducted by the national accounting firm of Thomas Havey LLP. Its report, in part, contained the following:

We have monitored the tabulation of the ballots cast by members of the Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3 in the August 26, 1997 election of Officers and District Executive Board Members combined with the election of Delegates and Alternate Delegates to the 35th IUOE Convention and Election Committee.

Pursuant to Article XII, Section 7 and Article XIII, Section 10 of the Local Union By-Laws, Robert Wise, Recording- Corresponding Secretary, cast one ballot for each unopposed candidate in the election of Officers and District Executive Board Members combined with the election of Delegates and Alternate Delegates to the 35th IUOE Convention.

The total number of ballots received, ballots challenged, and ballots determined to be invalid for any reason are indicated in our report and, in our opinion, accurately present the results of the election based on the ballots received.
Democracy in America, Local 3-style

How your union runs an honest election

by Jennifer Gallagher

As portrayed in the movies, union elections usually bring to mind images of corruption, greed, mob ties, Jimmy Hoffa, murder and mayhem. Although that romantic view may jump start the hearts of Hollywood executives, the reality of today's union elections, at least at Local 3, is that they are legitimate, fair and designed to put people into office that care for and will do what's best for the members.

At the heart of Local 3's election process lies the Election Committee. Made up of one member from each of the union's 14 districts, the committee's purpose is to ensure a fair and democratic union election.

The committee members are nominated at district meetings beginning in March. Each nominee must be a member of the district they are nominated to represent; must be a member in good standing for at least one year preceding his or her nomination, and must also be registered to vote.

Many of the members who served on the most recent committee had also served on previous election committees. This year's chairman, Thomas Hester of the Redding district, served on the committee during the 1994 election and was delighted to serve again for this election. He is a 44-year member of the Operating Engineers and was proud to be able to participate in such an important part of the democratic process.

The committee is responsible for making sure that all candidates for union office are qualified for the ballot. This includes making sure they are members in good standing and that they have completed all of the paperwork required for candidacy. The committee also makes sure that the election is run properly by working with Local 3's accounting firm, Thomas Havey LLP, which is responsible for mailing out and counting the ballots and certifying the accuracy of the election results.

In all, the committee sees to it that the election is conducted fairly and in accordance with the union's bylaws. When asked if he believed Local 3 elections are fair, Hester said, "They are the fairest in the United States."

Local 3's election process is probably not Hollywood material, but when it comes to electing union officials, most members would choose ethics over exorbitance any day.

DELEGATES TO THE 35TH IUOE CONVENTION

Bob Baron - Auditor/Fairfield District Rep.
Brian Bishop - Director of Safety
John Bocilla - Trustee/Sacramento District Rep.
Larry Braden - Executive Board Member
Fresno District
Mike Brown - Fresno District Rep.
Russell Bums - Special Rep., Cranes and Dredging
Pele Cas - Nevada District Rep.
James Earp - Political & Public Relations Director
Ray Helmick - Trustee/Director Rancho
Mericeta Training Center
Frank Hainia - Marysville District Rep.
Wilfred "Willie" Houghtby - Executive Board Member
Redding District
Don Incardona - San Jose District Rep.
Mike Johnson - Executive Board Member
Eureka District
Reynolds "Speedy" Kama - Executive Board Member
Hawaii District
Adrian Keehokakole - Hawaii District Rep.
Ray Leidman - Trustee/Utah District Rep.
Steve Lockett - Executive Board Member
Fairfield District
Raymond J. Mangiolo - Executive Board Member
San Francisco District
Bob Miller - Auditor/Director of Organizing
Dennis Moreland - Executive Board Member
Marysville District

Fred Myrick - Executive Board Member
Sacramento District
Myron Pederson - Oakland District Rep.
Tee Zhee Sanders - Executive Board Member
Oakland District
Paul Schiess - Director, Technical Engineers Division
Dan Senechal - San Francisco District
Rep./Director, Testing & Inspection
Patrick D. Shanklin - Executive Board Member
Stockton District
Michael R. Sierra - Executive Board Member
San Jose District
Shirley G. Smith - Executive Board Member
Utah District
David A. Spain - Executive Board Member
Santa Rosa District
Charlie Warren - Director of Fringe Benefits
Dave Young - Auditor/Stockton District Rep.

ATERNATE DELEGATES TO THE 35TH IUOE CONVENTION

Bob Britton - Director, Public Employees Division
Ron Glick - Director, Unit 12, Central Office
Nelson P. Uramaka - Administrator, Hawaii District JAC

Temporary employees are given instructions on how to properly process the union election ballots.
SAN FRANCISCO — Ghilotti Construction is meeting the ultimate challenge. It is nearing completion on a $2.5 million overlay of one of San Francisco's busiest thoroughfares - 19th Avenue. The four-lane boulevard, which carries 120,000 vehicles per day, carries traffic from I-280 near San Francisco State University, through Golden Gate Park and Presidio, and eventually to the Golden Gate Bridge.

Ghilotti Construction is having to strike a delicate balance between getting the work done on time while minimizing traffic disruptions. Grinding crews, for instance, are working only during off-peak hours, and all of the paving is being done at night.

The work routine has been going something like this: two days of grinding the old pavement down to the original concrete and off-hauling the material, followed by one day of fixing cracks in the underlayment to assure a good professional job, then, if all goes well, two consecutive nights of paving.

But one of the big problems has been that paving can only be done one night a week because the grinding crew cannot grind enough of the old asphalt in the limited time it has during the day. Another challenge is dealing with the utility companies so manhole, electrical, water valve, gas main covers can be lowered to accommodate grinding.

All of this is being done under strict traffic control when work is in progress. Four flaggers and five traffic officers are doing a very good job of controlling the daily traffic. As a result, traffic delays have been kept to a minimum, and as the project nears completion, the delays will be even shorter.

The paving crew is to be commended for the effort it is putting into this difficult project. Despite all the obstacles, this project is expected to finish way ahead of schedule.

Business Rep. Dutch Monroe
Recruiting within our ranks  
Second in a series

Internal organizing is steadily becoming an effective means of strengthening the union

By Steve Moler
Assistant Editor

Engineers News began a series in July on the progress of Local 3's new organizing strategy. In the first installment, we discussed how in "top-down" organizing the union encourages owners and top-level managers of a company to recognize the benefits of unionism and eventually sign a union contract with Local 3.

But as Business Manager Don Doser has often said, "If they (management) won't move by the light, they'll move by the heat." What Doser means is that if employers resist signing with Local 3, the union will assist that company's employees in seeking union representation through grass-roots or "bottom-up" organizing strategies.

Untapped resource

But in addition to top-down and bottom-up organizing, there's a third way Local 3 is bringing in new members. It's called "internal" organizing and involves recruiting new union members, not through upper management or an election, but within the ranks of the union's own bargaining units.

In the nation's 29 "union shop" or free collective bargaining states, including California and Hawaii, private-sector employees and unions are allowed to negotiate union security clauses, which ensure that all employees of the unit pay their fair share to the union. But in the nation's 21 "open-shop" or right-to-work states, including Utah and Nevada, employers and unions are prohibited from negotiating union security clauses. In these states, employees have the choice of being union members or remaining nonmembers. It is this rich pool of nonmembers in right-to-work states that Local 3 has begun to target as part of its overall organizing strategy.

In just the past year alone, nearly 130 new union members have been recruited using internal organizing methods. One of the most impressive internal organizing campaigns is taking place in Salt Lake City at Wheeler Machinery Co., one of the nation's largest Caterpillar dealerships.

