

# TheQCCer

The Newsletter of the Quarter  
Century Club

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## Closer Bonds...

*BUTCH SAYS; "I AM COMING TO YOU!"*

### *From the Corner Pocket*

Summer vacation is over and it's time to get back to school – work – 'honey-does' or whatever keeps you busy and out of trouble.

My big event for this summer was a 19-day cruise-tour of Canada's Yukon & Alaska for our 55th wedding anniversary. Coming home to face all the deferred landscape maintenance was a hard way to end the summer.

Trying to address and interest the whole state (& more), from my doorway down south gives me a bit of a helpless feeling. Last summer I was up to the north end of the state for a visit with QCC'ers who look south down the state. Maybe next year I'll follow up for a visit with you and your District QCC members. I'm open for any invitation to an event you and your QCC District might have, but I can't guaranty to fit that date into my schedule.

The topic getting the most coverage these days is of course politics, but as QCC'ers enjoying our "*closer bond of friendship*", I'll pass on any political comments. However, if you read this before you vote for the CalPERS Board Member representing retirees, the organization Retired

Public Employees' Association endorses JJ Jelincic.

For some 'feel-good' news, I do hear of some positive results for recruiting new members. These days it can be very difficult to get past the intense security of all public agencies, including Caltrans. For a few years after I retired I continued with the Toastmasters club that met in the District office, but with heightened restrictions of security it became just too troublesome to continue. Try to find a way to get the 'good news' of the QCC events to someone that you know still at work inside to carry the message / invitation to those still at their posts.



On the topic of QCC leadership, I'll throw out the invitation for any member in good standing to step forward and knock me off my chair, to be the next QCC State President. It's not a very tough job and there are so many extra benefits that go with the title. I'd be glad to answer any questions you may have about what is expected of that office. Contact me by phone, email or US mail and I'll reply as best I can.

**Butch Biendara**  
QCC President

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## *State & District Officers*

**President:** Emil "Butch" Biendara  
4041 Mt. Everest Boulevard  
San Diego, CA 92111-2624  
(858) 279-5054 [EagleAyerie@hotmail.com](mailto:EagleAyerie@hotmail.com)

**1st Vice President:** Paul Von Normann  
9474 Vista Aleta  
Valley Center, CA 92082  
(760) 749-7013  
[paulvonnormann@gmail.com](mailto:paulvonnormann@gmail.com)

**2nd Vice President:**  
Francisco "CDR. Frank" Paras Jr.  
11439 Toscana Circle

Stanton, CA 90680-3390  
(949) 294-7345 (714) 248-9158  
[SGTPARASJR@YAHOO.COM](mailto:SGTPARASJR@YAHOO.COM)

**Historian:** Arlene Hartin  
2301 E Street  
Eureka, CA 95501-4126  
(707) 443-8841 [ahartin@suddenlink.net](mailto:ahartin@suddenlink.net)

**Secretary/Treasurer:** Mike Ogilvie  
PO Box 421292  
San Diego, CA 92142-1292  
[m.ogilvie@sbcglobal.net](mailto:m.ogilvie@sbcglobal.net)

**Editor:** Chris Thomas  
6121 Howell Drive  
La Mesa, CA 91942-3829  
(858) 736-4924 [cmthomas4848@gmail.com](mailto:cmthomas4848@gmail.com)

**Web Master:** Andy Machen  
174 E. 3rd Street  
San Bernardino, CA 92410  
[andrewmachen@rivsan.com](mailto:andrewmachen@rivsan.com)

---

**District 1 Director:** Arlene Hartin  
2301 E Street  
Eureka, CA 95501-4126  
707-443-8841 [ahartin@suddenlink.net](mailto:ahartin@suddenlink.net)

**District 2 Director:** James Ceragioli  
1861 Shasta Pines Way  
Redding CA 96002-0306  
(530) 223-0208 [sirravioli@shasta.com](mailto:sirravioli@shasta.com)

**Treasurer:** Burton Brockett  
444 Basalt Court  
Redding CA 96003-3331  
(530) 246-4721  
[jbrockett@shasta.com](mailto:jbrockett@shasta.com)

**Secretary:** Bill Belcher  
18600 Quail Ridge Rd  
Cottonwood, CA 96022-9058  
[shastaqcc@yahoo.com](mailto:shastaqcc@yahoo.com)

**District 3 Director:** Dan Johnson, Sr.  
901 Dennis Way  
Yuba City CA 95991-6110  
(530) 671-3889 [boots3@syix.com](mailto:boots3@syix.com)

**Secretary:** Lib Haraughty  
2225 Lincoln Rd  
Yuba City CA 95993-9759  
(530) 673-5587 [libbyanneh2@aol.com](mailto:libbyanneh2@aol.com)

**Treasurer:** Carleen A. Hagen  
1568 Oro Grande St  
Yuba City, CA 95993-1311  
(530) 674-9026 [HCDhagen@aol.com](mailto:HCDhagen@aol.com)

**District 4 Director:** Vacant

**District 5 Director:** Kathleen Copeland  
1255 Orcutt Rd A-2  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-0918  
(805) 544-1834 [BCopel4674@aol.com](mailto:BCopel4674@aol.com)

**District 6 Director:** Terry Littleton  
6675 N Woodson Ave  
Fresno, CA 93711-1132  
(559) 974-3885 [TerryLittleton@comcast.net](mailto:TerryLittleton@comcast.net)

**District 7 Director:** Dalia Jaramillo  
4556 Yellowstone Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90032-3757  
(323) 365-4905  
[caltransdoll@gmail.com](mailto:caltransdoll@gmail.com)

**Secretary:** Vacant

**District 8 Director:** Sybille Phillips  
PO Box 1046  
Lake Arrowhead, CA 92352-1046  
909-234-9247 [krackinew@aol.com](mailto:krackinew@aol.com)

**Secretary/Treasurer:** Marsha Lotze  
20250 Majestic Dr  
Apple Valley CA 92308-5030  
760-247-2119 [motze12@verizon.net](mailto:motze12@verizon.net)

**District 9 Director:** Lance Hinek  
1642 S Valley View Dr

Bishop, CA 93514-1958  
760-873-3885 [hinek@suddenlink.net](mailto:hinek@suddenlink.net)

**District 10 Director:** Stan Randolph  
3672 Wood Duck Circle  
Stockton, CA 95207-5262  
209-957-1278 [stanran3672@aol.com](mailto:stanran3672@aol.com)

