Smooth sailing from now on along Boat Section

C.C. Myers, subcontractors “fix” I-5
Facing issues head-on

Let me first begin by saying I look forward to seeing you all at this month’s Semi-Annual Meeting Sept. 28 at the Solano County Fairgrounds. It is a true privilege to have International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) General President Vincent Giblin as our keynote speaker. The IUOE Executive Board elected Mr. Giblin as general president March 1, 2005, prior to which he served as general secretary-treasurer since 2002. As a 40-year veteran of Local 68 in New Jersey, he is no stranger to the union. At the upcoming meeting, he will shed light on the General Election, current state of the economy and the state of our union.

No doubt these three issues are on all of our minds, and I, too would like to address them this month.

General Election

As I’ve mentioned in past issues of Engineers News, this upcoming election is a huge opportunity for labor and this country to regain lost ground incurred during the last administration’s assault on working families. We will continue to give you the information on the presidential candidates, so you can make an informed decision. It is obvious through their political platforms that Sen. John McCain opposes prevailing wages, which is a direct assault on what we fight so hard to protect, while Sen. Barack Obama has consistently voted to protect fair pay, overtime protections, prevailing wages and the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA), all of which are issues we hold dearly. Local election endorsements and more information on the presidential candidates will be forthcoming in the October issue of Engineers News. There is too much at stake in this election for us to sit it out. We must all be engaged in the political process that will – ultimately, define your future and the future of labor.

Current economy, work picture

Although work hours are currently 13 percent lower than last year, we are seeing some improvement. Since January 2008, the hours are steadily climbing upward – up 3 percent since last month – the sign of an improving trend in the economy and in the workload. As you’ll notice in this month’s district reports on pages 14-19, the work picture is improving in several districts, with pipeline, bridge and road-repair work, new signatories signed and the possibility of California High-Speed Rail ahead.

While we cannot control the credit crisis or the rising cost of gas that’s affecting the current economy, we can control our activism. Local 3 is an active participant in a transportation advocacy coalition that includes members from other crafts and the California Alliance for Jobs that is focusing on the Prop. 42 transportation funds. These funds were earmarked in 2006 for California infrastructure improvement – meaning jobs. Rumors are circulating that legislators may borrow from these transportation funds to balance the state budget, putting more than 100 major transportation jobs across the state in jeopardy. I am here to tell you we’re doing everything in our power to keep that from happening. We know that securing these funds means more jobs for our members, and we will continue to put pressure on our legislators to keep good faith with the voters by using these funds for their intended purpose – infrastructure and transportation improvements.

Heavy and Highway Trust covers cost of TWIC card

I am pleased to announce the Operating Engineers Joint Heavy and Highway Trust is now providing a new, cost-free benefit to Local 3 members working at ports and refineries. With an increase in security at these job locations, workers must undergo background checks in order to obtain a Transportation Worker Identification Card (TWIC) and be eligible for employment. This card costs $132.50 and is valid for five years. The Heavy and Highway Trust is offering to cover the cost of this card for one year through June 30, 2009. For more information on this benefit, visit our website at www.oce3.org.

Doser Trial ends

In maintaining a policy of transparency, the most recent news regarding the trial against former Business Manager Don Doser was published in last month’s edition of Engineers News and can be found online at www.oce3.org. I want to shed a bit more light on this issue, because it’s been on all our minds. The officers and I were pleased that the jury and judge agreed that Doser misappropriated union funds for his own personal gain, and that his penalty requires him to pay upwards of half a million dollars back to the union and the forfeiture of nearly $1 million in future pension benefits. This trial has been an ongoing and grueling affair that has left a sad mark on the history of Local 3. But this trial and the incidents leading up to it have led your officers and Executive Board to make changes in practices and procedures that will ensure that no single person can ever misappropriate union funds for his or her own personal gain ever again. We have taken this issue head-on as we have done with every difficult issue we’ve faced. The Doser Trial is finally over, and now we can all focus on the future of this great local.

Above all else, we value the principles upon which this union was founded seventy years ago, honesty and integrity. Rest assured that protecting this union and representing the best interests of the membership will continue to be our top priority. With that said, I look forward to seeing you at the Semi-Annual Meeting Sept. 28.
Early Retirement Pension
Age 61

Let's say a member who earned $1,800 toward his monthly benefit retired before July 1, 2008 at age 61. His monthly early retirement benefit would be calculated as follows:

- **Earned Before July 1, 2008**: $1,800.00
- **Reduction 3 percent**: - $54.00
- **Member's monthly amount**: $1,746.00

Now let's say another member who has earned $1,800 toward his monthly benefit before July 1, 2008 and earned $437.50 toward his monthly benefit after July 1, 2008 retires at age 61 on June 1, 2013. His monthly early retirement benefit would be calculated as follows:

- **Earned Before July 1, 2008**: $1,800.00
- **Reduction 3 percent**: - $54.00
- **Earned After July 1, 2008**: $437.50
- **Reduction 33 percent**: - $144.38
- **Early Retirement Amount**: $1,746.00
- **Member's monthly amount**: $2,039.12

Please note: This is one example on the Early Retirement Pension and does not apply to current retirees. For more on your specific situation or if you have any questions, please contact the Trust Fund at (800) 251-5014 or the Fringe Benefits Service Center at (800) 532-2105.

Rally at the Capitol draws labor, state employees

A rally at the California State Capitol Building July 24 drew an angry crowd from labor and state agencies, including 30 Local 3 members. The crowd rallied against Gov. Schwarzenegger's most recent attack on working people – his signed Executive Order reducing state workers’ pay to the federal minimum wage of $6.55 an hour.

Focus on what you can do

I would like to start by thanking the Valley Power strikers for fighting for what we believe in – our right as human beings to provide for our families and ourselves. When things are wrong on the job – in work conditions, pay or treatment – the strikers are demonstrating that we can make a change for the positive. This is what unions have been doing since their inception. This is what unions were founded on. I want to say to all the strikers, Local 3 stands behind you and supports you in this battle you’ve fought for more than a year now.

In fact, we could all use a little support right now, since hours are down, the economy is struggling a bit, and I know the general morale of most Americans is not what it should be. I find that when the chips are down, a change in attitude can make all the difference. It is important to focus on what you can do, rather than getting mired down by a situation. The following reference points are areas you can look to for proactive solutions:

**Accruing hire status and loss thereof**

The hours you work determines where you are on the out-of-work list, also known as hire status. You start out on the C list at zero hours worked and work your way up to the A list. Maintaining your hire status depends largely on the hours you work in a given year.

**Registering on the out-of-work list**

Registration on lists A and B is valid 84 days from the date of registration. Providing you do not get dispatched in the interim, you can maintain your place on the list by renewing your registration before it expires. To do this, call your district office and ask that your registration be renewed.

Registration on the C list is valid for one calendar month only and will not be carried over to the succeeding month. You should contact your district office on the first working day of each month to re-register on the C list.

All non-members or members who are not in good standing with their membership in Local 3 will be required to pay a monthly registration fee to be included on the out-of-work list.

**Employment of short duration**

An employee whose last employment was of short duration will be restored to their original place on the list or lists on which they were registered at the time of the last dispatch, provided the district office is notified no later than noon on the day following the last day of employment.

Employment of short duration, for the purposes of the job placement regulations, means employment that is terminated by the individual employer other than for just cause without the employee having received from his or her employment the equivalent of 48 hours of straight-time wages.

For more information, check your respective district office for a copy of the job placement regulations for the state you live in.

As I mentioned before, sometimes a shift in attitude is all we need to get moving in the right direction. As this month’s Semi-Annual theme states: We are together for a better tomorrow, meaning that in every sense of brotherhood and sisterhood, we’re together in good times and bad times, and we continue to look forward.

Speaking of looking forward, I have visited our respective training sites throughout our jurisdiction, and there are plenty of opportunities for journey-level upgrade training. Please take advantage of these openings and get experience on different equipment.

I look forward to seeing you all at the upcoming Semi-Annual Meeting and at the next round of district meetings. Please attend both and get to know your brothers and sisters.
Second Quarter 2008 Results

As with the first quarter of 2008, the Union continued to face a challenging economic environment in the second quarter of 2008 as the construction industry got off to a slow start throughout much of Local 3’s jurisdiction. While Hawaii and Utah hours remained strong, California and Nevada hours were down some 12% year-to-date through May. The slow-down in housing continues to stretch out further than most economists had originally planned, with a turn around not in sight until at least 2009. In addition, Federal, State and Local agencies appeared reluctant to release funding for much needed construction projects.

The Union’s expenses through June 2008 remained essentially flat as compared to 2007 (less than a 2% increase year-to-date), while 2008 revenues continue to trail 2007 revenues by slightly more than 13% or $3 million. The majority of this decrease continued to be lower supplemental dues hours, while to a lesser extent, lower window dues receipts and initiation fees. However, with work beginning to pick up late in the second quarter, revenues began increasing and June 2008 proved to be a positive month for the Union’s finances.

Membership numbers continue to remain strong with only a slight decrease of 261 members during the second quarter of 2008.

The Local remains committed to its strong organizing program during this economic downturn and was bolstered by renewed support from the International Union of Operating Engineers who provided over $400,000 in grants to support these continued efforts. With the challenging first half of 2008 over, increasing work hours during the summer months should provide the Union, as well as the membership, some solid financial relief. Nevertheless, the Officers continue to maintain a close watch over the Union’s current and future expenditures.
Everyone loses when state prevailing wage is overturned

In 1981 in the state of Utah, little Davis-Bacon prevailing wage was repealed by the majority party which had control of 86 percent of the House and Senate. The governor vetoed the bill, however, the majority party had enough votes in the House to override the veto by the governor.

Losing little Davis Bacon hurt the employees, but it hurt the state of Utah just as badly.

Lower wages for employees meant less tax revenue for Utah. Government lost more income tax revenues than it gained in construction-cost savings. Injury rates for construction went up significantly after the repeal, consequently placing an increased cost burden on workers' compensation and other publicly financed health services.

Increased injuries also affect contractors, who must pay higher workers' compensation premiums. Injuries add a large financial cost to the price of repeal.