The company employs about 400 mechanics, welders, parts specialists and other non-management employees who are represented by Local 3. Over the past nine months, an aggressive internal organizing campaign has brought in 80 new Local 3 members at Wheeler and its two subsidiaries, ICM and Eureka Sales and Service.

The union's recent success at Wheeler has not been the result of some clever new organizing strategy, rather just good old-fashioned hard work. On the front lines are union members and shop stewards, with the access to and credibility with nonmembers, with support from Local 3 business agents and organizers, advocating the union one-on-one with their coworkers.

One-day recruiting drives

The major thrust of the organizing campaign at Wheeler involves teams of job stewards and union business agents, with support from the Local 3 Organizing Department, setting aside an entire day about every six months for recruiting new members. Working in teams of two or three, they walk through the entire plant talking to as many nonmembers as possible about the virtues of joining the union. They promote the current contract and fringe benefit package, and answer any questions the employees may have about the union. During these one-day recruiting drives, the teams visit up to 100 employees.

"Internal organizing gives us an advantage," said chief steward Lamar Losee, who works as a fuel systems mechanic in Wheeler's shop. "We have the access and credibility with our fellow employees, and we can talk to them on a personal level. We talk about how successful our latest contract has been and what the union can do for them."

Stewards Loy Thomas and Pat Rondas of ICM, Wheeler's truck service and repair division located next door to the shop, recruit new members using a form of reverse psychology. Rather than talking about the positive attributes of the union, they ask nonmembers to consider what Wheeler would be like without a union. "Tell them that if we didn't have collective bargaining, we would make three-fourths of what we earn now," Pat said.
The Utah District further enhanced its internal organizing ability when Wheeler's Local 3 negotiating committee, during the last contract negotiations, convinced management to allow union members to participate in Local 3's pension program. Before the most recent contract, employees had a choice of either joining the company or union plan. Now the unit works under a single union plan, and the workers seem to like it.

**Union-management cooperation**

When Local 3 launched its internal organizing effort at Wheeler, the stewards and union expected at least some resistance from both management and some of the non-members. But that has not happened. Wheeler management has fully cooperated with the union's internal organizing efforts, even allowing Local 3 to talk to new employees at company orientations. Nonmembers, Lamar said, seem to respect the organizing efforts.

"The problem hasn't been so much that nonmembers are against the union; it's that in many cases no one has ever bothered to talk to them. When we do talk to them, they're pretty receptive. We have convinced a few guys who have been here for 20 years to join the union. It's just a matter of showing them the light."

**Win-win for everyone**

Internal organizing is a winning strategy for all parties involved. Because the target population is already in a collective bargaining unit, the union doesn't have to expend resources conducting a time-consuming, costly election. For employees, a high union membership rate usually leads to increased collective bargaining strength and, consequently, better contracts. High membership also helps keep dues rates down because the cost of union representation is distributed among a larger pool of members.

"How good a contract we get is directly related to the number of union members we have," said John Ferris, an 18-year steward who works in Wheeler's parts department. Our parts department is one of the best paid in Utah because we get good contracts and have a good relationship with management."

**Improving the bottom line**

Studies on union-management cooperation have shown that for management high union membership often leads to higher morale and productivity. A cooperative rather than adversarial relationship between management and the union also tends to enhance efficiency, problem solving and conflict resolution. In the end, these conditions improve the bottom line.

"Anytime you have a system of cooperation, open communication and mutual respect, you're going to have a better workplace," said Business Rep. Gary Stavros, who services Wheeler for Local 3. "When the employer doesn't feel threatened and the employees can solve their problems, the company as a whole benefits. That's what internal organizing is all about."

**Targeting Nevada's mines**

Another emerging internal organizing campaign is taking place at Newmont Gold in Nevada, where about 550 non-management employees working at the company's gold mining operation near Carlin are represented by Local 3. In the past two months, internal organizing at Newmont has brought in about 40 new members, and the number keeps rising everyday.

Business agents, job stewards and organizers are playing a key role in recruiting new members at Newmont. A team of about 30 stewards has received training in how to interpret and explain the union contract to nonmembers and how to promote the union. While some stewards actively pursue nonmembers, other stewards let nonmembers come to them. Whatever the case, the stewards promote the strengths of the union contract, the advantages of union solidarity, and the fact that workers' livelihoods depend on the strength of the union.

"I have convinced at least eight guys to join the union by informing them that they have no recourse at all in a right-to-work state like Nevada without the union," said Dean Pollard Sr., an equipment operator and 10-year steward. "The company can just walk in, fire you for no reason. It scares the hell out of me."

**Bringing in the freeloaders**

Steward Steve Backherms, an electrician at Gold Quarry, dedicates a lot of his recruiting efforts to help overcome a huge problem in right-to-work states — freeloaders. Even though some employees choose not to pay dues, the union must still represent them. As astonishing as this may sound, nonmembers at Newmont enjoy the same benefits of collective bargaining as dues-paying members. Nonmembers get the same pay raises, fringe benefit increases, grievance handling and other union benefits.

"If you're going to work out here and reap the benefits of being in the union, you'd better be joining and not sitting on your ass saying how bad Local 3 is," Backherms said.

**Pleasant surprises**

Internal organizing is a never-ending, often thankless, task. It is perhaps the most difficult and frustrating job in the entire union. But it is also one of the most rewarding. Steward Dean Pollard Jr. describes what happened when he offered to give a nonmember for six years a contract book. "The guy told me to go screw myself," Pollard said. "But I guess he went home and thought about it because the next day he brought me a filled-out application. I was shocked."

In other cases, nonmembers join because they are simply tired of the way management treats them. Robert Michna, who recently retired after serving as a steward for 15 years, told Engineers News about trying unsuccessfully for over six years to convince a coworker to join the union. But the employee finally joined after getting fed up with his boss' harassment and harsh treatment.

"I felt: real good," Michna said. "All the other union members gave me a big 'attaboy.'"

Doser has always believed that the members are the union's greatest asset. It can be argued that nowhere else in the union is this resource more precious than in internal organizing. Without active union members, Local 3 would not be able to increase its ranks and thus its collective bargaining strength. It's the members who make it happen.
The growing problem of methamphetamine use

Whether it's called "crystal meth" or "poor man's cocaine," methamphetamine is a drug that is potent, cheap, and growing in popularity. The federal government hoped the drug wouldn't spread toward the East Coast from California, and that local enforcement efforts would contain its spread. "That hasn't happened, and now methamphetamine, a synthetic stimulant, threatens the workplace all across the country.

Barry McCaffrey, director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, recently announced a $10 million anti-methamphetamine campaign. The National Institute on Drug Abuse is slated to get $42 million to study use and treatment, the Drug Enforcement Administration $4 million, the Environmental Protection Agency $1 million for illicit lab clean-up, and $700,000 will go to anti-methamphetamine enforcement along the southwest border.

Also, the College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD) just issued a comprehensive report on methamphetamine under a contract with the federal Center for Substance Abuse Treatment. Part of the report describes how methamphetamine is used and how it works, something treatment professionals need to be aware of as they start to see more of these patients.

Smoking rocks

Methamphetamine hydrochloride is sold on the street in either crystal or rock form. Contrary to popular belief, the rocks are not freebase methamphetamine in which the hydrochloride acid has been freed from the methamphetamine base. The freebase form of methamphetamine is a liquid at room temperature, so its abuse is very limited.

