



The QCC President is...?

BUTCH IS LOOKING FOR A REPLACEMENT

From the Corner Pocket

The Quarter Century Club is looking for a few good men or women. To be more specific, I'm looking for several candidates for the office of QCC State President, a volunteer position. To prove that I mean business, I'll put my money where my mouth is and commit up to \$500 of my meager personal wherewithal (not QCC funds), to support that search.

I have served in this office since March of 2004, over seven years, far longer than the QCC Constitution allows, (2 years maximum). I was not 'elected' in a real election, but rather invited and given the job after being confirmed by the other statewide officers. That same 'appointment' process has been used to fill state office positions five other times during the course of my extended term. While not the optimum process, it has been the only expedient means if only one person stepped up to the job, but it has filled positions without the voice of our members.

I have repeatedly invited QCC District Directors to advise of potential candidates for President that they thought were competent and willing to take on the task and have come up empty, so I'm bringing my request to all of our members.

I'd like to change the 'appointment' process with an election for a new President. To encourage

several potential candidates to compete for the office, I'll offer a \$100 bill to up to five candidates who will abide by my nomination process.

Anyone may submit a nomination in line with the QCC Constitution, but to qualify for the extra \$100 bonus I'd like to include some additional requirements.

Candidates must include written endorsements from their District Director and four other current members to qualify for the \$100 prize. Only one candidate will win the election for the title of President, but up to five members can win the \$100 award for being a candidate with the five endorsements as specified above.

This is a good time for a change in leadership as the QCC has recovered from our financial crisis by raising the dues and cutting our printing costs. We should now have a surplus at the end of the year.

Another reason that the timing is right is that some very competent people currently fill the other State office positions with high expectations for them to continue in their positions for some time.

But wait, there's more. A helpful guide to explain the roles and duties of the State office holders has been developed and is available upon request.

But wait, there's more. A new item for this year is



that Districts will be allowed reimbursement from the QCC State treasury for some of their recruiting costs as well as the cost of contacting current members, so I look for our membership to rebound with lots of fresh new talent.

Your help is greatly appreciated in bringing a few new and capable candidates up for a real election for a new QCC President. I thank you in advance for what you can do to help.

Butch Biendara, QCC President

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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/ctnews>

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION FOUNDATION

By Kathy Freeman

The CTF annual Charity Golf Tournament at Rancho Murieta Country Club on August 22nd raised more than \$24,000. All funds will support transportation workers through CTF grants for scholarships, funeral expenses, college costs for survivor's children, and other financial needs. A special thanks to all those who participated and especially to the following volunteers who worked this very special event: Nancy Benjamin, Gary Bush, Julie Bush, Jack Cropper, Robert Giess, Merle Larrabee, and Heinz Heckeroth.

During this past quarter of 2011, the Foundation's Workers Assistance and Memorial Fund established ongoing accounts to aid the families of:

- Stephen Palmer, A D-11 Landscape Maintenance worker, who died from injuries after being struck by a trolley while on the job May 4th;
- Jaime Obeso, A D-11 Maintenance Leadworker, was killed on June 7th by a hit and run driver who entered a lane closure on I-8 near the Sunbeam Rest Area in Imperial County; and,
- Richard Gonzalez, A D-11 Equipment Operator killed on June 20th by a vehicle while working on a litter crew on I-15 in San Diego County.

A new "Fallen Worker Memorial Scholarship", available to children of Caltrans employees who have died accidentally in the line of duty was recently established. If you are interested in donating to this very special Scholarship Fund or other Funds, please check out the Foundation's website or contact Executive Director Sarah West at (916) 489-1629.

www.transportationfoundation.org

In Memoriam

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

Name	District	Date
Virgil (Andy) Anderson	01	June 13 2011
James L Weaver	01	July 10 2011
David (Bert) Ridgen	01	2011
Blanche (Rusty) D Kay	01	August 24 2011
Ed Cleckler	02	August 3 2011
John (Jack) Haner	02	July 22 2011
Bill Melton	02	July 17 2011
John Ward	02	July 29 2011
Harriet Smart	03	July 5 2011
Scott Jackson	03	August 17 2011
Francis (Frank) Mascheroni	04	July 4 2011
George Citlau	05	July 2011
Art Dueck	05	August 2 2011
Robert Waltz	05	August 24 2011
Dennis Fairchild	06	August 6 2011
Robert (Bob) Pauly	07	July 9 2011
Kay Parke	08	August 30 2011
Maxine Stone	08	February 2011
Paul Kutra	08	July 9 2011
Fred Beck	08	May 21 2011
Patrick G Kimmel	10	June 1 2011
Shawn E Shively	10	July 7 2011
Kim M Reese	10	July 21 2011
Joseph V Munoz Sr	10	July 23 2011
Raymond Hobart Gnekow	10	July 26 2011
Emerald (Chich) Hein	10	July 27 2011
Carol Boland	11	2011
Jack Cramer	11	July 14 2011
Sheldon Craig	11	September 3 2011
Elwin J McKenney	C	April 27 2011
August Egli	C	July 13 2011
Walt Whitnack	C	2011

Honorary Members

Honorary members must notify the Secretary-Treasurer **EVERY YEAR** if they wish to continue their 'reduced-membership' or 'dues-free' status. An important item is that if an Honorary member wants to get the printed copy of the QCCer mailed to them at no cost, it is the obligation of the **member** to request approval from their District QCC Director. With the approval of your District QCC Director, you may continue to read the mailed paper newsletter for free. See officer list for Secretary-Treasurer address. Or you can get the mailed QCC'er for the small sum of just \$5.

The Haps in District 1

This has been a quarter of highlights and sad times. In June my history conference took me to Berkeley and a day at the Bancroft Library, which was a major treat for me. On the way home I finally made it to the Sonoma County Airport and the Pacific Coast Air Museum. They had just received the F-15 airplane that had been flown by a first responder after the towers were hit on 9/11.

On June 25, Bridge Engineer, Dan Thomas, celebrated his retirement with a picnic in Miranda. I was so sorry to miss it, but I am sure everyone had a great time.

In July, fellow retiree, George Otterbeck, made a 3,000 mile journey from Redding throughout the northwest, visiting family and enjoying the scenery. They had a great time and made it home safe, even surviving some highway construction.

