



E-Announcements?

FASTER COMMUNICATION BY E-MAIL

From the Corner Pocket

Here is a positive prospect for a way for you to be more actively connected to your QCC friends.

A late-breaking item that Director Will Kempton was moving on came just when the last issue of the QCCer was going to the printer. The QCCer, a quarterly publication, thus was unable to publish a timely notice to attend Will's fiesta. It seems that a faster means of getting the word out, like an email distribution tree might be in order.

A broadcast to the state and district QCC officers asking for those willing to step up and assume the role of QCC District E-mail Officer, did get a few replies, **thank you**. This new function raises several new ideas and questions.

- 1 - Do you have and use an email address?
- 2 - Is there a district email contact to keep a roster for news?
- 3 - Would you want your email address to be made public in the QCCer or via your district email contact?

QCC District 11 maintains a list of more than 100 retired Caltrans employees on email lists and they get news as it comes in; most of it local district news. Every month or so a new name is added or there is a delivery error of someone changing their ISP. It would be quite a task to keep up a statewide listing of members' email addresses, but it might be more

manageable for each district. And most of the short-notice alerts (promotions or retirements) are of local interest anyway.

Might you be the one to keep up a roster of your district's web-connected QCC members? If so, please contact your district QCC Director. The district QCC officers can help to define the role of QCC EMAIL OFFICER for your district. Local or state news could then be directed to that person, who would then broadcast the news in that district.

Some people choose to keep their email address private and, so far, I have not given out info on any that I have, but that might change. I have been asked, "Who is on your email list?" and that may be an honest quest to find old friends. To be on the safe side, I offer to send the 'seeker's' email out to all, (if they so chose), and then the seeker may get replies as others choose.

Many years ago the QCC printed a listing of members' email addresses. Would you want to see it printed again? Would you want yours included? Contact your district director and let them know.

Good news comes from District 3's Director, Dan Johnson, who reports that they have added several new members and have eight people working on their Social Committee with an officer as chair to be ready for the coming Pre-Holiday party.

Congratulations Dan and the team!

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Rather read the QCCer on-line?

Go to <http://ctqcc.150m.com/qccnewsletter.html>
 A membership application and a wealth of information about QCC officers, history, and constitution are available at <http://ctqcc.150m.com/qcc.html>
 Check the current haps at Caltrans at <http://www.dot.ca.gov/dnews>

Secretary/Treasurer's Report

Please, when you move, notify me early of your new address. Honorary members who don't request to be continued on the mailing list each year, and list their current address, and those whose mailing address changes just prior to when the QCCer is mailed each quarter, WILL

MISS one or two issues. It takes time to update the mailing list - - it costs the club lots of money for issues returned by USPS. And you directors, please, when you send along the name of an honorary member who has asked to remain on the mailing list, be sure to verify the current mailing address. THANK YOU ALL.

—Ron Lesan

In Memoriam

We extend our sympathy to family members and loved ones of our fallen colleagues

Name	District	Date
Lee Hadley	01	August 13, 2009
Lyndell Mays	01	2009
Cliff Williges	01	July 30, 2009
Jim DeGusta	03	<ay 27, 2009
Don Austin	05	June 29, 2009
Lary Boydstrum	05	May 31, 2009
Marv Johnson	06	July 29, 2009
Tom Brown	07	March 4, 2009
Muriel Vanderveen Davis	07	March 11, 2009
Raymond Duffin	07	August 19, 2009
Lonie Pope Pauly	07	August 23, 2009
Clarence Stubberfield Jr.	07	May 1, 2009
Eddie Zavala	07	March 23, 2009
Jean Griffith	08	October, 2008
Don MacGillivray	08	June 8, 2009
Robert Lichliter	10	July 23, 2009

John Legarra

"My father was not a political man," John Legarra's daughter said in response to a reporter's quest for an answer for his recent obituary. "He was an engineer."

That sums up the personality of one of the most highly respected men ever to hold the chair of State Highway Engineer at what was then the California Division of Highways.

When then-governor Ronald Reagan instituted the Career Executive Appointment program and mandated that those in top engineering positions be appointed and serve as quasi-political jobholders, Legarra quit on principle.

Mr. Legarra never regretted his decision to quit the state's top engineering job.

Although Mr. Legarra never publicly discussed his reasons for quitting, Capitol wags speculated he sought demotion because the

top job paid only \$1 a month more than his deputies earned. But Ms. Hotz said he stepped down because of Governor Reagan's plan to turn top administration jobs from civil service to political appointments.

John Andrew Legarra, a dedicated civil servant who oversaw California's freeway system as the state's top highway engineer, died June 21 at age 96 after a bout of pneumonia, said Ms. Hotz.

Mr. Legarra started as a land surveyor in 1941 and climbed the ranks during 35 years in the state Division of Highways. Promoted to deputy state highway engineer in 1951, he played a major role in planning, designing and building freeways, roads and bridges in postwar California.

Legarra capped his career in 1967 with a civil service promotion to State Highway Engineer.

(Continued on Next Page)

Emblem Watches Now Available

Just in time for year-end retirements, awards and other gifts, is the "**Emblem Watch**" with a full-color face in your choice of: the historic "Tomato / Flying donut", the legendary "QCC", and the current "CT" logos. Each is available in three different styles; gold or chrome case with leather bands and an all-metal band. All come in men's and women's sizes. 3 logos x 3 cases x 2 sizes add up to 18 options.



Gold cases are heavy gold-plated

All have electronic quartz Movements

*Water resistant cases

*Stainless steel backs

Water-resistant leather bands

*Limited lifetime warranty

Quantities are limited in each of the 18 options, so to get your choice, send \$35 cash, check, (*sent on check clearance*), or money order for each watch (plus \$5 per order shipping and handling) to: **Butch Biendara, 4041 Mount Everest Blvd, San Diego, CA 92111-2624**. If I don't have your choice, your money will be cheerfully returned, so please include your phone # or email address to contact you about alternatives. Or call 858-279-5054 to find if I still have your choice available.

John Legarra (from Page 3)

Four years later, Mr. Legarra surprised Capitol watchers by announcing he was stepping down to his previous job. He retired as chief of construction and research in 1976.

"My father felt that was the wrong direction for him," said Ms. Hotz. "He felt civil service was a career and you worked your way up and stayed with the department you started with. He believed that decisions should be made by experienced people not subject to political pressures."

Mr. Legarra was born in 1912 in Marysville to Basque parents who had emigrated from Spain. His father died when he was eight years old. His mother ran a Stockton boardinghouse to support her four children.

Mr. Legarra earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering at UC Berkeley and worked in private practice before joining the state highway department. He built airstrips in Iceland as a Navy engineer during World War II. He married Dorothy Morehead, a Navy WAVE, after his discharge as a lieutenant in 1946.

Mr. and Mrs. Legarra were married more than 60 years and reared four children. Mrs. Legarra died in 2007.

Mr. Legarra was an active member of Holy Spirit Church in Sacramento. He belonged to many engineering groups and was named in 1971 as one of the top ten public works officials in the nation by the American Public Works Association.

"He was very intelligent and very highly regarded in the Division of Highways," former colleague Dan Pengilly said. "He was a good man."

Quiet and gracious, Mr. Legarra enjoyed spending free time with family and playing golf. After retiring, he dusted off his surveying tools to help his son build Bradshaw Ranch Golf Course in Sacramento.

The Haps in District 1

Our July quarterly lunch at the Home Town Buffet in Eureka was well attended. **Jerry Severson** and **Linda** and **Jim Boyd** came over from the Redding area. Much of our conversation was about the upcoming car show in Fortuna.

Jim Lyon has rejoined District 1's QCC group. He had been the QCC director for the district but before he retired, he turned this assignment over to me. Welcome back, Jim.

The District 1 service awards lunch held at the Red Lion in Eureka on July 21 was great. I was invited to attend and represented the California Transportation Foundation. Several other retirees attended, including **Rita Coleman** with husband **Doug**, **Bob Trice**, **Ray Sweet**, **Larry Bowermaster**, **Tim Fisher**, and **Rick Knapp**. The highlight of the awards was a special presentation for 45 years to **Lanette Watkins**. She has been a real treasure to our district. The 25-year awardees included **Mark Sudhanek**, **Anthony Perez**, **Cheryl Willis**, **Linda Evans**, **Chester King**, **Cindy Graham**, **Gary Banducci**, **James Wortman**, **Janet Bottini**, **Jeffrey Bowser**, **Bill Goff**, **Suzanne Theiss**, **Nicholas Motto**, **Matthew McKeon**, **Lynne Anderson** and **Mark Bennett**. Thirty-year awardees included **Alan Radford**, **Beverly Chang**, **James Brown**, **Janet Foster**, **Mark Cole**, **Stan Woodman**, **Tim Ash** and **Vicki Butler**. **Stephanie Launer** was the 35-year awardee. Those not in attendance but still honored included **Darrell Deardorff**, **James Moore, Jr**, **Bruce Trump**, **David Brown**, **Friday Ululani**, **Gene Mace**, and **Greg Thorne** for 25 years,

David Chang for 30 years and **Orben Zepeda** for 35 years. District I Director **Charlie Fielder**, did his usual great job as Master of Ceremonies.

We made it to the car show in Fortuna and got to see Jim and Linda's finished car. It was gorgeous. We also got a tour of **Tom Georgeson's** beautiful Cord, including retracting headlights, way before its time. **Ray Thomsen** was showing his Mercury, which had been recently repainted and **Len Blomquist** had his prize Corvette. His wife, **Julie**, made a great table cover from a Route 66 patterned material. This is still the biggest show in our area.

On August 3, our fellow QCCer, **Bob Myers**, gave an interesting talk to the North Coast Vintage Aviation Society about his experience during WW II on July 28, 1945, flying a B-25 from the Air Base at Greenville, South Carolina to the Army Air Base at Lake Charles, Louisiana to give his Navigator/Bombardier navigation practice in sunlight and celestial navigation after dark. In summary, they ran into a severe rainstorm on the way back and got off course because there were no stars out. When Bob saw pine trees off his wing, he asked the navigator how high the mountains on their route were. The navigator said there should not be any high mountains so Bob had to ask how high the highest mountains in the southeast U.S. were, and was able to get above them. They did eventually make it back to the Air Base at Greenville.