Rocks are made by melting the crystals, usually by using the "turkey bag" method. Dry methamphetamine crystals are placed in an aluminum turkey roasting bag that is then closed and dipped into boiling water until the methamphetamine melts. The substance is then cooled in the refrigerator or water until it solidifies into one large crystal. The crystal is then cut into rocks that fit the various glass pipes that are used for smoking methamphetamine.

The drug is usually smoked by inhaling it from a sheet of aluminum foil or through a glass pipe. When foil is used, the drug is heated in a crease of the foil until it vaporizes and is then inhaled via a straw. Pipes for smoking methamphetamine differ from those used for smoking crack cocaine. Because methamphetamine vaporizes at a much lower temperature than crack, smoking it in a crack pipe at high heat would destroy it. Methamphetamine pipes have a large glass ball at the end for holding the methamphetamine and a lighter is held under the ball to vaporize the drug. Some users reportedly prefer glass pipes for smoking methamphetamine because they fear developing Alzheimer's disease from using aluminum foil.

There are anecdotal reports of individuals making a developmental progression from ice smoking to injection of methamphetamine. This has serious implications, not only for increased toxicity associated with methamphetamine per se, but also in relation to HIV and other infections secondary to injection practices.

Effects of use

There is limited data on the effects of methamphetamine on human behavior. Its physiological effects include rapid heart rate, elevated blood pressure, increased body temperature and respiratory rate, and pupillary dilation. Psychological effects include a heightened sense of well-being or euphoria, increased alertness and increased vigor, reduced food intake, decreased sex drive, and increased sleeplessness. Acute, although not chronic, effect is increased sociability. Tolerance develops to many of the behavioral effects of amphetamines, so that increasing doses are required to achieve the same effect. Many methamphetamine users drink alcohol at the same time in an effort to "fine tune" a certain mood state.

Testing

Methamphetamine should always be included on a drug screen. There is no legitimate medical use for the drug, but abusers have been known to mask their addiction behind apparent diligence in the workplace. Don't be fooled: methamphetamine abuse, like cocaine abuse, is highly compulsive.

Get your Hazmat certification during upcoming rainy season

For your convenience and information, we are running our Hazmat schedule for the fourth quarter of 1997. We hope those who haven't yet signed up will do so soon. Remember, the rainy season is coming. Winter is the best time to upgrade your skills. So take advantage of the training your union offers.
Fresh crop of talented surveyors graduate from apprenticeship

The Northern California Surveyors Joint Apprenticeship Committee held its graduation August 17. I was "held" aboard the Treasure Island Commodore Yacht for four hours as we sailed out of the Alameda Estuary into San Francisco Bay and back.

Sixty attended the ceremony to honor our rod-chain and party chief graduates. The weather was wonderful, the food outstanding and the people were great. We are quite sure that a good time was had by all.

Our rod-chain graduates were: David Beas, Steve Mason, Michael Fawehinmi, Joe Tarin, Tracy Marcinkoski, Octavio Senda, Aaron Spray, Jeff Witt and Shorna Murphy.

Party chief graduates were: David Avalos, Michael Foulk, Jose Garcia, Joseph Koehler, Tak Lau, Juan Lovato, Richard Mans, Kevin Stenson, Dennis Stern and Claude Jones.

Assisting in handing out the certificates and awards were Ralph Hoyt and Eric Angslad of Bay Counties Civil Engineers and Land Surveyors Association, Paul Carrumay from Ackland International, and Director of Technical Engineers Division Paul Schissler.

The rod-chain graduates received a transit tie tack and lapel pin and party chief graduates received the same plus an NCSJAC belt buckle. All graduates received a formal certificate, which was designed and produced in house by the NCSJAC staff. We wish all of our graduates the best and hope they give back to the program by training others.

No doubt about it, PECG initiative covers wide variety of private design work

In last month's column, I wrote about an initiative that will appear on the June primary ballot. The "Government Cost Savings and Taxpayers Protection Amendment," which is being sponsored by the Professional Engineers in California Government (PECG), would all but eliminate private-sector competition for state funded or administered design contracts.

There is no question that the PECG initiative - or more appropriately the "Competition Killer" initiative - applies to private projects. The words are right there in the text of the initiative. Section 3(b) of the initiative states that the initiative applies to contracts for services "awarded by private entities."

The private projects impacted by the initiative include both needed housing and job-producing commercial and manufacturing facilities. Agricultural projects are also impacted if there is state agency involvement.

Moreover, the initiative contains no minimum size threshold. The initiative could apply to private projects of any size so long as there is some state involvement in the project. In fact, there are many state permits and state programs, any one of which is enough to trigger the application of the initiative to a private project. The initiative is triggered if the private project involves any one of the following:

- State ownership or operation of any infrastructure project connected to the private project
- EIR review by a state agency
- Tentative map review by a state agency
- An air quality district permit
- A regional water quality board permit
- A congestion management plan
- State Department of Fish and Game review (including 1601 and 1603 notices)
- A habitat conservation plan or other endangered species protection plan approved by a state agency
- A coastal commission permit or review
- Permit for hazardous wastes or toxic substances remediation
- Historical buildings review by the state

The PECG initiative would have the same impact on private projects that it would have on schools, prisons, jails, roads, water facilities and other public works. All of these facilities are now designed by private-sector engineers and architects. Private environmental consultants prepare the EIR's, and private land surveyors conduct the surveys.

Under the initiative, none of this work could even begin without additional lengthy state bureaucratic procedures. Furthermore, the initiative requires analysis so biased that in the vast majority of cases private designers would be forbidden from working on the projects. Only state bureaucrats would be allowed to do the work.

The net impact of the initiative would be to create a state
Retiree Dental Plan open enrollment period is here again

October is the open enrollment period for the voluntary Retiree Dental Plans. In October, retirees and their spouses throughout the United States (except Hawaii) have the opportunity to join the Retiree Dental Plans for the first time, change their coverage, or terminate their coverage. The effective date of the new coverage, or termination of coverage, is December 1, 1997.

Retirees in Hawaii have their own dental plan through Hawaii Dental Service and a separate open enrollment period. Utah's open enrollment is the same as California—October for December 1 coverage.

To be eligible for enrollment you must be eligible for the Pensioned Operating Engineers Health and Welfare Trust Fund and in good standing with the Operating Engineers Local 3.

Please read this information thoroughly. Once you have enrolled, you are obligated to stay enrolled for one full year. However, you may switch from one plan to another during the open enrollment period.

After this one-year enrollment period, you may cancel from the plan if you wish. To cancel, please notify in writing:

Operating Engineers Trust Fund Office
P.O. Box 23190
Oakland, CA 94623
Attention: Retiree Dental

It is important that you include your name, address, and Social Security number. The plan will be canceled on the first day of the following month.

Please note that once you have canceled, you will never be eligible to join the Retiree Dental Plans again.

The current rate for the Regular Dental Plan will continue at $25.60 per month for a retiree only and $50.60 per month for retiree and spouse.

The Regular Dental Plan is available throughout the United States. This plan allows you to see the dentist of your choice. You may change dentists at any time without having to notify the trust fund office. The plan pays 50 percent of usual, reasonable and customary charges for basic dental and prosthodontic work. A pamphlet with a breakdown of benefits and further information about the Regular Dental Plan will be sent to you when you enroll or upon request.

Safeguard

The current Safeguard rate will continue at $16.60 per month for a retiree only or retiree and spouse.