After repealing the prevailing wage law, Utah was not inclined to put money into vocational training, however, apprenticeships do the lion's share of worker training in construction. Thus, the repeal indirectly affected training and hindered skilled labor.

Utah consequently suffered: Road construction cost overruns dramatically increased. Funding to state agencies that helped monitor the state prevailing wage and quality of work were abolished. With no policing authority in Building Construction, which includes high-rises, universities and state-office buildings, low quality of work and significant cost overruns continued. Prevailing wage regulations offered assurances that the project would be skillfully built and that workers on the job would be carefully trained and managed. Without these regulations, chaos ensued.

Twenty-five years later, some of the same contractors who lobbied against little Davis-Bacon want to overturn the repeal. With help from contractors, we are educating politicians on the benefits to be gained for Utah and its workers. Politicians are starting to understand how Utah has been hurt by not paying a livable wage, and there is currently a movement to reevaluate decisions made in the past, however, it is a process, and it takes time. You won't see instant results. Business Manager Russ Burns, the officers and your district staff are committed to giving the political support needed to bring about change in the state of Utah. Our involvement with the legislators have emphasized this fact, the states of our jurisdiction provide undeniable proof with the following illustration:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Wage</th>
<th>Fringe Benefits</th>
<th>Total Wage and Fringe Benefits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hawai`i</td>
<td>$33.02</td>
<td>$22.66</td>
<td>$55.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>$32.38</td>
<td>$21.23</td>
<td>$53.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nevada</td>
<td>$26.42</td>
<td>$19.69</td>
<td>$46.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utah</td>
<td>$21.75</td>
<td>$12.45</td>
<td>$34.20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Breaking it down: Political parties explained

For our members and their families who wonder why our union always supports candidates and incumbent elected officials who are Democrats, the answer is obvious and convincingly demonstrated with the following information.

In every state of our country, where unions are struggling to survive and a vast majority of all workers are not paid what they deserve, those state's legislatures are dominated by the Republican Party. Conversely, where the Democratic Party is in firm control, the workers in those states enjoy a higher standard of living. To emphasize this fact, the states of our jurisdiction provide undeniable proof with the following illustration:

<table>
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It is interesting to note that the governor in all four of our states is a Republican. However, in Hawaii, the super-majority of Democrats in both houses of its legislature makes it possible to override any veto by the governor of labor-friendly legislation. In California, we have considerable challenges to overcome, but we have the political climate to provide reasonable success. Some Republicans do support our core issues, and we support them.

As you study the chart, it is readily apparent that the percentage of Democrats versus Republicans in the states of Local 3 has a direct impact on our ability to negotiate good contracts with Wages and Fringe Benefits that set the standard for our industry. As we approach the critical election Nov. 4, you will be able to find the endorsed candidates in your district on our website, www.oe3.org. Read the information and become educated, energized and mobilized. Your district Political Action Committee (PAC) carefully studied the qualifications of the candidates, and they need your help to get elected.
Dear Editor,

Regarding the 13th check: Times are tough for everyone right now. I do, however, think the younger members should consider the part the Sr. members have played in the role to help make Local #3 what it is today. When weighing their decision on whether to contribute a few cents, I hope they are aware of our earlier efforts. During the early 1970s we fought to keep the Davis-Bacon Act from being abolished. In fact, my wife, Kay, and some of her friends passed out flyers at our local shopping mall to further the union’s cause. Local 3’s newspaper did an article about it at the time.

Additionally, some of us are second generation, retired Operating Engineers. My father, Donald S. Tucker, was an engineer before me (he was in Local #12). At the time he retired, there was no option available for my mother to continue with a portion of the pension if she became a widow, so his pension died with him. During his lifetime, he too, turned over every stone to further the union’s cause. I hope the young members will keep in mind that what they now have, we helped cause. I hope the young members will keep the Davis-Bacon Act from being abolished. During the early 1970s we fought to keep the Davis-Bacon Act from being abolished. My wife, Kay, and some of her friends passed out flyers at our local shopping mall to further the union’s cause. Local 3’s newspaper did an article about it at the time.

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Respectfully,
Bob E. Tucker
Reg# 1301735

Please note: Letters to the Editor is a section for your comments and questions about information featured in Engineers News. Any concerns regarding issues not related to Engineers News should be addressed at your local district meetings.

Letters to the Editor should be 200 or fewer words and are subject to editing. The use of offensive language and unsubstantiated, personal accusations will not be permitted. Letters must include your name and registration number.

To submit a letter by mail:
Letters to the Editor
Operating Engineers Local 3
3920 Lennane Drive
Sacramento, CA 95834

By fax:
(916) 419-3487

By e-mail:
newsletters@oe3.org

King Crane Service, Inc.
Hook up with the best

2007 was King Crane’s biggest year since going into business more than 25 years ago, and the company anticipates 2008 will be every bit as good. The secret to its success is in large part due to Operating Engineers.

“The union provides us with qualified people,” said President Steve Spence. “We offer the best skill, the best equipment, a well-maintained fleet and a great safety record at reasonable rates.”

Knowing the benefits of being union, Spence says Local 3 is an integral part of his business:

“Operating as ‘us’ and ‘them’ is building a wall between owners and unions as a whole. It’s more important to look at it as a cooperative effort, because we’re all in this boat, all cooperating with the same goal that success for the company is success for the individual.”

Although King Crane’s market niche is rooftop A/C installation, the company also performs demolition and landscaping work in the commercial and residential markets across Northern California. Notable projects include Sacramento’s Aerojet, Bear Valley Ski Resort and Clint Eastwood’s Monterra Ranch estate, where operators relocated a large oak tree. While some of the jobs are as straightforward as a single lift and set, others – like transplanting a 300,000-pound tree at the Coppola Winery in Napa – involve the coordination of two cranes.

Between its headquarters in Scotts Valley and a shop in San Jose, King Crane maintains a fleet of five to 265-ton hydraulic cranes and an associated fleet of trucks. Each operator maintains his own crane, which Spence says goes a long way in “bringing up the level of friendly competition among the crew.” With nearly 30 Local 3 operators at the helm, it’s no wonder the company motto is: “Hook up with the best.”

King Crane’s crew, from left: Ray Gebhardt, Kendall Bartlebaugh, John Farnese, John Richardson, Bob Hawthorne, President Steve Spence, Buddy Crafton, Leonard Smith, Joe Delucchi, Tom Cline, Jason Sprosty, Vice President Brad Dixon and Business Agent Manny Pinheiro.
Within the past few months, it seems every time you open a newspaper, turn on the TV or listen to the top-of-the-hour news, you hear about another financial institution bordering on failure. With home-foreclosure rates in the west reaching all-time highs, plants closing, government expenditure caps, credit tightening and consumer debt increasing, the news is bleak, and it just keeps coming. These events affect all of our lives in one way or another.

When life all around us is unsettled and uncertain, we look for a reference point, a point of strength and stability to help us through difficult times.

Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3 Federal Credit Union (OEFCU) is not only on sound financial footing – it is also poised to assist members and their immediate families in any way possible. Your Credit Union will continue to make prudent decisions with regard to how members’ hard-earned money is invested and put to work for the good of the membership. Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3 Credit Union has one of the strongest capital positions in the nation. In fact, at 15.74 percent, we have better than twice the minimum capital required by the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA), our government regulator, to qualify as a “well capitalized” institution. In other words, the Credit Union has ample reserves put aside to weather the current challenges in the market.

In addition, we want to assure you that your investment with the Credit Union is safe and secure. Your accounts are federally insured by a fund that, like the FDIC, is backed by the full faith of the U.S. government. The National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund (NCUSIF) insures your non-retirement accounts for up to $100,000 and your retirement accounts for up to $250,000. To provide additional protection to your deposits, the Credit Union has purchased an additional $100,000 of protection from a private insurance company, American Share Insurance (ASI). With the combined coverage of the NCUSIF and ASI, your non-retirement accounts are insured for up to $200,000, and your retirement accounts are insured for up to $350,000. This provides one of the best deposit-insurance programs in the credit-union industry today.

Since 1964, some 44 years ago, we have built the largest, exclusively union Credit Union west of the Mississippi. We have provided hundreds of millions of dollars in loans to members who have wished to improve their quality of life, and we constantly introduce services and accommodations that better serve our members’ ever-changing financial needs. In addition, we have taken the extra step of incorporating state-of-the-art security for the growing number of members who use our very convenient bank-from-anywhere eBranch Online Banking services.

We are an 80,000 member-owned, union-founded financial institution with a single purpose in mind: To assist you and your immediate family with the financial services that best fit your needs. We fully understand the impact the current economic environment has had on our members.

Your Local 3 officers and Executive Board members receive detailed monthly financial reports, and we are confident that the Credit Union remains financially strong and ready to help you during these difficult times.

### Whether You’re Trying to Minimize Your Credit Card Debt or Attempting to Refinance Your Home or Your Car, We’re Here to Help.

In a world with so many financial obligations and options, it’s no wonder money management often seems overwhelming. That’s why our credit union has partnered with a financial fitness program called **Balance™**. Through this partnership, you as an OEFCU Member, now have access to **FREE, confidential financial counseling service any time you need it!**

**Credit Report Review** - Employers and creditors often use credit reports to assess a person’s financial “fitness”. A counselor will review your credit report with you, making sure you know your rights. **BALANCE™** can even tell you how to acquire a **FREE credit report**.

**InfoLine** - Certified financial counselors are available to answer your questions about money management and other personal finance matters.

**Money Management Counseling** - If you’d like to get out of debt, improve your credit score or avoid bankruptcy, a counselor can help you design a realistic spending and savings plan.

**Debt Management Plan** - Consolidate your credit card payments, lower payment amounts, and even reduce or eliminate interest and fees to get out of debt.

**Toll Free 888 456-2227 or www.balancepro.net**

Monday–Thursday, 5am–8pm Friday, 5am–5pm Saturday, 8am–5pm (PST)

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Credit Union
By Rob Wise, Credit Union secretary/financial officer & recording - corresponding secretary

OEFCU offers security and safety

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Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3 Credit Union
Union STRENGTH · Union PURPOSE · Union PRIDE
Updated website offers important information

Have you looked at our website lately?