Coincidentally, this was the date that the B-25 bomber crashed into the Empire State Building. Since Bob was in a B-25 and was very late getting back, his captain and unit were afraid that he was the one that crashed into the building. If Bob had crashed in those mountains, they might never have found him and may have continued to think that his was the plane that crashed into the building, since it was so badly destroyed, there was no serial number. He went on to share the story of how the other

B-25 ended up crashing into the building. Several Caltrans retirees belong to the Aviation Society, largely due to their war and flying experiences. Even non-flyers, like me, enjoy the stories.

We made it out to the Humboldt County fair on August 14 and enjoyed seeing **Janet Foster** and **Nick Motto** taking care of the Caltrans booth. They had a nice setup with lots of information and handouts. Nick also made the local paper with his fishing catch of a large halibut. We also stayed to see district director Charlie Fielder dedicate a new bench at the fair to our late County Supervisor, **Roger Rodoni**. He had been a big help to Caltrans and is sorely missed. Roger's widow, **Johanna**, fair manager **Stuart Titus** and Supervisor **Jimmie Smith**, also spoke. Several attended, including us retirees, me, **Richard Philipson**, **Mary Salyer**, **Bill Barton** and **Slater Smith**.

Gene Leo, an Associate Transportation Engineer, retired in mid-August. I also learned that **Janet Bottini** and **Vicki Butler** are retiring this year. I have been told that Vicki will have a retirement lunch at Garberville on October 15. I hope to make it.

Roy Spivey and **Mike Rey** retired at the end of August from the Maintenance Department, Roy after 39 years and Mike after 37 years. On August 27, I attended their retirement BBQ and enjoyed seeing everyone, including fellow retirees, **John Sherman**, with his wife, **Jackie**, **Bob Fallis**, **Larry Brewer**, **Virgil** and **Wanda Muncton**, and **Gene Leo**. Gene is already enjoying his retirement and has lots of plans. I was able to share some QCC applications and information with some of the attendees.

George Otterbeck has the right idea for retirement. He traveled to Oregon, Idaho and Montana, spending some time on family and historical research, visited his grandfather's gravesite at Sandpoint, Idaho, had a nice visit with **Leo Ferroni**, another of our retirees, and, most importantly, visited with his daughter

and her family and a nephew and his family. Of course, the very best part was cuddling the youngest grandkids in the morning.

Vi Truby did well too. She just returned from a wonderful seven-day Alaska cruise and a nice visit with her Washington family. Her sister, brother-in-law and niece joined her on the cruise.

This has been a sad quarter for our District I family. We received word that our retired Caltrans Maintenance Supervisor, **Cliff Williges**, passed away July 30. I remember him well and enjoyed the times I got to work with him. He was noted in the district for keeping one of the cleanest and best organized Maintenance office and yards.

We also lost **Lyndell Mays** recently. She had been retired for many years and was close to making her 95th birthday. We have many fond memories of her years working in the district as the file clerk. For many years after retirement, she often attended our monthly ladies' lunch.

Lee Hadley passed away August 13. He was an engineer with District I for most of his working career. He retired in August of 1978, and then returned in June 1988 as a retired annuitant until May of 1994. I can remember him popping into the office then rushing off to construction. He was a great guy. His grandfather was one of the original settlers in Mattole Valley. Lee continued to operate the Hadley Ranch in Upper Mattole throughout his life. **Doug** and **Rita Coleman** remembered flying their plane to the valley and landing on his ranch.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the families and friends of Cliff, Lyndell, and Lee. They will be missed.

I hope to hear more from our District I members. My current email is ahartin@suddenlink.net.

—Arlene Hartin

The Haps in District 2

We held our annual reunion barbeque at Anderson River Park June 20th. **Bob Prah** and the Enterprise Lions Club catered the event. Talk about first rate barbeque! Many of our members attended and all agreed it was well worth coming! I highly recommend that all who can make it come to the one next year.

Our next quarterly luncheon will be held October 15 at 11:30 am at Lulu's Restaurant in Redding. Lunch is no host and all employees, both active and retired, are welcome to attend. Please contact **Bill Belcher** at (530) 347-9546 or by e-mail at "odiebill1@aim.com" for details, directions, and for a head count if you plan to attend.

In late July, **Jan** and **Burt Brockett** flew to New York and drove to North Haven, Connecticut for a family reunion of about 100 Brockett relatives. They then spent four days "doing" Manhattan with daughter **Gayle** and her husband and son. Gayle visited Redding in late August, this time also with her six-year old foster child, before returning home to Virginia.

Over Labor Day Jan and Burt will camp with daughter **Ruth** and her family at Lake Almanor, and at the end of September will tour with friends through Yellowstone Park. Then back to driving for Senior Nutrition, as Jan cranks up another AARP Tax-Aid Program in Shasta County.

Bill Belcher, secretary for District 2, retired from Caltrans in August. He began his career in Maintenance in District 6 at Shaver Lake, under the Division of Highways, as a Maintenance Man II. He retired from Traffic Engineering as the Census Unit Coordinator for District 2. He plans to enjoy time with his wife **Michelle** (also a QCC member) and spend more time with all the kids and grandkids.

—Bill Belcher

The Haps in District 3

The sale of **Dorothy Leeper's** RV has not curtailed her travel. This summer she traveled to Arkansas and then to Tennessee for a family reunion. Dorothy, who enjoys sharing our beautiful country with her grandchildren on trips, will travel with her granddaughter this year.

Joanne Ellis held a celebration of life for **George** on June 6, 2009 at their home in Yuba City. George passed away on June 6, 2008.

Meeting the family and friends who had been so caring to both George and Joanne was heartwarming. All of us mingled, talked of George, and sampled the food and drink.

Pastor Rick Rockwood from Sutter-North Hospice – a friend to both George and Joanne, conducted a lovely outdoor service.

Many friends and family spoke of the good times with George.

At the conclusion of the service, Joanne cut three balloons loose to fly into the heavens. With each balloon, Joanne sent her love and a wish to George while the rest of us toasted him with—what else?—martinis.

What a special, warm and bright day and a unique celebration to give tribute and celebrate the life of a special man.

Joseph Ferro writes that travel is good therapy. Last year, he booked a trip to Hawaii for November. In October, three weeks before leaving, his wife, **Carroll**, had a minor stroke. He rushed her to the hospital, where the doctors started treatment immediately. Carroll had lost feeling in her left side. She responded quickly to the treatment and was released two days later. Joe asked the doctor if it was wise to leave on their planned trip. The doctor gave them his okay.

“When we left on our trip, Carroll was favoring her left side. She limped off the plane when we reached Hawaii. Well, in about a week of hiking around Oahu and another week in Kauai, she was outrunning me,” Joe says, “especially when it came to shopping.” Joe and Carroll are now getting ready to spend 12 days in Alaska. They have scheduled a seven-day cruise and five days of touring on land including Denali National Park.

Brad Owens and wife **Jolene** continue to enjoy living at the Del Web Community in Roseville. Brad plays golf while Jolene enjoys swimming and the water exercises.

The District 3 Quarter Century Club is growing. We have signed up more new members and have expanded the Social Committee. **Ethel Mae Waller** has been appointed as an officer and heads up the committee. New Committee members are **Jane Myers, Connie Keriotis, Jan Agesen** and **Joy Hammons**. These ladies will join current committee members **Palmer Haug, Charlotte Mattocks** and **Bob Atkinson**. **Bill Malott** has been appointed as an officer and has taken over the duties as club photographer and keeper of the photo albums. Director Dan is looking for two more members to complete the committee. Anyone interested please call Dan at (530) 671-3889 or email him at boots3@syix.com. The only requirement to become a member of the social committee is to be a paid-up member of the Quarter Century Club. Members assist in planning and completion of social gatherings and attend several meeting throughout the year.

Due to popular demand, when the membership in attendance voted at the Spring Party, your Board of Officers and the Social Committee has planned a fall get together, to be called a **Pre-Holiday Party**. This fun event will be held at the Peach Tree Golf and Country Club. Mark your calendars for Sunday, November 8. A social hour will begin at 1pm

with a delicious meal to follow. Watch your mailbox for more info, which will be mailed to you around the first week in October.

Keith Maggini reports the Fall Luncheon will be held September 17 at 2:30 pm at the Train Station Café in Shingle Springs for a change of scenery. The Café is located on Old Highway 50, which is now Mother Lode Drive and is next to the Community Park. Guests can choose from three items: 1) Hot Turkey Sandwich, 2) small Chef Salad or 3) Lasagna w/salad and garlic bread. The price will be \$6.45 for the entrée, with drink, tax and tip extra.

New attendees may make reservations by calling Doug **Becker** as (530) 622-1665. People on our roster will be contacted prior to the luncheon for the attendance estimate. No advanced money is required, as individual checks will be issued.

Persons traveling from either direction on Hwy 50, use Exit 37 and proceed to Mother Lode Drive on the South side of the freeway, then head east and cross the old Railroad tracks. The Train Station Café is located on the right about one tenth of a mile. The Café adjoins the Community Park.

The Luncheon is open to all Caltrans retirees and their guests so come on out and join in the fun by visiting with the people you probably haven't seen since retirement.

The June issue of this bulletin failed to announce the passing of **Jim DeGusta**. Jimmy was an honorary member of the QCC from District 3 and has been recognized for his extended state service. He retired in 1978 after 39 years of service. When Jimmy retired he was foreman at the West Sacramento Maintenance yard. He served in the Armed Services from 1942 to 1945. Jimmy passed away on May 27, 2009.

We heard from **Howard Payne**. Howard thanked the District 3 QCC for sending him his 80-year diploma. Howard said the certificate is now hanging from his trophy wall. Also, **Nile Ferns** sent a Thank You card for the same certificate. Nile said he is pretty

much over his heart valve replacement and is planning some traveling. According to the Constitution and Bylaws of the club, members who reach the age of 80 years no longer need to pay dues and are thereafter named Honorary. In order to receive the QCCer and remain on the mailing list, a person who has reached 80 years of age must notify their local QCC Club Secretary or Membership Chairperson yearly of their wishes.

Anyone who reaches this plateau should contact one of the officers in order to continue to receive the bulletin and invites to upcoming social events.

We have no new news in regard to the proposed History Center in the new Marysville District Office. As soon as things are put together, the History Committee will join with the District Office of Administration in a joint team effort to set up the room and provide assistance when needed. Director Dan has a list of volunteers who signed up for the History Room Committee and he will be contacting those on the list as soon as decisions are made.