Later in July we had the Caltrans Service Award Lunch to honor the District 1 employees for their service. Our District Director, Charlie Fielder, welcomed and introduced everyone. Acting Caltrans Director, Malcolm Dougherty, was our honored guest. Sarah West attended representing the Caltrans Transportation Foundation. Honorees for 25 years were Daniel W. Vann, Christine M. Holm, Deborah S. Meredith, Mike W. Dashieff, Tonia Gerard, Mitchell M. Higa, Jerry King, Jack Martin, and Steve Werner; for 30 years, Steve Jorgensen, David A. Wire, Barry Douglas, Laura Fields, Alice Jensen and William T. Wolf; and for 35 years, Leonard Morales.

Our quarterly CT lunch on 7/21 was well attended including Vi Truby, Doug and Rita Coleman, Guy Luther, Dennis Grinsell, Bart Crews, Wes Reinhart, Len Blomquist, Bob Myers, Ray Thomsen, Tom Quigley, Ed Scott, Ken Vaughan, Glenn Hoffman, Dave Wilson, and Larry Bowermaster.

On August 7 we dedicated the 100th anniversary of Fernbridge. Charlie Fielder, our District Director, made the Caltrans presentation. It was very festive with antique cars and period dress. Real and honored Mayors of the area were recognized, including our own CT retiree from the Ferndale area, Francis Sweet. Our retired Senior Bridge Engineer, Lowell Allen attended with his wife Esther, and was recognized for his work in making sure Fernbridge was well cared for.

Doug and Rita Coleman, dedicated QCCers, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on July 14 by "taking the plunge" again with a tandem skydive at NorCal Skydiving at the Sonoma Co. Airport. They were married on 7/14/1951 in Eureka.

Fellow retiree, Larry Bowermaster, is a volunteer driver for the Volunteer Driver Program, which provides drivers to people needing to get to medical appointments. It is a much needed service.

One a sad note, we lost more of our District 1 family this quarter. Virgil "Andy" Anderson, retired after 32 years from the D-1 Materials Lab, passed away on 6/13/11 at age 83. I was able to attend his funeral service, along with fellow retirees, Tom Quigley, Ed Scott, Barry Jacobsen, Gaird Hamilton and his wife, and Louis Holcomb. Louis also conducted the service. Also James L. Weaver, retired D-1 custodian, died on 7/10/11, a couple months before his 60th birthday. And another D-1 retiree, David "Bert" Ridgen, passed away recently. He was born 6/5/1913 in Alabama, moved to Texas, then southern California. He became a civil engineer in Los Angeles, and then transferred up to District 1, where he worked until he retired.

Blanche "Rusty" D. Kay passed away on 8/24/2011 at age 104. She was a special lady, the wife of bridge engineer, Alton F. Kay, who was stationed in District 1, and the mother of Alton R. "Bob"

Kay, retired District 1 engineer. Bob is a long time QCCer, who became an honorary life member in 2008. I always enjoyed visiting with Rusty. She had some great highway stories to share.

Our deepest sympathies go out to the families and friends of Andy, James, Bert, and Rusty.

- Arlene Hartin

The Haps in District 2

Bill & Michelle Belcher took a trip to Oregon to visit his sister and spent a night at the Oregon coast. It was nice to get out of the heat for a while. After returning, Michelle just underwent another surgery to place a new graft for dialysis in her arm. So far so good as the saga continues.

We lost 4 retirees since the last QCCer, including a Quarter Century Club member. We will all miss their smiles and have prayed for their families in their time of sorrow. They are:

Ed Cleckler - Aug 3rd

John (Jack) Haner - July 22nd

Bill Melton - July 17th

John Ward - July 29th.

- Bill Belcher

The Haps in District 3

We will be having our Pre-Holiday Party at the Peach Tree Golf and Country Club on November 13th. Watch your mailbox for a flyer with all the details.

The History room is coming along and moving in the right direction. Libby Haraughty has done a magnificent job leading the effort. The cooperation of the District office staff has been great and History Room committee members, including Palmer Haug and Bob Mulcahy, have spent lots of time going through files, photos and other things to determine

what to display. On another note, Libby was in Hawaii recently and met and talked to the curator of the Lanai Museum. This meeting gave her tons of information and ideas.

Our new Statewide Editor is Chris Thomas, who has requested input from each district on such things as Historical Articles, Current Caltrans projects of interest, perhaps a "person of the year" for each District or an achievement gained or awarded of members of each QCC District. Let's help him out on these great ideas. Send your input to Dan Johnson, Sr at boots3@syix.com.

We are sad to report the passing of Harriet Smart. She passed away in Medford Oregon on July 5, 2011. She and Nile Ferns travelled extensively after they retired before settling in Brookings, Oregon. They recently moved into assisted living in Medford. Harriet came to District 3 from Corrections and retired in District 3. She was the EEO (Affirmative Action) Officer of District 3. Harriet was born on February 21, 1929. She is survived by her loving husband, NileFerns, a son and sister. We apologize for not having more information at this time.

Another sad note is the passing of Scott Jackson, who worked in the Right of Way Office in District 3. Scott passed away on August 17th of this year at his home in Lake Shastina. He was 61 years old. He was born on May 30, 1950 in Bakersfield, California. He moved to Siskiyou County in 2009 from Nevada County. Scott was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving his country from 1970 to 1972. In addition, he worked for Caltrans District 8 from 1988 to 1993. His Caltrans career continued in District 3 Right of Way Engineering as an Associate Land Surveyor. He retired as a Senior Transportation Engineer, holding the office the District 3 Right of Way Engineer until 2009. His passion was riding his Harley, skiing, fishing and camping. He is survived by his wife Cathryn, two sons, a daughter and two grandchildren. He is also survived by a brother, Dennis of Fair Oaks and two sisters, Kelly and Jeanette.

Marilyn Mulcahy had surgery for lung cancer. We do not have an update at this time.

We are looking for new members. Anyone who wishes to join the QCC are asked to contact an officer or Membership Chairperson Carleen Hagen at (530) 674-9026.

Anyone who has input for this publication is asked to contact Susanna Ford or Dan Johnson, Sr.

- Dan Johnson Sr.

