



Free First Year Membership...

“CHRISTINE SAYS, ‘RECRUIT!’”

From the Corner Pocket

The main message I have for every District is to start recruiting now. While some Districts struggled to get any new members last year, other Districts did get several. No matter what your situation, all of us can do better. The QCC desperately needs to add new members so it can remain a vital part of the lives of Caltrans employees and retirees to fulfil our mission of establishing a closer bond of friendship.

Caltrans News publication now publishes the list of 25-year Service Awards and current retirees. So, I have asked that the QCCer republish those lists. See Page 18.

There is money in the statewide coffers to offer free lunches, etc. to help recruit. But I am implementing an even bolder approach. **All New Members get their first-year membership for FREE.** That’s right, just give **Mike Ogilvie**, Secretary-Treasurer, your name, address and email and he will sign you up.

So, go out there and grab some new members!

Christine Valle
QCC President



The QCC Website

By Andy Machen, Web Master

Do you have a story to tell? About your world travels; hobbies; favorite places; life experiences - anything at all?

Here's how to get it posted on the Quarter Century Club website: Write your story in an email and send it to: post+speedreportsjs@coffeecup.com Your story

is then transmitted to the CTQCC website where it is stored in a folder accessible only by the webmaster, who then extracts the text and pictures you sent and stores them in a private folder on the Stories page of the Caltrans District specified by you. The webmaster then sends you an email with a link to the page containing your story, accessible only by you and the webmaster. You can then view your story on the Internet, make any changes you would like, then send them in an email to post+speedreportsjs@coffeecup.com just as you sent the original.

The webmaster then notifies you by email when the changes have been made. When you are satisfied with the web page containing your story, send an email to post+speedreportsjs@coffeecup.com

authorizing the webmaster to post the story for public viewing. You can still add to or make changes to the story as described above after it is published by sending an email to post+speedreportsjs@coffeecup.com. Let us hear from you!

Check out the QCC website here:
<http://www.caltransquartercenturyclub.net>

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CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION FOUNDATION

By Kathy Freeman

Want to contact the California Transportation Foundation – Update your records: Interim Executive Director Marnie Primmer marnie@the-ctf.org, and Mallory Fites mallory@the-ctf.org. Phone: (916) 489-1629; New Mailing Address: 9500 Kiefer Blvd. P.O. Box 276828, Sacramento CA 925827-6828.

In February, **Sarah West**, one of the founding forces behind the California Transportation Foundation, announced her retirement. Under her leadership as Executive Director for the past decade, CTF has flourished, growing the number of scholarships awarded annually, increasing the support provided to injured and fallen workers, and expanding the programming provided by CTF. “The Board of Directors thanks Sarah for her years of tireless dedication to the mission of CTF,” and Board Chair **Kome Ajise**, “We wish Sarah well in her retirement. She will be greatly missed.”

This year’s CTF Transportation Awards were presented on May 27th. The Foundation would like to take this opportunity to recognize and congratulate Caltrans and those offices and Districts that shared in the winning award categories. Congratulations to Caltrans, Districts 2, 4, 5,6,7,8,11 and the Division of Rail and Mass Trans.

ELECTED OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR:
 HONORABLE JOHN FASANA, Former Metro

Board member and Councilmember of City of Duarte.

PERSON OF THE YEAR; TOKS OMISHAKIN, Caltrans Director, dedication to ensuring all Californians have access to mobility choices.

ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR: Bay Area Toll Authority

PROJET OF THE YEAR: Caltrans

FREEWAY/EXPRESSWAY PROJECT OF THE YEAR: SR 710 Pavement Rehab & Widening – District 7

INTERCHANGE PROJECT OF THE YEAR: US-101 Linden and Casitas Pass Interchanges Caltrans

OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY PROJET OF THE YEAR: COVID 19 Relief Fleet Permits for Overweight Loads Caltrans Division of Rail and Mass Transportation, District 8 Engineering & Consulting Fleet Mgmt. Program, Lean mgmt. System

SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION/ ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT; COVID-19 Impact Mitigation Encroachment Caltrans

PUBLIC OUTREAH PROJECT OF THE YEAR: I-5 Burbank Bridge Demolition Public Outreach District 7

CONVENTIONAL STATE HIGHWAY PROJECT OF THE YEAR; SR 43/58 (Stockdale Hwy) Roundabout District 6

ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM PROJECT OF THE YEAR: Advanced Smart Variable Message Signs District 11