**Secretary:** Brian Young  
1056 Bradford Circle  
Lodi, CA 95240-7002  
209-334-6028 [blyoung365@gmail.com](mailto:blyoung365@gmail.com)

**District 11 Director:** Kelly Manring  
9405 Brian Way  
El Cajon, CA 92021  
619-390-8597  
[manring@cox.net](mailto:manring@cox.net)

**Secretary/Treasurer:** Christine Valle  
7955 Pat Street  
La Mesa, CA 91942  
[casavalle54@yahoo.com](mailto:casavalle54@yahoo.com)

**District 12 Director:**  
Francisco "CDR. Frank" Paras Jr.  
11439 Toscana Circle  
Stanton, CA 90680-3390  
(949) 294-7345 (714) 248-9158  
[SGTPARASJR@YAHOO.COM](mailto:SGTPARASJR@YAHOO.COM)

**Central District Director:** Wes Lum  
1437 El Nido Way  
Sacramento, CA 95864-2903  
916-243-9824 [wesleysclum@gmail.com](mailto:wesleysclum@gmail.com)

**Secretary:** Pat Laumer  
3733 Sun Shadows Lane  
Sacramento, CA 95821-3269  
916-489-8402 [pdbryn@comcast.net](mailto:pdbryn@comcast.net)

**Treasurer:** David Saxby  
9503 Dunkerrin Way  
Elk Grove CA 95758-4402  
(916) 479-2978  
[dpbear@comcast.net](mailto:dpbear@comcast.net)

## CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION FOUNDATION

By Kathy Freeman

The California Transportation Foundation (CTF) supports California's transportation community through scholarships, career development grants, Injured & Fallen Workers accounts, and so much more. The Foundation is only able to do this through the support and donations received throughout the years. At this time of the year, those of you that are still a part of Caltrans' workforce have an additional opportunity to designate automatic monthly paycheck deductions to CTF through Caltrans's "Our Promise" Charitable Campaign. The Foundation's "Our Promise" campaign code is #16017. We thank you for your support in the past and look forward to your continued support. This year's campaign kicks off on October 3. Watch for us!

Earlier this year **Mr. Broderick Carmichael**, an **Electrician II** was presented the Special Service Award (Silver) **Medal of Valor** for his actions on March 26, 2017 at approximately 11 a.m. when he and his colleague were replacing a damaged traffic signal at a busy intersection in Hermosa Beach. As they were completing their work and waiting to cross the street, they heard a loud crash as two cars collided. Mr. Carmichael was facing the intersection, while his colleague had her back to the treacherous scene that was rapidly unfolding behind her. She could not see that the impact propelled one of the vehicles into a chaotic spin toward the very spot where she was standing. Instead of quickly getting himself out of harm's way, his instinct was to protect her at all costs. The car jumped the curb, and Mr. Carmichael lunged for her. Although the car struck her, he was able to pull her to safety. She fell into his arms, unresponsive and dazed by the impact. The car came to rest in the median, in the same spot where she stood waiting to cross moments before. He helped her up and guided her to their work truck,

catching her as she fainted on the way and called 911. She suffered injuries to her hip and foot, however, without Mr. Carmichael's heroic intervention, her injuries would likely have been far worse. With no regard for his own safety, **Mr. Carmichael** went above and beyond the call of duty. The State of California takes great pride in presenting the Silver Medal of Valor to California Department of Transportation Electrician Broderick Carmichael. Congratulations!

The Foundation has established the **David Langston Memorial Fund** in memory of Mr. David Langston, a District 3 worker who died while providing training for the Human Resources employees. CTF is matching donations dollar for dollar. To support his family during this difficult time, donations may be made on line at [www.transportationfoundation.org/donate](http://www.transportationfoundation.org/donate).

### *In Memoriam*

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

<b>Name</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Date</b>
Jerry Cole	03	Nov 17, 2017
William (Bill) Sparkman	03	May 19, 2019
Henry (Hank) Wisner	03	May 07, 2019
William (Bill) Sherwood	03	2019
James (Jim) Pacini	06	Mar 24, 2019
Mack A. Hunter	07	Mar 12, 2018
Joanne Balcom	08	Mar 25, 2019
Lou Wadsworth	09	Mar 20, 2019
Suzi Carter	09	May 12, 2019
Nancy Gillem	09	Oct 27, 2018
Leland Hugh (Lee) Brown	09	Mar 06, 2019
Gordon Bettencourt	10	Feb 26, 2019
Jack Gottwig	11	May 10, 2019
Christine Ludwig	11	2019
Phillip S (Phil) Butcher	11	Jun 19, 2019
Neal Davis	11	May 02, 2019
James (Jim) Borden	C	Apr 15, 2019
George Avery	C	Jul 31, 2018

## *The Haps in District 1*

District 1 retirees had a nice breakfast meeting at the Village Pantry on 7/18/19 with 31 in attendance. It was great to see **Kenny Vaughan's** widow, Wanda, attend. **Richard Melvin** reported on the upcoming District 1 employees and retirees' picnic at Camp Bauer near Blue Lake encouraging everyone to come, which will be held on Saturday, 9/7.

**Guy Luther** recently joined QCC. Welcome, Guy.

District 1 raised money for scholarships and with 25% support also by the California Transportation Foundation was able to award two \$1,500 scholarships to Michael Taliaferro, a graduate of Lower Lake High School, and Dallas Daynara, a graduate of McKinleyville High School. One of the requirements is a commitment to a career in Transportation.

I received a delightful vacation report from **George Otterbeck**. He and his daughter, April, recently visited several National Parks, including Arches and Capitol Reef, which is noted for its petroglyphs. Rain shortened that stay. Next stop was Dixie National Forest where they met heavier rain that turned to hail, then snow at 9,000 feet. Day 3 was Bryce Canyon. On the way out, they stopped at Black Birch, Piracy Point, and other stops before lunch. Day 4 they entered Zion. They spent the day riding the shuttle and hiking in from the stops. They then headed to Phoenix to visit family over the Memorial Day weekend. They then headed for the south rim of the Grand Canyon and spent 4 days enjoying all the sights, including another hailstorm. After a travel day, they made it to the Hoover Dam Powerhouse for the tour. The next day they made it to the Grand Canyon Skywalk. They also took a helicopter to the boats for a 21 mile ride up the Colorado River. This is

just a summary of his trip. I have the fuller itinerary for anyone who wants to enjoy it. He also welcomed anyone to contact him if interested in where they ate or stayed and said that if you are ever in Twin Falls, ID it is strongly recommended you have a bite to eat at Elevation 486.

