

TheQCCer

The Newsletter of the Quarter
Century Club

VOLUME 23, No. 2

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Social Media...

'QCC SAYS; "FRIEND ME"!'

From the Corner Pocket

A major new venture for the QCC is the start of a web-based recruiting effort targeting those who are still working and have reached the 25-year mark in their carrier.

You may be aware that most of our QCC membership is retired with little chance to make contact with those who are still working and who are candidates for QCC membership. It is rare that there is any significant ceremony for the 25-year award in Districts and even rarer for the local QCC people to be informed and invited to participate. There has been very little recruiting in any District in spite of allowing full reimbursement for any District recruiting costs.

After floating several ideas, we have hired a professional agency to 'broadcast' an email invitation to join the QCC, to the hundreds of working employees who have the 25-years of service. The proposal was reviewed by all QCC District Directors and QCC VPs and got the approval of the majority with no dissension. An even bigger challenge was to get the clearance of the Caltrans HQ IT section for permission to send these hundreds of emails through the state firewall filters. If they were blocked as spam, it would be a big waste of time and money to send them. We still don't have that access working

for us, but do have assurances that as soon as they can work out the glitches, we will be very active in QCC recruiting.

Speaking of costs, yes, it will cost a few hundred dollars each month for this effort. You may have noted in the last edition of the QCC'er that our State treasury has accumulated a significant balance due to the lack of recruiting activity in Districts needing any reimbursement.



You may be familiar with the plan from your days on the job, if the Districts don't make use of funds allocated, HQ will find a way to spend it. I can't guarantee that this effort will be the answer but I've heard of no other option on the table.

Most of the glory behind the QCC is the 'fraternal' nature of enjoying fun time with your co-worker friends in an off-the-job social event. This new effort falls more in the arena of technical 'web-type' connections, but the younger generations are more into the email, facebook, texting, tweeting and other smart-phone technology. This just might be the means of speaking their language with a social contacts format.

This will be just an "ad-hoc" effort with an anticipated one-year window until we can evaluate whether or not it will produce positive results.

If it works as well as I hope it does, your District has a new need for someone to become the District social

media coordinator, keeping tabs on the newer members. How about a Facebook page for each and every QCC District? Do you have your own Facebook page and the talent to get one going for the QCC in your District? What fun times have you and your fellow QCC'ers been doing lately? If interested, contact your District Director.

**Butch Biendara
QCC President**

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**CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION
 FOUNDATION**
 By Kathy Freeman

A very special Senate Concurrent Resolution was approved this year! Caltrans and District 2 in particular lost two of their own in a tragic accident last year—**Shawn Baker** and **Robert Jones**. Senate Concurrent Resolution 53 designates two specific portions of I-5 in Siskiyou County as the Shawn Baker and Robert Jones Memorial Highways. This Resolution, while honoring the two employees, includes the mandate requiring the cost to purchase and install memorial signs be from non-state sources. This requirement is true for every memorial section of roadway in the State. In order to assist District 2 in this endeavor, the Foundation has created an account to cover the costs of these memorial signs. If you would like to donate to this account to help cover the costs of the memorial signs, your donation may be sent to: California Transportation

Foundation, 581 La Sierra Drive, Sacramento CA 95864. Donations by check should be made out to CTF with "D2 Sign Account" in the memo line of your check. CTF will match donations made to this account.

The Foundation's premier recognition event, the Transportation Awards Ceremony and Luncheon, was held on May 22nd in Sacramento. This year's prestigious award, *Person of the Year*, was awarded to **former Caltrans Director Will Kempton**, Executive Director, Transportation California and former Chief Executive Officer, Orange County Transportation Authority; with the winner of the *Elected Official of the Year* going to **Tom Daly, California State Assemblymember, 69th Assembly District**. The *Organization of the Year Award* was presented to **San Diego Association of Governments**; and the *Project of the Year* was for the **Caldecott Tunnel 4th Bore**. This award was shared by FHWA, CCTA, Alameda County Transportation Commission, MTC, **Caltrans District 4**, Parsons Transportation Group Inc., AECOM, Tudor-Saliba Corp. A *Special Recognition Award* was made to the project for the **SFOBB East Span Replacement**. Sharing in this award are **Caltrans**, California Transportation Commission, BATA, T.Y. Lin Int'l/Moffatt & Nichol Joint Venture; American Bridge/Fluor Joint Venture, Kiewit Infrastructure West, Inc., Manson Construction.