Once again we are asking members to send their \$15 annual dues to Membership Chairperson **Carlene Hagen**. She will forward the dues to the state level. Carlene's address is 1568 Oro Grande Avenue in Yuba City. The zip is 95993.

Dues are due by December 31, 2009. Please send your checks before the end of the year or you may pay your dues at the Pre-Holiday Party.

The next meeting of the Board of Officers and Social Committee will be held September 24 at the Yuba City Moose Lodge. We will finalize plans for the upcoming pre-holiday party and attend to other business. All members are invited to attend. The meeting will get underway at 10:30 am.

— Dan Johnson, Sr. Susanna Ford and
Keith Maggini

The Haps in District 4

Ann Hansen, who worked in District 4 as Deputy for Operation and Design before retiring, has received the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award from the Institute of Transportation Engineers. The award is the district's highest honor and recognition of professional accomplishment and service.

Ms. Hansen had previously been awarded ITE's honorary membership, one of only 66 engineers ever to be accorded such an honor among ITE's 17,000 members. She had also been awarded the Theodore Matson Memorial Award for outstanding contributions to traffic engineering, and the 2003 University of Utah Emeritus Alumni Award. She was the first woman to graduate in civil engineering at the University of Utah, and the first woman to reach the Principal Engineer level in the State of California civil service system.

In retirement, Ann continues to be a pioneer in opening opportunities for women in the transportation profession and serves as a role model and mentor for women in engineering.

Paul Hensley: I hope everyone had a nice summer and is prepared for what appears to be a long fire season. My wife Niki and I spent quite a bit of time this summer in Los Angeles with our youngest daughter Heather and her two dogs. Heather is a kindergarten teacher at a private school in Beverly Hills and she needed a lot of help in getting ready for this coming school year. We saw the smoke from the nearby fires when driving to Los Angeles on Route 101 through Santa Barbara and when we first saw it we mistook it for thunderheads, it was so thick

and high. While we were visiting we spent a day at the Getty Center and saw the remnants of a fire just to the north.

We congratulate **Leo Trombatore** for having the District 3 office building designated as the Leo Trombatore State Office Building.

Brian White sends me a note that **Dan Hess**, Deputy District Director of Administration, retired on June 16 on his 34th anniversary of joining Caltrans. Dan started his career in District 4 as a Landscape Maintenance Worker. His retirement party was held July 16 at the Wedgewood Banquet Center at Metropolitan Golf Links in Oakland. Until a replacement can be named, **Cindy Stratton** and Brian are rotating the position of Acting Administrative Deputy between them.

Bob MacDougald sends an article that **John and Lorrie Aaro** are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary. They had met as teenagers but it wasn't until they were both working at the District 4 office in 1958 that they met again and began to date. They subsequently married in 1959 and now have produced two children and five grandchildren.

Ruby Louie, before she retired, arranged a tour of the projects to construct the new east span of the Bay Bridge on September 24 for retired district directors and deputies. That's assuming everything will go as planned over the Labor Day weekend when the SFOBB will be closed for five days to remove part of the existing east span and construct a detour.

Vern Waight, our Hawaiian correspondent, writes that a new high in Hawaii's transportation fiasco was reached with the institution of the Super Ferry for service between Honolulu and Maui. The idea had been talked about for a number of years but finally came to fruition – after a fashion.

The problems began when ownership and operation of the ferries, instead of being the responsibility of the State of Hawaii, as had been past practice, was awarded to a Pentagon contractor, the Hawaiian Superferry Corporation, whose board chairman is former Secretary of the Navy James Lehman and the CEO retired Admiral William Fargo, former Chief of Naval Operations in the Pacific.

HSC had the blessing of the Hawaii Department of Transportation as well as the governor. This resulted in state and federal subsidies plus promised expenditures of \$40 million for future harbor revisions to accommodate the ferries.

Vern writes that the company ordered two ferries, each 350 feet long with a displacement of 882 tons, able to carry 866 passengers and 40 vehicles or 22 subcompact cars. The ferries, costing \$85 million apiece, are catamaran in design with two hulls each with a draft of 14 feet. They have a top speed of up to 43 miles per hour. This double prow design, combined with the deep draft, first raised objections from the environmental community because of possible damage to whales, dolphins and sea turtles whose habitat lay in their path.

Hawaii DOT had given the company an exemption to the requirement for an Environmental Impact Statement even though it had received a \$140 million federal loan guarantee. In response to this ruling, the Hawaiian Supreme Court ruled that an EIS was required. In spite of this, the governor and legislature intervened to allow HSC to begin operations between Honolulu and Kahului, Maui in December with the first ferry, the Alakai. Subsequently the ferry was out of service for six weeks until April 8, 2008. It went back into service with an escort of three Coast Guard vessels and a helicopter to provide security in case of protests.

When the ferry made its first run to Kauai on August 26, some 1,500 protesters

flocked to the Nawiliwili Harbor and about three dozen surfers paddled into its path, bringing it to a halt. The governor had threatened to use Department of Homeland Security funds to create a security zone around the harbor and to treat protesters as terrorists, subject to \$10,000 fines and imprisonment.

Another environmental issue according to the authors of the book, "The Superferry Chronicles," who are no fans of the ferry, was that the ferry burned 15 times the fuel a jet plane would need to fly the same distance in one sixth of the time. Vern was in Honolulu last October when newspaper headlines announced that the Hawaiian Supreme court would again tackle the matter of the lack of an EIS and subsequently ruled that the service would have to file an EIS before it could continue. This time neither the governor nor the legislature came to its rescue and service was terminated except for one farewell round trip to Maui to return stranded vehicles to the main island.

The authors of the Superferry Chronicles revealed that the ferries were actually a prototype for a new military ship that could carry Humvees and Stryker military vehicles. The builders had joined with General Electric to compete for a Pentagon contract to build 55 similar vessels that are called Littoral Combat Ships. Vern says it sounds like the World War II amphibious LSTs except that the current ferries are designed to off load only via docks. The Hawaiian ferries may have been test runs for the boats as Littoral ships.

HSC has not contested the court ruling and has not indicated that it will proceed any further. It is leaving Hawaii after ceasing operations on March 17 and may be relieved to get out since it is losing money like mad and is now free to sell the boats to the military or to Singapore.

At last report, the Alakai was on its way back to its birthplace in Alabama. The

second ferry never made it to Hawaii.

Vern ended his report with a note on fares. The fare published by HSC in March, 2009, was \$39 one way with a fuel surcharge of \$5.41 in one direction and \$6.40 in the other. This is because the ferry travels on one side of Molokai going south to Maui and on the other side going north, one route being longer than the other. This also accounts for the southbound trip taking three hours and 45 minutes and the northbound trip only three hours. The minimum one-way fare for a car, provided it is shorter than 17 feet, is \$51.56. HSC's round trip fare for one passenger and one vehicle thus came to \$226.50.

One-way air fares range from \$104 to \$105, tax included, with a travel time of 35 to 37 minutes, but of course you can't bring your car.

— Paul Hensley

The Haps in District 5

Where has the summer gone? We're still enjoying our tomatoes, but suddenly the green leaves are turning brown.

Although the state budget has finally been approved, repercussions continue. Most state employees now take three furlough days, and the district office is closed on the first three Fridays of each month. All temporary employees have been released, including retired annuitants and student assistants. An internal hiring freeze is also in place.

Recent news articles have focused on the cost of benefits for retirees and the financial status of PERS. Contrary to what you may read, the retirement system is **not** a drain on the State economy. Our retirement is funded 75% from CalPERS investments and 25% by

contributions. Also, our retirement is protected by law against "raiding" by the Governor and Legislature, but we shouldn't become complacent. **Paul McCauley** circulating another petition that would establish new taxes on pensions. Stay vigilant!!

It was announced in June that Caltrans Director **Will Kempton** had been hired to direct the Orange County Transportation Authority. Will has worked in the transportation industry for 35 years and led Caltrans for the past five years. **Randy Iwasaki**, formerly Chief Deputy, has been named as his replacement.

Several District 5 employees have decided that now is the time to join the retired ranks. District Deputy Director-Administration **Jackie Parker** will join her husband **Ben** in retirement; they plan to take their new recreational vehicle to Utah in the fall. **Julia Bolger** has been selected to replace Jackie and represent Administration on Executive Row. Other recent retirees include **Jeff Lowe** from Information Technology, **Bob Nunn** from Traffic, and **Galen Trigg** from Maintenance.

In the previous issue we congratulated District 5 golfers for winning the annual Caltrans tournament. **Jacques van Zeventer** recently told me the trophy now contains the names of both **Greg Mahoric** and his father, who played on a winning District 4 team in the past.

In June we attended the annual pancake breakfast sponsored by the American Legion at the Veterans Building. They always have a big turnout, and we got to see familiar faces like **Russ Westfall** behind the grill, **Don Cross** helping in the kitchen, and **Ken Miller** selling tickets.

In June we also attended a get-together at the home of **RJ** and **Linda Brown** in Atascadero. We enjoyed a pleasant evening on the patio with old friends and caught up on everyone's news about family, travels, and health—good and not so good.

The July issue of our local *Journal Plus* magazine featured **Joy Chafin Hanson** and her husband **Ralph**. Joy worked in Administration and transferred to the Equipment Division when the META facility was established at Camp San Luis to train Maintenance staff. Joy and Ralph have been involved in our local Little Theatre for many years, and they have been traveling throughout the world, spending time at their cabin in Oroville, and enjoying their grandchildren.

Bill Fieldhouse celebrated Fathers Day (and **Faith Ann's** birthday) with the accomplishment of a lifetime: climbing Yosemite's Half Dome. This was a 13-hour round trip that took him through the redwoods, the mist of the waterfall, and up the switchback stairs cut into granite rock to an elevation of 4,500 feet. Bill says his daily walking and hiking Bishop's Peak, combined with a lot of perseverance, enabled him to make the arduous climb. WOW!!

Shirley and Larry Kathary have kept in their community, volunteering at the Strawberry Festival and the classic car show in Arroyo Grande. They recently joined their camper dub for a trip to Lake Isabella.

We saw **Doug Mitchell** at a San Luis Obispo Blues baseball game in July. He looks great. He says he's playing some golf, puttering around the house, and planning a short cruise to Mexico. Doug also reported that **Gary Saunders'** recent knee surgery went well, and he is now getting physical therapy.

We attended the memorial service in June for **JB Popnoe** and chatted with **Keith Miller** at the reception. He and **Chris** had recently returned from a five-week trip to Ontario, Canada to visit family and enjoy the lakes.