The Safeguard Plan is available only in California, Colorado, Arizona, and Nevada. If you choose this plan, you must see a Safeguard dentist. Any time you want to change dentists, or if the dentist you have been seeing drops from the program, you must call Safeguard to transfer to a new dentist. The Safeguard Plan pays benefits according to a schedule with the patient paying a predetermined copayment.

A list of Safeguard providers and benefits will be sent to you when you enroll or upon request. To change your dentist, please call the Safeguard office at 1-800-352-4341. Call collect if this number cannot be dialed from the area where you live.

Premiums

Monthly premiums for the Retiree Dental Plan will automatically be deducted from your pension check.

How to enroll

To be eligible for enrollment in these two dental plans, you must be eligible for the Pensioned Operating Engineers Health and Welfare Plan and a member in good standing with the Operating Engineers Local 3. If you are already enrolled in one of these plans, you must notify the trust fund. You may obtain a request card at any district office or at the Fringe Benefits Service Center at the Local 3 headquarters in Alameda.

Fringe Benefits

Further information about the plan can be obtained from the Fringe Benefit Service Center at (510) 748-7450 or the Trust Fund Service Center at 800-251-5014.

OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR RETIREE DENTAL PLANS

☐ I wish to enroll or to change my present enrollment. FURTHER INFORMATION AND ENROLLMENT FORMS WILL BE MAILED TO YOU. A COMPLETED ENROLLMENT FORM MUST BE RETURNED TO THE TRUST FUND OFFICE.

☐ I am presently enrolled, but no longer wish to be enrolled. I have been enrolled a minimum of twelve months. I understand that once my enrollment is canceled I will never be eligible to join the Retiree Dental Plans again.

Name (Please Print): __________________________
Social Security Number: _______________________
Address: ___________________________________
City/State/Zip: _______________________________
Date: ________________
Signature: ________________________________

Vacation transfer

In accordance with various collective bargaining agreements, vacation pay for hours worked from March through August, reported and paid to the trust fund by September 25, will be transferred to the credit union by the fund manager on November 15 and will be available for withdrawal at the credit union on November 30.

If you prefer to have your vacation pay issued to you instead of the credit union, you may do so by filing a Semi-Annual Payment Request with the trust fund. You may obtain a request card at any district office or at the Fringe Benefits Service Center at the Local 3 headquarters in Alameda.

The trust fund must receive your completed request card no later than October 30. Checks will be issued November 15. Accounts for members on monthly transfer or time payment option are not affected by this transfer.

see 'Fringe' on page 15
San Francisco's unprecedented amount of construction at the Civic Center has pressed a record number of tower cranes into action.

It's been many years since San Franciscans have seen 11 tower crane stretching high above the downtown skyline. The presence of so many tower cranes this summer is the result of a mammoth $1.2 billion transformation of the city's Civic Center. In all, about a dozen projects have been either recently completed, are in progress or in various stages of planning and approval.

The first project was the $24.6 million face lift of the Bill Graham Civic Auditorium, followed by the construction of the $93 million Main Library.

continued next page
BoomTown

continued from previous page

A July 8 aerial photograph of the Hiram W. Johnson State Office Building under construction. The structure and precast were erected with two Pecco SK400 cranes and two Alimak-Scando Hoists.

Photo courtesy of Upshots Commercial & Aerial Photography of Fremont, Calif.

This August 27 photo shows the demolition of the old state building in progress and the start of Clark Construction's shoring operation. Equipment used in this phase of the project were:

- Link-Belt 28-ton cranes
- Link-Belt excavators with hammers
- Case 580s
- Cat 500 excavators
- Cat 215 excavators with hammers
- Bobcat 720
- Bucyrus-Erie truck-mounted drill rig

Photos to right (top to bottom):

Another four tower cranes are being used across the street for the renovation of City Hall.

Crane operator Mark Webster, in seat, with apprentice Danny Seibert.

Ernie Detrinidad positions the rig.

Mark Webster, in seat, and ollie Ernie Detrinidad.

One of Donco's crews are from left: Gary Brandt, vice president of sales, Jack Collins, concrete pump operator, Dino Delmonte, mechanic, Dennis Bruno, head mechanic and shop steward, Bryan W. Smith, concrete pump operator.
City Hall is in the midst of a $244 million renovation, which is scheduled to be completed in time for a New Year’s Eve gala sponsored by Mayor Willie Brown. The $70.5 million new city courthouse at Polk and McAllister streets should also be finished by year’s end. And the War Memorial Opera House reopened in early September after undergoing a 20-month, $50 million refurbishing and retrofit.

The $80 million Asian Art Museum at the old Main Library is in the design approval stage, and a plan to convert the Board of Education headquarters into a school of the arts is in the environmental review phase. There are at least three other Civic Center projects in the conceptual stage. One of those projects is the Veterans Building, which now temporarily houses the mayor and the Board of Supervisors while City Hall gets its face lift. The Veterans Building needs about $50 million in seismic work.

One of the projects where two of the 11 tower cranes had been working is the Civic Center Complex, where Clark Construction is leading a design-build team on the construction of the new 4-story Hiram W. Johnson State Office Building and the renovation and seismic upgrade of the 75-year-old Earl Warren Building. Included in the $246 million project was the demolition of a state office building adjacent to the Earl Warren Building.

For nearly 67 years the Earl Warren Building housed the state Supreme Court and First District Court of Appeal. But the building had to be abandoned after the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake. Assembly Bill 896, passed in 1993, provided the funding to build the complex.

Construction began in April 1996 with the demolition of the state office building. Clark razed the building using two Link-Belt 28-ton cranes, two Link-Bell excavators with hammers, Cat 350 and Cat 215 excavators with hammers, and a Bucyrus-Eric truck-mounted drill rig.

Once the demolition work was completed, crews began construction of the 830,000-square-foot structural steel Hiram W. Johnson building. The 10,000 tons of structural steel framing is being braced by 300 passive dampers to meet the strict seismic building codes. The structure is being wrapped in about 250,000 square feet of granite, pre-cast and curtain walls. The building rests on a 6-foot-thick mat slab foundation.

Pouring the mat slab foundation was one of the more interesting aspects of the project, according to Project Manager Lou Palandrani. Clark Construction had to close several streets and even offered resident in some of the surrounding neighborhoods hotel rooms so the pour wouldn’t disrupt their lives.

On the weekend before last Christmas, Conco Cement Co. poured 5,400 yards, then returned on January 3-4 to pour the remaining 6,300 yards. The second pour began at midnight on the 4th and was completed by 2:30 that afternoon. In all, five concrete pumps were used: three 52-meter and two 42-meter Schwings. They averaged between 125-150 yards per hour. Once the foundation was completed, Clark installed the tower crane bases.

The seismic upgrade of the Earl Warren Building began with construction of a new concrete mat foundation. Crews had to install reinforcing material and pour the 5,000 cubic yards of concrete under severe space restrictions and with limited access to the building.

Palandrani described, in the June 2 issue of the California Builder and Engineer, how the seismic upgrade was carried out. The existing façade was strengthened with new interior shotcrete and reinforced steel concrete shear wall structures. Clark built a structural steel diaphragm with top plates that connect the new structural steel to the existing structural columns and tied the building together. Once the structural diaphragm was complete, crews were able to perform demolition, then started bringing up the interior perimeter shear walls.