When I went to work for Local 3 about 10 years ago, we didn’t have a website. What a difference today.

I’m pleased to say our website looks good; it’s easy to navigate and has updated information. I would like to thank our Webmaster Charlie Costello for his great work.

We recently added links on the public employee page: We posted links to the Alameda County Management Employees’ Association (ACMEA), the Santa Clara County Employees’ Management Association (CEMA), the Public Employment Relations Board (PERB) and links to the Nevada Revised Statutes for our Nevada members.

The website also has members-only access to pertinent information about the union. You need your registration number to gain access. If you don’t know your registration number, look for it on the printed address label of your Engineers News.

The internet is a great way to communicate in real time. Please take a moment to check out the OE3 website at www.o3e.org. If you have suggestions for additional links to the public employee page, shoot me an e-mail. I can be reached at ddietrich@oe3.org.

Remember who you are

By Doug Gorman, business representative

Having spent 21 years in law enforcement, I have always been proud of the profession I chose and eventually retired from. Now serving in the capacity of a business agent for Local 3, I can use my years of experience to help represent our members in this challenging field.

When you become a permanent employee with a public agency, you have the reasonable expectation that you are going to remain employed until you’re able to retire, providing you perform your duties as required and follow the employment guidelines from which you were hired. This includes the way you present your employer outside of work.

Once a year, the Mounted Posse, a group I belong to, puts on a six-day horseback ride, which I participate in. This ride allows people from all walks of life to come and enjoy some beautiful scenery, meet new friends and spend time riding their horses.

While sitting around the campfire at this year’s ride, I watched three law enforcement officers from Southern California embarrass themselves, their agencies and others who pin on a badge. While I admit that in my day, I used to partake in libations and a “party hearty” mentality, I never did this in front of the general public, who we were sworn to protect and serve.

2008 CEMA Scholarship awarded

By Tom Starkey, business representative

Every May the County Employees’ Management Association (CEMA) Executive Board awards six $1,000 academic scholarships to the children or dependents of dues-paying members who are graduating high school seniors or undergraduate college students. A seventh scholarship, the Keith Garvey Memorial Scholarship, is awarded to any student entering or continuing studies in the field of public service. Keith Garvey was a past president of CEMA who passed away while serving his term.

The high school senior recipients of the 2008 CEMA Scholarships are: May Ha Nguyen, the daughter of Tuan Nguyen, a senior healthcare analyst at Santa Clara Valley Health & Hospital System; Miguel-Alfonso G. Regidor, the son of Ana Isabel G. Regidor, a managing dietitian for the Department of Corrections; and Aristomelia M. Vidal, the daughter of Marlene Vidal, an application decision support manager for the Social Services Agency.

The undergraduate recipients of the 2008 CEMA Scholarships are: Michael A. Flores, who is now attending Seattle University and is the daughter of Valentine Reyes, an infection-control nurse supervisor at Valley Medical Center; and Marcel Colman Eric Stieber, who is now attending California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo and is the son of Hella Bluhm-Stieber, a medical librarian at Valley Medical Center.

There were no qualified applicants for the Keith Garvey Memorial Scholarship.

Congratulations to all recipients, and good luck with your future academic pursuits.
Welcome Chowchilla City Office Employees’ Association

By Fred Klingel, business representative

In May, Business Agent Doug Gorman and I met with the women of the Chowchilla City Office Employees’ Association (CCEOA) to discuss their re-affiliation with Operating Engineers Local 3 for representation. They have since voted to do so. It is a pleasure to have them, and it is our intent to take care of their association as only Local 3 can.

Negotiations, relations improve in Clearlake

By Mike Minton, business representative

Since my last article regarding the absolute mess in Lake County and the city of Clearlake, several things have happened, most of which were positive.

The Public Employment Relations Board (PERB) complaint filed by OE3 against the city of Clearlake and its city manager was withdrawn in the “eleventh hour” after the city manager called a meeting to see what could be done to finish negotiations and make the complaint go away. After this meeting, which took all of 15 minutes, the Clearlake Municipal Employees’ Association received a one-year contract, retroactive to July 1, 2007, with a 2.5 percent salary increase and a health-insurance benefit increase, also retroactive to July 1, 2007. The bargaining unit was happy with this, and we are opening negotiations in the next couple of weeks on a successor Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Hopefully this next one will go more smoothly.

As much as I would like to take credit for this change in attitudes toward getting the last contract finished, I can’t. Clearlake Municipal Employees’ Association President Scott Spivey deserves all the credit. He worked behind the scenes while we were waiting for our PERB complaint to be heard and was able to locate some “lost” paperwork that put the city in a position to want to get negotiations behind them. He also kept the bargaining unit members updated on what was happening and worked to improve relations between the city, the city manager, the bargaining unit and OE3 – meaning me – so that we could successfully put this behind us and get on with business. Thanks, Scott, for a job well done. You’re to be commended. I would also like to thank City Manager Dale Neiman for doing what was right for his employees.

The issues in Lake County have somewhat improved, but we still have a ways to go. Lake County has done an admirable job in many job reclassifications, which gave several employees between 5 percent and 10 percent salary increases, and this outside of negotiations. Director of Human Resources Kathy Ferguson and Director of Social Services Carol Hutchins are to be commended for their hard work in making this happen. They have been a pleasure to work with during this process.

I would also like to thank Lake County Employees’ Association President Linda Stanley for all her hard work and dedication in representing her membership. She has been a big help to me in dealing with all the issues going on in Lake County.

We still have to work at bringing management into the 21st century in its way of dealing with issues and employees. There is a severe lack of communication between upper management, mid-management, first-line supervisors and those dedicated folks in the trenches doing the actual work. I have to admit that on occasion the employees don’t understand why things happen the way they do, and management might be right in those instances, but there is little or no communication explaining why. The employee gets angry and calls Stanley, then me, and after I look into it, I have the sad duty to inform the employee that management is right – they just did a poor job of explaining it, if there was any explanation at all. I know this happens everywhere, but it seems to be more common in Lake County.

The Hostile Work Environment complaint in the Lake County Animal Control has been handed off to a contract law firm of OE3, and we will keep you updated on the outcome.

Negotiations are beginning or ongoing with the Olivehurst Public Utilities District, which is going well, the Marysville Joint Unified School District, which I’m quite concerned about due to our governor’s budget cuts to all school districts, Marysville Public Works, Lakeport Police Officer’s Association and the Lake County Employees’ Association. All of these, as well as the rest of the various bargaining units in California and the country, are going to be difficult due to the state of the economy. In time, this will pass, and we will all be back on the road to recovery.

We all need to hang in there and stay united. It’s common when things are bad to blame those that are trying to help and improve conditions. It’s natural to think that way. We need to work at remembering that we as individuals and union members didn’t create this problem. We only need to look to our politicians to see where the problem is. Don’t let them divide us. Get involved, stay educated on the issues, stay active and informed as to what is going on in your bargaining unit, and when the time comes, go to the polls and vote.
Back to basics: Electricity

I recently spoke to a member who told me he liked my recent article. He didn’t understand it, but he liked it. So, let’s get back to basics. This is the first in a series of articles that will cover electricity, hydraulics, engines and power-train components.

Let’s start with electricity. Electricity is often defined as the flow of electrons from atom to atom in a conductor.

Let’s break this down even more: Electricity is the flow (to move along in a stream) of electrons (particles that circle around the nucleus of an atom) from atom to atom (the smallest component of an element) in a conductor (a substance which readily allows electrons to flow).

Nature likes things balanced. The carbon atom shown at left has six protons (the number of protons determines what type of material it is) and six electrons in orbit around the nucleus. This is a balanced atom, so it’s happy.

Copper has 29 protons, silver has 47 protons and gold has 79 protons in the nucleus, which makes it heavy.

Copper is a good conductor of electricity because the N-shell (fourth layer), or valence ring (outermost orbit), has only one electron in it. The fewer the electrons in the outermost shell, the easier they move. Four or less electrons in the N-shell is considered a conductor; five or six electrons in the N-shell is a semi-conductor; seven or more electrons sharing the valence ring makes it an insulator.

The valence ring, or shell, is the only ring that can shed or gain electrons.

If we were to move one electron away from one atom and add it to another atom, it would upset the balance of nature, and the extra electron would try to find an atom missing an electron. In addition, the atom with the extra electron would be negatively charged, while the atom missing an electron would have a positive charge. Hence, a battery’s negative side would have extra electrons, while the positive side would be missing some electrons.

A fully charged battery has most of the valence electrons on the negative side. Connect a light between the negative and positive, and the extra electrons leave the negative side and return to the positive side (nature’s way). This lights the light, and if left on long enough, equalizes (balances) the battery.

If a battery is balanced, it’s happy, but you’re not. A balanced battery is a dead battery. You’ll have to charge the battery to unbalance the number of valence electrons between the two sides, so it will work again.

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**Medical benefits explained**

Your medical benefits have been structured to provide financial incentives for you to use the Plan’s network of contract health-care providers – physicians, hospitals and other health-care professionals or facilities that have contracted with the Plan’s Preferred Provider Organization (PPO), Anthem Blue Cross Prudent Buyer, to provide services at negotiated rates.

If you use such a contract provider, you pay only your percentage of the negotiated fee. The provider cannot charge you more than this negotiated rate.

If you use non-contract providers, covered charges are limited to the amounts in the Plan’s schedule of allowances or the usual, customary and reasonable charges, depending on the situation. In most cases, these will be less than the billed fee.

For some services and supplies, the Fund also pays a lower percentage of covered expenses when you use a non-contract provider.

Non-contract providers are under no obligation to limit their charges to the amounts considered “covered expenses” by the Plan.

Please note: Lodi Memorial Hospital is no longer a contract hospital. Using a non-contracting hospital may result in higher, out-of-pocket costs.

Remember: If you go to a contract hospital, do not assume that all providers in the hospital are contract providers. To receive the maximum possible benefits, you should request that all your provider services, such as services by an anesthesiologist, be performed by contract providers whenever you enter a hospital.

Also, the fact that a provider is a contract provider does not necessarily mean all services you receive from that provider will be covered benefits under the Plan.