Frank Rowan continues to write his monthly column "Vets Voice" in the *Journal Plus*. His articles have introduced us to several members of the community who have served our country over the years. Frank also spreads the word about events such as Memorial Day and Veterans' Day celebrations.

Dyer Campbell reports that **Gordon West** still enjoys life in Hawaii with his daughter's family.

Louise and Alex Woolworth attended Mule Days in Bishop in May and recently returned from a trip to Russia. Hope we can provide details of their trip in another edition.

The **Copelands** have seen lots of baseball this summer at our local Sinsheimer Stadium and also attended games at AT&T Park and Dodger Stadium. **Go Giants!!**

In August we enjoyed a pleasant afternoon of wine tasting and barbecue at Salisbury Vineyard with **John Burke, John and Joan McGrath,** and **Ranell and FJ Bailey**. We also celebrated two milestones: Bob's 80th birthday and my first colonoscopy (not at the same time).

In memoriam: **Larry Boydston** passed away on May 31 at age 91. Larry served in the Army and National Guard and was a member of the American Legion. He was also a Boy Scout leader and taught Sunday school. He retired from the Division of Highways in 1970. His wife Rose, four children, and several grandchildren survive him.

Don Austin passed away June 29 at age 87. He had been battling cancer while living in a local care facility. Don worked in Construction for many years, and traveled with us to Hawaii on one of our Caltrans golfing vacations. His family and friend Carolyn Wheeler survive him.

—Kathleen Copeland

The Haps in District 6

Virgle Ray writes, "On June 30, **Sandy** and I are enjoying the coast in Pismo, while heat in the San Joaquin valley is pushing the 100s. Have been sharing time with

grandchildren, soccer, junior lifeguards; kids are so busy these days. Hope all are enjoying their summer!!!!

"On August 19, Sandy and I are at Jackson Rancheria RV Park; will be here about four days then off to Bodega Bay for four or five days, then home to make ready for next RV trip. One has to go home once in a while to make sure landscape watering is working and the deer haven't carried it all off.

"Sure glad the cooler works here at Jackson. One hundred degrees really gets your attention. Hope to see you at next gathering."

Bill Bastian came to us in 1955 from District 3 as the Special Crews Superintendent and retired in 1978 as the District's Assistant Maintenance Engineer. We really never knew anything of his early days until he appeared on the KMJ radio program "Hometown Heroes". You may be interested in the following story as told by Bill.

"As a senior in High School with good grades, I had received our local congressman's appointment to Annapolis. I needed only to pass the physical, which I failed due to not having 20/20 vision. (I am now 87 and don't wear glasses) I then enrolled at UC Berkeley to study engineering, which included ROTC being mandatory.

When I returned for my second year, the buildup of shipbuilding at Richmond had made housing scarce and too expensive so I returned home to Sonoma and went to work as a tractor operator logging trees used for piling at the expanding shipyards where the Liberty ships were being built.

In 1942 I went into the Army and took Engineer basic training at Ft. Leonard Wood in Missouri; then on to Fort Belvoir, Virginia for Officers training. At the age of 21 years and 6 days I became an Officer and a gentleman in the Army of the United States. Shortly thereafter as a cadre instructor officer I went to Ft. Dix, NJ with a requisition for 900 recruits (teens off the streets of NY and NJ) and took them to a new camp in Mississippi for training as the 203^d

Engineer Combat Battalion. None of them could drive a vehicle or knew a hammer from an axe.

Their expertise was billiards, poker, and evasion of what was wanted. After giving them basic training we traveled to Florida on the Atlantic Coast for amphibious beach training, then on to New York where we boarded the HMS Aquatania for a New Year's Day cruise to Europe. This ship had been a British luxury liner and was the sister ship to the Lusitania, whose sinking by the Germans brought us into WWI.

We crossed the frigid North Atlantic all alone as the ship was faster than the U-Boats and then docked in Scotland, where we traveled by trains to Devon and began training for D-Day. Torquay, in Devon, (Britain's summer retreat) became our home base. We received our equipment shortly and began intensive beach type training. We officers were soon "billeted." This gave us access to the secret plans for the invasion including our invasion destination and the beach details.

Among the realistic exercises that we took part in was one at nearby Slapton Sands. After the war we learned that one of these dry runs had been attacked by German patrol boats that had come upon them by chance and caused the loss of nearly a thousand American servicemen. The news of this disaster was kept secret until after the war. Our battalion's turn at this exercise went without a hitch. On June 3rd we convoyed to Abragavenny, Wales where we camped one night before boarding LSTs at Cardiff.

After a day in the Irish Sea, we headed for Normandy. At dawn we could see ours was one of thousands of vessels heading towards France. The most eventful part of the voyage was when another LST off our port bow hit a mine and was gone in minutes. I, of course saw this, as I had spent all my time on this trip up on the top deck so as not to miss any of the sights. Off Omaha Beach we hove to and waited our turn. Our ship was loaded with heavy equipment that couldn't land until the ship could be beached.

I and some of my men landed from several miles out by climbing down the cargo nets, into a personnel landing craft, and after a wet trip and some wading up the beach, we were in France. This was mid-day and the intense firing we had seen earlier had decreased. Without our equipment and vehicles I set the men who landed with me to working on the many drowned or damaged vehicles that were clogging the beach. The 203rd Engineers assignment was to operate Omaha Beach and nearby roads. As the damaged port in Cherbourg could not be repaired, our beach became the only port of entry for the entire American army and all its needs for many months. As the fighting moved farther away we began the "Red Ball" express by creating a one-way loop of the existing roads. Cargo moved day and night from the beach to the front.

Shortly after ending the beach operation in October we were moved to Belgium, just in time for the Bulge. We were being sent there to repair roads and bridges and were on our way when the Bulge began.

As the Germans were pushed back we advanced to the Rhine and beyond, always repairing bridges and roads, using any materials we could find. As the war wound down, we built our largest bridge project on the German autobahn between Frankfurt and Kassel where it crossed the Fulda River. The Autobahn bridge had been destroyed by the Germans as they fell back. We cleared the channel and constructed a two-lane bridge 325 feet long with concrete footings, timber framing, steel beam stringers and a timber deck.

The steel was scrounged by a search of the area, trees were felled in nearby forests, logs were sawn in a local sawmill and transported to the site, all by our men. If back at Fort Dix I had said, "We are going to train these 900 city kids to build bridges", you would have called me crazy. The bridge was named the "Ernie Pyle Bridge" as he had been recently lost in the Pacific Theatre.

In 1997, I returned with the **Ray Appleton** tour of England and the Normandy

beaches. Col. **David Hackworth** was to be the commentator, but he had to cancel at the last minute so I volunteered to do the job and the tour leader gave his OK. I was then able to tell this story to 80 interested people while on the site as we retraced my journey. This, of course, "made" the trip for me, as I am more garrulous now than I was at District 6.

When Bill returned with Ray Appleton they visited that cemetery, which made for a very emotional trip. Bill would like people to understand how much the boys back then learned. The 900 recruits from New Jersey didn't know even how to drive a car when they went into the service and by the time they were out, they could operate and repair large equipment, build roads; just about any job you would give them.

Marv Johnson has passed away. Mary Lou writes, "On July 29 at 10:40 pm, Marvin went to Heaven to be with the Lord. He was conscious until the end as Karin and I quoted his favorite passages and sang to him. We are never fully ready to be separated from our loved ones but know his suffering and pain are over and we will meet again in Heaven.

From Cynthia Binger: (**Bob Binger's** widow): "My daughter, **Kathy Iwasaki**, just passed her twenty-fifth anniversary with Caltrans. She started her career in District 6 in the traffic department. Now, she is in District 3 in Colfax as office engineer. I sent her the forms for membership in the QCC. I hope she sends them in. Younger sister **Kris** is a graphic artist at Caltrans San Diego, and her husband, **Steve Saville**, is the Public Information Officer in the same office. Both Sacramento and San Diego are great places to visit, so I see them fairly often.

"**Kathy**, my granddaughter **Lauren** and I traveled to Paris last October and stayed a week. It was a great adventure. We saw everything we could in the week: museums, famous public buildings, and popular tourist spots. We traveled by Metro, Seine River tour boats, and on foot. We went on a tour bus to the palace of Versailles, too. Lauren will be 18

in a few weeks. She will leave for college at UC Santa Cruz on September 19.

"Thanks for your diligence in this job."

Cynthia Binger

Ken Cartwright celebrated his 84th birthday on August 6 with family and friends, including **Ted Haynish** and his wife **Allie**.

News from **Barney Deeter**: "Spent a week in July entertaining my youngest grandson, **Mark LaRochelle**, who is nine. Spent one morning playing nine holes of golf. Next day we went to the zoo, then to Playland, which was closed. Storyland was next but it to was also closed. On the third day we went to the Castle Air Museum. It is great as there are 49 different types of aircraft most of which are furnished by the U.S. Air Force. There is a B-36, which is huge. There a few British aircraft as well. My grandson really liked this display. On the fourth day we traveled to Shaver Lake and had a great lunch. Shaver Lake was full and the weather was very nice. All in all I had a great time with my grandson. Of course his brother **Michael** will want to spend time with his grandfather but it will have to wait as this old man was worn out after a week with Mark.

The Annual Christmas Party is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, December 3.

On the first Monday of every month some of us meet up at the Santa Fe Basque Restaurant located at 3110 N Maroa Ave, one block south of Shields for lunch. All are welcome. No reservations; just show up and pay at the bar for the "Borders Table" lunch by 12:30 PM. After the count, they ring the bell and it's family style. We usually skip December because of the Christmas Party, May because of the Spring Luncheon and July, August and September because of vacations.

I am writing this from Huntington Lake, where I am enjoying watching a doe with her twin fawns strolling through the back yard. They come through every day about this time. It's beautiful up here and a great escape from the Fresno heat. I recently visited Chicago,

Dallas and the Los Angeles area, where I had a great visit with **Betty Simmons** (old District 6 employee until she escaped to District 7).

Hope everyone is having a great summer.

— Terry Littleton

The Haps in District 7

You may recall the saying, "To err is human; to really foul things up you need a computer"! You may also recall that last quarter, District 7 did not submit a report. As they say at the academy, "No excuse sir!"