The next retiree breakfast at the Pantry will be October 17 at 9:30 am. I will bring **George's** report on his and daughter, April's, trip.

This has been a crazy time for me this summer. I am on the committee for our 60th high school class reunion (ouch), preparing for a Native Daughter visit to our local chapter, an upcoming history symposium and two history presentations to prepare for. I am looking forward to getting better organized before the next report. I hope everyone had a great summer.

- Arlene Hartin

## *The Haps in District 2*

**F**rom **Jerry Severson - Nancy** and I just returned from Maui with all the kids, grand kids and great grand kids. Sixteen of us. We rented two beachfront homes in Kehi. A GREAT VRBO place owned by a guy in Yuba City.

Over several years and 1300 hours, I built a tribute 1/3rd scale P-51D Mustang in honor of WWII fighter pilot **Bud Anderson**.

I built it totally from scratch, without the aid of plans. All the control surfaces function. The "guns" can shoot water and it is fitted with wing and tail strobe lights. It is based on how wide I am and on how long my legs are....and on photos I took of real P-51's.



When finished in March this year I took it over to Buds place to show him.....we only live a mile away. Bud loved it and signed the wing tip. This July 4th **Nancy** and I entered it in two parades. **Bud** was in the first parade. Bud is a very humble and nice person. He is 97 and still doing public appearances and talks about his war experiences.



**Don Anderson** reports that he will be finishing his HQ rotation in Sacramento at the end of September. He has been there in the role of Deputy Division Chief, Acting, Maintenance Field and Technical Support.

**Bobbie Shaw** says Hello All! Hope your summer has been great! I got right out there in March to Fort Bragg RV Park CA and Clam Chowder Festival with my sister and friends. Despite an end of February Parotidectomy surgery that paralyzed my left face! It took 5 months to thankfully return to normal, and the tumor was benign PTL!

Next was Lake Sonoma Campground CA in April with one of my groups "Event Camping-Camp Like a Girl" where Peacocks freely roam, :) Dinner at Bucks in Winters was superb!

In June (took May off) I journeyed to Union Gap WA to Rally with the Sisters On The Fly (SOTF), a terrific event at the farm equipment museum and fairgrounds! Following the 4 day event I towed up into Mt Rainier NP with 3 other SOTF. Beautiful Park. Feasted at Paradise Peak before we left the mountain, Yum!

Leaving my RV compadres, I traveled onto to Longmire WA to pick up a friend who had trained up from Redding. We enjoyed a lovely evening with her mom and traveled onto Astoria OR. Beautiful place! We stayed at Fort Stevens SP. In the AM we shopped our way down the coast, dawdling too long (We are Retirees!) and missed our next reservation at Jesse M Honeyman SP, no forgiveness! Stayed elsewhere until getting to Turtle Bay RV Park below Gold Beach OR where enjoyed beach combing :) We made our way to 299 East at Arcata and home to Redding CA.

Other than a quick 2 night trip with my Granddaughters to Lake Manzanita Campground in Lassen NP (the drive through the park was awesome) I've been staying put. Little or no July and August travel.

Looking forward to fall trips to Blairsden Little Bear RV Park with the Tow Girlz in September and an October trip to Grass Valley - Wind Down in the Pines, with Event Camping- Camp Like a Girl again :) There's talk of a December Nevada City Art Camp, shall I brave possible snow with my Casita spirit Deluxe coach? Sure, why not!?

Thank you for coming along with me on my Summer Reflections!

That's it for this edition. I hope you all had a great summer.

- **Bill Belcher**

## *The Haps in District 3*

**T**he Annual Fall Party will be held at the Peach Tree Golf and Country Club in November. Please check your mailbox for the flyer which will have the date and times for this gala event.

**SICKNESS AND DISTRESS**

**James White** passed away on July 27, 2019. Jim was an R/W agent for over thirty years in District 3.

**Ward Marshall** passed away in April 2019. Ward spent many years as a District 3 R/W Agent. **Ward** was an **Honorary QCC Member**.

**Ken Raymond** passed away and was a R/W Agent in District 3.

**Les Harper** passed away in July 2019 and was also a R/W Agent for District 3.

**Dan Johnson, Sr.** is looking for a couple volunteers to be a part of the Social Committee. Requirements are two meetings a year with an occasional meeting called by the Director. Anyone who has a few hours and would like to volunteer is asked to send Dan an email at [boots3@syix.com](mailto:boots3@syix.com) or give him a call at (530) 671-3889.

District 3 is always looking for new members. If you have 25 years of state service and are interested in joining the District 3 Quarter Century Club please call **Carleen Hagen** at (530) 674-9026 or email her at [hcdhagen@aol.com](mailto:hcdhagen@aol.com).

We are also looking for stories about your trips, your health and anything else of interest. Send your input to **Dan Johnson, Sr.** at the above email address.

**-Dan Johnson, Sr.**

***The Haps in District 4***

**P**resident **Butch Biendara** has a note to all District 4 QCC'ers.

To any and all QCC'ers in District 4:

D-4 does have its especially difficult burden that the membership is seriously broken by the bridges over the bay. There are the "North Bay", "South Bay" and "East Bay" members that quite seriously divide the population and of course the QCC'ers.

Might I suggest that the District 4 QCC leadership responsibilities also be apportioned and shared by "Co-Leaders", (Directors), for each of the natural subsets of employment areas.

While District Director has a nice sound to it, many Districts have sub-units that operate quite well independently for different reasons. Some Districts have small groups representing former Administration, Construction, Design, Right-of-Way or Traffic work units where they have long-time friends.

In like manner, D-4 might connect with the friends they worked with in their various locations, North, South & East bay neighborhoods. And you don't have to have an election, as the QCC Constitution provides that in any vacancy, a new Director/Area Leader can be appointed. If you are interested please contact me, email, letter or phone, to discuss what options might interest you. – **Butch Biendara**

A note from retiree **Bob Tucker** –  
Hi everyone in District 4. I'm still in Half Moon Bay, living by myself, still drive, do my own shopping and trying to stay out of trouble. On August 3rd I turned 91 and trying to beat the record of my Aunt who made 102. Still belong to the Lions Club, couple of Portuguese Clubs of which we have many events and eating out. Go once a month to **Ed Coble's** luncheons. Don't do too much traveling but try to go to Davis to see my son and grandkids and great grandkids. My son from North Carolina, Doug, flies out once a month to visit and check on me. Will try to hang in there for now, keep me posted.