Out-of-area residents: For some services and supplies, the benefit paid by the Fund when you use a non-contract provider will depend on whether you live within the contract-service provider area. The contract-provider service area is defined as the geographic area within 30 miles of the contract provider. If you are unsure whether your residence is inside or outside of the contract-provider service area, contact the Trust Fund Office at (800) 251-5014.

To find a provider in your area, visit www.anthem.com/ca. For providers outside of California, contact Blue Card at (800) 810-2583 or visit www.bluecares.com.

**Medicare Q&A**

**What happens when I become eligible for Medicare?**

Members and spouses covered with the Pensioned Operating Engineers Health & Welfare Trust Fund eligible for Medicare benefits must enroll in parts A and B of the Medicare Program. Failure to do so will result in the denial of any charges that would have been paid by Medicare, regardless of whether the eligible member or spouse has enrolled in the Medicare program. From the point the member or spouse becomes eligible for Medicare, the Pensioned H&W Trust Fund becomes the secondary payer. This means Medicare will pay the charges first, and the Trust Fund will pay the appropriate balance of covered charges on the remaining balance.

Members and spouses eligible for Medicare benefits who are on the Kaiser Plan must enroll in the Kaiser Senior Advantage Plan if they wish to remain with Kaiser. After doing so, all prescriptions must be purchased from Kaiser pharmacies. The American Diversified Pharmacies/RxAmerica Plan is not available to Kaiser Senior Advantage members.

**What if I have Medicare, but my spouse isn’t old enough for Medicare?**

If the spouse or member is not yet eligible for Medicare benefits, the plan will pay the appropriate portion of the covered expenses. As soon as the spouse or member becomes eligible to enroll for Medicare, they must do so or suffer the reduction in benefits described above.

**Retiree Association Meetings**

Retiree Association meetings will begin soon. Local 3 officers look forward to joining retirees and their spouses for concise reports, refreshments and plenty of fellowship. Look below for the meeting in your area.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Meeting Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CONCORD</td>
<td>Wednesday, Oct. 8</td>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>Centre Concord 5298 Clayton Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OAKLAND</td>
<td>Thursday, Oct. 9</td>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>Oakland Zoo – Snow Building 9777 Golf Links Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUISUN CITY</td>
<td>Thursday, Oct. 9</td>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
<td>Veterans’ Memorial Building 427 Main St.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MODESTO</td>
<td>Thursday, Oct. 23</td>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>Tuolumne River Lodge 2429 River Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STOCKTON</td>
<td>Thursday, Oct. 23</td>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
<td>Italian Athletic Club 3541 Cherryland Drive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRENSO</td>
<td>Thursday, Oct. 23</td>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
<td>Cedar Lanes 3131 N. Cedar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BURLINGAME</td>
<td>Wednesday, Nov. 5</td>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>Machinists’ Hall 1511 Rollins Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOVATO</td>
<td>Wednesday, Nov. 5</td>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
<td>Unity In Marin 600 Palm Drive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SALT LAKE CITY</td>
<td>Wednesday, Nov. 5</td>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
<td>IBEW Hall 3400 W. 2100 S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FREEDOM</td>
<td>Thursday, Nov. 6</td>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>VFW Post 1716 1960 Freedom Blvd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MORGAN HILL</td>
<td>Thursday, Nov. 6</td>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
<td>Operating Engineers’ Building 325 Digital Drive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EUREKA</td>
<td>Tuesday, Nov. 11</td>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
<td>Best Western Bayshore Inn 3500 Broadway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANDERSON</td>
<td>Wednesday, Nov. 12</td>
<td>1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Frontier Senior Center 2081 Frontier Trail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARYSVILLE</td>
<td>Thursday, Nov. 13</td>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
<td>Veterans’ Memorial Center 211 17th St.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The recently finished I-5 Fix Project in downtown Sacramento was an unusual endeavor on many fronts. Leading Heavy Highway Engineering General Contractor C.C. Myers spearheaded the project with several subcontractors onsite, including Sterling P. Holloway, Anrak, Penhall, Watkins and Bortolussi and Joe Hein, Inc. This large cast of players also dealt with several other crafts, including Cement Masons, Laborers, Teamsters and Pipefitters. The teamwork involved was a feat in and of itself, as views from surrounding heights displayed hundreds of union members in various locations, sometimes shoulder-to-shoulder up and down the highway in a harmony not always seen between so many crafts.

The project’s notoriety and media coverage stemmed from the rotational closures of the heavily traveled I-5 freeway running downtown between L and S streets. Nearly 190,000 commuters were affected and sought alternate routes throughout the project’s two-month progression.

The one-mile stretch in question, often referred to as the “Boat Section,” has had a long history of causing traveling woes, since it runs well below the waterline of the Sacramento River and was flooded and closed in the 1960s when drainage pumps and 10-feet thick concrete slabs were put in place. The section flooded again in 1980.

Since then, ongoing maintenance has been costly, and the poor road condition was obvious to all who traveled on it. The cracks and holes on the surface were caused from the fluctuation of water below, which deteriorated the old drainage system and caused expansion and contraction in the concrete. According to C.C. Myers’ Project Foreman Frank Stevenson, the solution lay in new engineering innovations, including 28 new well points, a ¾-inch thick polyester product and a mixture of blasted slag (first of its kind in the west), designed to protect against further water damage. The phases also included demolishing existing concrete, replacing it and abrasion of the surface before the final sealant was put on top. These phases required many crafts and more than 30 Operating Engineers.

While the job was certainly involved and not without some surprises, C.C. Myers proved to be just the company to handle it. Known for exceeding deadlines, the award-winning company was responsible for the funding, designing and engineering of all phases.

Today, the success of the project is evidenced by the new surface of I-5; it should be “smooth sailing” along the Boat Section for at least another 50 years.
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Today, the success of the project is evidenced by the new surface of I-5; it should be smooth sailing along the Boat Section for at least another 50 years.
District 50 welcomes Papich Construction Company, Inc.

The work picture in the Fresno District has improved, but we are not out of the woods yet. Local 3 signatories are doing their best to out-bid the competition and keep our members working.

Some work in the area includes:

- FCI: Hwy. 99 and Hwy. 152 in Fairmead
- Foster & Sons General Engineering: Lowe’s near the Madera Fairgrounds
- Cal Valley: New bridge over the Merced River at Hwy. 59
- Granite Construction: North Fork Middle School
- Teichert Construction: Mooney Boulevard in Visalia
- Sierra Nevada Construction, Pacific Rim Construction, Diversified Concrete Cutting, GA Engineering, Pacific Rim and Penhall are also taking part in the work. The project, estimated at $40 million, is set to open for the start of the new baseball season next year and will house the AAA league team for the Arizona Diamondbacks. For those in Fresno and Sacramento, we send our AAA league team for the Arizona Diamondbacks.

District 50 welcomes new signatory contractor Papich Construction Company, Inc. The company currently has projects in Porterville and at the Merced Landfill.

Be certain to keep your dispatch registration information current at all times. Make the district office aware of any address and telephone number changes. If there is an address change, then you will need to re-register to vote. The forms are available at the district office for your convenience. With the general election coming up in November, it is crucial you be registered to vote. If you are interested in getting involved, we have many opportunities for you and your family. Simply contact the Hall at (559) 229-4083.

Again, mark your calendars for the Fresno District Breakfast, Saturday, Sept. 13 at the Clovis Memorial Building. Breakfast will be served from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Ticket prices are $8 per person, $5 for retirees, and children ages 10 and under are free. Those who purchase tickets before Sept. 13 will be eligible for a $50 cash drawing.

The Fresno District Golf Tournament is Saturday, Oct. 11 at the Airways Golf Course in Fresno. Teams and individuals wanting to participate must sign up by Oct. 3, so be certain to contact the office with your information.

Nevada: Q&D has steady work in district

Work in Truckee Meadows has been steady this summer, but hours are down considerably from last year. Work continues at the AAA ballpark with Granite Construction doing the mass grading for the stadium. Sierra Nevada Construction, Pacific Rim Construction, Diversified Concrete Cutting, GA Engineering, Pacific Rim and Penhall are also taking part in the work. The project, estimated at $40 million, is set to open for the start of the new baseball season next year and will house the AAA league team for the Arizona Diamondbacks. For those in Fresno and Sacramento, we send our AAA league team for the Arizona Diamondbacks.

During the Reno/Sparks and Carson City areas, Granite Construction is also working on the Reno Street rehab, Retrac Cover, Sparks Boulevard rehab and the apron rehab at the Reno-Tahoe Airport. Road and Highway Builders finished the job on U.S. 50 at Hazen and is currently working on I-80 at Pequops and the Carson City Bypass.

K.G. Walters has projects in Fernley, Gardnerville and Carson City. Sierra Nevada Construction has work going on at Fairview Drive in Carson City as well as at the Reno-Tahoe Airport Tower, I-80 at Rye Patch and Pumpernickel. Reno Tahoe Construction has work on Mayberry and on Rock Boulevard.

The Legends Project is well underway with Q&D Construction, Merit Electric and Oakcrest Landscaping working on this project. Q&D Construction has been busy on the Greg Street rehab and the Carson City High School project, as well as the new terminal expansion at the Reno-Tahoe Airport.

After a relatively moderate summer, work has increased slightly with the onset of fall just around the corner. Across the state the mines have had a very good year. Ames Construction had the Phoenix Mine Project, which included five million yards of earth to move. N.A. Degerstrom and Canyon Construction also had projects at the Phoenix Mine. Ames Construction has projects in Carlin, including the relocation of the county road that currently travels through the Barrick Mine just north of Carlin. N.A. Degerstrom continues working at the Spirit Mine north of Wells, while Canyon Construction is still keeping busy at the Midas Mine northeast of Winnemucca. Frehner Construction and Sierra Nevada Construction are busy with road projects along I-80 ranging from Lovelock to Carlin.

Throughout the Reno/Sparks and Carson City areas, Granite Construction, SNC, Reno Tahoe Construction, and Q&D Construction are performing and completing work on city and county road projects. Q&D is working on a $4 million sewer rehab project. With water runoff levels decreasing for the summer, Reno Tahoe Construction is working on the new whitewater park in Sparks and plans to have it ready for next year.