The Foundation also congratulates the following Caltrans' managers for their special contributions to the field of transportation and for winning this year's *Caltrans Outstanding Management and Engineering in Transportation Awards*: **Barton Newton, Principle Bridge Engineer** won the James E. Roberts Award (registered engineers in the field of transportation structures); **Basem Muallem, Director District 8** won the Charles Purcell Award (engineering managers in the field of transportation engineering and transportation program management); **Bill Figge, Deputy Director, District 11, Planning Division** won the Emerson Rhyner Award (non-engineering managers); and **Steve Price, District Deputy Director,**

Maintenance and Operations, District 5 won the Karl Moskowitz Award (registered engineers in the field of transportation engineering).

The Foundation's two Charity Golf Tournaments are coming up! For those of you in northern California, the tournament will be held on July 28th at the Yocha Dehe Golf Club. For those golfers in southern California, the tournament has been rescheduled to October 20th at the Strawberry Farms Golf Club in Irvine. For more information see the Foundation's website (www.transportationfoundation.org).

Rather read the QCCer on-line?

Go to

<http://ctqcc.150m.com/qccnewsletter.html>

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>

In Memoriam

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

Name	District	Date
Larry Addison	01	Mar 23, 2014
Jacque McBride	01	Mar , 2014
Burton C. Walker	01	Apr 1, 2014
Tommy Michael Billings	01	Apr 11, 2014
Delynn Banfill	01	Apr 28, 2014
Keith Tumelson	02	Jan 9, 2014
William (Bill) Ahlenslager	06	Apr 8, 2014
Ralph Sasaki	07	Apr 20, 2014
Frank Weidler	07	May 11, 2014
Alice Nakasone	07	
Walt Thompson	08	Apr 14, 2014
Jerry Sainz	10	Mar 14, 2014
Raul R Sanchez	10	Apr 22, 2014
Joe Hoxsey	11	Apr 29, 2014
Fred A Bonilla	11	
William M McMillan	C	May 15, 2014
Fred L Campbell	C	Jan 27, 2014

The Haps in District 1

District 1 will hold the thirty-third annual Service Awards lunch on July 10, at 11:30 at the Red Lion in Eureka. For further information or reservations please contact **Scott Burger**, [\(707\)441-3998](tel:7074413998).

Our quarterly retiree/QCCer lunch was held on April 17, at the Samoa Cookhouse with 32 people in attendance.

We had two delightful retirement parties this quarter. On 4/27/14, **Janet Foster** had a retirement dinner at Shamus T. Bones in Eureka. Fellow retirees included myself, **Louise Oliver, Jack Moore, Cindy Haney, Wayne Farrar, and Alan Radford**. We all had a great dinner, special cake, and wonderful visiting.

On May 8, we enjoyed a great dinner and music at the Scotia Inn, honoring **Don Puzin**, Maintenance Department retiree. Fellow retirees in attendance included myself, **John & Jackie Sherman, Dave and Beverly Chang, Dennis and Shelene Dickensheets, Gino Buchanini, Steve Bowles, Ray and Marlene Thomsen, Jim Grow, Tammy Libolt and Roy Spivey, Bob and Sandy Murdock, Chuck and Helen Gersbach, Sheila Stickney, Don Rivers, Vicki Butler, Steve and Debbie Butler, Virgil and Wanda Muncton, Bob and Janet Fallis, Diane Fales, Bob and Heather Melendez, and Lonnie Wellman**. His co-workers shared many stories about Don as he moved up in his maintenance career.

Sadly, we lost some more of our retirees. **Larry Addison**, an Engineering Technician, who worked in District 1 until 1975, when he left to start his own businesses, passed away in Redding, on 3/23.

Jacque McBride, retired Caltrans Administrator, passed away in March. I enjoyed working with her in Administration for many years.

Burton C. Walker, retired Senior Transportation Engineer, passed away on 4/1/14. He served in WW II, and worked for the Division of Highways/Caltrans for 36 years. He was an honorary life member of the **Quarter Century Club** and an avid duplicate bridge player.

Tommy Michael Billings, retired engineer, passed away on April 11, at age 75. He had a graveside service at the Ukiah Cemetery.

Delynn Banfill passed away on April 28. She retired in 2009 as a CT Administrator.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the friends and family of **Larry Addison, Jacque McBride, Burton Walker, Mike Billings, and Delynn Banfill**.

Summer is coming up. We would love to hear your stories.

- Arlene Hartin

The Haps in District 2

Get ready to eat and picnic! District 2 QCC has 2 upcoming events. The next monthly luncheon will be at Lulu's Eating Establishment in Redding at 11:30am on July 16th, and our annual picnic get together at Anderson River Park (in the gazebo) is scheduled for Saturday, September 13th at 12:30 +/-.