**Road Last Travelled -**

A note from **Paul's** wife, **Niki** -

**Henry Paul Hensley** died on March 31, 2019. He was 78 years old. He spent 41 years working at Caltrans and was a faithful **QCC member**. He started as a summer intern when he was still in school. His neighbor, **Keith Gandrall**, who worked there, gave him an application and the rest was history. **Paul** enjoyed and appreciated everyone who worked with him. Even in retirement, he enjoyed meeting them around the Bay Area.

On our daily walks, we met people from all over the U.S and many people from around the world. Paul liked to say we were always on vacation. That's how many of our friends also feel. He enjoyed sharing his knowledge of the Bay Area and how to travel around the area when asked. **Paul** felt life should be a celebration, so when you are out and about take time to enjoy life.

**Paul** is survived by his wife of 51-1/2 years; 2 daughters, their husbands and 1 granddaughter.

## *The Haps in District 5*

Summer came late to District 5, with Labor Day temperatures above 90 in San Luis Obispo. We will try to cool off by thinking of December and the annual Holiday BBQ. Mark your calendar for Thursday, December 12, at Trinity Hall on Edna Road (Hwy 227).

In June, our local publication **Central Coast Journal** published a thoughtful article by **Camas Frank** on "Worker Memorials in Quiet Times". It has been 15 years since District 5 had a work related death, but other districts have not been as fortunate. Mr. Frank reported on the annual ceremony held at the District Office and the comments from guest speakers and attendees.

The Copelands have had a mostly quiet summer. My cataract surgeries went well, and I'm very happy with the improvement to my vision. We did have a special party in August to celebrate **Bob's** 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. We had 30 guests, including family, friends and neighbors. It was a pleasant afternoon, with lots to eat, and I appreciate everyone who helped make it a success.

**Dyer Campbell** and daughter Melissa visited from Folsom for a few days, but we did not get a chance to chat.

**Pearl Cole** and **Monte Vernon** also celebrated notable birthdays this spring, with a party hosted by Monte's daughter Annette in Santa Maria.

**Bill** and **Faith Fieldhouse** have been busy as usual, with travelling on a riverboat cruise and visiting family. They also were a host family again for a San Luis Blues baseball player, and Bill found time to BBQ now and then.

**Herb** and **Diane Filippini** keep busy with their Filippini Ranch tasting room. This summer they hosted performances by the Central Coast Shakespeare Festival and a Sunday concert series "Rockin' the Ranch".

**Joan** and **John McGrath** lost their furry friend Gus this summer, and they missed him a lot. They hoped to adopt another older poodle, but found themselves attracted to two lively, energetic puppies named Mike and Spot. Joan says they run her ragged at times, but they are happy to have the companionship.

Back in April, **Gary Saunders** reported that both he and his wife were using walkers. She was recovering from foot surgery, and he had taken a bad fall. I haven't seen him recently, and I'm hoping that they are both doing better now.

Sadly, we report the loss of more long-time friends:



Mrs. **Beverly Foge**, wife of **Dick**, passed away May 26 in San Luis Obispo.

Mrs. **Vivian Gordon**, wife of **Dale**, passed away May 10.

**Marvin Pellett** passed away May 24 in Atascadero.

**Richard "Dick" Young** passed away March 10 in Atascadero.

**Calvin Zundel** passed away April 10 in San Luis Obispo.

- **Kathleen Copeland**

## *The Haps in District 6*

**D**istrict 6 is always looking for stories about your trips, your health and anything else of interest. Send your input to **Terry Littleton**.

### Road Last Travelled -

**Milton "Andy" Anderson** passed away on June 9, at the age of 98. **Andy** began working in Fresno with the Division of Highways (CalTrans), serving in various capacities until retiring in 1987 as a Senior Right of Way Agent.

From **Bob Dubel**: "I knew **Andy**. I came into contact with him many times through work related situations. He served in the Right of Way Department as an agent. I remember him as being conscientious and hard working. He was friendly with me and good to work with. He made a difference."

From **Joe Kosko**: "He was the best, a true American hero in many ways. Thanks **Terry**, you're the best too!"

From **Georgia Cordova**: "**Tony McDowell** and I visited **Andy** about once a month. He's such a treat. Mentally as sharp as the day I met him (1956). Sad about losing him, but happy that we were still visiting!"

This is a nice tribute to **Lou Birdwell** from **Nick Dumas**:

**Louie Birdwell** passed away on June 10, 2019. Many of us worked with Louis (Lou) Birdwell here in District 6 Right of Way. I am sorry to report that Lou passed away yesterday morning at his home in Texas, following a courageous fight with cancer.

**Lou** had a long career as an Associate Right of Way Agent with Caltrans and retired several years ago. He moved back to Texas a few years later to tend to the family's ranch.

Always eager to share his knowledge, **Lou** was very much a people-person. His Right of Way specialties included Replacement Housing Valuations, Relocation Impact Studies/Reports, and Perfection of Title for Federal Lands. He enjoyed teaching new Agents very much.

**Lou** devoted his time away from work to his family, and to the Boy Scouts of America, where he was known throughout the western United States (and maybe further) as a true leader and a gentleman.

**Lou** will be missed by all who knew him. Please say a prayer for Lou's wife Sherrie, son Trey, and daughter Lindsay, as well as his grandchildren and extended family, as they mourn the loss of a great man. Submitted by **Nick Dumas**

From **Bina Brown**: "So sad to hear. Yes, he was a very nice man."

**John Joseph "Jack" Woods**, passed away on June 12, 2019. Jack enjoyed a 35-year career with Caltrans.

From **Roy Andersen**: You probably didn't know him, and I barely knew him. We never worked on a project together. As far as I know he spent most of his work life out on construction projects. He was well liked so he has to be filed in the good guy category.”

**Joseph Huerta** passed away recently. Joseph worked as a Senior Delineator for 44 years for Caltrans.

From **Betty Simmons**: “My condolences to the family. I worked with **Joseph** in the R/W Department for several years.”

From **Bob Dubel**: “I remember him!! I believe he prepared right of maps for recording parcel maps of property that Division of Highways bought or sold. Good man.”