We recently ratified contracts on our Master Agreement, Private Agreement, Rock, Sand and Gravel Agreement and Concrete Pump Agreement. Each contract is a three-year agreement with the following increases for 2008:

- Master: $1 to Pension, $0.23 to Pension H&W and $0.62 in wages for a total of $1.85.
- Private: $0.81 to Pension, $0.30 to Pension H&W and $0.74 to wages for a total of $1.85.
- Rock, Sand and Gravel: $0.94 to Pension, $0.31 to Pension H&W and $0.60 to wages for a total of $1.85.

All three agreements will have a $1.75 increase for 2009 and 2010.

Concrete Pump will receive the following increases for 2008: $1.25 to wages, $0.92 to Pension and $0.33 to Pension H&W for a total of $2.50. Concrete Pump will receive $1.25 to wages and $0.33 to Pension H&W for 2009 and 2010.

We thank our negotiation committee members John Butler, Dan Collins, Dave Checketts, Larry Baxter, Pat Young and Brian Ford. Their time and effort was greatly appreciated.

With the onset of fall, most companies will begin their push to complete projects before winter arrives. We ask that you be careful and watch out for yourself and others.
FAIRFIELD  I  Heide & Williams says farewell to longtime employees

District 04 recently shared in the fun at a retirement party held for two longtime Heide & Williams employees: 30-year member Jim Nichelini and 28-year member Marc Van Housen. Nichelini received his 25-year and 30-year service pins. Van Housen received his 25-year pin. Both received nice gifts from Owner Dave Heide.

The Van Housen Family goes back through three generations of Operating Engineers, starting with Marc’s father, Charles Van Housen, who initiated in 1951 and remained a member until his passing in 2004. Marc’s son, Dustin Van Housen, initiated in 2006 and is currently finishing his apprenticeship with Heide & Williams.

The best presentation of the day was the “Retiree Dozer” that Dustin Van Housen made for his father. Dustin did a great job tricking out the wheelchair, complete with a stack and blade. The dozer was a big hit, and they even got Dave Heide to push Marc around for a bit. Fun was had by all. This is what unionism is all about: A grassroots company taking care of its longtime employees. Thanks and good job to Heide & Williams Inc.

At the third quarter district meeting, District 04 initiated four new members: Russell Brown, Joey Ortiz, Christopher Palmer and Nicole Zbyczik. District 04 presented jackets to volunteers of the year John Hickory and Joey Ferraris for going above and beyond the call of duty by volunteering more than 35 hours to Local 3. Thank you for being active and involved in your union!

SACRAMENTO  I  Many signatories keep El Camino Bridge replacement in check

In the Natomas area, the C.C. Myers West El Camino Bridge Replacement Project is moving right along and is expected to continue through this October. At the Natomas Corporate Center, the 12-story environmentally green Gateway Tower, next to I-5, is about 60 percent complete. This project has utilized many of our signatory contractors, including Granite Construction, Peninsula Crane and Rigging, Maxim Crane Works, Sheedy, Cabrillo Hoist, Stroer and Graff, Interstate Concrete Pumping and Berkeley Concrete Pumping. It is scheduled for completion in the spring of 2009.

The Grant Joint Union School District started the project at the new East Natomas Education Complex located north of Del Paso Road, but it’s now controlled by the Twin Rivers Unified School District. The first phase of work done by Teichert Construction kept members working through summer, but the next phase is on hold. We’ll keep you posted.

RGW is going strong on the Hwy. 99/Sheldon Road project. The company is using two R/T cranes to build false-work structure over Hwy. 99, and D.W. Young and Slipform Concrete are building the approaches and changes to the street.

The Promenade Mall in Elk Grove is still keeping contractors working, including Teichert Construction, Hatton Crane, Marquez Pipeline, George Reed, Durham Stabilization and Vanguard Construction.

Mountain Cascade is working on the first segment of the Freeport Pipeline, the Mather Connector and the Walnut Grove Sewer Project.

Balfour Beatty has two big jobs going with the Freeport Intake and now the Vineyard Water Treatment Plant, which is off to a good start with subcontractors Granite Construction and Cones Equipment working onsite.

The “Big” Fix I-5 job with C.C. Myers kept members working around the clock. Thanks to C.C. Myers’ planning and our members’ hard work, the timeframe and inconvenience was kept to a minimum. More on this job can be found on pages 12 and 13 in this issue.

On I-80, Teichert Heavy and Highway Division is putting down concrete at Soda Springs and heading east toward Donner Pass on what will be the westbound lane.

FCI began its white paving for I-50 near Nyack in late July.

Yubacon Inc. moved back into the Truckee area to start on the Truckee Community Center.

On I-80, Teichert Heavy and Highway Division is putting down concrete at Soda Springs and heading east toward Donner Pass on what will be the westbound lane.

C.C. Myers and Penhall completed roadwork on I-80 eastbound between the Floriston and Farad exits about 6.5 miles west of the Nevada state line.

ARB is tying in to the Bickford Ranch project with a 16-inch waterline on Itow Court in Penryn.

Teichert continues with the White Rock Road widening project.

DeSilva Gates, Mountain Cascade and C.C. Myers are still working on the widening project on Latrobe Road.

Granite is working on a bonded-wearing overlay project on Hwy. 50 at Strawberry and opened a portable plant on White Rock Road.

Rock plants Teichert Perkins and Grantline have steady work.

Kiewit is still going strong on the Folsom Dam project.

Congratulations to Ronald Sweet and Ray Boss on receiving their 50-year clock and service pin.

Congratulations to Danny Langdon of Granite on receiving his 25-year pin.

We will miss you, Gene

It is with great sadness that we report the unexpected passing of Brother Gene Shull. Gene was a 19-year Local 3 member and business agent in Sacramento District 80. Our deepest sympathies go out to Gene’s family and to our brothers and sisters at Local 3 who worked with him over the years. He was a true union brother – always wearing a cowboy hat and shiny belt buckle – and never afraid to stand up for what was right. Among his many duties as a business agent, Gene held the picket line at Gate 3 outside the Valley Power facility in West Sacramento. He will be missed there and everywhere by everyone who knew him. We remember him fondly as a great union man and friend to all. Rest in peace, Gene.

Gene Shull
1955 – 2008

New members initiated into the union at the Fairfield District Meeting are, from left: Russell Brown, Joey Ortiz, Nicole Zbyczik and Christopher Palmer.
**EUREKA**  
**Marine Terminal and Rail projects mean local work for operators**

Hello, brothers and sisters. We have a task ahead of us regarding the work picture in Eureka, namely the Redwood Marine Terminal and Rail projects. The Harbor Commission has conducted numerous meetings and will have many more regarding these issues. It is very important for Local 3 to get involved in this fight, since it means local work for us. These meetings are posted on the Harbor Commission’s website at www.humboldtbay.com under “Meetings, Agendas and Public Notices,” or you may call the Hall at (707) 443-7328, and we will direct you to the meetings you need to attend.

The Marine Terminal and Rail projects are a revitalization of the Redwood Dock facility, along with the rail right-of-way from Samoa south to Willits. Completed in measured steps, the project will restore basic infrastructures at the Redwood Dock and along the North Coast Railroad Authority (NCRA) right-of-way. In its current state, the properties are not only useless but can be classified as liabilities. We need to take on these issues, and do everything in our power to make the projects happen. If you wish to get involved, please call District Rep. Richard Marshall at (707) 443-7328.

**BURRINGAME**  
**Another great membership picnic in District 01**

Members and staff enjoyed District 01’s recent annual picnic at Coyote Point. District Rep. Ken Oku and the district staff want to thank all who attended and volunteered. And no, we are not giving up the recipe for our tri-tip rub!

From left: Retiree and 45-year member Charlie Raisor with Vice President Carl Goff at the Burlingame District Picnic.

From left: Member Alan Rathjen, Apprenticeship Coordinator George Steffensen, members Dave Daneluz, Harry Pali and Ed Elwell, Apprentice Randy Rhodes, Business Agent Rich Hickey and his wife, Marge.

Member Richard Fell and his wife, Anna, enjoy themselves at District 01’s Picnic.

**ROHNERT PARK**  
**Santa Rosa Junior College a bright spot in the work picture**

The work picture is slow in District 10, but our members are finding work out of the area. Ghilotti Construction continues work on Hwy. 101 with MCM Construction.

MCM is currently driving pile for the Hwy. 12 Exit Bridge. This is the last bridge that will complete all of the structure work on the job. Ghilotti is paving and completing as much of the south-bound lanes as possible. M. Baumgartner is also working on the center K-rail. As a side note, the high cost of oil has really hit these overlay jobs. Caltrans is facing $1 million-plus in price adjustments in the work so far completed. The price of oil will also have an effect on future jobs.

Argonaut continues in Lake County with work on Hwy. 20 east toward Colusa County. This is a road-realignment project with a major tie-back wall. As you read this, final paving should be close. Argonaut is also paving Hwy. 20 at Hwy. 29. The company is using a Roadtec paving pick-up machine on the final A/C lift.

Team Ghilotti is working on a football field improvement at Elsie Allen High School in Santa Rosa and on the Washington Street Underground Improvement Project in Petaluma. In Mendocino County, MCM and Ladd Construction continue at Confusion Hill on Hwy. 101. Argonaut is working in Laytonville on street improvements, including new curb, gutter, sidewalks and overlay. Other work includes North Bay Construction’s slide repair at the Lucky/Home Depot Shopping Center, C.V. Larson’s project at Cardinal Newman High School and K.E.L. Crane’s work at Santa Rosa Junior College.

The future work picture looks much better with Santa Rosa Junior College’s $3.4 million in sporting-field upgrades. Fort Bragg has a force main line for bid at $870,000, and Caltrans has a $840,000 retaining wall job. Sept. 3 is when the bidding opens for the $62.5 million Hwy. 101 widening to Windsor. The Hwy. 101/Wilfred Ave. Interchange, estimated at $62.5 million, is at the permit and right-of-way-purchase stage with a bid time of June 2009. Caltrans is also working on permits for the Hwy. 101 Central Project, which consists of Heavy Operating Vehicle (HOV) and acceleration lanes between Petaluma Boulevard North and Rohnert Park.