Once the seismic retrofit was completed, work began on the building renovation, which essentially involves restoring the structure to its original condition, with an emphasis on maintaining its historical significance. Clark’s entire Civic Center Complex is scheduled for completion in late 1998.
With Christmas coming, now's the time to apply for VISA

You don't have to be among the students who returned to school this month to have arithmetic on your mind. At this time of year you are likely to be adding up how much getting through your holiday shopping list is going to cost. Your credit union can help with these equations no matter what the size of your list.

One way the credit union can save you money is by giving you access to VISA's worldwide purchasing power at interest rates well below what other financial institutions and department stores are charging. Don't be fooled by low teaser rates. Read the fine print on credit-card offers to see whether the rate on the card you are being offered shoots up to 19-21 percent after the first few months.

The low interest rates your credit union offers on VISA Gold and Classic cards and on savings secured VISA cards are not teaser rates. Moreover, these cards have no annual fee, no cash advance fee, and a 25-day grace period on purchases. That means you have 25 days from the date of your statement to pay your balance in full before a finance charge is imposed.

Should you choose to carry a balance, the difference between carrying that balance on your credit union's low-interest card versus a high-interest card is startling. If, for example, you carry a $3,000 balance on a credit card with an 18 percent interest rate, you would pay $1,715.69 in interest charges and need 131 months to pay off the card, given a minimum payment of either 4 percent of the balance or $10, whichever is greater. But with a VISA Gold credit card from your credit union at 12.9 percent interest, you would pay off the card almost a year and a half sooner and save $662.29 in interest charges.

You may apply for a VISA card at any credit union branch, or by calling 1-800-877-4444. You may also apply via the credit union's Web site at www.oecfu.org.

Avoiding a loan application fee

Longtime readers of this column can vouch for me when I say it's been a long time since I have mentioned a fee for credit union services. I do have a fee to tell you about today, but the good news is that it is a fee most of you will never have to pay.

A few members, after having their loan requests denied, are reapplying for loans a short time later, sometimes within the same week. To help offset the costs to the credit union caused by these frequent appliers, the credit union now charges a $25 fee to reapply for a loan within 90 days of having been denied a loan.

However, this fee is completely refunded if the loan is approved and the funds are accepted by the member. Only those members who are denied, then reapply less than 90 days later and are denied again will be charged $25.

It's also important to note that your credit union does not want anyone to have to pay this fee. If your application is denied, your loan representative will give you information that will let you make the best decision about when and under what circumstances to apply again.

Mark your calendars for our fall car sale

On Saturday, November 1, Thrifty is sponsoring a six-hour nearly new vehicle sale at the credit union's Dublin branch. There will be a quarter-percent interest rate discount given the day of the sale only. Judging from the good turnout we had at the last car sale in May, arriving early is a good idea. The sale begins at 8 a.m. and ends at 2 p.m. and is for credit union members only. Credit union staff will be on hand at the sale to process your membership application. But why wait for the sale? You may contact any credit union branch and establish your membership with a minimum deposit of $5 into a regular savings account. For the branch nearest you or more information, call 1-800-877-4444.

Get an additional 1/4% off our vehicle loan rates at the sale only
• Save with low pre-negotiated prices
• Over 150 Cars! Most still under factory warranty
• Huge selection of cars, trucks, vans and sport utility vehicles
• No cash needed...100% financing available

Vehicle Information Hotline: 1-800-999-9476
For loan information: 1-800-877-4444 or (510) 829-4400

Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3
Federal Credit Union
Retiree Association meetings

Our fall round of Retiree Association meetings has begun. Check the schedule on this page and come to the meeting in your area. We’ll bring you up to date on all the latest concerning the union and your benefits. This is your opportunity to meet with the officers and to give them the feedback they need to make the union work for all.

Benefit information

In an on-going effort to make benefit information and services more accessible to the members, we are publishing a “Quick Reference” phone listing (see below) for benefit information for all retirees and active California members. As you can see, this listing includes the trust fund’s toll-free 800 numbers. Use this listing to obtain any information you need regarding your benefits. Last month’s issue contained a listing for the Nevada fund. In subsequent issues we will publish listings for the Utah and Hawaii funds. The Public Employees fund will also be publishing a listing.

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**QUICK PHONE REFERENCE**

California actives and retirees
Where to call for benefit information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Information Needed</th>
<th>Contact the Following</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fringe Benefit Service Center</td>
<td>(510) 748-7450</td>
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<tr>
<td>For Health &amp; Welfare Eligibility</td>
<td>Trust Fund Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental Claims</td>
<td>or</td>
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<td>Pension &amp; Annuity Information</td>
<td>or</td>
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<td>For Medical Claims and H&amp;W Benefit Information</td>
<td>Trust Fund Office</td>
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<td>and</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contract Provider Updates</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contract Provider and Utilization Review Organization</td>
<td>For pre-authorization or pre-service review, provider should call Prudent Buyer utilization review:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prudent Buyer Plan (through Basic Crafts Healthcare Consumer Coalition)</td>
<td>(800) 274-7787</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prescription Drug Programs:</td>
<td>DPS Customer Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diversified Pharmacal Services (DPS) network walk-in pharmacy and mail order program</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-network pharmacy claims</td>
<td>Obtain a claim form from the Fund Office or call DPS Customer Service.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Diversified Pharmacies (ADP) mail order program (walk-in pharmacy - Sacramento Office only)</td>
<td>ADP</td>
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<tr>
<td>or</td>
<td>(916) 263-0233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemical Dependency Treatment Referral and Pre-authorization</td>
<td>Addiction Recovery Program (ARP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vision Service Plan</td>
<td>(800) 877-7195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hearing Care Plan</td>
<td>(800) 322-4327</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Exameterics, Inc. Mobile Health Testing Unit</td>
<td>(800) 642-6233</td>
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</table>
Training class helps operators bone up on metric system

SALT LAKE CITY - Have you been hoping the metric grade system would not catch up to you on the job until you retire? Do you scratch your head about centimeters, millimeters and meters?

Well, you're not alone. The metric system has made its appearance on the 17-mile (27.4 kilometer) I-15 reconstruction project in Salt Lake City. As I travel from one end of the job to the other, many of the operators have commented on the need to have some basic knowledge of the metric system. Other comments have not been as positive but very colorful with regard to where the metric system should be put. With help from our apprentice program, Local 3 sponsored a two-hour basic information class about grade checking using the metric system.

Wasatch Construction General Superintendent Chuck Knowlton commented: "The metric system is here to stay. This is a new tool that needs to be learned and the operators should have basic knowledge of how this system works."

Also in attendance was Local 3 member and grade foreman Bruce Gray. "There are differences between the engineers' system and metric, but with a little practice an Operating Engineer you will have the knowledge and skills to be able to work with both systems."

Thanks to the 18 Operating Engineers who attended the training class on a Sunday to upgrade their skills so they can do a better job and make their union the best there is.

Business Rep. H. K. Pang

Yellow iron rumbles through Salt Lake's I-15 project

SALT LAKE CITY - The first signs of daylight chase the darkness from the eastern skies, and the roar of the big engines give notice to all that the yellow iron is ready to rumble!

Leo Mecham, foreman for Wasatch Constructors at the South Pit, gathers his crew together for a two minute safety talk, then lays out the plan of attack. As daylight breaks, the "crew is in the saddle" and the muscles of the big yellow mustang begin to flex. The sounds of dirt being loaded in the belly dumps start the first load north to the 7200 South fill area on I-15.