- Terry Littleton

## *The Haps in District 7*

**D**istrict 7 did not submit an entry for this edition. Current news will be included in the next edition.

## *The Haps in District 8*

**D**istrict 8's Summer Luncheon was held at Hannah's Restaurant in San Bernardino on July 13, 2019, at 12:00 Noon. It has become a tradition to have our Summer and Christmas Luncheons on the second Saturdays of July and December. It's an easy way to remember when we get together and visit.

This summer was no exception. Yours truly was worried that we wouldn't have a great group, but we ended up with 32 reservations and most of them were able to attend.

Those in attendance were **Mary Bermudez, Jim Balcom** and his son, Ken, **Diana Barich, Gil & Jeanette Daab, Janice Feenstra, Bill Feenstra, Wanda Gernux, Linda & Wes Grimes, Al & Judi Hudgens, Stan & Ina Lisiewicz, Marsha Lotze, Dick Longstreet, Andy Machen, Sybille Phillips, Tom Powell, John Reed** and his guest, **Kathy Michaels, Linda Supernaw, Linda Wilford**, and **Priscilla Williams**. Guests in attendance were Janet Crosby Lipscomb, Michelle Banks Stowe and Doyle Stowe, and Paul Welch. President **Sybille Phillips** invited our new District Director, **Mike Beauchamp** and his wife, Paula Beauchamp. **Frank Lehr** didn't make it and **Jose Gomez** and **Joe Ramirez Gomez**, were unable to attend due to illness in the family.

Everyone seemed to have a good time and enjoyed the delicious chef salad or chicken supreme with drinks and dessert.

Three members donated door prizes, but in the confusion, I didn't write down their names!!! Senior moment I guess.

President **Sybille Phillips** introduced all our guests noted above and **John Reed** received his 80 Years Honorary QCC Certificate. **Sybille** then introduced **Michelle Banks Stowe** and she had brought bound copies of our District 8 Profiles that had been bound and given to **Grace Vinzens** many years ago. Michelle had “saved them in the Mail Room/Central Files until she retired and wanted to give them to the Quarter Century Club. Our IT **Andy Machen** took them and will keep them for the state archives.

District Director, **Mike Beauchamp**, gave us a brief overview of what is happening in District 8

and it was very informative to our retirees. Many projects are now ongoing, and he gave us statistics on our District 8 program. As an example, in 2018 we had \$218 million for work delivery and for 2019 our District has \$850 million for work delivery. Hiring in 2018 had 67% of the staff at retirement age and 2019 has 51% at retirement age. Lots of hiring will be going on. He also described the damages of the Ridgecrest Earthquakes and the 3-day emergency contracts to repair the roads, etc.

The Maintenance allocation for litter clean-up is way too low and it's one of the issues he will be dealing with. He then opened up for questions and several members expressed their thanks for the information that he gave us. He also invited all retirees to attend the Employee Appreciation Day coming up.

On top of that **Mike** is now our newest Quarter Century Club member and we sure hope that other current Caltrans employees can be invited to join us in the future. Welcome **Mike** and **Paula** too!!!

The Inland Empire Transportation Management Center (TMC) had an Open House on June 29, and it was open to the Public. The activities included: CHP Helicopter, Motorcycle, and Car Displays, Caltrans Equipment Displays, Classic Car Displays, Interactive Activities, Information Booths, Food and Drinks, Facility Tours and Dignitary Guest Speakers.

Our President, **Sybille Phillips**, was able to attend and toured the TMC Open House on Victoria Street in Fontana at the SE quadrant of the 15/210 Interchange. Fascinating! Both D8 Caltrans and Inland CHP representatives explained the Joint Operations Center functions. Outside were vehicles, booths, activities from the various CT divisions, CHP, San Bernardino County Transportation Commission, Etc. She had never seen the giant folding crane flatbed truck combo used to inspect bridges from the top

side down, marveled at the Joint Emergency Mobile Center, and many more very interesting things. She also appreciated the explanations by the operators of the various pieces of equipment at the Open House. Even refreshments were provided! FYI – The CHP Dispatcher representative asked that we NOT give little children our old cell phones – because even when the service has been disconnected – the EMERGENCY CALL function is still active! Please share this message with others.

In July, **Sybille** visited the traveling Sistine Chapel exhibit at the Christ Cathedral (formerly Crystal Cathedral) grounds in Garden Grove. It displays excellent photos of the panels painted by Michelangelo. Among many other things, she learned that the Old Testament has five Sybils – depicted from various regions in their traditional garb and at different age – something she had not known existed. . .She said two hours was not enough for her...she may go back before it ends in January 2020. If you go, take your own headphones and rent the audio guide for the additional background information!

If you wonder how that visit came about – a part time Lake Arrowhead neighbor from Torrance told her about it. So when **Sybille** travelled to Long Beach to pick up her grand dog to pet sit him while her daughter and son-in-law vacationed on Kauai – she decided to detour to that exhibit...enjoy your journey!

Sybille also enjoys the free Friday and Saturday concerts at the Lake Arrowhead Village Center Stage in Lake Arrowhead! Bring your chairs or reserve a table...If you bring a dog, you will need to sit outside the fenced area...September 14<sup>th</sup> they start their free Oktoberfest...

AND, every Saturday in September – if you spend \$25 at the Running Springs Farmers Market – between the library and the post office, you can trade your spending slip for a free Snow Valley ticket – max. 2/person while supplies last.

Same deal for Sky Park on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday ONLY. The market runs from 10-2.

P.S. Consider offering a ride to our get togethers to those QCCers who cannot drive for some reason or other.

P.S.S. **Sybille** has an e-mail list for most of the D8 QCC members. If someone wants to be on it to get whatever information she gets from Linda Supernaw or others working at Caltrans (Provided Sybille is not in Germany...), please e-mail her.

**Sybille Phillips** travelled to Germany again in June and learned something new: If you like a window seat where you can look out and down – make sure to tell the airline! On the way home she encountered a windowless set on an Airbus from Condor!!! A solid panel was where she expected a window!!! And of course, the flight was full....

A note from **Michael Beauchamp**, District 8 Director:

It is my pleasure to announce that **Christy Connors** has accepted a permanent assignment in Construction as the Deputy District Director effective immediately.