STRUCTURE PROJECT OF THE YEAR: US-101 Deck Replacement At Alemany Circle District 4

EMERGENCY RESPONSE REPAIR PROJECT OF THE YEAR: Heleslide District 2

To view the entire list of partners of these award winners and the runners up, you may wish to check out the link to the interactive awards program (<https://indo.adobe.com/view/fd4fab5e-86c2-4247-ac18-57eed5ccelda>)

Also, the Foundation would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the winners of Caltrans 2021 Outstanding management and Engineering in Transportation Awards:

DWARAKESWAR “DWARAK” PENUBOLU, Chief – Encroachment Permits Branch HQ, Division of Traffic Operations was awarded the Karl Moskowitz Award;

ANTONETTE CUADRA CLARK, Office Chief, Office of Standards and Procedures Hq., Division of Design was awarded the Charles H. Purcell Award;

STEFAN GALVEZ ABODIA, Division Chief, District 4 Division of Environmental Planning and Engineering was awarded the Bimla G. Rhinehart Award; and,

DORIE E. MELLON, PE, Senior Bridge Engineer, Accelerated Bridge Construction, Division of Engineering Services was awarded the James E. Roberts Award.

Upcoming Events:
NoCal Charity Golf Tournament, Sept. 21, 2021, Blackhawk Golf Club

For more information on the Charity Golf Tournaments, you may contact mallory@the-ctf.org.

In Memoriam

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

Name	District	Date
Bob Trice	01	Nov 2020
Shirley Miner	01	Apr 16, 2021
Dan House	01	Apr 17, 2021
Raymond (Ray) Winton	03	Feb 22, 2021
William (Bill) Thompson	03	Mar 11, 2021
Ernest (Ernie) Wood	03	Mar 26, 2021
F J Bailey	05	Apr 07, 2021
Joy Chafin Hanson	05	May 25, 2021
Gloria L Adam	06	Jan 26, 2021
Jack Barich	08	Apr 14, 2021
Jim Balcom	08	Apr 28, 2021
Dan Chambers	09	May 08, 2021
Massoud Daneshvari	11	May 13, 2021
Pat Thomas	11	Apr 10, 2021

Make sure you try out this website for travel speed, accidents, and other road information. This covers the entire state and even other states and Mexico. It includes local roads also. After you get to the website, select **options**, then click on **road conditions**, and then click on what you want and scroll to the map.
<http://quickmap.dot.ca.gov/>

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

The Haps in District 1

It was a delight to get this report from **Rick Knapp**. Things are opening up again after this sad time of over a year. Several of us have now been vaccinated and are able to get out more.

Rick Knapp tells me that after having to cancel two trips to Wyoming last year for fly fishing, he

and **Marty Van Zandt** (fully vaccinated) went to Casper Wyoming the first week of May for 3 days of fishing, which was very successful, and was nice to be doing something fun again. See photo below.



By the way, Marty's Dad, **Ben Van Zandt**, also a retired Caltrans engineer is now 99, with a 100th birthday due in January.

It was great to enjoy a very special event. I was able to walk on the new Sky Walk at the Sequoia Park Zoo. It was wonderful up in the trees. It should be open to the public now. I also had my first get together with our Native Daughters of the Golden West group. We are now meeting in person and had a District meeting at Benbow. Nice outing with a potluck.

Sadly, we lost a few more of our retirees/spouses. I had missed mentioning that **Bob Trice**, an **Honorary QCC Member**, passed away in November. He had come to District 1 from the Bridge Dept. to our District Accounting Office and retired as Dep. District Director for Administration. In retirement he often attended our quarterly breakfasts and enjoyed seeing everyone. He would only miss when he and his wife, Joyce, enjoyed their winters in Surprise, Arizona.

Bruce Miner, our retired engineer, lost his lovely wife, **Shirley**, on April 16, 2021. They were married in Carmel in 1959. After Bruce's

discharge from the Navy in 1961, they moved to Eureka. They raised two children, Douglas and Lauren. Shirley worked at the Humboldt Pathology Lab as a Lab Technologist. I feel fortunate to have known not only Bruce and Shirley but also their two wonderful children.

We also lost another fellow retiree, **Dan House**, on 4/17/21, at age 86. He had served in the Navy, then worked for and retired from District 1.

Our sympathy goes out to the family and friends of **Bob, Shirley, and Dan**.

I hope to start getting news of more activities and adventures now that we are recovering from this pandemic and getting out and about.