The Haps in District 4

Ed Coble has been proudly talking about his granddaughter's attendance in Trapeze School. Her trapeze school class consisted of 20 budding trapeze artists. The final exam was to do a transfer from one trapeze to another. This involved swinging on a trapeze and letting go so a catcher on another trapeze can grab you to complete the transfer. Ed said the transfer was not nail biting but the fact that she had to climb a 20-foot ladder to get to the starting platform was. Apparently she passed with flying colors.

Harry Yahata has been setting up a tour of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge construction for retired District Directors, Deputies and Division Chiefs. He and his wife, Leona also had entertained and baby sat their three grand children from San Diego for a week while their parents enjoyed a week off. With their two grandchildren from Novato, they took the five of them to Six Flags Marine World. Harry said the grandchildren ran them ragged from one end of the park to the other. You would think Harry and Leona would be able to recharge at night but they forgot the first rule of grandparenting, spoil the kids during the day but return them to their parents at night to deal with the consequences.

Lincoln Chu made it to the last Coble luncheon and talked about the newly renovated Northbound Route 280 Rest Stop in Belmont. He was wondering why there was no Rest Stop in the southbound direction. I thought it was because it would have required additional right of way from the San Francisco Water Department. Maybe someone knows?

Frank Pappa has moved into an "Assisted Living Facility" in Belmont. If you would like to contact or visit Frank his phone number is 650-591-2008. The address is Bel Monte Vista, 900 6th Street, Belmont, Room 121. You can get there from Highway 101 by taking the Ralston Ave exit, go west on Ralston Avenue to 6th Street, turning right on 6th Street and proceeding to the top of the hill. Bel Monte Vista is on the left.

The District had a Retirement Luncheon on July 21st for Bob Macpherson, Deputy Director-Right of Way who was retiring after 45+ years of service.

Francis "Frank" A. Mascheroni passed away from a stroke on July 4th. Frank who worked mostly in Construction had retired in the 1980's. I met Frank during the first summer I worked for the Division of Highways. I was assigned to Frank's Construction Surveys Crew in Marin County on the section of Route 580 from San Rafael to the west end of the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge.

Frank was born in San Francisco on July 28, 1928. He attended Balboa High School where he excelled in Track and Field. He later attended the University of California at Berkeley where he studied Engineering. Frank was a World War II veteran where he served as a Tank Gun Crewman, a gliderist and a Paratrooper. He was decorated with the World War II Victory Medal and the Army Occupation Medal. He subsequently went to work for District 4, Division of Highways for 30 years until his retirement. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Barbara, his sister Lillian and his four children and eight grandchildren. He is also

survived by two puppies, Katie and Marlee who were always glad to see him and who he treated just like his kids.

- Paul Hensley

The Haps in District 5

Thanks to those of you who recently renewed your QCC membership. We appreciate your continuing support.

Caltrans District 5 has scheduled the annual Holiday BBQ on Tuesday, December 6 at Trinity Hall in Edna. If you don't receive a notice from the District Office in November, please contact me for more info.

Congratulations to Mike Mortensen on receiving his 40-year award and also for earning his Registered Engineer license.

In July, we attended the CSEA Chapter 10 BBQ at El Chorro Regional Park. We enjoyed a delicious meal, and got the latest news from Executive Director Phil Sherwood. Among those attending were Monte Vernon, Jerry Evans, Joan McGrath, Bill Cotnam, Manuel Luiz, Wally Cox, Dave Wilding, Ranell & FJ Bailey, Don & Donna Cross, Mrs. Floyd Gates and Mrs. Clarence Burgin. Assemblyman Katcho Achadjian also visited briefly and thanked everyone for their service to the State. Thanks to Pearl Cole and her committee for a pleasant afternoon.

The Copeland enjoyed lots of baseball this summer, including three trips to AT&T to see the Giants. We had season tickets for our local SLO Blues team, and we saw other CT folks there including Bill Cotnam, Wendy O'Halloran, Stan Rodriguez, and Bill and Faith Fieldhouse. In July we went to the Mid-State Fair to see a performance by Crystal Gayle. We again saw Bill Cotnam taking photos, and we visited with Giff and Shirley Bland in the row ahead of us.

The Fieldhouses enjoyed a cruise with family from Montreal to Boston. They were able to visit Bill's childhood home in Montreal, and spent time touring in Boston with a nephew (in spite of the awful weather).

Dick and Sandy Elliott have downsized from their home and are now living at the Las Brisas community here in SLO.

At the end of August, Pete Hom left on his vacation to Switzerland. We hope to hear about the trip when he returns.

Ole and Kathie Redden have also made a move from the Country Club area to a senior residence in Santa Maria.

We met Gary and Jeanne Schultz strolling on the beach at Avila. They are both recovering from health issues, and Jeanne is especially happy that she can again enjoy walking without pain.

Shirley and Larry Kathary are enjoying their lovely new luxury fifth wheel, complete with fireplace and flat screen TV. WOW! They are also looking forward to the birth of their third great grandchild in a few months.

Jenny and Joe Linzner took a three-week trip this summer to Yosemite, where they observed lots of wildlife from the comfort and safety of their motorhome.

Joan and John McGrath welcomed a new four-legged family member in August. "Gus" is a miniature poodle who quickly upset their usual schedule and is keeping them entertained.

On a sadder note, we received word that George Citlau had passed away in July. He had been residing up north near his daughter. For many years, we saw George in his cowboy hat, driving his truck to McClintock's for breakfast.

Art Dueck passed away on August 2 at his home in Paso Robles. He was a SLO county native and grew up in the ranching business before joining the Division of Highways in the 60's. After a long career in Maintenance, Art retired in 1988. He is survived by his five sons and their families.

Robert Waltz passed away on August 24. Bob was a graduate of Brooks Institute of Photography and served in the Marine Corps during WW II. He then worked for The Cambrian newspaper before coming to Division of Highways. Bob was our photography expert and took pictures of all the new employees for Personnel. He was part of the basement Reproduction "gang" under supervisor Lorraine Santos. Bob is survived by his sister-in-law, nieces and nephew.