**Christy** has 28 years of experience at Caltrans and has held various positions in Surveys, Construction, Program/Project Management and Design where she was the Deputy District Director since 2008. Christy graduated from Virginia Tech with a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering in 1991 and began her career with Caltrans in Bishop (District 9). She is a Licensed Professional Engineer (PE), a certified Project Management Professional (PMP), and has completed the Department's Leadership Training Programs (LTP 1 and 2). For the last three months she has been the Interim Deputy District Director for Construction.

Please join me in welcoming **Christy** to her permanent assignment.

Now for the sad news:

**Terry Haines** died Monday, June 24, 2019 at his home in Redlands, CA. Terry is survived by his two sons Mark Haines and Tim Haines, granddaughter, Adelyn Haines, his brother Dennis Haines and long-time companion, Linda Trumbull. A Celebration of Life was held in honor of Terry on Saturday, August 3, 2019, from 2pm – 6pm at the Elks Lodge in Redlands.

**Terry** had worked with our Right of Way Department as an Associate R/W Agent and will be missed by his many friends and family. Terry was a **QCC Member**.

**Ira "Pete" Peters** joined the Air Force when he was just 17 and spent time in Korea during the Korean Conflict. **Pete** worked for CALTRANS in the Inland Empire from the sixties until his retirement. Pete was a Christian, husband, father, brother, veteran and friend. Services were held for family only in Carlsbad, CA on Monday, July 1, 2019.

This is a very hard article to write about as a long-time friend of **Wes** and **Linda Grimes** but it is with great sadness that I inform you of the passing of **Wesley (Wes) Grimes**. Wes passed away peacefully on Tuesday, August 27, 2019 around 7:00 a.m. at home. Wes was a long-time Caltrans employee who worked his entire career in District 8. He began his career in July 1958, with Traffic, Electrical Inspection, Construction, Design and Permits.

**Wes** was a valued and respected member of our Caltrans family for many years. He worked as an Engineering Technician in Construction and later as an Associate Transportation Engineer in Design until he retired in January 2000. He came back as a Retired Annuitant for a couple of years as a Transportation Engineer (Civil) from October 2006 until July 2008. He worked for

three private companies as an inspector for several years.

It was at Caltrans that **Wes** met his wife, **Linda**, and they were married in 1961. They would have celebrated their 58<sup>th</sup> anniversary next April. They had three sons, Chris, Mike and Scott. Wes leaves these family members and several grandchildren.

**Wes** was a very talented and dedicated individual who was passionate about his work and will be missed immensely by all who knew him. Wes was a long time member of the **Quarter Century Club** and had been **President** for many, many years until resigning last year due to health issues. I know he was there for me as Secretary/Treasurer and I will sorely miss him.

There will be memorial services held at a later date in September.

Please keep Wes' family and our others who have passed on in your thoughts and prayers as they go through this difficult time.

One more final note: Please plan on attending our Christmas Luncheon the second Saturday of December 14, 2019, at Hannah's Restaurant in San Bernardino.

Please forward any information you'd like to see in the next QCCer to either **Marsha Lotze** or **Sybill Phillips**.

- Marsha Lotze

### *The Haps in District 9*

**H**ere are some rambling thoughts about what has happened in Dist. 09, Bishop, for the past couple of months.

The hot summer weather is cooling somewhat which is a relief. The tourist traffic in town has

not slowed up all summer. There are lots of visitors which is good for business.

One of the big events the first week of July was a joint 80th birthday party for a good friend and me, we both turned 80. Our birthdays are two day apart. There were over 70 people attending in the back yard.

Our son and daughter-in-law deep pitted tri-tip beef, ham and turkey. We drank two pony kegs of beer. The weather cooperated, no wind. The Caltrans people that showed up were: **Dick & Pat Clark, Bud & Jerri Moody, Wayne & Rene Walker** (our daughter from Dist. 05), **Dan Young** (he is over 90 yrs old), **Dan & Debby Applebaum** (also from Dist. 05), and **Mark & Jayneann Hinek**. **Virginia Crom** could not attend but her husband **Frank** and daughter Dana were there. All good people and I had a great time.

Wife **Barbara** saw **Chuck Carter** going into Hing's Donut shop for the weekly meeting of the coffee group.

I communicate with **Dan & Bernie Young** by email on a regular basis. Everything considered they are doing OK.

**Jim & Margaret Kemp** are spending their regular summer in Michigan and will be back to Bishop the end of September.

- Lance Hinek

### *The Haps in District 10*

**D**istrict 10 Retirees are still meeting at 8:00 a.m. on the last Tuesday of the month but location is changed. Contact the president **Stan Randolph** for information.

On Thursday September 12, Caltrans Retirees had a luncheon at the Stockton Italian Athletic club at 11:30 a.m. The Italian Athletic Club is open to the public for lunch every Thursday. For direction's, take Cherokee off highway 99 Eastside, turn right at Cherryland, then on the right to 3541 Cherryland.

On a sad note, **Dean Coleman** passed away on August 16, 2019. Dean worked for Caltrans for 33 years.

- **Brian Young**

## *The Haps in District 11*

**T**he District 11 QCC held a Happy Hour event in July at the Cosmopolitan Hotel and Restaurant in Old Town. It was a resounding success and will be added to the calendar of QCC events next year as well!

We had over 35 people come out after work on July 10 and enjoy appetizers and drinks. All guests who were eligible to become QCC members received a free drink and any QCC member who brought an eligible guest also received a free drink. We signed up nine new members at the event so please join me in welcoming **John Keener, Gustavo Dallarda, Pedro Aguilar, Vito Tarantino, Syndi Sutter, Karen Craft, Lima Saft, Chi Vargas and Amy Lamott Vargas** to our club! Thanks to **Josan Feathers** and **Jerry Hawley** who helped out during the get together. Pictures can be found on our Facebook page!

The 2018 District 11 QCC Fall Picnic will be on Saturday October 12 at Admiral Baker Field off Friars Road near Grantville, and less than a mile from Interstates 8 & 15. It will be in Gazebo 2 (same location as last year) near the back of the picnic area and will begin at 11:00. The QCC will provide hamburger, veggie burgers and hot dogs along with beverages and we're asking club

members to bring a side dish or pay \$5 at the event. The flyers have all gone out, so they should have arrived in the mail. The flyer is also posted on the QCC Facebook Page as well!

We're accepting RSVP's by email to [casavalle54@yahoo.com](mailto:casavalle54@yahoo.com) instead of sending in response cards and you can also RSVP by phone to 619-390-8597. We'll have the 50/50 Drawing and Raffle as usual so bring your unique items to donate and money to buy more! Don't forget you can use the District 11 Quarter Century Club PayPal account to pay for the picnic this year! \*

**\*NOTE:** you cannot pay your annual QCC dues through this PayPal account as those monies go to the statewide office and not our San Diego/Imperial group!