Congratulations to J.W. Holstine on his 50-year watch and pin. Holstine joined Local 3 in 1950 and retired in 1971 because of back injuries. Throughout his career, he operated drill rigs for Laughlinburg Bros. and worked for P and Z as a superintendent. His work consisted of drilling, soil sampling, slurry walls and tie backs on the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) in San Francisco and in Los Angeles, Baltimore, Seattle, Tucson and Portland.

Retiree J.W. Holstine proudly displays his 50-year watch.

Elevator Operator Chuck Tingler works for Cabrillo Hoist at Kaiser Hospital.

K.E.L. Crane on the job at Santa Rosa Junior College.
We have the opportunity this year to make changes in the political climate in Utah and the nation. We urge Operating Engineers to get involved and help elect labor-friendly people to the offices that run government. District 12’s Political Action Committee (PAC) has been interviewing candidates weekly to find people who are willing to represent us on the issues that affect our everyday lives, such as health-care costs, livable wages and retirement benefits. These elected officials will make the decisions on funding for transportation and infrastructure projects that will ensure the work for our futures. We need our members to get involved by volunteering a few hours in the evening or on a weekend to help us get these candidates elected. Make sure you and your family members are registered to vote and that you do vote. Politics affect our everyday lives and pocketbooks, so don’t make excuses why you can’t help or you can’t get to the polls. Contact our office at (801) 596-2677, and we will assist you in voter registration, absentee ballots and what you can do to help.

We would like to thank our Political Action Committee (PAC) members Glenn Smith, Gordon Purcell, Mike Holliday and Robert Taylor, for all the countless hours they volunteer to help this union and its membership.

A list of endorsed candidates will be posted on the website at www.oe3.org, and look for a complete list of endorsed candidates in the October edition of Engineers News. Recently, the Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC) of Utah was fortunate enough to escort Helmets to Hard Hats Program National Executive Director Darrell Roberts to the training facility for a site tour. He found the visit very rewarding, as he met Apprenticeship Administrator Jeff Anderson and Instructor Rick Bringhamhurst at the center along with apprentices Stephany Morrison and Travis Bailey. After an informative question-and-answer session, Roberts tested his own abilities on a few pieces of equipment. “It was a good, eye-opening experience,” said Roberts.

We look forward to working with the Helmets to Hard Hats Program in the future.

It is always a great joy to visit with our retirees and give them their 50-year watches or clocks.

Our first 50-year member is brother Sam Aguirre, who joined Local 3 in 1958. Aguirre started with Teichert Construction and worked as a screedman for 15 years before moving to Gilroy, where he worked for Renz Construction for 10 years until the company went out of business. He spent the next 18 years working for Duran & Venable as a screedman. Before hanging his hat as an operator, Aguirre spent his last two years with Piazza Construction. He worked 35 years in the field and now lives in Aromas with his wife of 48 years. They have two boys. He has been retired for 15 years, and he is 81 years young.

Retiree and 58-year member Frank Souza is our second brother who recently received his 50-year clock. After World War II, Souza worked as a welder in the shipyards of Oakland and San Francisco. For two years, he attended Diesel and Heavy Equipment Repair School in Oakland. After graduating from school in 1950, he joined Local 3. He went to work for Granite Construction in Watsonville in the company’s main shop for 27 years before retiring in 1977. Souza has one son, and he and his wife of 20 years, Ellamae, live in Watsonville. He is 93 years young.

As for the work picture in District 90: RGW has a $5 million public-works project in Greenfield on the south end of the district. The project involves a 600-foot span that crosses the Arroyo Seco River. Many novels have been written about this area, which is surrounded for miles by vineyards, also known as Steinbeck Country. At the front end of the jobsite, RGW works as the general contractor and Foundation is driving pile 50 feet deep into the riverbed and making the ramp approaches with 15-foot fills. The jobsite will include demolition of the old bridge, grading, paving, concrete and steel and wood forming. The project is a shot in the arm for Local 3 infrastructure. RGW has another $4 million bridge job starting in about one to two months in King City – just 10 miles south on First Street.

America as a nation needs more of these public-works jobs, especially in the tough times, so that we, as the labor force, can put our country back on the right track. Brothers and sisters of Local 3: We encourage you to get involved in this year’s election, because it is an important one. It is crucial for you to vote and elect officials who are labor-friendly. With that said, please register to vote.
**District welcomes new business agent**

Congratulations to 50-year retirees Robert Miles, Ralph Watts and Thomas Hubbard. What an accomplishment! We also want to officially recognize and thank Don Grant for his service to Local 3 as a dispatcher and business agent; he will be sorely missed. Please welcome Stave Sasselli as his replacement. Sasselli has 14 years of construction experience and should be an asset to the staff. He has worked as a crane operator, superintendent and equipment manager in Local 3 for almost 11 years.

The political season is in full swing, and we hope you have time to volunteer and will contact Dispatcher Danny Roles at (530) 743-7321 to put your name on the list. Volunteering is a good way for members to get to know the Yuba City staff and gives you the opportunity to brush up on some of our policies and procedures.

The work picture got off to a slow start in the North Valley; however, it’s been a much better year than anticipated. As of this writing, District 60 has more than $943.8 million in work being performed by signatories including Gemma with $8675 million, DeSilva Gates with $128 million, Teichert with $65 million and Baldwin with more than $8.8 million. This does not include ongoing work and rock plants.

For those members who are working, don’t forget a lot of good union members are still on the out-of-work list, so police your work and report all Master Agreement and Bylaws violations. Standing unified and organizing is essential to the growth and survival of our union. We must grow to capture our market share in any district, secure dispatches for our members and level the playing field for our employees. More often than not, it takes huge efforts of all involved to add to our employer list. We must all talk to these non-union employers and their subs.

**District picnic attracts a crowd of family and friends**

Our district picnic at Kennedy Grove Park in El Sobrante attracted one of the largest crowds we’ve ever had at an Oakland District event. Everyone enjoyed the beautiful weather, horseshoes, softball and our traditional Operating Engineers’ barbecue. As always, our staff went above and beyond to make this year’s picnic enjoyable for all. Thanks to everyone who made it out, particularly Business Manager Russ Burns, President Fred Herschbach, Vice President Carl Goff, Rec. Corres. Secretary Rob Wise and Treasurer Dan Reding.

The work picture is a bit slow in District 20, but we anticipate a lot more projects will break loose in the spring. One of the biggest upcoming projects in our district is at the Chevron Refinery in Richmond. This four-year, $800 million reconstruction project was recently approved after several members and staff took it upon themselves to get involved in the political process. A large group of Local 3 members attended planning commission meetings and city council meetings lasting well past midnight in support of the project, and their hard work eventually paid off, because the measure passed by a 5-4 majority vote. This project will provide nearly 200,000 man hours, and Chevron hopes to break ground the first week of September.

Just down the road from where we had our picnic in El Sobrante, we have another major project that began in August at the San Pablo Dam. Sukut will hire 30 operators from the out-of-work list for this two-year project. We have a number of other jobs in the bidding process that are scheduled to break ground in the spring, so stay tuned.

Our members on strike at Valley Power are still walking the picket line in San Leandro and West Sacramento. If you are on the out-of-work list and looking for something to do, swing by 1755 Adams Ave. in San Leandro or 855 Stillwater Road in West Sacramento and walk with us for a while. Our strikers would really appreciate the support.

In this down market, we’ve seen union companies working as subs for non-union companies. If you’re working for a signatory employer who’s subbing to the non-union, talk to their employees; talk to their employer. If you are on a jobsite for any reason, talk to them. Let them know the union way is a good move. Have them call us or get a phone number, and we will call them. We all need to be organizers. If you can help or have any questions, contact Organizer Ron Roman at (530) 743-7321 or (530) 308-5618.

Last, but not least: Please remember it is your duty to familiarize yourself with the constitution, Bylaws and the particular agreement under which you are working. In particular, focus on the duties of members in Article III, Section One in the Bylaws.

**Congratulations to 50-year retirees**

[Images of retiree members]

**Oakland**

 operators Vince Ellis and Dennis Goodrich set a 35-by-20 foot cross atop Christ the Light Cathedral in downtown Oakland.

**Operational成效斐然**

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**Congratulations to 50-year retirees**

[Images of retiree members]
Deadhorse Summit reconstruction keeps members hopping

Work in District 70 is steady with close to the same amount of dispatches as last year. Golden State Bridge (GSB) is working on the I-5 bridge over Shasta Lake and building several bridges on the Hwy. 44 Dana to Downtown project.

J.F. Shea has paving jobs in Burney on Hwy. 299, Hwy. 97 in Weed and various locations on I-5. J.F. Shea started the $12.5 million Stillwater Business Park and continues to sub the dirt work for GSB on Hwy. 44.

Steve Manning Construction is paving I-5 near Corning and has two highway reconstruction jobs on Hwy. 89/Lassen Park and Deadhorse Summit along with a $20 million federal highway job in Hyampon. Meyers Earthwork is working on a cell expansion at the Anderson Landfill and moving dirt for J.F. Shea on the Stillwater Business Park project.

Sierra Equipment is realigning Hwy. 299-west/ Buckhorn Summit and working on I-5 in Red Bluff. Tullis Inc. is paving I-5 near Mt. Shasta and is finishing up on Bonneview Road in Redding. Kiewit Pacific continues with the bridge construction on Cypress Road in Redding.

District prepares for pipeline work, awards service pins

Fall is upon us once again, brothers and sisters, and as the work picture slows, even though it seems it’s been that way all year, we look forward to a more prosperous year in 2009. With all the public-works projects needed in California and our transportation funds sitting at the state capitol, we can apply pressure through political avenues to speed up the process of committees and red tape that tend to slow the release of public-works projects, which provides work for our members. We must stay politically active in the city, county, state and federal levels by electing labor-friendly candidates into office this November, so we can keep our work picture strong and healthy and keep our families strong and healthy as well — not to mention our wallets. Local 3 needs your help to accomplish this task in the weeks leading up to the November election. Please contact your district office or any business agent about how you can participate in our Voice of the Engineer (VOTE) program to achieve this goal and take charge of our work picture. By being actively engaged, every member can have a positive impact on our future.