It takes about 30 to 40 minutes for the belly dumps to get to the fill area at 7200 South. "Because of this travel time we start at least 30 minutes earlier than the fill spread," Lee says. "Our best day has been 453 loads." 980F and 980G Cat loaders are used to load from 32 trucks to 55 trucks. The loader operators have the responsibility to keep the load weight legal and to keep the load below the top of the trailer.

"It's a very fast pass," says loader operator Pat Wynn. "The trucks are sometimes lined up three or four deep or sometimes you only have one waiting, and that's when management wants to throw another truck in the game. I have to make sure that I don't overload the trucks or load the trucks past the top of the trailers." The highway patrol has pulled a few trucks over and made the driver shovel off any loads that exceed the top of the trailers.

"We have two D9s and two D8s feeding the two 980 loaders at this time," Lee said. "This south pit will provide about 3 million to 3.5 million yards of fill to the reconstruction of the 1-15 freeway," says Mecham. "We run a 10-hour shift six days a week."

Twelve "at-a-boys" go out to the Local 3 members whose excellent skills make the bottom line profitable for Wasatch Constructors.

Business Rep. H. K. Pang
Tax measure needed to help finance U.S. 101, Sonoma-Marin light-rail projects

ROHNERT PARK – The Rohnert Park District office has just finished negotiations with Syar Industries. We were fortunate to have the owner, Jim Syar, and his staff negotiating across the bargaining table.

After several meetings and good faith bargaining in a good economy, we were able to come up with a good contract for both sides that will earn our Operating Engineer brothers and sisters decent wages for a good day’s work for the next three years.

So far this year our District 10 agents have signed eight new contract agreements. We are meeting with the owners of two nonsignatory companies and doing our best to increase the labor costs on any non-union contractor that competes with our signatory employers.

Transportation measure

Operating Engineers and their families are supporting the half-cent sales tax initiative. This tax would be used to widen U.S. 101 and add a light-rail system from South Healdsburg to Larkspur in Marin County. This would also save 30 to 45 minutes each way during rush hour. Along with helping solve Sonoma County’s traffic problems, the project would put an enormous amount of Operating Engineers to work for several years. The last time we had a project this large was the Warm Springs Dam project.

A coalition of environmental groups in Sonoma County has dropped its support to a popular plan to add lanes to U.S. 101 south of Petaluma as part of a proposed 1998 tax measure. The planned measure would allocate $54 million for highway and local road projects, plus a commuter rail service from South of Healdsburg to Larkspur.

Environmental groups, including the Sierra Club, the Sonoma County Conservation Action Group and the Greenbelt Alliance, contend that the 9-mile stretch of U.S. 101 south of Petaluma would cost as much as $124 million. The groups say that, although the measure would be a relief for congestion, others would like it so much they would then want to move to Sonoma County, causing a rapid increase in growth. We will need your assistance in getting this measure passed.

Just six months ago it looked like an alliance of business leaders, elected officials and the environmentalists had, after two years of working together, finally come up with a transportation tax plan that all sides could support. But now, the environmental groups want to take out the Petaluma-Novato segment of the plan. The polls have indicated that if this portion is left off the tax measure, voter support would fall from 78 percent to just 50 percent.

In 1990, a tax measure in Sonoma County for highway transit projects lost at the polls, so this time around voter support is critical to elected officials and advocates for transportation improvements. Because of Prop. 218, which voters approved in the 1990 election, the transit tax measure will need a two-thirds majority for passage instead of a simple majority.

We hope a closer alliance among the business and community groups, the environmental groups and elected officials can work out some kind of compromise agreeable to all concerned.

District 10 will be asking members for their support on the transportation tax measure. At that time, we will request your help with getting out the word, assisting with phone banks, precinct walking and whatever else it takes to get this measure passed.

Supporting UPS strike

It’s wonderful when we stick together for a common purpose. On Labor Day, we attended a great picnic in Occidental with lots of working-class brothers and sisters. Among the politicians and labor leaders addressing the people was Utah Phillips, who treated us to a rich mixture of labor history and songs. He told of the abuse in the mines many years ago, how through solidarity they were able to improve their working conditions and pay. In order to be heard they would stand on soap boxes to encourage fellow workers to unite. The boss men decided that this was a threat to their authority. The bosses got an ordinance passed making it illegal to speak up in public for labor.

Rather than accept this outrageous assault on their constitutional right of free speech, they stuck together. They lined up around the block to take a turn on the soap box. As soon as they talked they were arrested. They filled the jails. This created quite a burden on the system. Now the jail had to feed them. So the town fathers caved in, rescinding the ordinance and galvanizing the workers. Solidarity works.

A more recent display of solidarity was the victory labor scored with the UPS strike. A call went out for all unions to show support for the striking Teamsters. It was rewarding to see the diverse support that came out, including many Local 3 Operating Engineers, Carpenters, nurses, Piledrivers, Iron Workers, hotel and restaurant employees.

Showing up at about 7:30 p.m. were the incredible Farm Workers, straight from the fields, 12 to 15 cars with four to eight workers in each car, 80-100 workers in all. These guys had recently fought the battle for better conditions. They knew the importance of sticking together and supporting the good fight. With their red and black flags, they marched into place and began to chant.

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Diverse projects keep Marysville District hopping

MARYSVILLE — The work picture in the Marysville District continues to look very good. Kiewit Pacific continues working two shifts on two bridge jobs on Hwy. 162 west of Oroville, a $10.5 million project, and on U.S. 99 north of Nicolaus, a $10.5 million job. Associated Concrete Pumping has been real busy pumping concrete on both bridge jobs.

T&S Construction has been working long hours completing the $4 million canal realignment and Butte Creek siphon project in Nelson before the onset of the rainy season.

Baldwin Contractors of Marysville is busy on a half-million-dollar street improvement, signal and lighting project at Franklin and Gray avenues in Yuba City. M&M Electric of Sacramento is doing the signal and light portion. Jerry Lee Ford is doing the curbs and work, and Jones & Jones of Yuba City is doing the sidewalks.

Baldwin is also busy on the site work for the new Marysville post office at the Yuba County Airport, with Omni Pipelines doing the underground work. Arnie Stewart from Gridley is also busy on this project doing miscellaneous backhoe work for the primary contractor.

Jaeger Construction Company of Yuba City has moved in and started work for the City of Marysville laying pipe, installing manholes, and replacing sanitary sewer collection systems at various locations in town. Jaeger was also low bidder at $498,000 on a project to install a 48-inch storm drain line at Butte House and Stubler Lane in Yuba City. The project starts any day now.

Benco Contracting from Elk Grove is moving along on the $605,000 bridge replacement project on Franklin Road in Sutter County with Baldwin Contracting from Marysville doing the road realignment and paving.

Shimmick Construction of Hayward was low bidder for a little over $6 million to construct a 230-foot-long, 20-foot-wide, 40-foot-high concrete fish screen structure in Colusa County for the Marysville District. This project includes fish screens and associated fabricated steel bulkheads supported by concrete piers, a steel blowout panel and parking and storage area for the fish screen cleaner system. This job should start any day.

The Marysville Central Labor Council has been involved with Raytheon Engineers and Constructors of Denver, Colo., and Wild Goose Storage Inc., out of Alberta, Canada, to put together a building trade agreement for all the work to be union on their project in Sutter County, west of Live Oak and Gridley, near Gray Lodge. Baldwin Contracting's Chico office and Albay Construction from Martinez has just completed the first phase. The second phase will be starting within the next two weeks. This project should be around $40 million by the time it is completed over the next 10 years. This will be a good union project for all the building trades.