Recruiting is always a large part of the Director's focus and eligible new members will be offered a free lunch to see if they would be interested in joining the QCC. If you know of any Caltrans friends with 25 years of service invite them to attend the picnic with you this year as our guests! It's up to all of us to sell our club to new members and ensure our survival. District 11's QCC Club is the largest in the state and growing! Let's keep up the good work.

The District 11 Transportation Museum is putting together an exhibition on the I-5 North Coast Corridor Project and is looking for volunteers from each functional unit to display their I-5 NCC contributions. Each unit will have designated museum space and autonomy in selection of display content such as artifacts, simulations, photography, construction footage, interactive computer demos, etc. Please contact **Marty Rosen** at [martin.rosen@cox.net](mailto:martin.rosen@cox.net) if you are interested in participating.

The CT Retired Ladies Lunch Group meets twice a year to catch-up and check in. Some attendees have been retired for 20+ years and others have recently joined the ranks. Travel plans,



grandchildren and the joys of life are usual topics of conversation. The next lunch will be on Wednesday, November 6th at 11:30am. Please contact **Ava Sarkisian** @ [Ynotyak@aol.com](mailto:Ynotyak@aol.com) for more info.

The ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out) breakfast at the Denny's in Fletcher Hills begins at 8:00 AM on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month. Come on out and meet up with some of your old friends or make some new ones.

#### Road Last Traveled

**Brian Martin**, a Senior Structures Engineer, passed away suddenly in August. Brian was 57 years old. Brian had been with Structures Department in San Diego since 1999, and he worked on several high-profile projects that include the I-5 Build North Coast Corridor, the Cabrillo and San Diego-Coronado bridges, and several interchanges along SR-125 from the South Bay to Santee. For those of you that had the privilege of working with Brian, you experienced just how wonderful and honest he was as a friend and co-worker.

If you have any comments or if you want to add your email address to our list please contact me at [manring@cox.net](mailto:manring@cox.net)!

- Kelly Manring

## *The Haps in District 12*

**D**istrict 12 did not submit an entry for this edition. Current news will be included in the next edition.

## *The Haps in Central*

**S**ummer is ending and so are the heat waves, I hope. At least we didn't have as many devastating fires in the region this year. I'm hopeful the fall will bring rain and keep fires at bay.

We recently lost **John West**, former District 4 Director and Chief of Research and New Technology. He passed on July 25, 2019.

As you know, I was recently elected Director of the Central District. I'm pleased to follow **Gary's** lead.

The members attending the August 15, 2019 luncheon elected **Pat Laumer** as Secretary of the Central District. Pat is an active participant of Caltrans activities by virtue of her husband, **Jerry Laumer**, being a long-time QCCer.

We, **Pat** and I, are very pleased that **Dave Saxby** will continue as Treasurer.

We look forward to seeing our members and potential new members at our December 4, 2019 luncheon. We've been very happy with the food and service at the Old Spaghetti Factory on 1625 Watt Ave. (near Arden Way). See you there!!

A note from **Allen Wren** –

The summer of 2018 was a “lost summer” for **Allen Wrenn**, but he made up for it in 2019. He had planned to participate in a 2018 Tauck Tour of Switzerland for 11 days. That trip had to be canceled after his lady friend and travel companion broke her ankle while they were visiting in Utah in April 2018. So, the planned Tour was rescheduled for July 2019. And then, along came a special offer on a June 2019 Baltic Sea Cruise with Viking Cruises, so they schedule that also. As it turned out, there was a week between the cruise and the tour. They decided to do some independent travel for

that week. This ended up being a 5-week-long adventure in Europe.

The cruise began in Bergen, Norway and ended in Stockholm, Sweden. Shore excursion highlights during the cruise gave the opportunity to see The Little Mermaid in Copenhagen, Denmark, to visit The Hermitage and The Peterhof Palace in St. Petersburg, Russia, and to visit Germany, Poland, Estonia and Finland.

After staying in Stockholm for three nights they flew to Zurich, Switzerland and picked up a rental car. During the following week they traversed the famed St. Gottard, San Bernardino and Furka Passes and visited other places the Tauck Tour would not take them, including the very small country of Lichtenstein. The Furka Pass was probably the most exciting part of the week. The road over the Pass features a series of switchbacks and a narrow roadway with deep dropoffs, often without any guardrail. These features, along with oncoming trucks and buses that took most of the roadway made for an exciting drive. Furka Pass has quite a reputation, and it was featured in the James Bond film "Goldfinger."

The Tauck Tour took them to some really great places. This included Zermatt where the weather was bright and clear to provide tremendous views of The Matterhorn. While staying two nights in Interlaken they had an all-day trip to visit The Jungfrauoch. This involved taking a train ride to the highest rail station in Europe, at 11,332 feet. The station is in a tunnel at the top of the mountain. This train tunnel was used in a final scene of the Clint Eastwood movie "The Eiger Sanction." From that station they walked through an amazing series of tunnels to access a complex that includes restaurants, observation decks, a post office, elevators and moving walkways. There are even tunnels through the glacier. Traversing the glacier tunnel led them to a reception in The Ice Palace, a room carved into the glacier itself, where they had snacks and drinks. Walking of the ice floor took some getting used to.

The Tour also took them to the Lakes District of Italy where they visited Lakes Lugano and Como. Returning to Switzerland the Tour ended in Luzern. All of the hotels on the Tour were fabulous, as were the meals.

**Allen** recommends this Tauck Tour to anyone who wants to see the major sights of Switzerland.

A note from **Gary Bush-**

Hi all, **Julie** and I have been enjoying life as retired Director and Secretary of the Central District Quarter Century Club. We attended our first luncheon on August 15 as guests at the Spaghetti Factory in Sacramento. **Wes** and **Pat** did a great job of taking over. Wow, good to be relaxed without the responsibility of being in charge. As far as the home front all is well enjoying the flora and fauna. Had 17 deer the other morning join us for breakfast. It has been the year of the Big Bucks! We are enjoying fun with our growing family. On September 21st, Julie and I will celebrate our 56th wedding anniversary! It has been a fun-filled amazing journey!!! Hope to see everyone at the December 4th luncheon!!