Here's what happened, if you were wondering: As of the end of May, the only items to report would have been three obituaries and one sighting (included this time). I'm sure you would agree, just obituaries would make for an exceedingly depressing report; thanks to a computer virus, and because I had gone on a weeklong road trip (report below), I was not able to resubmit before the due date. When I returned, several people had submitted items, alas, too late for the June newsletter.

If you would like more information than just obituaries for future reports, please send me additional information, e-mail, snail mail or just pick up the phone. Nag, Nag, Nag...

Annual Holiday Celebration at the Miyako Inn in Downtown: Plan to attend the District 7 QCC Holiday Luncheon, Saturday, December 5, to visit with those you may not have seen for a year or more. It's an excellent opportunity to introduce new members to the joys of our annual holiday reunion.

Doris Nakamura is negotiating for a \$25 buffet luncheon at the **Miyako Inn**, 328 East 1st Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012, 213-330-2800, two blocks south of the District 7 Office. Parking is available nearby. You can take a virtual tour or get directions by going to the hotel website at www.miyakoinn.com. More information will be forthcoming in the dues renewal and holiday flyer that **Tom Albany**, our president, will send out in November.

Please remember to bring a wrapped gift for the drawing. I certainly hope to see you there! The more the merrier!

Monthly Luncheon Update: The monthly meeting of the **Tom Fera** Lunch Group on the second Wednesday of each month, except December, will occur on **September 9** at Joselito's West Mexican Restaurant, 7308 Foothill Boulevard, Tujunga, (818) 951-2275; **October 14** at the Steer N' Ale Restaurant, 3644 E. Foothill Boulevard, Pasadena, (626) 796-2278; and **November 11** at the China Olive Restaurant, 9224 Reseda Boulevard, Northridge, (818) 998-3688; there will be no Lunch Group luncheon in December.

For more information about meetings, etc., contact **Chuck O'Connell** at (661) 253-3428 or chuckoconnell@prodigy.net, or **Tom Gildersleeve** at (661) 259-6226 or tgilders@pacbell.net.

Bill takes a Spill: Bill Minter sent this "hello" in early June: "Hello everyone! Many of you know or have heard roundabout of my recent 'fall-down-go-boom-event. **JoAnn** and I know enough folks that neither phone calls nor letters will suffice. So, as you can see, this one letter must do the work of many letters and phone calls. Included in this group are: dose family, distant family, companions, old buddies from the army and work buddies of long standing. These letters would, if addressed individually, take on many different hues. Oh, it would be fun if I were feeling well. Wearying but fun. Heck, I got tired just thinking of that effort. So there.

"Preamble: Consistent with my 40 years of experience with highways in California, I

have offered my services to our homeowners association, inasmuch as they own the three streets that serve our homes. I have used my background to keep our roads in tiptop order, not without grumbling, mind you, from the sidelines about spending perfectly good money on 'perfectly good streets.' Our association streets, after years of use and ravishments of snow and ice, are the best maintained in the county, if not the state. I am proud of that, and so is my wallet.

"A Recent Event: Last week a crew was at work, doing some crack sealing. Nothing very big, but I wanted to 'inspect' the work as it progressed. The asphalt used for the job is very sticky. Not watching, I managed to step into some. While my body was in a forward motion, my shoes were not! My feet came clear of the shoes just as I hit the pavement! Wham!

"The Result: I landed in some freshly laid crack sealing asphalt. And stuck. The work crew tried to get me up but it wasn't the fact that I was stuck that kept me down. I was in a lot of pain and did not want to be moved for a while. When the pain started to recede, I was rolled over onto my back in yet some more asphalt, pulled free and stood up.

"That brought more pain—a lot more—and I asked to be laid on the grass under a tree. The paramedics were called and someone went to get JoAnn on the next street over. The police, paramedics, fire department and some neighbors held a consultation there on the street. I was allowed to concur with the decision of being transported to the local hospital. Well something like that, anyway.

"The Score: Two broken ribs, one broken collar bone, a night's stay in the hospital, a ruined shirt, trousers and socks. Ability to laugh about it later – Priceless! KRS

"The Aftermath: Six weeks, minimum to repair the damage to the body. Warmest regards, Bill Minter."

Spill, the Sequel! Not to be outdone, Larry Loudon, our other Utah correspondent reports, "I fell a month ago and broke my ankle

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As we headed south from Natural Bridges, a 6 by 12 foot sign warned, "three miles of one-lane twisty gravel road 30 miles ahead." They were not kidding. It's not for someone with a fear of heights. No guardrail - just over the side. Once through there, we made our way to Lake Powell and Page, Arizona. Traveling along US 160 we came upon a large silo. Here we also found an electrified railway. This is all on the Navajo Reservation where they have huge coal deposits. The coal goes by conveyor belt to the silo, is loaded on coal cars, and is transported to the power plant outside of Page, Arizona. We left Page the following morning, crossed the Colorado River at Marble Canyon and to the North Rim of the Grand Canyon National Park. From there, we went west through Colorado City and St. George, Utah.

"We left St. George and stopped in Las Vegas for two days to recuperate. Again we did the short trip to Hoover Dam and to see the progress on the bridge. What we have seen in the last year is building the tower supports on each side of the river. From there, they have constructed a slip form arch from each side and anchored to the canyon walls.

This was June 30. Since then we have been back to either Las Vegas or Laughlin and back to the bridge three times. I keep thinking we should stop and see **Jim and Sue McCullough** in Bolder City as we drive thru there to the dam."

—Jean

It seems to me that **Jean** is being modest about his knowledge of the dam construction and is thoroughly enjoying his retirement. Way to go guy! Wow, I personally needed to take a Dramamine just reading his about their travels!

For those who want a little background on the Hoover Dam Bypass, I have included the following excerpt from the website:

"The Hoover Dam Bypass Project is a 3.5-mile corridor beginning at milepost 2.2 in Clark County, Nevada and crossing the Colorado River approximately 1,500 feet

downstream of the Hoover Dam, then terminating in Mohave County, Arizona near milepost 1.7 on U.S. 93.

"Construction is advancing with the 1,060-foot twin-rib concrete arch. Construction on the nearly 2,000 foot long bridge began in late January 2005 with completion of the entire Hoover Dam Bypass Project in late 2010.

When completed, this signature bridge will span the Black Canyon and connect the Arizona and Nevada approach highways nearly 900 feet above the Colorado River." There's a web cam to see real-time images of bridge construction!

Recent Sightings: Al Reece has a favorite hangout, Sunday evening at the Sea Fare Inn in Whittier. While dining with his daughter **Kirsten** and his son-in-law **Stewart Stahl**, on Mother's Day, they spotted **Pat** and **Mike Perovich**.

At the Autry Museum: **Stan Lisiewicz** and his wife **Ina**, for the opening of **Marty Stuart Sparkle and Twang** exhibit; these exhibits usually include food, and this one had full southern meal of fried chicken, biscuits, coleslaw and pecan pie! After this shindig, **Stan** and **Ina** were headed over to Caltech for a different star-studded event, a lecture on astronomy.

At **Terry Wong's** retirement coffee party at the district office on June 22, **Pat** and **Mike Perovich** were spotted again. Mike shared his plans to travel to Shanghai for a magic competition, which entailed a 13-hour flight! Ever so modest, he would admit only to being a spectator.

Attendee **Al Iwamasa** is staying busy in South Bay taking classes in ceramics and wood turning. He says he is in much better shape now that he has two new titanium knees! **Greg Damico** (30+ years), **Gary Graham** (48+ years), **Doug Failing** (28+ years), **Kirsten** (29+ years) and **Stewart Stahl** (40+ years) also attended.

In early June, the **Stahls** took a road trip to Phoenix, meeting up with **Marie Martin** and **Bob Walters** at the annual Fighter

Aces reunion, held this year in Tucson. In addition to hob-knobbing with national heroes such as **Chuck Yeager**, **Marie** insisted on seeing the Titan Missile Museum, where she relished acting her role as launch commander; she got to push the button that began the countdown to "Mutual Assured Destruction". Fortunately for us, the missile was deactivated during the Salt II treaty, back in the day and Armageddon was stayed for another tour group.

Saw **Bob Pauly**, **Bob Sassaman**, **Al Reece**, and **Stewart Stahl** at the memorial service for **Lorie Pope Pauly**. All of the men looked great, considering the circumstances. Hope to hear some positive news from any of them in the near future.

Other News: "Mr. Peachy Keen", aka **John L. Cook**, will "put a banana in his shoe and split," on September 30, 2009, after 30 years of state service.



John's party to celebrate his retirement is Tuesday, October 6, at Kyoto Grand Hotel and Gardens Banquet Room #1. The committee asks that you purchase tickets before October 1. For more information, contact: **Labell Washington**, **Sheila Khoo** at 213 897-2828, or **Josie Vargas** at 213 897-4138.

A photo of **Cleave Govan** and **Ruth Carter**, both Caltrans retirees, with their marathon attire and ribbons was included in the July/August 2009 *Retired Public Employees' Association of California* Newsletter. Both are active in the RPEA, and serious marathoners. **Cleave** has completed 17 LA Marathons since

1992, and **Ruth** has completed every LA Marathon since 1986, a total of 24! Gluttons for exercise, they also have completed marathons in other cities! They say they do it for their physical health and benefit from the social networking. "This is important for retired individuals so we don't become isolated."

Judy Reynolds, who lives in Tujunga, where there has been so much trouble with recent fires, reported to **Marie Martin**, "they're evacuating my neighborhood again—it was evacuated two days ago. What will be will be. So glad we'll see you in October assuming I still have a house." Keep your fingers crossed for the safety and well being of all of our friends and coworkers who live in or near the fire zone.

Tad Teferi announced his recent decision to embark on a new adventure: "I have accepted an opportunity to work for HNTB Corporation effective September 1. A lot of people have supported me and made valuable contributions to my professional career. I am grateful for the mentoring and cooperation I have received. I have also enjoyed the privilege to get to know some of you dosely and develop personal friendships. While I will cherish the memories, I look forward to keeping in touch and nurturing the relationships. If I can be of any assistance, please feel free to contact me. **Tad Teferi**, P.E. PMP, Vice President HNTB Corporation". **Tad** leaves his new contact information: (310) 846-1764, e-mail: tteferi@hntb.com

Don't forget to send DUES (checks) and honorary member status information, to Tom Almany directly... His address is 17200 South Stark Avenue, Cerritos, CA 90701-1822.