From **Jerry Severson**:

We have company here from Maine so won't be attending this month's lunch. We've been healthy and thankful for a good retirement since 2000. Gad, 14 years... Hard to believe.

Sharon likes to travel, so has been to Germany etc. on a three week river cruise. Last year she went to Italy for a two week land tour, then hopped on a ship for a 7 day Jazz cruise. Next year, she's booked a three week trip to Africa! I'm not a traveling man, so will stay back and keep the home fires going....still working on restoration of a 1952 Ford flatbed dump truck and building a P-51 Mustang parade plane... It

won't fly, but will be motorized and big enough for me to ride in. Also been restoring old boats...actually made a few bucks when I sold one! A rare occurrence for me. - **Jerry**

On a sad note, we extend our heartfelt condolences to the family of one of our own, **Keith Tumelson**, a long time **QCC** member, who passed away this year.

- **Bill Belcher**

The Haps in District 3

The History Center at the District 3 Headquarters is going very well with the effort and leadership of **Lib Haraughty**. **Libby** has volunteered so many hours to this project that we have no way of counting all the hours she has spent. Her expertise and dedication has really brought us to where we are today. Thanks to **Libby**, along with her faithful volunteers **Palmer Haug**, **Carleen Hagen**, the late **Bob Mulcahy** and others, in addition to the staff at the District Office, we are enjoying the history of District 3.

Libby has been working with officials from both Yuba and Sutter Counties, as well as others, some from Sacramento and other places, to put together the history we all will enjoy, along with our children and their children's children, for generations to come.

Libby needs help with how to operate a "Beta tape player. If anyone can assist please contact **Libby** or **Dan Johnson**. An operator, or their knowledge is needed to make this player work.

Interviews with different folks are being conducted and documented to be placed into the history records. **Irene's** is complete with more to follow.

Volunteers are needed for this very worthwhile project. If you can donate a couple of hours for a fantastic cause.....contact **Libby** at libbyanneh2@aol.com. She would appreciate your time and effort to this once in our time achievement.

A video, **The story of Caltrans: Then and now 1895-1995** was received from Headquarters History Preservation Committee and we are thankful and excited about this video.

District 3 Director **Jody Jones's** retirement is scheduled for June 27th. Those who wish to attend should call the District Office for more information.

The District 3 Quarter Century Club is planning their annual Pre-Holiday party and it will take place at the Peach Tree Country Club in November. Information flyers will be sent out prior. We hope to see you at the party and we always enjoy the wonderful memories. Please join us in membership. The cost is small and the benefits are superb. Contact Membership Chairperson **Carleen Hagen** at (530) 674-9026 or **Dan Johnson, Sr.** at (530) 671-3889. Together we can accomplish all our goals and then some.

- **Dan Johnson Sr.**

The Haps in District 4

District 4 did not submit an entry for this edition. Current news will be included in the next edition.

The Haps in District 5

District 5 did not submit an entry for this edition. Current news will be included in the next edition.

The Haps in District 6

Carolyn Landy and **Josie Rendon** went on a 13 day tour in May to the Alps, which included Heidelberg, Freiburg, Lucerne, Innsbruck, Vienna, Salzburg,

Oberammergau, Neuschwanstein, Mucich, and Rothenberg. A beautiful trip!

From **Virgil Ray** on May 21st:

"Sandy and I are at Jackson Rancheria; have been on the road for a week; Columbia and now Jackson." Signed, "Ye friends on the road again".

From **Terry Littleton**:

My sister and I went to Belize in May and had a fabulous time. Luckily I still get passes from her since she flew for American Airlines for many years. I flew to Dallas where she lives and then from there it was less than 3 hours to land in Belize. It's a beautiful place and has a lot of different eco systems. You can be in the high canopy jungle with zip lines or the beaches with the beautiful coral within minutes.

Road Last Traveled

William Henry "Bill" Ahlenslager, 87, of Fresno died on April 8th. He was a district manager for CalOSHA but spent many years before that at Caltrans. **Bob Dubel** shared "Back in the 1950's, Bill and I were in a carpool together. We both lived a few blocks from one another. We always went home for lunch. He loved to raise parakeet birds."

- **Terry Littleton**

The Haps in District 7

Thanks to several people who "get" the newsletter, provide feedback AND are inspired to send in some comments, reflections, memories, travels, travails... OKAY, some of you "get" it. One helpful fellow recently advised, "Just make stuff up, we won't know the difference". I hope that comment or some of the items below are enough to inspire YOUR card or letter because I may be good, but I'm not THAT good.