- Wes Lum

## 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 9:30 am at the Pantry on Broadway in Eureka. Contact **Arlene Hartin** at [ahartin@suddenlink.net](mailto:ahartin@suddenlink.net) or call (707) 443-8841 for details.

### District 2 -

Retired Caltrans Ladies Lunch Bunch meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 11:30 AM, location varies. Contact Retha Rubiec at [goldmine@c-zone.net](mailto:goldmine@c-zone.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](mailto: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](mailto:edcoble49@astound.net)

Administration Retirees Lunch Bunch meets the third Wednesday each month at 11:30 a.m. at the Guadalahara Restaurant in Oakland – right across the street from the Fruitvale BART station. Contact **Anita Appiano** ([anita.appiano68@gmail.com](mailto:anita.appiano68@gmail.com)) or **Kathy Freeman** ([kathy.freeman1@att.net](mailto:kathy.freeman1@att.net)). All are invited.

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

**District 5 -**

Contact **Kathy Copeland**: 805-544-1834 [bcopel4674@aol.com](mailto: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 in LA.

Ventura Monthly Meeting

Caltrans retiree luncheon is held the third Monday of each month at 11:30 AM, in Oxnard at BJ's Restaurant & Brewery

San Gabriel Monthly Meeting

Caltrans retiree meets on the Third Thursday of each month at 11:30 AM, in San Gabriel at the **Golden Soup**, 1039 E. Valley Blvd., San Gabriel.

**District 8 -**

Every Wednesday morning at 9:00 Construction Retirees and anyone else interested meet at the Family Home Style Café on Redlands Boulevard near Tippecanoe in San Bernardino.

A group meets for lunch on the third Wednesday of even numbered months. Currently they meet at The Sizzler on South Waterman at 11:30am. Everyone is invited.

Contact **Sybille Phillips** for more info

**District 9 -**

Contact: **Lance Hinek**, 760-873-3885

**District 10 -**

Details on events contact **Brian Young** 209-329-3445 cell or [blyoung365@gmail.com](mailto:blyoung365@gmail.com)

Lenny's Huddle meets at 8:00 am on the last Tuesday of the month. Location has changed.

Contact: **Stan Randolph**, 209-957-1278, [stanran3672@aol.com](mailto:stanran3672@aol.com)

**District 11 -**

D-11 Retirees meet 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 8am every month at Denny's at Fletcher Parkway and Navajo Road.

Informal Luncheon meets at Soup Plantation in Kearny Mesa. For more information, contact Ava Sarkisian.

**Central District -**

QCC Luncheon December 4, 2019  
Contact **Wes Lum** (916-243-9824)

Check the current haps at Caltrans at <http://www.dot.ca.gov/ctnews>

**To Honorary Members**

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 paying the dues would be a hardship for you, you may be able to get your dues waived. Contact your QCC District Director and if they approve, send the request to the QCC Secretary/Treasurer. See Renewal Form on next page.

## **The 2020 Roster is coming in March Have you made your selection?**

By Mike Ogilvie

The QCC Roster of Members will be printed and mailed along with the March 2020 QCCer newsletter. Your name will be listed. This will be the third biennial roster to include a member's contact information, at the discretion of each member.

This new feature was offered at the request of many QCC members that wanted other members to be able to contact them, as Caltrans no longer keeps or provides contact information for retired employees.

If you will be owing dues for 2020 (remember dues need to be received by the end of January), or, if you are already paid up for 2020 but want to change your selection of which contact information will be included with your name, please use the Special QCC Membership Renewal form found in the back of this QCCer newsletter (don't use an older renewal form because it won't have the check boxes). It has a place for you to indicate if you want any of your contact information printed in the 2020 Roster.

Look at the address block on this QCCer newsletter to see what you currently have in effect. Look for Roster < > on the first line above your name. The letters between the brackets will be A=mailing Address, T=Telephone number, E=Email address, or blank=no contact information printed in the roster for you.

Example:

Status <R> Paid thru <2020> Roster <AE>  
John Filmore  
123 Main St  
National City CA 91234

Note: members who receive the electronic version (e-QCCer) will see their **current** selection in the follow up status email message, or, they can look in their orange 2018 Roster.

On the special QCC Membership Renewal form at the back of this newsletter, you can check any or all of the first 3 boxes to indicate what contact information you want printed. Or, you can check the 4<sup>th</sup> box to indicate you do NOT want any of your contact information printed in the roster.

Only the contact information on file in the QCC database will be used. Don't write in different contact information to be printed instead of what we have on file.

If you don't send in this special form, or if you don't check any of the boxes on the form, your previous selection will remain in effect for the 2020 QCC Roster. Thank you for giving this issue some thought.

## **New Members**

Since last issue of QCCer

<b>Name</b>	<b>District</b>
Pedro Aguilar	11
Michael Beauchamp	8
Karen Crafts	11
Gustavo Dallarda	11
John Keener	11
Lima Saft	11
Syndi Sutter	11
Vito Tarantino	11
Amy Vargas	11
Chi Vargas	11

**QCC Membership Renewal Form, effective 2019  
SPECIAL ROSTER FORM**

Please complete and return this form, **even if** your dues amount is \$0.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail address \_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_

Date of Retirement \_\_\_\_\_ Years of Service \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Your contact information to be included in the 2020 QCC Roster of Members

Check up to 3 boxes:

- Mailing address
- Telephone number
- Email address

Check this box  if you do NOT want any of your contact information printed in the 2020 Roster.

Dues amounts: check one

80+ years of age, born before 1931, printed/mailed QCCer	\$5	<input type="checkbox"/>
80+ years of age, born after 1930, printed/mailed QCCer	\$10	<input type="checkbox"/>
80+ years of age, online (emailed) QCCer	\$0	<input type="checkbox"/>
80+ years of age, printed/mailed QCCer*	\$0*	<input type="checkbox"/>
80+ years of age, NO QCCer newsletter, but keep me on your roster	\$0	<input type="checkbox"/>
Printed/mailed QCCer for younger members	\$20	<input type="checkbox"/>
Online (emailed) QCCer for younger members	\$15	<input type="checkbox"/>

\*- this option is for hardship situations where the Honorary member does not have email and cannot afford the normal dues amount. Your QCC District Director's written approval must be enclosed with this renewal form.

**Make any checks payable to the Quarter Century Club**

QCC  
PO BOX 421292  
SAN DIEGO, CA 92142-1292