- Arlene Hartin

The Haps in District 2

June Mclean writes: "I have weathered the pandemic very well and am traveling to Norfolk, VA on the weekend for an AmVets Convention. As 1st Vice Officer under the Commander, we stay busy helping Veterans. We have membership of about 400 people. Keeps me busy and I miss all my California friends."

Jim Ceragioli tells us about his trip: "Sandy and I, along with another couple, took a two-week trip. We left on May 1st for Yellowstone. Lynn, the other husband, had never been east of California other than when flying. Our first night was in Boise. The next morning, we headed east to West Yellowstone where Sandy and I have a time share. Monday, we went into the park to do tourist things. We saw many bison on our way to Old Faithful. When it blew, we could not see anything other than the steam obliterating the geyser. Oh well, we would try another day. We went north in the park and saw many more bison, but no elk, moose, bears or wolves. Visited many hot pools, paint pots, vistas of waterfalls, etc. The next day

we went another direction to see more areas. Again, bison, but no other animals. Wednesday, we stayed in West Yellowstone and went to an animal rescue park where they take in bears and wolves that need care or rehab. It was very interesting and informative. Ladies went shopping too.”

“Thursday, we went back into the park and headed for another area. We were lucky to see some very young elk as well as bison. Got to the end of the road, where we had to turn around because they had not opened that part yet. It was still early so we went back to Old Faithful to try again. On the way, we saw a couple of very young bison alongside the road with their mothers. They were cute in their own way. Got to Old Faithful and sat on the bench to wait. While sitting there, four bison came walking past in front of us grazing. They were about 10 feet away. About 5 minutes later, another group of 6 went strolling along behind us about 10 feet away. They are huge. Friday was a go nowhere day and Saturday morning we headed east. We had a pass to go through and we were warned that there may be some snow. There was but it wasn’t sticking. Stopped in Cody Wyoming for brunch and continued on to Gillette for the night.”

“The next morning, we headed east to Rapid City, South Dakota to see Mt. Rushmore and Chief Crazy Horse. Did that and started West. Visited Devils Tower and spent the night in Billings Montana. The next day we went to Twin Falls Idaho but stopped at Craters of the Moon National monument. Then, on to Bend Oregon and, lastly, home. It was a great trip but it is the last time Sandy and I will be back that way. I want to tell all those people who are thinking about moving out of California, avoid the flat lands of any state east of California. The wind never stops.” – **Jim Ceragioli**

Check out the QCC website here:
<http://www.caltransquartercenturyclub.net>

Bill Belcher says he and Anne are the proud great



grandparents of the newest addition to the family, Wanda Douglas. She was born on May 13th. They are, of course, very happy and proud.

- **Bill Belcher**

The Haps in District 3

Hello from District 3: If everything goes as we’ve been told, California will open most restrictions imposed during Covid. Don’t know about you, but I’m so ready. Looking forward to having more freedom, able to go places we haven’t been in 15 or so months. I will be happy just to get back to something called normal and hopefully doing away with our masks completely.

My grandkids have been back in school for a while now and I know they were ready to return to something normal and seeing their classmates. Graduations are being held and vacations are being planned. My kids are looking forward to a trip to Disneyland.

If going through Covid this last year wasn’t enough, now the state is telling us we have to start conserving water because of drought. Really? Let’s see, for at least the past two years we haven’t had the normal rainfall or snow. Our lakes are drying up and of course our creeks, streams and rivers aren’t looking to good.

On the brighter side, here in District 3 we are planning our fall luncheon and I am looking forward to seeing everyone. District 3 QCC members, feel free to contact me with any news you may have, your travels and what you have been up to.

I went with a friend recently to McCloud for a quilting retreat. It was so nice to get away. We could step out the front door of our hotel and look to the north and see Mount Shasta, what a lovely site. There were 30 ladies at our retreat that was held at the Mercantile Hotel banquet room. Wonderful accommodations, great food and I will say, those ladies could quilt. So much talent in that room. Simply amazes me.

Road Last Traveled

Raymond (Ray) Winton passed away peacefully on February 22, 2021, after a brief illness. Ray was born in Auburn, California and graduated from the University of Nevada in Reno, in 1952, with a civil engineering degree. He retired after working for Caltrans for 40 years and was an **Honorary QCC Member**. I remember him as the District 3 Maintenance Engineer and understand he also was in charge of the Right of Way Engineering for a time.