As for ongoing work in the area, we have Granite Construction on the $82.6 million Wilson Way Overlay Project in Stockton, Top Grade Construction on the El Dorado Street Widening Phase 2 at $55.8 million and Pacific Excavation performing traffic signal and safety lighting modifications at Wilson Way, Freemont Street, Pacific Avenue and Alpine Avenue. Proven Management, Inc. has the $25 million, 25-year Alternative Intake Project Phase 2, which involves the construction of a water-pumping plant that will take water from the Delta at Victoria Island and pump it to Contra Costa County.

Upcoming work includes Ranger Pipeline on the $24 million Alternative Intake Project Phase 3, involving 12,050 feet of 92-inch concrete pipe from Victoria Island to Old River and micro-tunneling under Old River with cast-in-place, 92-inch concrete pipe into Contra Costa County. Alternative Intake Projects Phase 2 and 3 will be constructed under a Project Labor Agreement (PLA), meaning the work will be performed with union labor for all crafts. This includes levee-erosion repair at San Joaquin River and Paradise Cut valued at $83 million, McBride Avenue Bridge Replacement at $1 million, Delta College Goleman Learning Center at $16.3 million, Hwy. 88 overlay in Lockford at $1.6 million and Byron Road resurfacing in Tracy at $2 million.

Congratulations to members receiving their Local 3 service pins: Thirty-year pin recipient Don Troxell worked at Teichert, Granite, Dunn Barton Quarry and finished up his career in 2004 at George Reed, Inc. Twenty-five-year pin recipient John Aguilera went through our apprenticeship program and has worked for W.W. Vernon, Granite, Vallejo Construction and Knife River, formerly DSS Construction, where he has been a foreman for the last 20 years. Twenty-five-year pin recipient Albert McConnell worked for Dynamic Consultants, Inc, Testing Engineers, Hales Testing Labs, Conam Inspection and Consolidated Engineering Laboratories, where he's been for the past 11 years. Twenty-five-year pin recipient Ernie Ramirez previously worked for El Camino Paving, Patton Brothers, Oliver DeSilva, RGW, Top Grade and is currently working as a paving foreman for Duran and Vernables.

Don’t forget to mark your calendars for the upcoming Semi-Annual Meeting Sept. 28 and our district meeting on Oct. 23.
DISTRICT MEETINGS
All meetings convene at 7 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 2008
15th  District 17: Honolulu
Kapolei High School Cafeteria
91-5007 Kapolei Pkwy.

16th  District 17: Kauai
Hilton Kauai Beach Resort – Jasmine 1
4331 Kauai Beach Dr., Lihue

17th  District 17: Hilo
Hilo ILWU Hall
100 W. Lanikaula St.

18th  District 17: Kona
King Kamehameha Kona Beach Hotel
75-5660 Palani Road

19th  District 17: Maui
Maui Beach Hotel
170 Kaahumanu Ave. Kahului

OCTOBER 2008
9th   District 04: Suisun City
Veterans’ Memorial Building
427 Main St.

9th   District 20: Martinez
Plumbers Local 159
1304 Roman Way

23rd  District 30: Stockton
Italian Athletic Club
3541 Cherry Land Drive

23rd  District 50: Clovis
Veterans Memorial Building
453 Hughes Ave.

NOVEMBER 2008
5th   District 01: Novato
Inn Marin
250 Entrada Drive

5th   District 12: Salt Lake City
Hilton Salt Lake City Airport
5151 Wiley Post Way

6th   District 90: Morgan Hill
Engineers Building
325 Digital Drive

6th   District 11: Reno
Engineers Building
1290 Corporate Blvd.

11th  District 40: Eureka
Best Western Bayside Inn
3500 Broadway

12th  District 70: Redding
Engineers Building
20308 Engineers Lane

13th  District 60: Marysville
Marysville Joint Unified School District Boardroom
1919 B. St.

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

SEPTMBER 2008
15th  District 17: Honolulu
Kapolei High School Cafeteria
91-5007 Kapolei Pkwy.

16th  District 17: Kauai
Hilton Kauai Beach Resort – Jasmine 1
4331 Kauai Beach Dr., Lihue

17th  District 17: Hilo
Hilo ILWU Hall
100 W. Lanikaula St.

18th  District 17: Kona
King Kamehameha Kona Beach Hotel
75-5660 Palani Road

19th  District 17: Maui
Maui Beach Hotel
170 Kaahumanu Ave. Kahului

OCTOBER 2008
9th   District 04: Suisun City
Veterans’ Memorial Building
427 Main St.

9th   District 20: Martinez
Plumbers Local 159
1304 Roman Way

23rd  District 30: Stockton
Italian Athletic Club
3541 Cherry Land Drive

23rd  District 50: Clovis
Veterans Memorial Building
453 Hughes Ave.

NOVEMBER 2008
5th   District 01: Novato
Inn Marin
250 Entrada Drive

5th   District 12: Salt Lake City
Hilton Salt Lake City Airport
5151 Wiley Post Way

6th   District 90: Morgan Hill
Engineers Building
325 Digital Drive

6th   District 11: Reno
Engineers Building
1290 Corporate Blvd.

11th  District 40: Eureka
Best Western Bayside Inn
3500 Broadway

12th  District 70: Redding
Engineers Building
20308 Engineers Lane

13th  District 60: Marysville
Marysville Joint Unified School District Boardroom
1919 B. St.

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Service Pins
In honor and remembrance of years of service in Local 3, service pins are available to members with 25 or more years of membership in Local 3. These pins come in five-year increments from 25 through 70 years of service. Please contact your district office to receive your pins.

Congratulations to the 2008 Local 3 Merit Scholarship winners

- Brianna Abrigo
  Wahiawa, HI
  Parent: James Abrigo
  Reg#: 2551216

- Jocelyn Ayala
  San Lorenzo, CA
  Parent: Antonio O. Ayala
  Reg#: 2398567

- Christina Boyles
  Yuba City, CA
  Parent: John V. Boyles
  Reg#: 2382318

- Justin Byer
  Yuba City, CA
  Parent: Robert Byer
  Reg#: 2519736

- Leesa Ching
  Ewa Beach, HI
  Parent: Wilfred K. Ching
  Reg#: 1551064

- Chelsea Dau
  Millilani, HI
  Parent: Robert Dau
  Reg#: 1967831

- Juan De Anda
  Sacramento, CA
  Parent: Paul J. De Anda
  Reg#: 2300539

- Joie Fong
  Alameda, CA
  Parent: Debbie Jo Fong
  Reg#: 2233763

- Ethan Hyde
  Gridley, CA
  Parent: Steven D. Hyde
  Reg#: 2163217

- Carrie Isaacsen
  Woodland, CA
  Parent: Chris Isaacsen
  Reg#: 2382371

- Jacob Lehman
  Fernley, NV
  Parent: Tim C. Isom
  Reg#: 2002551

- Michael Lutheran
  Vacaville, CA
  Parent: Jerald Lutheran
  Reg#: 2480432

- Chad Millard
  Chico, CA
  Parent: Robert Miller Jr.
  Reg#: 1840012

- Nina Mosell
  Shingle Springs, CA
  Parent: Kenneth D. Tucker
  Reg#: 2295010

- Avik Patel
  Danville, CA
  Parent: Virendra Patel
  Reg#: 2232113

- Iris Petty
  Overton, NV
  Parent: Roger Petty
  Reg#: 0955213

- Jordan Poppoff
  Tracy, CA
  Parent: Richard Poppoff Jr.
  Reg#: 2068629

- Justin Tomek
  Stockton, CA
  Parent: Barbara Tomek
  Reg#: 2198193

- Matthew Wright
  Geyserville, CA
  Parent: Patrick C. Wright
  Reg#: 1620513

- Alejandro Zamora
  San Bruno, CA
  Parent: Raul Zamora
  Reg#: 2018148

The 2008 Local 3 Academic Scholarship Winners stand with their families and the officers at the July 20 awards presentation.
Honorary Membership

The following retirees have 35 or more years of membership in Local 3 as of July and are eligible for Honorary Membership effective Oct. 1, 2008.

- Dan Calvin 1419448 District 20: Oakland
- Mario N. Chacon 1562981 District 90: Morgan Hill
- Robert Jones 1499883 District 20: Oakland
- Albert Lille 1382724 District 01: Burlingame