- Kathleen Copeland

The Haps in District 6

Note from Steve Mason: "I enjoy reading the notes in the QCCer; thank you for the part you play in putting the newsletter together. I retired a little over 5 years ago after 37 years with Caltrans and we moved to Arkansas, near Fayetteville (Go Razorbacks!). Our two sons went to the University of Arkansas and they both married local girls. Since they have no intention of leaving, it became obvious to my wife and me that we should relocate, especially when we started acquiring grandkids! Living here is kind of like stepping back in time, especially in their highway activities – but maybe that isn't all bad. Haven't regretted the move, but we do make regular trips to California to see friends and relatives and of course to make sure that cars and trucks are still going up and down the highways. Say "Hi" to the D-6 QCC folks for me." –Steve Mason

This is going to be short as I have been out of town most of the summer. My father is now almost 95 and lives in Roseburg, OR (no commercial airport so a 10 hour drive each way) so I'm spending more

time there and on top of that my deck at the Huntington Lake cabin was crushed under the snow this last winter. It's located on Forest Service land and requires plans to be drawn then approved by the FS as well as the county just to put it back. One would think they didn't want it rebuild before the next snow with the slow process. Other than all this my summer has been great.

Dennis Fairchild (Maint-Stripping Crew), Lavon's husband, passed away August 6th. The family chose to have services for family only. We offer condolences for Lavon and peace for the family.

Fred "Bud" Rayburn has been having quite a time with his health problems. He has dropped his membership in the North Fresno Exchange Club, which has always been dear to his heart. I think he would appreciate some phone calls from friends. If anyone wants his phone number or address, please give me a call.

The Annual Christmas Luncheon is tentatively set for Thursday, December 8th at the Holy Trinity Armenian Church again. Keep the date open.

-Terry Littleton

The Haps in District 7

Plans are pending for the District 7 QCC Holiday Luncheon, on Saturday, December 3 or 10. Attendance has been upwards of 30 people the last few years, and has been heart warming to see our long time co-workers and a great opportunity to welcome new members in to the QCC "family".

Keep your eyes open for a more detailed announcement in the mail in late October or early November.

The next monthly luncheon meeting of the Tom Fera Lunch Group will occur on October 12, 2011 at the China Olive Chinese Restaurant, 9224

Reseda Blvd., Northridge, (818) 998-3688. This group meets every month, except in December, on the second Wednesday of each month. See the Events Section for more information.

Excitement follows Marie Martin. Marie Martin wrote of a brush fire near her Tujunga residence: "I was running errands in the car on Foothill Blvd. when the radio news came on to say a brush fire had already spread to 5 acres on the ridge above the 11000 block of Tujunga Canyon Blvd. It took a moment for me to tune in mentally to the fact that... HOLY Bleep! That's where I live! My two dogs, Frankie the cat, and [a friend's] collie Shelby were all at the house. Traffic was just crawling along Foothill and I was insanely trying to hurry home."

"When I got near the house, fire trucks were blocking everything. I asked the firemen if I could leave my car on the road and go get my dogs. They said I would be blocking them for getting out if I didn't come right back. So I ran up and leashed up the canines. Frankie was nowhere to be found. When I got back to the car, I could see burned chaparral and the white stuff the helicopters dump on fires. There were scads of fire trucks, firefighters, and prisoners in their bright orange jumpsuits, all hosing and clearing brush. The prisoners near the road were fascinated with Bismarck because he's such a big dog."

"They knocked down the fire really fast, but today it smells smoky and looks awful. I'm mad because I missed seeing the Helicopters [and] perturbed because we're having fires already and it's only May!" [Postscript: Frankie came out after the hubbub was over].

When Marie returned to her residence in Ocean Park, Washington in July, she had more to relate: "Last night I was watching TV when I heard a sort of PsshWHOOMP! The sky was immediately lit up. I looked out in horror to see flames about 10 feet high only two houses away. I grabbed the phone and called 911. The bored operator said, 'Yes. House fire on 202 Lane.' There was another WHOOMP! and the ground shook. I yelled 'It's not just a house fire! There

are explosions, listen!' I was holding out the phone when to my horror I realized I could see a woman just sitting in front of the house only about ten feet away. It was obvious that she must be hurt or something. About five other neighbors were converging on the woman. A big guy was already yanking the fence behind the woman out of the ground. We all grabbed the woman's chair and there was another explosion. Blobs of fire were shooting out of the windows and landing all around us. The woman was very overweight; she said she couldn't walk and she had barely made it out of the house. Thank heaven that big guy was there, as it was almost impossible to carry her in that plastic lawn chair. We put her down for a minute, but there was another explosion so we struggled and got her across the driveway. She said she had ten oxygen cannisters in the house, so the explosions kept coming. The flames jumped to the garage. Someone put a blanket over the woman as it was raining. I tried to put it over her shoulder but she said her arm and leg were burned... they were black. The ambulance finally came and took her away. [Her] house is a total loss!"

Marie Martin had some fun also as she went on a Chesapeake Bay Lighthouse tour in May 2011.

Caltrans District 7 Public Information Officer Kelly Markham reports the creation of a District 7 Blog – "The Caltrans Connector", on June 1, 2011. Check out District 7's new blog, "The Caltrans Connector", at <http://caltransd7info.blogspot.com/>

[By the way, a "Blog" is an abbreviation for "Web Log", and often meant as an on-going diary of activities.]

"The blog, which is updated daily, is an educational and informational tool, one that broadens the public's understanding of what Caltrans does and introduces them to the talented people who work here." Kelly states. "The official public launch was September 1. We'd like your feedback -- all comments, critiques and questions are welcome and appreciated. We also need your help. If there's something blog-worthy going on...., please let us

know..... Call or email any Public Information Officer: Judy Gish 213-897-3487, Maria Raptis 213-897-9372, Patrick Chandler 213-897-3630, Kelly Markham 213-897-0303.”

The following people were seen around town by a QCC member. Helen Wong was seen at Hop Li in China Town in August. Marie Martin and Robert Walters attended a retired Military Officers Dinner meeting in Huntington Beach on August 31. Linda Wilford, Mary Scott and Deborah Harris showed up at the District Office for a jewelry fund raiser on September 8.