Ray is survived by his 6 children, Susan Swetland, Barbara Watson, Dorothy Sarten, Kevin Wells, David Wilton, and Pamela Brewer.

William (Bill) Thompson, of Hallwood, passed away on March 11, 2021. **Bill** began his Caltrans career as a permanent intermittent heavy equipment operator during the winters in the mid 1980's. Soon after, he became a full-time employee and continued working for Maintenance before retiring in 2009.

Ernest (Ernie) Wood, age 87, of Yuba City, passed away Friday March 26, 2021, at Rideout Hospital. Ernie is survived by his wife of 64 years, Keitha, son Stephen, and daughter Marci Morris. **Ernie** worked for 39 years for District 3, as a District Electrical/Traffic Engineer.

That is it for now. Enjoy your summer.

- Jan Johnson

The Haps in District 4

Expected news of the quarter for most of us is that we have been vaccinated and are looking forward to getting out again. **Lisa** and I had guests inside our house on May 29 for the first time since February 2020. We also saw members of our church in person, rather than on Zoom, for the first time in 16 months when we attended an outdoor worship service. We are looking forward to visiting our grandchildren in July.

A piece of news from Caltrans is that the landlines have been terminated now that people are working from home. This does make for difficulty in communication, and the only means of outside communication seems to be via e-mail, which does not always receive a response.

The Caltrans website includes an announcement that **Dina El-Tawansy** was appointed as Caltrans District Director for District 4 on March 4. The announcement says that **Dina** has 23 years of service with Caltrans and her leadership experience spans three districts and multiple divisions. Her most recent assignment was as District 4's acting director. Previously, she served as chief deputy district director for the Bay Area district. While much of her career has been in District 4 and District 7, **Dina** also served in District 12 (Orange County) as the deputy district director of Operations and Maintenance. Dina earned a B.S. degree in civil engineering from Cal Poly Pomona and an M.S. degree from Long Beach State University in construction management. She is a licensed professional engineer (PE) and project management professional (PMP).

Frank Milani writes "My wife and I have had both vaccinations with no ill effects. We have moved to a Senior Independent Living community. My email address and landline phone number have not changed. And

finally, we are looking forward to the end of Covid and being able to be with family and friends again. Hope everyone is well.”

Charles Maloon says “On May 20, 2021 we celebrated our 71st Anniversary. We went to Bodega Bay and spent 2 nights enjoying the ocean. 71 years together is quite an accomplishment, but we just ask each other, where did the time go? God has been so good to us. We have had our good times and bad. It truly has been fun all the time and could not ask for anything more!!!! We asked for blessings for all of you.”

Finally, here is another story from **Gordon Analla**.

The Great People at Caltrans

By Gordon Analla

It was the first Thursday in February 2002. I was at the Alemany Yard in San Francisco for the monthly safety meeting with the electricians. I attended and participated at these meetings in the capacity of my job ----Safety Officer for the Electrical/Specialty Region (one of my areas).

This day I needed a few extra minutes to talk about something other than safety. There was a lady that worked in the Reprographics section in the District Office (Grand Avenue in Oakland). She was battling a disease against less than favorable odds of her survival. It was going to be a long enduring battle. Because she hadn't been with the State long, she didn't have much of a reserve bank of sick leave. Monetary donations were going to be asked for, and I had volunteered to do the requesting. Learning from my old supervisor **Wallace Murphy** about going through the chain of command, I met before the meeting with the Regional Manager and requested a few extra minutes of time. He was amenable to the request, but skeptical of the donations as I'm pretty sure no one in attendance

save for an Area Superintendent or so knew the lady.

I was scheduled to be the last speaker. I kept my comments brief. But they were heartfelt as my immediate family was very much affected by cancer. The crews, about 30 plus people or so, were dismissed. And then the magic happened. Few, if any of those in attendance left. They formed a line and wrote on the card and gave money. Outside the hallway, one electrician who didn't attend the meeting joked that he thought people were picking squares for the Super Bowl pool to be held that weekend. It was an incredible display of love and affection by individuals who did not know the person, but they knew that she was one of ours and needed help. Those moments after that safety meeting, all the love that was shown, will stay with me for the rest of my life. Hence, the title above, 'The Great People at Caltrans.' Love ya!

Thank you, Gordon, for sending that in!

- **Nigel Blampied**

The Haps in District 5

Spring has sprung, flowers are blooming, and allergies have returned. Now on to summer with foggy mornings along the coast, aka June gloom.