Chew and Chat

Have a bite, see old friends, what could be better? The second Wednesday of the month will be here

shortly, so make a date to get to the next **Tom Fera Lunch Group** meeting! They meet on the second Wednesday of each month, except December. The next several meetings are shown below:

RESTAURANTS AND DATES FOR 2014

- July 9, 2014 China Olive
- August 13, 2014 Joselito's West
- September 10, 2014 Steer N' Ale
- October 8, 2014 China Olive

- China Olive Chinese Restaurant**; 9224 Reseda Boulevard, Northridge, CA 91324; (818) 998-3688
- Joselito's West Mexican Restaurant**; 7308 Foothill Boulevard, Tujunga, CA 91042; (818) 951-2275
- Steer N' Ale Restaurant**; 3644 E. Foothill Boulevard, Pasadena, CA 91107; (626) 796-2278

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.

Another Luncheon Brewing?

If I sense the pattern correctly, another Caltrans retiree luncheon, is held the third Monday of each month at 11:30 AM, in Oxnard, at: BJ's Restaurant & Brewery, 461 Esplanade Drive, Oxnard, CA. For the one held on Monday May 19, 2014, Dick Stewart wrote, "Hope to see you at the next luncheon!" For more information, e-mail Dick Stewart at dick@jps.net.

Dick Murphy Memorial

Dave Roper writes, "A Hearty 'HI' to Everyone... We've finally got all the pieces in place for the Dick Murphy Memorial—heading for a Dedication Ceremony on June 25th."

"Here's an opportunity to give a Tip-Of-The-Hat/Salute to our ol' friend, Murph. I encourage you all to consider kicking a few \$\$\$ into the pot... and to spreading the word to those Friends of Dick Murphy that I have missed... whoever/wherever they may be—the ol' gang in Freeway Operations, your

organizations, people that had the privilege of knowing and working with Murph over the years.”

“ Keep in mind two things: (1) The Dick Murphy Sign Account is due to close on July 1st—so don’t delay--sit right down and do it now! (2) Any donations in excess of the cost of the plaque will go into the on-going Dist. 7 Scholarship Fund. Thanks in advance for your support.” - **Dave**

Tahoe Celebration

Dale Neumen writes, “This year I started to travel again. The first of February, I drove with my son to Lake Tahoe to celebrate his 60th birthday. My daughter from Auburn has a house there, about a mile from the lake. There were about 12 family members there to celebrate his birthday. Some of them went skiing at Incline. Due to the lack of snow, all the runs were not open, but they still charged \$102 for the lift tickets”.

Farther Afield

Dale continues, “On March 16, I flew to Amman, Jordan, using 80,000 frequent flyer miles. Someone was to pick me up at the airport. No one showed up, so I found someone [else] to call a number [that] I had. Someone was to pick me up at midnight - they finally showed up at 1:30 AM. There were no other people on my tour, so I had a private car, private driver, and private guide for five days – A VIP.”

“Petra is one of the ‘seven wonders of the world’, and now I have seen six of them. At Petra, you [see] the treasury temple carved in the red limestone; there were a lot of grave sites carved in the limestone. You walk about three miles through a canyon with walls on both sides, about ten feet wide. Coming back on the walk was a slight incline up, so I had to stop and rest several times.”

“Another sight was a Crusader Church built about 1150 AD that was used as a fortress to fight off the Arabs. The Arabs built a castle which was also a fort to fight the Crusaders. We went to Mount Nebo [or Nebo], where Moses spoke to God. They have built a church here in his memory and are adding on to it now. In 100 AD, the Romans built a big city in Jerash. On the main street there are many columns

on both sides. The Roman ruins are one of the best I have seen. They had two theaters here and an Oval Plaza.”

“We rode in [the] back of a Toyota pickup for two hours in the desert. It was a very bumpy ride. This was where ‘Lawrence of Arabia’ was filmed. The highways would have rumble strips about every mile to slow you down. Most of the road signs were triangular in shape with a red border, white background and the message in black. They used some K-rail and also used a yellow stripe on the left and right shoulder[s], and a dashed white stripe in the center. One sign on a two [way] traffic road was a circular sign with red borders showing a red car on the left and a black car on the right.”

Dale concludes, “The hotels were first class, one had three pools. The main meat here is chicken, served in most [of] the meals. The prices are about the same as the States for food. Gas is about \$4.50 a gallon.”