Some recent notable retirements follow:

Deborah Harris, Public Affairs and Media Relations Chief, retired June 30, after 28 years of varied State Service. “I’m planning to do all the things I didn’t have a chance to do when I was working every day,” she said, including working out, learning upholstery, spending more time with her grandchild, volunteering at her church and traveling to such places as South Africa, Europe (Tuscany, in particular) and the Caribbean.”

Vernon Grey, Branch C Administrative Assistant, retired with minimal fanfare on August 30. He insisted on keeping his retirement low-key, and was seen delivering supplies to his work groups even on his last work day. Vernon frequented Goodwill and often brought art work, musical instruments and other intriguing items back to the office. Don’t be surprised if we see him on “Antiques Roadshow” with one of his many “finds” one of these days.

Ashok Morey, will be honored at a Retirement Luncheon on September 22, 2011 at Kyoto Seafood Buffet, in Glendale. Ashok is retiring from the Permits Office after 31 years of state service.

Share your experiences, exciting or not, is better than no report at all! A post card or letter, e-mail even better...Send your 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 ring me up: 213-897-0470.

Don’t forget to send DUES (checks) new membership applications, and honorary member status information, to Mike Ogilvie, QCC Secretary directly.

Victor Zengler, Branch Chief of Plant Services in Construction, reported on the passing of Robert Pauly, age 93, on Saturday July 9, 2011. Robert “Bob” Pauly had been retired since 1995 after 40+ years of service, in Surveys, Design, Hydraulics, and Materials Investigations. His memorial service was held Friday, July 15, 2011 at Loraine Avenue Baptist Church, and graveside services at Rose Hills in Whittier.

Bored yet? Well, wake up!! Maybe it is time we heard from you. Be the squeaky wheel next time! Send a note or two to Kirsten; it’s fun, it’s easy, AND we need you!

Many thanks to the multitudes who forwarded information and who were not otherwise mentioned above, including: Henrietta Moreno, Chuck O’Connell, and Tom Gildersleeve.

- Kirsten Stahl

The Haps in District 8

Evie Anderson has been chosen Alumni of the Year by her college. She is a graduate of Culver-Stockton College, in Canton, Missouri.

It is the oldest coed college west of the Mississippi River and established in 1853. She will be awarded this honor at Homecoming in October. Congratulations Evie!

Linda Grimes relates about her trip, “We are finishing the end of our trip to New York and will be home Monday, September 9-5-11. We’ve been into Canada

twice, once to see the Bay of Fundy and once to see the Locks at Jones Falls. We went to Cooperstown to see the baseball Hall of Fame and Campabello where FDR had his summer home in Canada. We've been on an island in the St. Lawrence River north of Lake Ontario and will leave Sunday and stay at a hotel in Syracuse before heading home Monday. Today we drove down to Sackets Harbor on Lake Ontario to see the area where the war of 1812 was fought. Lucky us, we missed Hurricane Irene as we drove the east coast. The storm did hit places we had passed through."

Jim Miller and his wife Linda Miller, retired Construction, motor homing from SoCal to Oregon for his granddaughter's graduation. Bob Sassaman, retired Deputy Director traveling to New Jersey for grandsons graduation. Janice Feenstra, retired Design, went cruising on the Mediterranean; including Greece, Ephesus and Istanbul among other ports. She told me that she and her husband (deceased) had been planning this trip for a long time and she decided to go. She has great pictures and really enjoyed herself. That's a dream trip your Secretary/Treasurer hopes to take some day. Janice is now going to Colorado to help her granddaughter set up in a new home as she begins teaching.

Tom Powell, retired Construction, went on a two-day Mexican fishing trip with his son-in-law. Taylor Smith, retired Design, and Katie Smith still aglow after 65 years of marriage recently celebrated with a great Luncheon. See last edition of the QCCer. Taylor also recently celebrated his 90th birthday. New District 8 President Wes Grimes, retired Design, and his wife Linda, retired Planning, also celebrated their 50th with family and friends. Wes and Linda are now travelling to New York and Canada and visiting a friend who owns an island in New York. Wow, must be nice.

Sybille Phillip's still working in Traffic and is very proud as her daughter, who graduated from law school with a JD degree, is now studying for the bar. Congratulations!

Linda Supernaw's husband Dale bought a Henry J and has been working on rebuilding it from the ground up as a "hot rod". The car looks great even in pieces in the garage. Linda is retiring on October 1st from Program Management after 37 years at Caltrans. A No Program, No Dinner, No Lunch, No Host, No presentations, No Speeches, No Roasts, No Songs, No Poems – Just visiting with old and new friends on September 29, 2011, between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. in Room 805 and bring your business cards, contact information, photos, etc. for a trip down memory lane. As she indicated in her flyer, she would really love to have a few hours to visit with some of the characters that she has met over the last 37 years. Linda worked in Right of Way, Traffic, R/W Engineering, Design, Surveys, R/W Utilities and Program Management. Good luck in your retirement Linda.

I just received a flyer on another Caltrans employee retiring, Ruby Johnson. Ruby started State service back in 1982 with the CHP. Then she wised up and came over to Caltrans in 1989 and went to work with Afton Higbee in what was known back then as Maintenance Dispatch under Rob Karns. Then in 2001 she became the Dispatch. Ruby will now have more time to do all of the other things she loves like; ministering to others, mentoring young girls, baking/catering and running the business and, oh yeah, spending time with her husband traveling, and enjoying her children & grandchildren.

Karen Meadows is in the midst of kitchen remodeling and Dick Beckley says he is adjusting well to retirement after a 50 year career.

Roses to Craig Lotze who underwent another neck surgery (he has so much metal in his back even driving by an airport sets off alarms!!) Lloyd Patterson, retired Right of Way and his wife, Alice Patterson, coping with health problems...ditto Stan Martin, also retired from Right of Way...Bob Redden, retired Deputy District Director under doctor's advice to avoid driving, thus missed our summer luncheon...

On a sad note, I received a telephone call from Maxine Stone's daughter that she had passed away the

end of February. Maxine was the widow of Kent Stone, who was a long-time Resident Engineer in the Construction Department.

We also received sad news that Paul Kutra, retired Traffic, passed away on July 9, 2011. His daughter left a message that he was cremated and his remains will be sent to Pennsylvania so that Paul can lay at rest next to his grandmother. He had complications from a stroke that he had six months before. No services were held.