The Road Last Traveled: Roy L. Fisher, Chief of Construction Division, writes: "It is with great sadness that I must tell you that last Wednesday afternoon, March 4, while working as a Structure Construction Consultant with HNTB, **Tom Brown** was struck by a car while at the project site and sustained fatal injuries at the 5/14 HOV project

in Sylmar." Tom had worked for Structure Construction as a Caltrans Bridge Engineer for almost 40 years before his retirement in 2004. The funeral service and viewings were held at Rose Family Funeral Home in Simi Valley. The burial followed at Simi Valley Public Cemetery.

Tom Brown's wife, **Myhuong Brown** and family express their sincerest gratitude to all of you at Caltrans for all the support, love and sympathy that we received during this difficult time.

Marie Smiley reported the passing of **Muriel Vanderveen Davis** on March 11, at her home in Sutherlin, Virginia. **Muriel** worked in Project Development D for many years, is survived by her husband, **Chuck Davis**. No additional information regarding services is available.

March 22, 2009, we heard from the family of **Eddie Zavala** that he suffered a massive stroke, and was on life support for a short time before succumbing on March 23. Service for **Eddie** was March 27 at the Overcomers Church, in North Hills. **Victor Zengler**, a Senior at the district lab, shared some thoughts: "It was a shock. About one month ago, he visited the lab. We remarked how he keeps in such great shape. **Eddie** was always very positive with a lot of energy. After his retirement from Caltrans, **Eddie** went to work for Shamrock Base Corporation north of downtown Los Angeles. He would be curious about the latest materials specification changes and ask very detailed questions regarding them. At **Eddie's** memorial service, the pastor spoke about **Eddie's** service in the Army Air Corps in WWII and how he would volunteer to fly on missions assigned to others. His family and friends recalled how energetic he was and that he would never take "no" for an answer. **Eddie** preferred to keep busy by working instead of being idle and retired. Many attribute his good health to his decision to continue working." Many others felt the same way.

Dan Peterson wrote, "Shucks! He was such a good guy, I worked with **Eddie** in

surveys and design in early 1950s. Good bye, **Eddie**, we miss you, **Dan**"

Cynthia Williams, CT Area Superintendent District 7, West Region, Area-1 writes, "With great sadness, I want to inform everyone of the passing of **Clarence (Stubby) Stubberfield, Jr.** Mr. Stubberfield passed away May 1 at Kaiser Permanente Hospital In Harbor City." Services were held May 12 at Holy Cross Mortuary in Culver City. "**Mr. Stubberfield** worked for the department for 37 years in maintenance; he will be greatly missed."

Chuck O'Connell relayed the passing of **Raymond Duffin**. His obituary read, "In loving memory, born June 12, 1922, passed away August 19, 2009. **Ray** proudly served his country as a navy dive bomber pilot during WW II. **His daughter, Patricia, preceded Ray in death.** He is survived by his wife of 63 years, **Marion**, sons **William** and **Michael**; his sister, **Lynn**; brother, **Steve**; as well as seven grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Services were held August 22, at Eternal Valley.

Victor Zengler reported the passing of **Bob Pauly's** wife, **Lorie Pope Pauly**, on August 23, from cancer. Her services were held, August 29, at Foothill Vineyard Church in San Dimas. **Lorie** and **Bob** had been married for 20 plus years. She was an interior decorator before becoming active as a hospice volunteer, and ordained minister. We perhaps best knew her for her religious poetry and leading the mealtime grace at some of our QCC events. She leaves several children, stepchildren, grand children and great grand children as she embarks on her new adventure on "streets paved with gold".

WAKE UP: Keep sending those cards and e-mails! We need you to report your activities. Please, don't be shy, or at the very least tell us what your QCC and retired friends are up to! Send them to **Kirsten**; without your news and updates, our section would be empty! I'm NOT kidding!

Be Like Bill, Larry, Jean, Judy and Marie: Do you want to read only about our former employees after it is too late? I prefer hearing from you while you have some personality to share! Be brave and send items, by snail mail or email to: **Caltrans, attn: Kirsten Stahl, 100 S. Main St. Suite 100 MS 13, Los Angeles, CA 90012.** E-mail: kirsten.stahl@dot.ca.gov. or just give me a call: 213-897-0470.

Many thanks to the multitudes who forwarded information and who were not otherwise mentioned.

— Kirsten Stahl

The Haps in District 8

Our mid-summer luncheon was held Saturday, July 18 at The Gourmet in San Bernardino with 48 members and guests attending. Those present were **Herminia Aldape** and her son, **Zeke, Evie Anderson** and guest **Kirk Otteson, Jim Balcom, Loren** and **Margaret Barnett, Mary Bermudez, George Boon, Morgan Choate, Gil** and **Jeanette Daab, John** and **Doris Estrada, Don** and **Janice Feenstra, Les Franz, Jim** and **Jan Geller, Wes** and **Linda Grimes, Ed** and **Clarice Gritters, Frances Jacques, Carolyn Johns, Dick** and **Hazel Longstreet, Phosie Lotze, Marsha Lotze, Jim** and **Linda Miller, Maxine** and guest **Dorothy Nordquist, Ernie** and **Kay Parke, Lloyd** and **Alice Patterson, Bob Redden, Virginia Reed, Floyd Salazar** and son **Daniel, Taylor** and **Katie Smith, Ken Steele, Beverly**

Swilley, Grace Vinzen, Don Weaver, and Gil and Cheryl Wilcox.

This was new member Beverly Swilley's first attendance at one of our functions. Beverly started work in District 7 in 1980, transferred to District 12 in 1995, and then transferred to District 8 in 1997 and is still working in the District Right of Way department. We had also hoped to have new member **Phillip Holdaway** present, but he and his wife had to cancel their reservation because of a family illness.

Roy Smoot reports that he has had a pacemaker installed that has increased his heartbeat to a normal rhythm. Good for Roy.

Grace Vinzens had a nice letter from Martha Rosenberg Quade written July 23, from Galesburg, Illinois. She had been meaning to write for quite awhile and reported that her daughter **Cheryl's** husband **Ron** had some sharp pains last week and had to be taken to the hospital and was there from 8:00 p.m. until around 2:30 a.m. He was taken to the VA hospital in Iowa City for at least a full day to have a full compliment of doctors see if they can pin down his health problems.

Martha also writes that she hopes **Grace** has recovered from her fall and her "Technicolor" bruises. She's finds her balance "iffy" but then she hasn't been 85 before. Happy Belated Birthday to Martha.

She writes, "Since I now belong to the B.S. Club (bragging about stents), I brought Grace up to date. "I had my first a couple years ago. Early this year, I had my second one. I was scheduled to go back two weeks later, then one week later I was called at home and they wanted to know why I wasn't at the hospital! They had forgotten to tell me they had moved the time up one week. Long story short—I went right away and was shown right in and prepped and they gave me five additional stents. So now I have my seven and I frankly hope that will be the end of my B.S. rights.

Cheryl's last scan shows no change in her cancer growth, so that's always good news.

We're all plugging along and doing the best we can."

Grace Vinzens also received a "Happy Birthday" note from **Joe Faye**. He reported that he turned 90 and that Grace has three years to go to 90. He hopes that she's in good health and was sad to hear that **Pat Leatherberry** had moved to Arkansas but wished her best wishes, which she deserves. He congratulated her on her great job with CSEA and said she deserves a lot of thanks from all the members. He reported that he's still walking daily for about three to three and a half miles. He hopes to continue for as long as "I'm on my feet". He has some chest argina but is keeping it under control. He sends his love and may "God Bless. Always, Joe."

Marsha Lotze received a phone call from **Jean Griffith's** sister-in-law informing her that Jean passed away last October in Fernley, Nevada following a stroke. Jean was Stan Griffith's widow. Stan passed away in December 1998. Both Stan and Jean were staunch supporters of the Quarter Century Club.

We received word from **Dick Barrett** that **Don MacGillivray**, 75, passed away June 8 in Rochester, Minnesota due to complications from ALS. Don started in District 8 in 1964 and remained for 15 years until the 1979 layoffs. He was a Senior Transportation Engineer when he left for other employment.

Les and Barbara Nolte were involved in an automobile accident in early July that caused total destruction of their car and a six-day hospital visit for Barbara. She is now resting and recuperating at home satisfactorily. Get well soon, Barbara.

In mid July **Barbara Dwiggin's** son and wife visited from Alaska and took Barbara to Las Vegas for a weekend, her first vacation in quite awhile.

Jim and Joanne Balcom spent two weeks in early August visiting their daughter, son-in-law, grandchildren and great grandchildren in Homer, Alaska where their

children operate a print shop. Jim reports that the salmon and halibut fishing were great.

In early May **Gil and Jeanette Daab** drove one of their Austin Healeys to the annual convention of Healey owners at the historic Paso Robles Inn in Paso Robles. Gil easily won the **Oldest Healey Driver award** and on the way home the **Hard Luck award** when their Healey suffered an alarming but short lived fire when the battery shorted out in the luggage compartment. Luckily the damage was minor and easily repairable.

In early June **Taylor and Katie Smith** attended Taylor's 70th High School Reunion in Ireton, Iowa. Taylor suggests that everyone should visit Iowa at least once in June to see how green the other half of our country is.

As reported in our last QCCer, **Judie Cady Brown and Gerald Brown** drove their motor home east to Judie's birthplace in Grantsburg, Wisconsin this past summer. She and Gerald helped her brother on the farm her grandfather homesteaded and where Judie was born and raised. They brought home a 1930 Model A closed cab pickup on a stock trailer. Judie's brother had stored it in a barn for 19 years. Gerald and Judie have already driven it in a local parade in Fontana.

They also brought back a pump organ that had been in the family since the late 1800s. Judie is so thrilled as she remembered it being in her grandfather and grandmother's home since as long she could remember.

Finally, all District 8 QCC members are requested to furnish their e-mail addresses to tsmith7022@aol.com so that we can establish a mailing list as proposed in last month's QCCer.

Remember, our annual Christmas lunch is scheduled for the first Saturday in December, the 5th, at The Gourmet in San Bernardino. Information will be mailed out in November.

— Marsha Lotze

The Haps in District 9

This summer I saw **Jim Kemp**, **Margaret MacLaren**, and **Bud and Jerri Moody**, all doing fine.

Bud, Jerri and family stopped by with their three-month old granddaughter in August for a nice visit. Their cute granddaughter takes after their parents, sociable and pleasant.

John and Mary Ritter, from Atascadero, stopped by in August for a short visit. They are keeping busy. Mary does business on eBay with antiques.