Recent Sightings, Retirements, and Reflections

My apologies to **Preston Kelley** and others whom I missed recognizing at **Lois Cooper’s** funeral in February. After reading the previous newsletter, **Preston Kelley** wrote; “I would like to add the names of **Elmo Douglas** and myself who attended the funeral for **Lois** and was able to express our condolences personally to her son and others. **Elmo** and **Preston Kelley** both started as Highway Engineers in 1958 and were co-workers with **Lois** in District 07 for many years. **Elmo** left Caltrans around 1972 and worked for SCRTD and later worked in construction at METRO in Los Angeles County. I worked 24 years in District 07 before heading North to District 10, HQs and finally District 04 before my retirement. **Lois’** professionalism as a black registered Civil Engineer was something to behold. **Elmo** and I also expressed condolences from **Don Watson to Lois’** son. **Don** who started many years before me also worked with **Lois** before he went to Sacramento and eventually became the Director of Caltrans. **Don** could not get away for the funeral because of travel limitations on his wife. It is very important to me that our presence be noted in the next issue of QCCer.” - **Preston Kelley**

Alex Beanum, who was cc'd on **Preston's** e-mail above, added; "Tks 4 [sic] the info. **Lois Cooper** was one of only 3 female engineers in D-7 at that time! AMAZING!!" –**Alex** "PS---**Marilyn [Reece]** and **Carol Shoemaker** were the other 2."

After 30 years of committed State service, **Thomas Knox**, Chief of Governmental Affairs, began the next chapter of his life at a Coffee and Cake held in his honor, on March 26, 2014 in the District 7 Office building.

Gary Iverson, retiree from Environmental Planning, to celebrate a birthday at the Seafare Inn, in Whittier, in April.

When he heard of the Traffic Retiree Reunion Luncheon at the Pala Casino, **Jean Amster** touched bases, "Do you have an e-mail contact for [Millie]? She must be retired as no luck with the CT addresses. Currently I have no access to the QCCer as we have been out of the house for a month due to a kitchen fire." -**Jean**

Jack Hallin touched bases from his iPhone, when he heard about the Workers Memorial event scheduled for May 8, at the Whittier Narrows (East Region) Maintenance Station. "You've probably notified CTF about this event, but if not I'm sure they would want to participate, financially and/or otherwise." -**Jack**

Adel Girgis, from the Division of Program and Project Management celebrated his retirement on June 5, 2014, at a luncheon at Wahib's Middle East Restaurant, 910 East Main Street, Alhambra, CA. After 34 dedicated years working tirelessly with Caltrans, Adel has decided the best is yet to come and plans to enjoy retirement with family and friends.

Train Talk

In early March at the 36th annual Winterail, in Stockton, California, the country's biggest multimedia event that showcases photography from veteran and emerging rail photographers, the Railway & Locomotive Historical Society presented **Tom Gildersleeve** with the society's Fred A. and

Jane R. Stindt Photography Award. The award is for a significant body of work over a long period of time, or a single photographic project or publication, making an outstanding contribution to the photographic interpretation of North America's railroad history. Attending Winterail 2014 are nearly 700 railfans and railroad-iana collectors.



Pictured are **Tom Gildersleeve** (center), **Ed Graham** (left) and **Stan Kistler** (right). **Tom** writes, "**Ed Graham**, the man behind the award in the photo is a retired Senior Transportation Engineer from Caltrans.

To read it for yourself, please follow these links:

- <http://rlhs.org/Awards/photos.shtml>
- <http://trn.trains.com/en/Railroad%20News/News%20Wire/2014/03/14%20Winterail.aspx>

The Road Last Traveled

Dave Bhalla reported that **Ralph Sasaki**, a 40+ year Caltrans veteran and Hydraulics Senior, passed away on April 20, 2014 from an extended illness. **Ralph** had been retired less than 1 year. Originally from Hawaii, he was well known for his good humor, as an avid golfer and fisherman, and his blue and white pickup truck.

Carl Bauer reported that **Frank Weidler** passed away on Sunday May 11, 2014. We will all miss Frank's wisdom, friendship and dedication to our industry and his contributions over many years.

Sandra Segura wrote that **Alice Nakasone** passed away. She was a retired District 7 employee who

worked for many years in the former Personnel/Exams section.

The **Seafare Inn**, in Whittier, frequent haunt of many Caltrans Employees, such as **Oscar Janeway, Al and Marilyn Reece, Earl and Anne Thomas, Stewart and Kirsten Stahl, Pat and Mike Perovich, and Gary Iverson**, will serve its last plate of fish and close up shop on Saturday May 31, after 53 years. We will miss those Taco Tuesdays, shrimp cocktails, Tom Tuna salad, Manhattan clam chowder, grilled Icelandic cod, Cajun salmon salad, awesome Cheesecake with blueberry and sour cream topping, and those saucy veteran waitresses, **Audrey, Liz, Cheryl, Tracy and Janet**. Reasons cited are the landlord's son selling the property, the increases in minimum wage and workman's compensation insurance, and the older brother Gary retiring to move to Idaho to fly his plane, and go fishing.