Ernie Parke's wife Kay passed away at the Redlands Community Hospital on August 30th. Services were held at Montecito Memorial Park and Mortuary, 3520 E. Washington St., Colton, CA.

One of our maintenance members, Fred Beck passed away May 21, 2011 at 81. He was born August 14, 1929, in San Antonio, TX and moved to San Bernardino in 1932 and graduated in 1947 from St. Bernadine High School. He joined the U.S. Navy, worked with the U.S. Forest Service and at the former Norton Air Force Base. In 1956 Fred began working for Caltrans with a career that would span 44 years of dedicated service. It took him from Amboy to Barstow, CA, where he retired on December 31, 1991, as a Superintendent II. He was a reserve for the SBD County Sheriff's Dept., a Citizen on Patrol (COP) for the Apple Valley Sheriff's Dept., and a member of the Knights of Columbus. He leaves behind a loving wife "Chili-Capini" Val of 56 years, the best "Daddy-Do" to his children and also extended family and friends, all of whom will miss him dearly.

All our thoughts and prayers go out to the family and friends of these loved ones.

- Marsha Lotze

The Haps in District 9

District 9 did not submit an entry for this edition. Current news will be included in the next edition.

The Haps in District 10

Dick Mesa (dickmesa@aol.com or 209-478-6594) announces two upcoming events:

1) District 10 Fall lunch Tuesday , October 11, 2011 at U.J.'s in Stockton at 11:30 AM. Cost \$15 for beef, chicken , or fish. Program pending.

2) Annual "Ghosts of Xmas Past" lunch Thursday , December 8, 2011 at Club Pheasant in W. Sacramento at 11:30 am. Varied menu consists of famous garlic steak sandwiches and other selections ranging from \$12.00 to \$18.75. Program will consist of sharing stories from the past.

Last years attendees: George & Sherry Avery, Nancy Benjamin, Gordon & Dodie Bettencourt, Bob & Ardyth Biffel, Jim Borden, Hal & Deane Burch, Judith Burke & Eddy Skrzypczak, Jack Cropper, Verne Dorsch, Elton & Pat Fletcher, Fred Fletcher, Bob Giess, Dan Gillizm, Dick Jacobi, Merle & Adele Larrabee, Henry & Patty Lauchland, Jack Lobenberg, Mike McKown, Dick & Florene Mesa, Dave Nelson, Pat & Donna O'Halloran, Stan Randolph, Bill & Darlene Selling, Don Simonich, T George Smith, Al & Anne Wells, Chris Wendlund, Doug & Judith Worley, Lee Wyant, Stan Yamanaka, and Brian Young.

At breakfast at Denny's on Tuesday July 26, 2011, there were 26 present. Betty Dal Porto returned and indicated she is holding up the fort.

It was reported by Dana Willard that Wes Gilkey had a stroke on Monday July 25th and is in St. Joseph's hospital. Note: Dana circulated a get well card for signatures at the Aug 30th breakfast.

At breakfast at Denny's on August 30, 2011 there were 25 present.

Bonnie Ciccone, widow of Mike Ciccone went to Seattle area to visit her brother, Loren Evinger and his wife Nadine. While there they went to a potluck, did some sightseeing and visited Seattle's underground town which was quite interesting. There are no buildings left just timber and bricks. The weather was beautiful- sunny and warm- which is unusual for our Pacific Northwest. To get to my brothers home involves taking the ferry. Fortunately the water was calm. This annual trip was one of the best. Next year I hope to have weather just as nice.

Allan and Ann Wells visited some Baltic capitals on a cruise in August. Ports included St Petersburg, Copenhagen, Stockholm, Helsinki and Berlin. Also Allan and Dennis Smith had a successful fishing trip to Alaska in July.

From Bill Selling, "Hi Y'all: Just to let you know we will be leaving on a long road trip across the USA with our 5th Wheel Trailer on Tuesday Aug 9th. We plan on returning the first week in November?? We will head North, then East to New England then South to Florida then west along southern route to home. We will be visiting lots of family and friends along the way and hope to meet some new friends!"

Patrick G. Kimmel passed away on June 1, 2011, one day short of his 72nd birthday, in Stockton, CA. Patrick was born in Stockton, CA to Lester and Edna Kimmel on June 2, 1939.

Patrick worked for Caltrans for 45 years as a heavy construction engineer. He loved his job and co-workers. Patrick also served in the California National Guard during the Korea conflict as a forward observer although he never saw battle. His hobbies were playing golf and hunting. Patrick leaves behind his wife of 16 years, Josefina; son, Mark, and twin daughters, Kelly and

Kerry. Patrick had seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Shawn Erin Shively was born on December 5, 1958 and died on July 7, 2011. Shawn Shively of Clements, CA passed away at the age of 53. Born in Lodi, CA to Bill Shively & Marilyn Gibson Shively Newton, Shawn was a graduate of Lodi High School. Shawn was a truck driver & paver operator for more than 20 years and was employed by Caltrans, Granite Construction & Knife River Construction. He was a Caltrans Equipment Operator II working with the Lodi Pavement marking crew. Shawn is survived by his wife, Laura Shively; daughter Sarah Dee Shively; son Craig Erin Shively; stepchildren Jeremy (Amy) Favia & Katie (Jeff) Wright; Mother Marilyn (Charles) Newton; Father & Mother-In-Law Iver & Pat Dickhoff; brother Mark (Jodi) Shively, sister Bethany (Bob) Besore; 3 grandsons and numerous nieces, nephews and friends.

Kim Marie Reese (Oyatedor) was born on Feb. 27, 1965. Kim Reese passed away on July 21st and was a Staff Services Analyst for Caltrans District 10. The Celebration Service in Kim's honor was on Saturday July 30th at 2:00 pm at the Quail Lakes Baptist Church 1904 Quail Lakes Dr. in Stockton.

Joseph V. Muñoz Sr. was born on July 27, 1951 and died on July 23, 2011. He retired after 37 years of state service for Caltrans. He passed away peacefully with his wife and children by his side. Joseph is survived by Amelia Muñoz, the love of his life. He is also survived by his daughter Lisa McDowell, his son Joseph Muñoz Jr., 8 grandsons, 1 granddaughter, 4 sisters and 2 brothers, all of Stockton, and several nieces and nephews.