Bill Dieneman called and was concerned, as we all are, about the California budget crisis, the Health Care Reform bill and the huge budget deficits accruing in Washington. We discussed the potential impact on our health care coverage and our retirement income.

We don't see much of **Dan and Bernie Young** but they are on Facebook so we get some information about what they are doing. We had several Facebook exchanges when the July 18 fires were burning in Bishop Creek canyon. I posted some night pictures of the fire from Bishop.

From **Harold Jones** in Gardnerville, Nevada: Hotter than H-11 lately up this way!!! Hope it cools down some soon! Not much news -- I still see **Ed Reilly** at our monthly Korean War Veterans Association meetings in Carson City (also see **Joe Sam** sometimes at our meetings too). They both still seem to be doing okay, which is good.

I get an occasional e-mail from **Ace** and **Dorothy Robertson** (Ace, resident mechanic at Crestview way back when, retired many years ago as Shop Superintendent. in Stockton -- they live in Utah). **Eddie Banz** and Ace were going on an African safari (along with some other Equipment Department retirees) according to Dorothy. She said Eddie lives in Oregon now.

We had lunch with **Ruby Strait (Jim Strait's** widow) and her son, **Jimmy**, at the Carson Valley Inn a few weeks ago. Jimmy is now among those retired from Caltrans -- I think his last assignment was as Maintenance Supervisor at Blythe in District 8 -- he had a bunch of years with Caltrans, but still is "just a kid!" His dad, Jim, worked at Crestview and Sonora Junction yards when Jimmy was growing up (I guess Caltrans runs in the family!). Haven't heard from **Roy Brown** for some time, so hope he's doing okay yet.

We celebrated dual wedding anniversaries with **Clint and Effie Hershey** at the Carson Valley Country Club Restaurant (Basque style food) in early May. They were married May 4, 1964, and we were married on May 5, 1962 -- so we try to celebrate together when we can.

That's about all the latest stuff -- We're still helping keep several doctors (and Medco Pharmacy) off the welfare rolls -- but can't complain too much, cause some people aren't as lucky. Keep cool down in Bishop if you can.

— Lance Hinek

The Haps in District 10

At the June 30 breakfast meeting at Denny's, **Virginia Evinger** announced that members of the Modesto High School graduation class of 1938 would gather again for dinner and a picnic. The attending members are slowly dwindling but necessary chauffeurs fill the void.

Dick Mesa reported that he and **Florene** celebrated their 50th anniversary July 19 at Micke Grove Hall in Lodi with 100 family and friends in attendance, including some of the original wedding party. From September 3 through 6, Dick and Florene will attend the CSEA board meeting in Los Angeles. They'll

also experience a little déjà vu from their honeymoon—50 years ago they went to theme parks in the area—some of which are dosed now. Apparently Florene also had her picture taken with Jack Lemmon and later Dick had the picture signed by Jack Lemmon with the help of Angie Dickenson. They also went to Las Vegas and saw Johnny Mathis.

Dick Mesa says the District 10 retiree's lunch put on by **Frank Orozco** and Dick will probably be the first Tuesday in October at the Moose Lodge in Stockton

Wes Gilkey made it another time to the breakfast and says his doctor has guaranteed his ability to make it next month also.

At the July 28 breakfast, Lyle (zippy) Harrison surprised everyone when he showed up. Lyle was surprised to see so many familiar faces. Lyle says he retired in 1992 and traveled after that in an RV throughout the US and Canada. In 1998 he and his wife bought a home in Arizona near Sedona. For several years they still RVed and were at home only three or four months a year. They don't RV anymore, but still travel a lot. They now enjoy cruises, several every year. Lyle says, "Life has been good"

From **Bill and Darlene Selling**, "Hi y'all: Yes, we're going on the road again for two weeks in Yosemite. I applied for and received notice that I will be working for the park service while there. My job will be to lie on a chaise lounge with a glass of wine in hand and to count all the fall leaves floating down the Merced River . . . may even check out a few girls that float by, sounds good?? The pay is great, get to see what the Lord created and Mother Nature at her best and relax, relax!!!

On July 23, 53-year-old **Donald Lichliter** was killed in a work-related accident when Lichliter was struck and killed by a van. The accident occurred at approximately 2:00 p.m. in Lodi as Lichliter and another Caltrans worker were applying fertilizer to trees along the south side of Route 99.

Donald Lichliter told his family if he were ever killed on the job he wanted them to tell people about the risks he and other Caltrans

employees faced as they worked on state roads.

"He told us if he was killed on the job he wanted us to let people know that Caltrans workers have families, and that drivers need to slow down," said his wife, **Mandy**. People don't know how dangerous it can be."

Mr. Lichliter was a 27-year Caltrans employee based in the Lodi office. He and his family lived in Modesto. He was the first Caltrans employee to die on the job this year.

Mr. Lichliter took pride in his job as a tree maintenance worker. "He loved going down the road and saying, 'Look at that tree. I worked on that,'" his wife said. "He enjoyed making the highways look beautiful." She said he had a green thumb at home, keeping his trees healthy and his lawn manicured.

Mr. Lichliter's enjoyment at work came with the fear of being hit by a car or truck because a driver was not paying attention, Mandy Lichliter said. "If (drivers) see roadwork ahead, they need to slow down and be cautious. They need to put away all distractions."

Despite the risk, Mr. Lichliter was a devoted state employee who was called upon to work double shifts or late into the night if he was needed, his wife said. She said he would go out of his way while at work to help stranded drivers along the highway.

"He would help them push their car off the road, change their tires or give them a ride," she said. "He would do anything for anybody."

Mr. Lichliter's family remembered him as a boisterous man who was the life of the party.

With a big smile on her face, **Ally Lichliter** remembered her dad singing the raucous lyrics of "Black Betty" on a karaoke machine at his birthday party.

Mr. Lichliter's family said he loved making jokes about everybody, and that he loved to push everyone's buttons almost as much as he loved it when people pushed his buttons.

He loved driving his 2000 Buell Thunderbolt motorcycle to work or taking his wife for a leisurely ride to La Grange and

Coulterville. His work ethic was matched by his dedication to his family.

"He taught us a lot about how to be responsible," said his daughter, **Jollene Kelley**. "He always thought of others before he thought of himself."

Mr. Lichliter is survived by his wife and four children: **Nicole Lewis, 30, Jollene Kelley, 28, John Lewis, 27, Ally Lichliter, 15**, and two granddaughters. A funeral service was held July 30th at First Baptist Church in Modesto. Hundreds of fellow Caltrans workers in orange shirts along with family and friends attended the service. After the service a funeral procession, which included 300 Caltrans vehicles, headed north on Highway 99 to Burnwood Cemetery in Escalon.

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger released the following statement regarding the Mr. Lichliter's death: "Donald Lichliter was a devoted and hard-working public servant who worked for Caltrans for more than 27 years. Maria and I join all Californians in expressing our appreciation for his service. We send our thoughts and prayers to his family and friends during this difficult time."

In honor of Lichliter, Capitol flags were flown at half-staff.

— Brian Young

The Haps in District 11

Mark your calendars for Saturday, September 12! It is time, once again, for the annual District 11 QCC picnic. We'll gather at Santee Lakes, but this time, we'll be at Lake No. 5. It is the backmost lake and has a very pretty setting. Expect good food, good drink, and good fellowship with long-time friends. For those who can't be there, we'll report how great it was in the next newsletter.

Another bit of news that may interest you, if you've not already heard, is that former

District Director Pedro Orso-Delgado resigned from Caltrans mid-August. He is now working for the City of Santee as Deputy City Manager, Development Services Director. We wish him well in this new career path.

A number of other employees in recent months have said farewell to Caltrans and donned their retirement hats. Following is a list of those who have switched gears:

May: Fred Birchmore, Deborah Drake, Julian Gutierrez, and Pat Triplett

June: Barbara Naas and Gary Rinehart

July: John Fields, John Grisafi, Susie Martin, Mark Napier, John Rieger, Mary Smith, and Chris White

August: Simon Hubble, Jr. and Karen Wallace

Kathy Phillips

The Haps in Central

Summer greetings from the Central District in Sacramento! I attended a 25- and 40-year awards ceremony in July to hand out applications for membership in the Quarter Century Club to those who were honored. I am happy to report that we have the following new members: **Jim Conant, Rick Land, Marsha Mason, Douglas Saathoff, Jim Van Berkel, Sally Yokoi** and a transfer from District 3, **Maria DeFilippo**. Welcome!!

Chuck and Margie Paulsen are recuperating physically and financially from a couple of cruises in 2009. "In April and May we flew to Amsterdam for a cruise up the Rhine, over some mountains via the Rhine-Main-

Danube Canal and down the Danube to Budapest, Hungary. Fantastic scenery and luxurious life on a 300-passenger riverboat (No packing and repacking). Only two passenger decks tall, it seemed like a mile long.

"The pilothouse was on hydraulic lifts so it could be raised and lowered for the low canal bridges. Many stops, sometimes overnight, at river ports for walking tours of the quaint old European villages and towns. The drawback to frequent repetitions of such travel is the 27-29 hours bedtime-to-bedtime with changes of planes and three to four hour layovers in route home—at Amsterdam and Minneapolis.

"Imagine Chuck, sitting with knees jammed against the seat in front, on narrow 12-seat wide Airbus airplanes. The whole package would have cost half again as much for a one-level upgrade in seats. Notwithstanding the discomfort on the airplane, it was great fun.

Being gluttons for punishment, we had earlier signed up for a trip to the Society Islands (French Polynesia) in August. Same kind of "comfort?" on the airplane, on the eight-hour flight from Los Angeles to Papeete on Tahiti. This trip, going, we had a bulkhead seat (no reclining) with knees jammed against the seat in front. Not much room there either on the wide-bodied airplane, or walking space in the aisles. The poor kid sitting in front of me leaned back, just once. I yelped in pain and shoved his seat back up. He never reclined it again, thank goodness. Luckily we were on "Untied" Airlines where food was still on the menu. On other lines, all services seem to be pay-as-you-go.

"Being in beautiful French Polynesia was fabulous, the most beautiful scenery I've seen. It may even beat the Alps. We cruised from island to island—Tahiti, Raiatea, Taha'a, Bora-Bora and Moorea. Great food, Island entertainment on board and ashore. The haute cuisine was a little rich for Margie, but we had three restaurants and a café with sitdown or buffet service for variations.