Be like Dave, Dale, Tom, Carl and Sandra!

Most retired people say they are busier than they can remember... "They" also say if you want something done, get a busy person to do it! So no excuses, write a note, and e-mail or let us know how busy you really are! Send your items, PLEASE, to **Kirsten Stahl** (see page 3 for contact info.).

Tom Almany reminds you that the District 7 QCC Director and Treasurer are available. Contact him directly if interested (see page 3 for contact info.).

Many thanks to those who forwarded information and who were not otherwise mentioned above.

- **Kirsten Stahl**

The Haps in District 8

Please plan on attending our Midsummer Luncheon on Saturday, July 12, 2014 at Hannah's Restaurant, 1355 E. Highland Avenue in San Bernardino, CA at 12:00 noon. This summer we've added a Chef's Salad that comes with a cup [of soup]. The other entrees will be Chicken Supreme and Swiss steak with all the

trimmings; coffee or tea and dessert all for \$14.00, including tax and gratuity. The information will be mailed out to all members towards the middle/end of June. PLEASE plan on coming for a wonderful afternoon of good company, good food and more.

Morgan and Glenna Choate are off on a road trip to San Antonio, his childhood home, with stops at the Grand Canyon and Carlsbad Caverns...sounds like fun.

Linda Grimes headed for Reno in May to bowl in the National Championships. She bowled in three events and didn't expect to win but had a great time. There were 4 women on her team and she and her team are already signed up for next year!

Linda and Wes are very proud of their grandchildren and she has been helping her granddaughter, Eve, as she prepared for her school's talent show. Eve sang "Think of Me" from Phantom of the Opera and she did an outstanding job. Grandma was really proud of her, but it took a lot of practice finding the right musical CD plus editing it to 2 ½ minutes. Linda and Wes were unable to attend due to their Hawaiian Cruise, but they did get to see some videos.

Now Linda is searching for another song for her next year, but it's hard to find a real good one for Eve as she's only 7 years old. Most songs are for older performers, but she's going to look at operas with children performing. Does anyone have any ideas???

Taylor and Katie Smith were off to Iowa again with their son to settle family matters following the passing of Taylor's sister last full...no fun. They were there to dispose of her home and furnishings. She passed away in early November 2013 at the age of 97.

Taylor and Katie also celebrated their 68th wedding anniversary in March, enjoying regular outings and activities as always. Taylor proudly told me that he is quite pleased to have recently passed his Class C Driver's license and his M1 motorcycle license and is now licensed to drive until 2019. How many other

93 year old motorcyclists do you know? That's the way to go Taylor and all the best to you both!

Joe Gomez has been shuttling to Phoenix to care for his parents, now needing assistance, and also other family members who face illness...Hang in there, Joe...

Ramblin Sally **Floyd Salazar** has moved again, but still in the Havasu area. His new address is 250 Lee Avenue, Block 33, Bullhead City, AZ 86429. He reports that he occasionally sees retired Caltrans employee, **Harold Loudermilk**, who also lives in Bullhead City. His telephone number is 928-404-4533. He would be pleased to hear from any of his old friends.

Gil and Jan Daab are off to Monterey for their annual Austin-Healy gathering, a fun event with very cool cars on display and in July, they celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary with a family cruise off the west coast, a gift from their family...Bon Voyage!

Congratulations to **Duane Sharp** on his 80th birthday. He and wife Carol live near St. George, UT, having retired there many years ago. He too has had health problems in recent times, but still has his sense of humor.

Donna Rodriguez and Caltrans friends celebrated the 10th anniversary of their monthly Bunco Club! Many thanks go to Donna for hosting such a fun event for all these years, though the group rotates meeting locations. Additional thanks go to Donna and **Linda Grimes** who hosted those members that don't live in the San Bernardino area.

Wes and Linda Grimes took a 15-day Los Angeles-Hawaii cruise this spring, a fun trip for them...Linda let me know that she bought a ukulele and is going to be taking lessons. That's the way to go!

Gerald and Judy Brown took a fabulous 3-4 week cruise tour to Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania, which included about every area that I've heard and read about. They visited the countries by air, land

boat and helicopter. I know all of our Bunco group can't wait to view all the pictures they took.

We continue to be concerned for **Les and Vera Franz**, as she was in the emergency room recently with leg pains. She is now doing fine at home and we wish her continuing good health.