Raymond Florin Hobart Gnekow was born on February 22, 1919 and died peacefully in his home on July 26, 2011. A second generation Stocktonian, Ray graduated from Stockton High School and was captain of the swimming team while attending College (University) of the Pacific. He attained his private pilot's license while still

studying and was recruited in San Francisco by the British Royal Air Force. When the U.S. entered the war, he joined the U.S. Army Air Corp. He served in World War II as a captain in the Air Corp and participated in the Normandy and Rhineland campaigns. His decorations included World War II Victory Medal, American Theater Service Medal, and the European African Middle Eastern Theater Service Medal. While serving in Europe he met his wife of 67 years, Joan Wardlaw Gnekow, from Dublin, Ireland. Their first child, Vivien Gnekow De Bernardi, was born in London.

After the war the family returned to Stockton where Kathleen Gnekow Garcia, Barry Gnekow and Patricia Gnekow Priest were born. Ray worked as a civil engineer for Caltrans for 36 years. He is survived by his beloved wife in Stockton, his children, their spouses: Renato DeBernardi, Michael Garcia, and Roy Priest, and seven grandchildren: Natasha DeBernardi Ellinger, Taira DeBernardi, Maura Priest, Michael Kate Garcia, Andy Priest, Daniel Garcia and Laurel Garcia. He is also survived by three great grandsons. A memorial mass was held on Thursday, August 11, at 11 o'clock at St. Bernadette's Catholic Church in Stockton.

Emerald "Chich" Hein, 71, of Lodi, passed away peacefully on July 27, 2011. Mr. Hein was born in Lodi, California on May 14, 1940, to Ben and Emma (Keszler) Hein. Mr. Hein worked for Caltrans for his entire career. He served in the Army National Guard & he was a member of the Elk Lodge. The past few decades he enjoyed having box seats for the Reno National Championship Air Races. He is survived by his mother, Emma Hein of Lodi; the Keszler family; the Loduca family; and many extended family and longtime friends. He was preceded in death by his father, Ben Hein; wife Naullie; and son Curtis Hein. A Memorial Service was held on Tuesday, August 16, 2011, at the Lodi Funeral Home.

- Brian Young

The Haps in District 11

The D-11 QCC picnic was held on Saturday, 9/10/11 at Santee Lakes. What a beautiful place for a picnic. The weather was lovely and the smiles were friendly. We had a great turnout with 78 people laughing and greeting old friends. Three of those attending received their Honorary Life Membership in the Quarter Century Club after turning 80 years old. What an accomplishment! Everyone was delighted to see our Former District Director Jesus Garcia and his wife Elma there. The food was good with BBQ chicken, sausages, hot dogs and lots of yummy side dishes and fabulous desserts. We had many prizes donated for the raffle and we collected \$255 in donations. We also had a 50/50 raffle with \$105 going to the winners, Dave & Deanne Moody. We had a surprise, anonymous donation of \$240 for the picnic site reservation for next year! THANK YOU - only you know who you are.

Our next QCC luncheon on January 19th will be held at the Barra Barra Saloon in Old Town again. We had a great turnout there last year. I always look forward to these events, seeing old friends, laughing and telling stories. What a lovely day for all. We always need donations for the raffle, so please think about what you can contribute for our luncheon in January. Let's have a record crowd - everyone bring a QCC friend or recruit a new one! Looking forward to seeing you all there!

Sadly, the District received word that Retiree Sheldon Craig passed away Saturday, September 3, 2011 at age 74 from Parkinson's disease. Sheldon retired in 1997 as the Deputy District Director of Design. Most of his 37 years with Caltrans had been spent in District 11 with a brief stint in San Luis Obispo.

Sheldon lived in Ramona with his wife Joyce until two years ago when they moved to Corinth, Texas. Sheldon is survived by his wife, Joyce Craig;

children; Jeff Craig, Tim Craig and Janet Garcia; step-children Rev. Cammy Gaston, Collen Baker and Tammy Wade and other family members including two sons in law and two daughters in law, six grandchildren, two sisters and his previous wife Carol Craig of Florida.

Another loss to D-11 was the passing of John (Jack) Cramer, born on January 8, 1923 in Columbus, Ohio. Jack passed away on July 14, 2011 and was reunited with his wife of over 57 years, Peggy, who died in 2005. Jack spent most of his 35 year Caltrans career in construction. He was the RE on the construction of I-5 at the US-Mexico Border Crossing at San Ysidro, as well as other sections of I-5, I-805, and I-15.

Jack enlisted in the Navy in 1942 and became a naval aviator and flight instructor. After the war, he graduated in 1949 from San Diego State College (University) with a BS degree in Engineering. He was hired right out of college by the Division of Highways (Caltrans). He is survived by a brother, a sister, two daughters (and their husbands) and two grandchildren. A celebration of life service was held at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Spring Valley where Jack was a member for many years.

Our deepest sympathies go out to the families and friends of Sheldon and Jack.

- Leslie Franklin and Josan Feathers

The Haps in Central

On September 8, we had our annual Summer Barbeque at the College Greens Swim and Racquet Club in Sacramento. Those who attended agreed that Back Forty Texas BBQ did another great job of providing yummy food. Our raffle was a super success also. No “Fisty Cuffs” over the raffle prizes, but lots of fun and banter! Mark your December calendar for the 14 at the Dante Club!

We are happy to announce that Nancy Benjamin made the BBQ! She had quite a bad fall, but is all pinned back together and doing great! Looks great too!

We received 23 Honorary Life Membership certificates from Mike Ogilvie for members in good standing who turned 80 years of age since the beginning of 2009 (after Kim Yarbrough left). We will mail these wonderful awards in October after Julie and I return from our 48 wedding anniversary trip to Hawaii.

Our 14 day Alaskan cruise in May was awesome. While everyone else was experiencing rain and snow, we had unusually warm, sunny weather! We stayed at four of the Princess lodges before boarding our ship in Whittier. The Kenai Lodge was really neat. Each room was a mini-suite with a fireplace – which we didn’t use because it was so warm! We’re off to San Diego in late November. Aloha!