The levee repair work has finally taken hold in the Marysville District. We presently have about $25 million of levee repair work underway. Dorneman Construction based in Sacramento has moved in on the Arboga area to do some of the repairs on the levee for Levee District 784. Sybien-Reid Company out of the Folsom area has started moving in on the $862,328 levee repair Phase I project for Levee District 1 in Sutter County. District Manager Bill Hampton says it has three more phases going on to bid within the next three weeks.

Siri Grading & Paving from Santa Rosa is busy on Phase II of the Thunder Hill Park Racetrack west of Willows on Hwy. 162 in Glenn County. This work calls for earthwork, paving, drainage and expansion of the track from 1.33 to 2.85 miles.

We have a few projects coming up for bid in the next few weeks. In Paradise, we have Bushman Road, Aquatic Park storm drain improvements, and culvert improvements at various locations. In Chico, we have a water pollution control plant expansion and upgrade, and in Lindo Channel, a bicycle bridge.

In Butte County, we have Palpa Road storm damage repairs, and Pulga Road storm damage repairs Phase II, Cox Lane regrading, and Hildale Avenue reconstruction. In Colusa County, we have asphalt overlays at various locations, a portion of old U.S. 99, Oak Street and Maxwell Sites Road.

Yuba County, the Dry Creek Mutual Water Company Canal and Pipeline Project Phase I, and Marysville Road asphalt overlay. The Sutter County Airport hanger project is coming up in Yuba City. With all we have going on and the list of some of the work coming, we should have a good year in the Marysville District.

Meetings:

A reminder to all, our next District 10 regular quarterly meeting is Thursday, September 18 at the district office in the meeting room upstairs, 6225 State Farm Dr., Rohnert Park.

We urge you to attend and bring along a friend. We need to bring up the numbers of brothers and sisters who attend the meetings. You will receive up-to-date information and be able to visit with your union brothers or sisters. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending.

To all members who need to get their recertification cards for Hazmat, on December 20 the district office will be holding an eight-hour recertification class. Call the district office to put your name on the list.

Another reminder, if you think you are due to receive your 25-, 30-, 35-, 40- or 45-year pins and have not yet received them, please contact the district office. We can pull your record up for Hazmat, on December 20 the district office will be holding an eight-hour recertification class. Call the district office to put your name on the list.

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We urge you to attend and bring along a friend. We need to bring up the numbers of brothers and sisters who attend the meetings. You will receive up-to-date information and be able to visit with your union brothers or sisters. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending.

To all members who need to get their recertification cards for Hazmat, on December 20 the district office will be holding an eight-hour recertification class. Call the district office to put your name on the list.

Another reminder, if you think you are due to receive your 25-, 30-, 35-, 40- or 45-year pins and have not yet received them, please contact the district office. We can pull your record up for Hazmat, on December 20 the district office will be holding an eight-hour recertification class. Call the district office to put your name on the list.

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Planning commission approves massive Tracy Hills project

STOCKTON - Levee work in our district will have exceeded $70 million when the projects are finished next year. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, local flood control agency and state Bureau of Reclamation decided to extend the levee repairs and improvements further up stream than originally planned on Bear Creek, Pixley Slough and upper Mosher Creek. Also, railroad trestles must be raised and retaining walls and erosion control devices around bridges improved and return structures built. The additional work will amount to about $18 million for the Stockton flood control. We are concerned, however, that bids and orders to begin work are coming so late in the season.

Other work is being released to bid for paving, excavating, underground and subdivision work. As usual, it's feast or famine. For now, work could be better. The hours are up and the forecast is good.

Contract negotiations for the area's major rock, sand and gravel producers have been completed, making the Stockton area rock-and-sand contract the premiere agreement in Local 3.

Tracy Hills

The Tracy City Planning Commission unanimously approved the 5,200-acre Tracy Hills project, which will include 5,300 homes and a golf course and lake. Tracy Hills will be the first of a half-dozen proposed urban communities to break ground. If they are all built, Tracy's population will increase by 115,000 over the next 20 years.

Modesto City Council election

The Modesto City Council election is coming, and at this time we have so far interviewed and endorsed Barney Hale for Chair 3, Mike Serpa for Chair 4 and Jerold Ford for Chair 2. We have also interviewed and endorsed Sandy Lucas and Ricardo Cordova for school board. We urge you to give these candidates your vote. They share many of the ideas and goals of our union. They also support prevailing wages and preserving the jobs of unionized public employees.

The Stockton mayor evidently thinks it's a good idea to give jobs of our public employee members to private vendors, regardless of the impact it will have on city employees or residents. I urge you to contact Mayor Podesto and your city council representative and advise them that you will not tolerate such reckless action.

District picnic

The July 27 Stockton District picnic was an outstanding success this year, with over 450 attending. The New York steaks were big and better than ever, the beans were provided and prepared by everyone who helped with the cooking, serving and cleanup. Without your help, the picnic would not be possible.
Nice weather brings our big crowd for Fairfield picnic

This year’s Fairfield District picnic at Peña Adobe Park in Vacaville drew over 350 Local 3 members, their family members and guests. The youngsters and some adults took advantage of the Blue Lagoon Waterslide Park next to the park. Picnickers enjoyed tri-tip, Roger’s special beans, salad, rolls, and the usual unlimited soft drinks and beer.

The Fairfield District office would like to thank everyone who volunteered their time to help plan and carry out the picnic. We look forward to having another great picnic next year.

Picnickers gather under the pavilion at Peña Adobe Park for speeches and other announcements.

Children fish for tadpoles.
San Jose picnic a big hit with the members

When Local 3 members began arriving at the August 10 San Jose District picnic at around 11 a.m., it looked as if it might rain. But by the time the steaks and hotdogs hit the barbecue grill about an hour later, the clouds had retreated to the coast and the weather turned ideal for a summer picnic.

There was plenty of activities for everyone: softball, badminton, radio-controlled dozer driving contest for the kids, a wonderfully constructed pineta made by Office Manager Yolanda Sagert, and, of course, a raffle. The San Jose District office would like to thank everyone who came out for the picnic. We want to also thank those who helped out with picnic. See you next year.

Mechanic badly burned in accident needs your help

On June 28, one of our Local 3 mechanics, Kevin L. Cook (based out of the Oakland district), was welding on the back fuel tank of a Cat 657 scraper when suddenly he was engulfed in flames. He received second- and third-degree burns over 80 percent of his body. Kevin survived the accident and now faces a long recovery, at least a year and probably longer.

Kevin has a wife, Diane, and two daughters. While Kevin is on disability, Diane will probably have to find work so the family can pay the bills. Until she does find a job, there’s something all of us can do to help a fellow union member in need.

A fund has been established through the Operating Engineers Federal Credit Union in Kevin’s name. Any donations you can make to the Cooks will be greatly appreciated. You can make a contribution at any credit union branch. Make sure you tell them it’s for the Kevin L. Cook Fund, GI #801-802.

'Tech Engineers' continued from page 9

monopoly that would stifle competition and dramatically reduce innovation in our built environment. The initiative would also slow down the projects and drive up costs. Thousands upon thousands of construction jobs would be lost, and the public would have to forgo indefinitely the benefits of these needed facilities.

The “Competition Killer” initiative will appear on the June 2, 1998 ballot. A huge coalition has formed to defeat the initiative. Not PECG nor anyone else can withdraw the initiative or even amend it. This terrible initiative can only be defeated by the voters.