Richard Haight had his fourth hip surgery in March. Hope recovery is well along by now and are you trying for a record Dick? It can't be much fun, so roses to you and Louise and her steadfast care. However, **Richard** and **Louise** were able to go out to dinner as they joined **Mary Bermudez, Taylor and Katie Smith, Gil and Jan Daab** and **Wes and Linda Grimes** for an Asian buffet with all enjoying the evening... Richard was walking gingerly but smiling.

Ernie Parke recently moved to BLOSSOM GROVE, an assisted living facility in Redlands. Blossom Grove is a new facility and is immaculate in appearance and service. Ernie reports that the food is good and he has no complaints. He would enjoy visitors. His address is Ernie Parke, No. 34, 11116 New Jersey Street, Redlands, CA 92373.

Bill Hudson reports that he and Gloria are aging gracefully in Santa Cruz. Bill works one day each week delivering "Meals on Wheels" and both are doing well health wise.

Road Last Traveled

We were sad to hear of the passing of **Walt Thompson**. He died at 73 on April 14th. You may remember him as a longtime Maintenance Superintendent and he retired as a Regional Manager with 37 years of Caltrans service. .

We also heard of the passing of **John Fredandall's** wife. John was a Senior Right of Way Agent for many years before retiring.

- Marsha Lotze

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

The Haps in District 10

District 10 retirees continue to meet at Denny's in Stockton at I-5 and March Lane on the last Tuesday of the month for breakfast at 7:30 a.m.

On Thursday, April 17, 2014 at UJ's Restaurant in Stockton, **Dick Mesa** with the help of his wife **Florene** put on the annual District 10 retirees spring luncheon and it was well attended. The guest speaker was **Jill McAuliffe**, Port of Stockton Representative who did a presentation on the Port of Stockton Marine Highway and also talked about the Mysterious Google Barge.

Sharon Stewart reported that she and **Claude** attended the spring luncheon at U.J.'s Restaurant and that they are in the process of putting up a 40 ft. x 40 ft. metal building for their cars.

Bob and **Ardyth Biffel** and daughter Bonny Kangas did another South American cruise from March into April. They had to dodge earthquakes and a fire on board the Crown Princess that was small and quickly put out. They also avoided a norovirus which was pretty hard on everyone as nobody could touch any food without gloves. In spite of this, the trip was wonderful. The side trips are very interesting on air conditioned buses to lakes and volcanoes. Next year it is back to Australia. On May 6th, they will be celebrating their 63rd wedding anniversary. Have a great summer the traveling "B's".

Bill and Darlene Selling left on a 3 month trip across the US on May 13th and reported the following: In the Dallas Ft Worth area and had a great time with former Lodi friends at their beautiful ranch and seeing the sites in the area. Highlight of the visit, other than them letting me run their new tractor was

attending a Cowboy Church service with them! Awesome service!! One problem as we arrived at our friends, the turbo charger in the truck died and we had to have it replaced. Could not have happened at a better time.....Lord was watching out for us again!! Next we spent 5 days in the San Antonio area seeing all the sites and attending the Memorial Day service at the Ft Sam Houston National Cemetery.....very moving! Then the rains, thunder and lightning started. It does it bigger in TX than any place!!!! The rain stayed with us all the way to FL, where we visited with family, friends and taking grandkids to Disney World.

Road Last Traveled

Jerry Sainz, 83, of Hathaway Pines passed away on Friday, March 14, 2014. Jerry was born in Line Pine on December 18, 1930. He spent his youth there and joined the Marines when he was 17. Afterward he returned to the High Sierras where he lived and worked and married Patricia Seymour. They began their family of three boys and at the same time Jerry began his career with Caltrans. The family moved from one end of California to the other as Jerry advanced in his career. He retired in 1987 as Superintendent at Angels Camp District 10. Jerry and Pat enjoyed traveling with their friends in an RV club and he was an avid hunter. Jerry was a loyal QCC honorary member.

Raul R. Sanchez, 70, of Stockton passed away on April 22, 2014 after a lengthy illness. Raul worked for Caltrans starting in D-10 and then transferring to Sacramento. He worked in the Division of Transportation Planning before moving to the Division of Traffic Operations as a senior transportation engineer. He retired in 2003 after 39 years of employment.

- Brian Young

The Haps in District 11

Remember the D-11 Annual Picnic (BBQ Lunch) on October 11, 2014 at the Sweetwater Summit Regional Park in Bonita. More details to follow.

Road Last Traveled

Carol DeBaca reported that **Grace, Joe Hoxsey's** wife, called to say that **Joe** passed away on April 29 from prostate cancer. Joe worked many years for D-11. Carol said, "Joe was a great guy. I have a lot of wonderful memories. He was 74 - not old."