We received three “Return to Sender” flyers and several “undeliverable” emails. If anyone knows the whereabouts or email of the following would you please let us know: Neil Dunham, Dorothy Ferra, Bob Grout, Veronica Roe Kersey, Joe Kremer, David Scott Nelson, Robert Nelson, Margaret Pluto, John Reeves, Orville Smith and Mary Lou Wilson.

Here are notes from a few of our BBQ attendees: Jack and Ellen Derby: It was a nice party at the swim club thanks to Gary, Julie, and Dave Saxby. Jack is going to Tanzania in October. We’ve been catching a few salmon in the Sacramento River! We went to San Diego in May to see a granddaughter graduate and to Portland in August for a wedding. All is well.

Jim and Earlene Borden: So good to see everyone! Always busy! We spent a week at Depoe Bay in Oregon right on the coast. We had beautiful weather. We had grandkids part of the time, one at a time! We both keep busy. Jim plays senior

softball and golf. I'm involved in several organizations. We're looking forward to the Christmas party.

Elizabeth Abersold: 2011 has flown by. I always enjoy seeing everyone at the Quarter Century Club Parties. I am active in the Widowed Persons Association and enjoy the trips and activities. This Fall I am taking trips to Catalina, Indiana and Las Vegas. My son, Mike, is in Afghanistan for one year. He is a Brigade Commander for the U.S. Army. I look forward to seeing everyone at our holiday luncheon in December.

Kay and Hugh Griffin: Our third grandchild was born in Santa Cruz February 28 to Scott and Mary Griffin. Bailey Asher Griffin has reflected his Santa Cruz heritage by being a mellow baby. In early July we visited Santa Cruz with our younger son and twin granddaughters to visit the beach and see their new cousin. Then we left for Yosemite and the roaring Merced River and amazing waterfalls. From there we went south to Disneyland, the Magic Castle, and fireworks in Whittier with Kay's sister, Pat Perovich and her husband Mike, retired District Director of District 08. In late July, we drove to Vancouver, Canada for a 20 day cruise/land tour to Alaska and the Yukon. On our drive we visited our first home in Redding, Mt St. Helens, Willamette University and Seattle which held special memories for us. On the cruise we enjoyed the food, service, entertainment, and the local culture of the coastal communities. On our land tour we loved the train ride, gold panning, Denall National Park, Dawson City, and Whitehorse. However, it is always good to be back home and see how the garden is doing. Our garden and, especially our bonsai trees, did well this year thanks to our new drip irrigation system.

Sadly, we received notice of the passing of three of our members: Elwin McKenney, August Egli, and Walt Whitnack. Our thoughts go out to all their families.

Butch Biendara sent this in: **Norman Root**, a QCC member for over 24 years who signed on in September of 2005 to serve as the Historian and QCC State Board member is responsible to maintain the historical records and materials of the QCC. Now six years later he has been diagnosed with cancer in his brain and his days of faithful service must come to an end. Word from his daughter, Barbara Kelly says, "The quickest thing to do is to visit the "Caring Bridge" web site at the link below and drop a note into the guest book. www.caringbridge.org/visit/normanroot

- Gary and Julie Bush

Events

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

District 1 -

Retired 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 Caltrans Ladies Lunch Bunch meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 11:30 AM, location varies. Contact Judy Tucker at linedancerjudyt@citlink.net

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.

Annual fall picnic/luncheon at the Anderson River Park gazebo on Sunday, September 25th. Contact Burton Brockett at 530-246-4721 or jbrockett@shasta.com for details. All Caltrans employees past and present, and their families, are invited to attend.

District 3 -

Pre-Holiday Party at the Peach Tree Golf and Country Club on November 13th. Watch your mailbox for a flyer with all the details.

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

District 4 -

The Caltrans Lunch Bunch meets on the second Tuesday of every month.

Contact: Ed Coble 925-645-4219,
edcoble49@astound.net

Administration Retirees Lunch meets on the third Wednesday of each month at the Mexicali Rose Restaurant in downtown Oakland at 11:30am.

Contact Anita Appiano (aappiano@pacbell.net) or Kathy Freeman (kathy.freeman1@att.net).

The North Bay Caltrans Retirees meet on the 2nd Tuesday of every month.

Contact: Jim Bouler 707-546-3097,
jbouler@comcast.net

District 5 -

Contact Kathy Copeland: 805-544-1834
bcopel4674@aol.com

District 6 -

Annual Christmas Luncheon is tentatively set for Thursday, December 8th at the Holy Trinity Armenian Church. Keep the date open.

The Caltrans Retiree Breakfast meets at 9 am on the third Wednesday in March and September at the Waffle House on Route 68 in Lindsay.

Contact: Don Phillips 559-781-2057

Informal Coffee at 8 am on Thursdays at Country Waffles at the NW corner of Herndon and Cedar.

An informal District 6 bunch meets at Santa Fe Basque Restaurant at 3110 N Maroa Ave, south of Shields in Fresno the first Monday of the month.

District 7 -

The Tom Fera Monthly Luncheon Club meets on the second Wednesday of the month (except December) in Los Angeles.

Contact: Chuck O'Connell at (661) 253-3428 or chuckoconnell@prodigy.net, or Tom Gildersleeve at (661) 259-6226 or tgilders@pacbell.net.

Oct 12 China Olive, 9224 Reseda Blvd Northridge (818) 998-3688

Nov 9 Joselito's West, 7308 Foothill Blvd, Tujunga (818) 951-2275

Jan 11, 2012 Steer N' Ale, 3644 E. Foothill Blvd, Pasadena (626) 796-2278

The QCC Holiday Luncheon, on Saturday, December 3 or 10, hold the dates.
More info to follow.

District 8 -

Every Wednesday morning at 9:00 Construction Retirees and anyone else interested meet at Coco's Restaurant in San Bernardino.

Our Christmas Luncheon is scheduled for December 10, 2011 at 12:00 noon at The Gourmet Restaurant on Highland Avenue in San Bernardino.

More info to follow. Hope you can make it!

Guests are always welcome.

Contact: Marsha Lotze, 760-247-2119,
m1otze12@verizon.net

District 9 -

Contact: Lance Hinek, 760-873-3885,
hinek@suddenlink.net