"Forgot to pack swimsuits and were sorry. But we didn't miss that, except maybe for the

underwater excursion in plastic diving helmets to see the colorful fish. Another long plane ride home. Thankfully we gained some time, but it didn't help our rear ends much."

Gene Berthelsen is back on chemotherapy, his multiple myeloma having returned. He takes 12 pills on Monday and two a day the rest of the week. The Dexamethasone kicks in about 4 pm on Wednesday and he is catatonic through Friday, picks up on Saturday and is up like a rosebud on Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday. So far, it's working. Cancer on the run.

Meanwhile, he has retired again, this time from running the Sacramento Jazz Festival, not for health reasons, but too much hassle with the organization's Board of Directors." Great having the time free again," he says. He continues to lead his Dixieland Band, the Catsjammer Jazz Band on a merry schedule

On August 14, **Nancy Benjamin, Jack Kassel, Bill Schaefer, Julie** and I helped **Heinz Heckeroth** at his annual California Transportation Foundation Golf Tournament at Rancho Murieta. The tourney raised more than \$10,000!

Also assisting at the ceremony were **Heinz Heckeroth** and **Will Kempton**. This was Will's last official Caltrans awards ceremony as he has moved on to Orange County to direct their transportation program. We wish him the very best.

Julie and I are busy planning and collecting raffle prizes for our next get together which is our annual Barbecue Luau on Thursday, September 10, at the College Greens Swim and Tennis Club in Sacramento. This is always a fun event with a prize given for best male and female Hawaiian outfit.

This summer has been extremely busy at the Busharosa. We had new cabinets installed in the living room, which houses the stereo equipment and pull out drawers for the CDs. We liked the new cabinets so much we had the cabinetmakers build cabinets and computer stations in our office. Again, pull out drawers for storage and printers, bookshelves and filing

cabinets. All hidden behind doors. Wow, a real office.

We spent a restful week at Tahoe at our usual lil' ole cabin, which was built by Mr. Rollins in 1935!! It is somewhat primitive, but on the lake! The house next door is on the market for 3.2 million! Mr. Rollins of Auburn had a lake named after him. Next time you venture up I-80 look for signs to Rollins Lake.

After Tahoe, we had a new ceiling fan installed in our living room, which required scaffolding because the ceiling is 25 feet above the floor. Next came the painters who gave our dining room, living room, hallway/stairway, master bedroom and bath a new look. So bright and beautiful!

Come September 14th we are off to the Big Island of Hawaii for 12 days to celebrate our 46th wedding anniversary. Yes, Julie was a child bride.

The next get together for the Central District will be our holiday luncheon on December 9th at the Dante Club. We hope to see everyone at both events!

Gary and Julie Bush

Foundation Matters

AWARD PRESENTATIONS

The California Transportation Foundation (CTF), since its founding in 1988 as a nonprofit benefit corporation in California, has developed many programs in response to needs expressed by California transportation agencies and persons. One of these is the annual TRANNY Awards held each year in June at the Sacramento Convention Center. This year's prestigious award, *Person of the Year*, was awarded to **Roger Snoble**, Immediate Past CEO, LA Metro, with winner of *Organization of*

the Year going to the San Pedro Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach and *Elected Official of the Year* to The Honorable **Ellen Tauscher**, Representative of the 10th Congressional District. District 3 was honored to share the award for *Project of the Year* for the "Fix I-5 Boat Section" project.

Unfortunately at the time of this writing, the other TRANNY Award winners are not known. You may wish to check out Caltrans' Newsletter (www.dot.ca.gov/ctnews) for more information on these projects, which have made a positive difference for California transportation.

Also at the June 3rd TRANNY Awards ceremony, Director Will Kempton recognized Caltrans' own managers with a special presentation of the Caltrans' 2009 Outstanding Management and Engineering in Transportation Awards. These awards recognize valued contributions to the field of transportation by Caltrans registered engineers and engineering and non-engineering managers.

Ken Terpstra, Principal Transportation Engineer, Toll Bridge, District 4, received the Charles Purcell Award. Ken brings a rare mix of engineering expertise and managerial wisdom to his role as project manager.

The Foundation was pleased to host a dinner honoring **Will Kempton** and the contributions he has made to transportation during his tenure as Caltrans' Director. During a recent interview he noted that the California Transportation Foundation has significantly enhanced the transportation profession through scholarships and mentoring and that Caltrans relies on it to help in the hour of need and to maintain its family spirit. Director Kempton was a great supporter of the efforts of the foundation; we wish him well on his new endeavors as Executive Director of the Orange County Transportation Authority.

Scholarships are an important element in supporting our future transportation leaders. During 2009 CTF will have made more than 50 individual awards totaling almost

\$58,000. Of that amount, volunteer sponsors raised the bulk and CTF contributed \$20,000 of its own funds. Additionally, eight scholarship programs are supported by special endowments. If you know of a family or group that may wish to establish a scholarship program in memory of a loved one or to honor a transportation individual, contact Heinz Heckeroth at 916-453-1767 (hhheckeroth@sbcglobal.net)

CTF's **charity golf tournament**, held at Rancho Murieta Country Club this year, raised approximately \$11,500 to support transportation workers through grants for scholarships, funeral expenses, college costs for survivor's children and other financial needs. A special thanks to all who participated, and especially to those volunteers working this very special event.

An **Assistance Fund** has recently been established to assist the family of **Deborah Ross, Toll Collector**, who was killed while on duty at the **Richmond-San Rafael Bridge**. If you are interested in helping the Ross family, contributions may be made by check to the "CTF Assistance Fund" and designated "Ross" on the memo/for line. Contributions should be mailed to CTF, 581 La Sierra Drive, Sacramento CA 95864. Your cancelled check will serve as your receipt.

The July issue of "**Headways**" is being added to our website. Be sure and check it out for more information on what's happening at the Foundation. Also, check out our new logo! It is new, sleeker and serves as a reminder to us of the Foundation's mission:

RECOGNIZE excellence in transportation in California; **REMEMBER** those in our industry who have passed, been injured, or are in need; and **EDUCATE** current and future leaders of our industry. Only with your help are we able to continue to meet these goals. We appreciate your support and contributions.

— Kathy Freeman

Events

Got a group that meets regularly? Let your editor know and we'll add it to the event calendar.

District 1 -

Ret'd Highwaymen and Road Agents meets on the 3rd Thursday of the months of January, April, July, and October at 11:35 am at the Hometown Buffet at the Bayshore Mall in Eureka

District 2 -

Retired folks meet on the 3rd Monday of each month between 7:30 and 9 am at the District Office snack bar at 1657 Riverside Drive Redding

District 3 -

Weekly Tuesday Coffee/Breakfast at 8:30 am at the "Green House" in the Raley's Shopping Center in Placerville. *Contact: Keith Maggini 530-295-1257, kmaggini@hotmail.com*

Annual Fall Luncheon and meeting will be held on September 17 at 2:30 pm at the Train Station Café in Shingle Springs, Social hour underway at 1:00 pm, meeting at 2:00 pm.

District 4

The **Caltrans Lunch Bunch** meets on the second Tuesday of every month. *Contact: Ed Coble 925-645-4219, edcoble49@astound.net*

The **North Bay Caltrans Retirees** meet on the 2nd Tuesday of every month. *Contact: Jim Bouler 707-546-3097, jbouler@comcast.net*

John Legarra (from Page 3)

Four years later, Mr. Legarra surprised Capitol watchers by announcing he was stepping down to his previous job. He retired as chief of construction and research in 1976.

"My father felt that was the wrong direction for him," said Ms. Hotz. "He felt civil service was a career and you worked your way up and stayed with the department you started with. He believed that decisions should be made by experienced people not subject to political pressures."

Mr. Legarra was born in 1912 in Marysville to Basque parents who had emigrated from Spain. His father died when he was eight years old. His mother ran a Stockton boardinghouse to support her four children.

Mr. Legarra earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering at UC Berkeley and worked in private practice before joining the state highway department. He built airstrips in Iceland as a Navy engineer during World War II. He married Dorothy Morehead, a Navy WAVE, after his discharge as a lieutenant in 1946.

Mr. and Mrs. Legarra were married more than 60 years and reared four children. Mrs. Legarra died in 2007.

Mr. Legarra was an active member of Holy Spirit Church in Sacramento. He belonged to many engineering groups and was named in 1971 as one of the top ten public works officials in the nation by the American Public Works Association.

"He was very intelligent and very highly regarded in the Division of Highways," former colleague Dan Pengilly said. "He was a good man."

Quiet and gracious, Mr. Legarra enjoyed spending free time with family and playing golf. After retiring, he dusted off his surveying tools to help his son build Bradshaw Ranch Golf Course in Sacramento.

The Haps in District 1

Our July quarterly lunch at the Home Town Buffet in Eureka was well attended. **Jerry Severson** and **Linda** and **Jim Boyd** came over from the Redding area. Much of our conversation was about the upcoming car show in Fortuna.

Jim Lyon has rejoined District 1's QCC group. He had been the QCC director for the district but before he retired, he turned this assignment over to me. Welcome back, Jim.

The District 1 service awards lunch held at the Red Lion in Eureka on July 21 was great. I was invited to attend and represented the California Transportation Foundation. Several other retirees attended, including **Rita Coleman** with husband **Doug**, **Bob Trice**, **Ray Sweet**, **Larry Bowermaster**, **Tim Fisher**, and **Rick Knapp**. The highlight of the awards was a special presentation for 45 years to **Lanette Watkins**. She has been a real treasure to our district. The 25-year awardees included **Mark Suchanek**, **Anthony Perez**, **Cheryl Willis**, **Linda Evans**, **Chester King**, **Cindy Graham**, **Gary Banducci**, **James Wortman**, **Janet Bottini**, **Jeffrey Bowser**, **Bill Goff**, **Suzanne Theiss**, **Nicholas Motto**, **Matthew McKeon**, **Lynne Anderson** and **Mark Bennett**. Thirty-year awardees included **Alan Radford**, **Beverly Chang**, **James Brown**, **Janet Foster**, **Mark Cole**, **Stan Woodman**, **Tim Ash** and **Vicki Butler**. **Stephanie Launer** was the 35-year awardee. Those not in attendance but still honored included **Darrell Deardorff**, **James Moore, Jr**, **Bruce Trump**, **David Brown**, **Friday Ululani**, **Gene Mace**, and **Greg Thorne** for 25 years,

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