- **Leslie Franklin**

The Haps in Central

Save the date for the next luncheon at the Dante Club in Sacramento on August 21, 2014, starting at 11am. We will be following that with a Holiday get together on Dec. 10th again at the Dante club.

The Bush's are staying pretty close to home this year with doctor's appointments and home improvements. Have a great summer which is hard to believe the year has flown by so quickly and we are now in June. - **Gary and Julie Bush**

From **Ann Glover**: I celebrated my 85th birthday in April, with a trip to Atlanta to see "The Lion King" and just got back from a visit to Memphis, TN to enjoy Graceland and all the Elvis memories. It was a blast! Since the news from my Oncologist was optimistic, I'm planning two more trips and a cruise before the end of the year.

From **Chuck Chenu**: Been a busy month. Just returned from a cruise from Greece to Singapore. With excursions in Crete, Oman, India (Bombay and Goa), Ceylon, Thailand and Malaysia (several ports). Hard to believe the amount of shipping and the size of the many container facilities. The cruise was like being on a lake - never did see or feel a wave. The food was wonderful as long as you stayed away from all the snacks. In Singapore the highlight was the orchids in the Botanic Gardens, over 1,000 species and 2,000 hybrids. Beautiful and hard to believe. With the air travel from Frisco to Athens and Singapore back to Frisco, it made it an around-the-world trip. - **Charles Chenu**

In mid-July, **Allen Wrenn** will be heading East for about three weeks. First he will attend a niece's wedding in the Washington, DC area. Then he will fly to Halifax to join a two-week tour of the Canadian Maritimes. Allen's big trip for this year will be in September when he goes to Italy for a month. He will be on three tours back-to-back. That will give him opportunity to see a large part of the country. One event he is really looking forward to is the visit to the Ferrari factory and museum. Tour participants will all have the opportunity to drive a Ferrari on their high-speed track!

William Martin McMillan passed away on May 15th at the age of 73. He spent his 34-year career as an attorney for Caltrans. During his career, he served as Chief Counsel for Caltrans and the California Highway Commission.

- **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 -

Caltrans retirees and QCC members meet on the 3rd Thursday of the months of January, April, July and October at 11:30 am at the Samoa Cookhouse. Contact **John Sherman** at jsherman1@Humboldt1.com or call (707) 498-2629 for details.

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.

District 3 -

Weekly Tuesday Coffee/Breakfast at 8:30 am at the "Green House" in the Raley's Shopping Center in Placerville.

Contact: **Doug Becker** 530-622-1665, doug.becker@att.net

District 4 -

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

Contact: **Ed Coble** 925-465-4219,
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 Boulter** 707-546-3097, jboulter@comcast.net

District 5 -

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

District 6 -

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 Dec.) in LA. See **D-7 Haps** for dates, addresses and phone numbers.

District 8 -

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

District 9 -

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

District 10 -

For details on events contact **Brian Young** 209-329-3445 cell or blyoung365@gmail.com.

Lenny's Huddle meets at 7:30 am on the last Tuesday of the month at Denny's, I-5 and March Lane in Stockton.

Contact: **Stan Randolph**, 209-957-1278,
stanran3672@aol.com

District 11 -

Annual Picnic - October 11, 2014
Sweetwater Summit Regional Park in Bonita
More details to follow

ROMEOs meets at Denny's, Navajo Road and Fletcher Parkway at 8:30am the 3rd Wed each month

Central District -

Luncheons at the Dante Club
August 21, 2014 & December 10, 2014
Contact **Gary** or **Julie Bush** (530-642-8208)
zbusharosa@wildblue.net

To Honorary Members

Have you seen this option- **FREE PRINTED COPIES** on the membership renewal form? Many of you have and didn't know exactly what it was for, or thought it was just a free subscription if you checked the box. Well, here is the rest of the story.

If you are at least 80 years of age, you are classified as an Honorary member of the QCC. Being an Honorary member qualifies you for a discounted rate for the printed QCCer, or the electronic version of the QCCer for free (if you have a working email address). These dues rates are less than our cost of producing and sending the QCCer to you, so it's a pretty good deal. The other free option is for Honorary members who cannot afford the \$5 or \$10 rate and do not have a working email account. In other words, paying the dues would be a hardship for them. In this case, the QCC Constitution allows for the free delivery of the printed QCCer, **if** the Honorary member makes a confidential request to their QCC District Director, **and** the Director provides written approval. This written approval should be sent to the QCC Secretary/Treasurer.

So, if you think this may apply to you, don't hesitate to contact your QCC District Director. We don't want any QCC members to be left out.