From the Reno Office:

Congratulations to David and Jamie Taylor on their new arrival, Cierra Lynn, who was born on August 2. Also to Robert and Elizabeth Helms, who had a daughter on September 1.
HONORARY MEMBERS

The following retirees have thirty-five (35) or more years of membership in the Local Union as of August 1997, and have been determined to be eligible for Honorary Membership effective October 1, 1997.

They were presented at the August 24, 1997 Executive Board Meeting.

Charles M. Ajimine #108566
Kenneth Bettis #1039847
Peter Contrades #105966
Jack M. Dailey #1035311
Samuel David #1102051
Danny Docker #1101098
Frank Delfino* #1087681
Buddy A. Dory #026913
Cecil Dougan #1046739
James Evans #0690465
W.J. Hill #0575305
Pierre Janssens #1101970
Thomas Johnson #0574261
Calvin Kirk #1087599
Dennis McCarthy #1113059
Samuel Mickey #110287

DEPARTED MEMBERS

Our condolences to the family and friends of the following departed members (compiled from the August '97 database)

R. Aki Kailua, HI 08/09/97
J. Brown Manito Park, CA 08/20/97
Thomas Browning Pine Grove, CA 07/24/97
Dennis Calicahan Daly City, CA 08/11/97
Donato Cammarra San Francisco, CA 08/03/97
Jacob Chavez Battle Mtn, NV 07/27/97
Willard Devries Thornton, CO 06/04/97
John Ellis Ely, NV 06/29/97
Stephen Fairchild Crescent City, CA 06/14/97
Manuel Freger Livermore, CA 06/24/97
John Gatto Virginia City, NV 06/18/97
Christy Hartmann Sonoma, CA 06/25/97
Donald Marritt Madera, CA 06/23/97

DECEASED DEPENDENTS

Mary Betschart (wife of Frank Betschart [dec]) 07/15/97
Shirley Blair (wife of Norman Blair) 06/10/97
Marian Clayson (wife of A.B. Clayson) 06/13/97
LuJuanita Cram (wife of Roland Cram) 07/24/97
Belle Hector (wife of C.C. Hector [dec]) 07/15/97
Ernestine Herman (wife of Clarence Herman) 07/19/97
Christen Kirk (wife of Calvin Kirk) 06/18/97
Sherlyn Kram (wife of Marvin Kram) 06/12/97
Betty McCune (wife of Joseph McCune III) 07/26/97

Visit us on our Web site at: http://www.oe3.org

Election of Grievance Committee Member
District 40 (Eureka)

Recording-Corresponding Secretary Robert L. Wise announces that on Oct. 7, 1997, at 7:00 p.m., at the regular quarterly District 40 (Eureka) membership meeting, there will be an election for one (1) Grievance Committee member to fill an unexpired term.

The meeting will be held

October 7, 1997 at 7:00 p.m. Engineers Building, 2806 Broadway, Eureka, CA

In support of Grievance Committee Member

Charles M. Ajimine
Kenneth Bettis
Peter Contrades
Jack M. Dailey
Samuel David
Danny Docker
Frank Delfino*
Buddy A. Dory
Cecil Dougan
James Evans
W.J. Hill
Pierre Janssens
Thomas Johnson
Calvin Kirk
Dennis McCarthy
Samuel Mickey

Bring your dues card

Recording/Corresponding Secretary Robert L. Wise wishes to remind all members to carry their paid up Local 3 dues card. When attending a semi-annual, quarterly district or specially called meeting of the union, your paid up dues card is proof of your good standing as a member of IUOE Local 3 and your right to vote in such meetings and/or participate in the business of the union.

District Meetings

All meetings convene at 7:00 p.m.

September 1997

3rd District 12: Salt Lake City, UT

2501 W. N. Temple, Salt Lake City, UT 84116

4th District 11: Reno, NV

1290 Corporate Blvd., Reno, NV 89502

11th District 20: Oakland, CA

700 24th St., Oakland, CA

19th District 17: Kauai, HI

Kauai High School Cafeteria

Litau, HI

16th District 17: Honolulu, HI

Washington Intermediate School Cafeteria

1933 King St., Honolulu, HI

17th District 13: Maui, HI

Waikapu Community Center

22  Waiola Pl., Wailuku, HI

18th District 17: Hilo, HI

Hilo ILWU Hall

100 W. Liliuokalani St., Hilo

18th District 10: Renoert Park, CA

4225 State Farm Dr.

Renoert Park, CA 96006

19th District 17: Reno, NV

Hokahala Island Community Center

76-5377 Maalaha, Hilo, HI

23rd District 90: San Jose, CA

Italian Gardens

1508 Almaden Rd., San Jose

October 1997

2nd District 90: Sacramento, CA

Engineers Building

4041 N. Freeway Bl., Ste. 200

Sacramento, CA 95824

7th District 19: Eureka, CA

Engineers Building

2496 Broadway, Eureka, CA 95501

8th District 76: Redding, CA

Engineers Building

2400 K Street, Redding, CA 96002

9th District 85: Marysville, CA

Veterans Memorial Center

1703 Elm St., Marysville, CA

16th District 30: Stockton, CA

Shinnick Waterfront Inn & Social Club

1034 N. Ashley Ln., Stockton, CA

November 1997

5th District 12: Ogden, UT

Ogden Park Hotel

247 - 24th St., Ogden, UT

6th District 11: Reno, NV

Engineers Building

1290 Corporate Blvd., Reno, NV 89502

13th District 1: Novato, CA

Avalon Inn

250 Entrada, Novato, CA

18th District 4: Fairfield, CA

Engineers Building

250 W. Wawona Way, Fairfield, CA 94533

20th District 50: Fresno, CA

Lubans' Hall

5431 E. Hedges, Fresno, CA

* Note location change
NEW! Custom Local 3 Jackets

Show everyone you are a member of the largest construction local in the U.S.A.

This is your jacket! You tell us what size you want, tell us the color and you pick the design that will be stitched across the back. You can even have your first name or the stylized Local 3 logo sewn on the front. If you want, you can go all out and have both your name and the logo.

This is a great looking, union-made jacket and will let everyone know that you are proud to be an Operating Engineer.

The shell fabric is water resistant Caprolan® oxford nylon with a winter weight 100% polyester quilt lining. The cuffs, collar and waistband have color accent striping. All jackets have roomy pockets with self-closing reinforced overlaps and full snap front.

Be the first one on your jobsite to sport one of these terrific jackets!

Note: More designs to come for crane operators, surveyors etc.

Local 3 Stitched Jacket Order Form

Ordered by:
Name ____________________________
Address ____________________________
City, State, Zip ____________________________

Ship to (if different from above):
Name ____________________________
Address ____________________________
City, State, Zip ____________________________

Fill out form & mail to: S.E.L.E.C.
1620 South Loop Rd.
Alameda, CA 94502

Optional stitched logo ($4.00)
Optional stitched first name ($4.00)

Funds raised from these jackets benefit Local 3's federal political action committee - S.E.L.E.C.

SIZES: S (36-38), M (40-42), L (44-46), XL (48-50), XXL (52), XXXL (54)

Enter information below, using a separate line for each jacket order. The first line is an example on how to fill out this form.

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All orders shipped by UPS. Please give street address. Due to custom nature of order allow 5 to 8 weeks for delivery.

Subtotal: __________
Shipping & handling: $4.00

TOTAL DUE: __________