Hope this finds you well and enjoying life more now that some of the restrictions have been lifted. My family from Oregon visited for a few days, and it was nice to enjoy a dinner out, safely distanced on a patio. Our local collegiate baseball team the SLO Blues begins the season here on June 15. It will be fun to watch the game and enjoy a hot dog and a beer.

I happened to see former District Director **Rich Krumholz** on one of my neighborhood walks. He is looking forward to spending more time with family, travelling a little, and playing cards again with old friends.

In the previous issue, we reported on the Hwy 1 closure at Rat Creek. I am very happy to report that this major repair project was completed two months ahead of schedule, and the highway was reopened in time for the Memorial Day travel season. Businesses on the coast always feel the pinch when travelers are restricted from driving through. At the May 12 CTC meeting, D-5 Engineer **Zeke Dellamas** was recognized as being instrumental in advancing micro-tunnelling for the damaged culvert, which significantly sped up the reopening. Way to go, Zeke!

D-5 has several construction projects going this summer, including bridge replacements, widening and auxiliary lanes, and safety improvements. Be sure to check the CT website if you will be venturing out on the highway.

I'm sorry to report that **FJ Bailey**, husband of **Ranell**, passed away on April 7. FJ was retired from R/W where he worked with **Don Cross** for many years. He and Ranell were both active in CSEA. We enjoyed travelling with them on several golf vacations over the years.

Joy Chafin Hanson passed away on May 25 at age 97. She began her 30-year career with CT in the mailroom and worked her way up through various positions. For the last 15 years, she was the Training Officer for META, located at Camp San Luis. She and her husband Ralph were very involved in community activities including Little Theater and the Monday Club.

- **Kathleen Copeland**

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<http://quickmap.dot.ca.gov/>

The Haps in District 6

District 6 reports the passing of **QCC member, Gloria L. Adam**, on January 26, 2021. She served 21 years in the Accounting Dept. in Fresno, CA. Her death was recorded on January 26, 2021.

The Haps in District 7

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

The Haps in District 8

Summer is here and our Country is slowly emerging from the pandemic. Sports are coming back and our football, golf, baseball, hockey, Nascar and Indy racing are back and are now allowing fans to return to the fields and arenas. Let's thank everyone who has contributed to keeping our Country strong. Vaccines are here and are being shipped all over the world and our lives are slowly returning to normal.

District 8 is planning on our Summer Luncheon for the second Saturday of July, the 10th at 12:00

noon at Hannah's Restaurant on Highland Avenue in San Bernardino.

We will have a chef's salad with soup and chicken supreme with rice to choose from. Meals will be \$20.00 each due to rising prices. Notices will be going out in a couple of weeks. Hope to see you all.

Good News! **Mary Bermudez** is back at her home in Fontana after falling and breaking her hip on January 6, 2021. She had been recuperating at her niece's home in Orange. I'm sure she would like getting well cards as her health improves. 15957 Randall Avenue, #23, Fontana, CA 92335.

Linda Grimes continues to live with her son Chris and his wife and is still confined to bed and a wheelchair. I'm sure she'd like visitors. Please call 909-648-3401 before visiting.

Our thoughts and prayers are with our members as they recuperate from their health issues. Please let me know if other QCC members are ill and in need of support from us.

In this [Caltrans News Flash](#), the rock scaling crews partner with department geotechnical engineers and maintenance forces to address rockfalls and other slope issues in mountainous regions that surround state highways. State Routes 18 and 243 are subject to rockfalls during winter months, requiring periodic slope assessments and scaling efforts to blast stubborn boulders that pose a threat to the roadway below. See this behind-the-scenes peek as this special team of Caltrans maintenance staff perform this harrowing work to provide safer driving conditions for the traveling public.

This video can be viewed at <https://dot.ca.gov/news-releases/news-release-2019-076>

The safety of the traveling public is the number one priority at Caltrans. Rain, wind, snow, fire and other natural disasters occur throughout the State all year long affecting state routes. The Caltrans Scaling Crew are part of the big picture to keep our highways open and safe for motorists to get to and from their destinations.

This was sent in by **Linda Supernaw** and it is from the [Caltrans 2020 Annual Accomplishment Report](#) by **Toks Omishakin**, Caltrans Director:

"In a year of unprecedented challenges, Team Caltrans was resilient as usual. Despite the obstacles, you overcame the hurdles and delivered throughout the State for the people of California. To that end, we created an Annual Accomplishment Report to acknowledge and share the exceptional work and some of the numerous accomplishments of our nearly 22,000 employees."