**DEPARTED MEMBERS**

- Anderson, Alton Sunnyvale, CA District 90 05-14-08
- Awarayan, G Stockton, CA District 30 06-18-08
- Badger, Benjamin Crescent City, CA District 40 06-19-08
- Barker, Deshon San Francisco, CA District 01 07-05-08
- Bettencourt, S Tracy, CA District 30 06-20-08
- Boudreau, Gerald El Dorado Hills, CA District 80 06-15-08
- Brady, Richard Santa Cruz, CA District 90 06-03-08
- Carr, Ralph Walnut Creek, CA District 20 05-20-08
- Chevreaux, Andy Auburn, CA District 80 06-15-08
- Clemens, Norman Elk Grove, CA District 80 05-29-08
- Craig, Carl Monet, UT District 12 07-06-08
- Delia, Anthony Alameda, CA District 20 05-24-08
- Dillard, Edward Russellville, AR District 99 06-08-08
- Doolen, James Apache Junction, AZ District 99 06-14-08
- Goodson, H Elk Grove, CA District 80 06-23-08
- Grilli, James Martinez, CA District 20 04-27-08
- Hilbert, Roy Yuba City, CA District 60 06-05-08
- Jennings, Mehrle Anderson, CA District 70 05-30-08
- Lievanos, Robert San Luis Obispo, CA District 90 07-09-08
- Littlealden, Ben Madera, CA District 50 07-07-08
- Mackey, Thomas Galt, CA District 80 06-14-08
- Mallett, Henry St. George, UT District 12 06-08-08
- McLaughlin, Charles Marysville, CA District 60 06-27-08
- Mialrieu, Guiller Yuba City, CA District 60 06-24-08
- Nichols, Robert Carlin, NV District 11 05-16-08
- Pascual, Romando Waianae, HI District 17 06-10-08
- Pedemonte, Fran Santa Cruz, CA District 90 07-01-08
- Phillips, Jasper Sacramento, CA District 80 06-02-08
- Ponce, Tony Hayward, CA District 20 06-04-08
- Quadros, Seraphi Half Moon Bay, CA District 01 05-16-08
- Quartiero, Lee Gilroy, CA District 90 06-02-08
- Rayley, Kenneth Elko, NV District 11 06-17-08
- Soderlund, John Crystal Falls, MI District 99 06-08-08
- Spencer, James Carmichael, CA District 80 06-17-08
- Tam, Richard Kaneohe, HI District 17 06-26-08
- Turman, Burns Paradise, CA District 60 05-23-08
- Vincent, Paul El Cerrito, CA District 20 06-06-08
- Washabaugh, Walter Winnemucca, NV District 11 05-29-08
- Weaver, Barry Custine, CA District 50 05-12-08
- Wynn, Homer Oakland, CA District 30 06-05-08
- Clegg, Thorma. Wife of Clegg, Jack (dec) 04-05-08
- Hemstreet, Ruth. Wife of Hemstreet, WG (dec) 06-17-08
- Hooley, Dorothy. Wife of Hooley, Wilfred (dec) 06-04-08
- Kolb, Barbara. Wife of Kolb, John 05-19-08
- Lewis, Janet. Wife of Lewis, Virgil (dec) 06-07-08
- Marquardt, Sheri. Wife of Marquardt, Allan 03-18-08
- McDonald, Rae. Wife of McDonald, Evan (dec) 06-14-08
- Pettit, Pauline. Wife of Pettit, Leslie (dec) 05-21-08
- Powell, Wanda. Wife of Powell, Ronald 06-03-08
- Sanders, Thelma. Wife of Sanders, Teezhee (dec) 06-16-08
- Simon, Marcella. Wife of Simon, Frank (dec) 05-20-08
- Street, Ellie. Wife of Street, Garry 09-08-03
- Taylor, Elinor. Ex-wife of Taylor, Ted 06-20-08
- Turner, Benjamin James. Son of Turner, David 06-21-08
- Wyma, Sandra Lynn. Wife of Wyman, Deloy 06-18-08

**NEW MEMBERS**

- District 04: Fairfield
  - Russell M. Brown
  - Joey M. Ortiz
  - Christopher Palmer
  - Nicole Zbyczik

- District 20: Oakland
  - Kevin C. Conner
  - Dustin Driscoll
  - Brian Heaston
  - Anna Junglas
  - Patrick Powers

- District 30: Stockton
  - Dale Hollingsworth
  - Carlos Nunez
  - Gerardo Saldana

- District 50: Fresno
  - Chanthy In

**CA High-Speed Rail**

**Financing with public-private partnerships**

State, federal and private investment will fund the system.

**Creating jobs and boosting our economy**

Nearly 160,000 construction-related jobs and 450,000 new, permanent jobs.

**Improving transportation and reducing traffic**

High-speed trains will reduce traffic congestion by connecting all major cities in California with trains traveling up to 220 mph. The system will cost half as much as expanding freeways and airports to deliver the same transportation capacity.

**Central Valley**

Cities underserved by airlines will gain easy, economical and fast connections to Northern and Southern California.

**Northern California**

SFO and other California airports are predicting “unacceptable delays” and will soon reach capacity. High-speed trains offer a proven alternative.

**Southern California**

Southern California has two of the most congested urban areas in the U.S. – Los Angeles and San Diego. When it comes to fixing traffic, high-speed trains offer a proven alternative.

Learn more at www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov.
Program helps members better manage their health

Participants and dependents enrolled in the Trust Fund’s Comprehensive Health Plan are eligible to participate in a disease management program from Matria (formerly CorSolutions) to help manage the following conditions:

- Diabetes
- Coronary Artery Disease
- Heart Failure
- Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease

The disease management program is a voluntary, telephone-based program that will help you follow your doctor's treatment plan and avoid complications. Specially trained nurses are available seven days a week on the telephone support line to answer any questions you may have about symptoms, medications or other health concerns. The Trust Fund will pay the entire cost of the program; you will not incur any additional out-of-pocket expenses by participating.

When a participant or dependent first enrolls in the disease management program, the eligibility of the individual will be verified. Should the participant's eligibility under the Health and Welfare Plan terminate, participation in this disease management program will continue for up to 12 months even if eligibility for Trust Fund benefits is not re-established. As it is currently, eligibility for medical, prescription drug and other regular benefits must be determined separately in each month those benefits are provided. Participants who become eligible under the Pensioned Operating Engineers Health and Welfare Fund and are not on Medicare may continue to participate in the disease management program through that fund.

For more information:
Matria (866) 676-0740
www.ecorsolutions.com
Fringe Benefits Center (800) 532-2105
Trust Fund office (800) 251-5014

CONTRACTORS CORNER
Three-digit hotline aids excavator operators

In May of 2007, a national three-digit “Call Before You Dig” number became active. The number is 811, and it is designed to serve as a national resource for excavators. Dialing 811 from any phone (including cell phones) will direct the caller to the nearest regional notification center, or “USA” office. Excavators can use this number in exchange from the 800 number that they are accustomed to using, although the existing 800 numbers will remain active indefinitely. There is no charge for calling 811.

Government Code 4216 and CCR Title 8 §1541 requires excavators to contact a regional notification center prior to an excavation. It protects workers, the public and prevents project delays due to utility conflicts and dig-ins. Having a three-digit number like 811 provides an easy number for excavators to remember,” states Tara McGovern, California Common Ground Alliance Co-Chair and Director of Government Relations for the Engineering and Utility Contractors Association (EUCA).

Knowing where underground lines are buried before each digging project helps prevent injury, expense and penalties. The website www.call811.com has resources designed to help professional excavators learn about the new number and educate employees about the national “Call Before You Dig” service. On the site, the Common Ground Alliance has made a fully downloadable set of campaign materials available for free use, and created an online “tips and tools” forum to share best practices across the digging industry. For more information about the 811 service and campaign, visit www.call811.com.

Aim for Action

Aim for Action is a monthly wellness feature focused on helping our membership live healthier, more productive lives while achieving lower health-care premiums. Look for Aim for Action each month for simple, straightforward ideas to improve your health.

Aim:
Replace high-fat snacks with healthy alternatives.

Action:
Instead of potato chips, which can be high in unhealthy oils and sodium, snack on walnuts, almonds or pistachios, which can be a good source of protein, fiber and minerals. Whole wheat and low-sodium crackers and pretzels can also offer a crunchy substitute.

Take a moment to cut out the contact information listed below, and post it on your fridge, bathroom mirror or dashboard – somewhere you’ll see it every day as a reminder to strive toward healthy living!

OE3 HEALTH HOTLINES

Fringe Benefits Service Center (800) 532-2105
Assistance and Recovery Program (ARP) (800) 562-3277
Matria Health (866) 676-0740
• 24/7 Nurse Advice (General health information)
• Disease Management (Diabetes, Coronary Artery Disease, Heart failure and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease)
Kaiser California (800) 464-4000 (normal business hours) (888) 576-6225 (after hours)
Kaiser Hawaii (800) 966-5955
HealthNet (800) 893-5597
Tobacco Cessation California (800) NO BUTTS and (800) 844-CHEW Hawaii (800) QUIT NOW Nevada (800) QUIT NOW Utah (888) 567-TRUTH
FOR SALE: 1999 Dodge 1500 Ram Club Cab, Prior fleet vehicle, AC, short bed, running boards, tool box, new Sony CD/STereo with 4 Sony speakers, bed liner. New transmission, radiator cleaned out, new front brakes. 120,657 miles. Registration good until 04/09, passes SMOG. Decept on fuel. Kelly blue booked for $8,000, selling for $3,800. Call (916) 831-4057 or (530) 315-3222. Reg# 2183587.

FOR SALE: Jet Milling Machine. Model AM-VO-AIS Feed Power: 1 1/2 HP-110v. 16 Speeds, 213-2866 RPM. Table size 8"x30" Spindle taper R-8. Spindle travel-3". Table travel (long/20") Table travel (cross feed) travel max.- 45 degrees L-R. Like new: $1,950. Call (707) 575-4452 after 6 p.m. Reg# 2206631.

FOR SALE: F/S retirement home, custom built, 1,596 sq ft. 2 br/2 full ba, on 1.44 acres. 2 mi. from El Dorado. Vinton, 96032. With Gwishing Flats, 55,936. Asking $82,000. Call (530) 622-9649, ext. 19 Reg# 1477996.


FOR SALE: Rebuilt starters for 92 series Detroit, and 220 Cummings, 850. each. Old drop leaf desk $800, or trade for rodeo rifle. Call (530) 346-2918. Reg#1271053.

FOR SALE: Wellsbansdaw, model #118, very clean, 3-plex, 2 horse. $3,000 OBO Call (530) 743-5967. Reg# 1885840.


WANTED: Looking for rear tire rototiller, heavy duty, any condition, or a 3 pt. hitch tilter for small Kataoba tractor. Also a 410 break open shot gun. Call (530) 346-2918. Reg# 1271053.

FOR SALE: In Chico. 1,862 Sq Ft 3br, 2ba BMB Style Home. Close to schools 14,000+ Sq Ft park like yard. Freshly painted, new lighting fixtures, ceiling fans, flooring in kitchen and front entry, newer roof, AC, dual pane windows. 2 car garage. RV/Boat parking. Deeply discounted $329,450. Chico. MLS #: 200707823 Call Joe (530) 545-2351 Reg# 1897337.

The Local 3 members working at Golden Gate Fields off I-80 near Berkeley are an extraordinarily talented crew, not only as expert Construction Equipment Operators (CEOs) but also as former jockeys. All eight operators used to ride horses professionally and are now “horsing around” the track in a different way – with tillers and equipment haulers. They work around the clock on two shifts, six to seven days a week during races and track practices. Look for them next time you’re there placing a bet!