"Again, I sincerely thank you for your dedication, impactful efforts and the relentless drive you've shown this past year with all its challenges. We could not have achieved so much without you, our most valuable assets, our people."

Announcements for two promotions:

Alberto Vergel de Dios was promoted to a Senior Transportation Engineer/District Local Assistance Engineer in the Division of Transportation Planning, Local Assistance, effective April 12, 2021.

Alberto graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Santo Tomas, Philippines in 1988 and obtained his CA PE in Civil Engineering in 1998 and joined Caltrans District 8 as a Transportation Engineer (Civil) Range D, in July that same year. **Alberto** has been with Caltrans for 22 years, starting in the Division of Operations, Division of Design in 2000, Division of Planning's Office of Pre-

Programming and Engineering Studies in 2006 and Office of Local Assistance in 2009.

He has worked in various departments and worked on many different projects. Alberto acted as District 8's DLAE, received a District 8 Director's Certificate of Appreciation, and volunteered as a Safety Assessment Program Evaluator working with CA Governor's Office of Emergency Services.

Alberto will be transitioning from his current position as an Area Coordinator to the District Local Assistance Engineer for the Office of Local Assistance.

Cindy Smith has been selected to fill the Staff Services Manager II position for the Division of Construction effective April 15, 2021. As the Administrative Services Manager, Cindy will provide guidance, direction, and supervision over the Business Services Unit, Labor Compliance Unit, and the Staff Services Unit.

Cindy joined Caltrans District 8 Construction Division more than 30 years as an Office Technician, providing clerical assistance to all staff in the Division. Through consistent dedication, hard work and willingness to take on increasing levels of responsibility, she advanced to Staff Services Analyst to Staff Services Manager I in the Construction administrative unit. For the past 14 years she has supervised the Business Services Unit for the Division. For six of those years, she also supervised the Staff Services Unit overseeing the Division's personal and hiring activities.

I received information from **Sybillie Phillips** that **H. Ray Stokes** retired on November 30, 2020, after 32+ years. Ray remembered working with Sybillie 32 years ago when they worked for **Bill Bailey**! Boy, the years do go by. Ray retired as an Area Construction Manager and looks forward to reading the QCC newsletters. Belated congratulations, **Ray**, on your retirement.

Notes from our President, **Sybillie Phillips**:

Since fully vaccinated, I already took two vacations with a friend! The first one was to Arroyo Grande to drive her to her mother-in-law who suddenly had to move to a rehab facility from Cambria. It is so important to have a power of attorney and a medical directive!

We had a good time visiting Morro Bay where we found a French Patisserie – bought a French bread, 2 delicious pastries and 2 truffles! Two doors down were an Italian store with the best pesto ever!!! We also enjoyed a walk on/around the Pismo Beach City Pier. It had a beautiful playground with an Orca whale statue on which kids could rock climb, as well as climb inside!

The No.2 vacation was two nights in San Marcos north of San Diego. Thursday, we visited Sea World and Friday the San Diego Zoo. Had a great time but then my friend had a weakness spell. Security at the zoo was so nice they transported us to the exit and to our car! So then on Saturday when we went to the Wild Animal Park, we wanted to rent motorized wheelchairs, but they had rented them all out when we arrived around noon. However, one was returned shortly and was recharged in about 2 hours. It was very enjoyable – especially when you consider the large, hilly area! Each night we ate at the Fish Market next to the Midway Museum Ship – so we enjoyed their food!

On the way back to Lake Arrowhead, we stopped by the Queen Califia Magical Garden in Escondido – it is very near the 15 in Kit Carson Park. Even when the Magical Garden is closed you can walk around it and get glimpses of the beautiful, impressive art!!!- **Sybillie Phillips**

Sadly, we lost several QCC members and the husband of **Diana Barich**. Diana e-mailed me that on Thursday, April 1st, that her husband **Jack** had a stroke that affected the right side of his body, further reducing his cognitive and

communication abilities and prevented him from swallowing. The following week Kaiser Hospice began providing him service. They are wonderful!

On April 14th about 9:00 p.m. **Jack** went to heaven, and all is well with her. I received a note from Diana thanking all of us for the prayers, emails, phone calls, cards, and flowers. She is enjoying each one.

We reported in our last newsletter on **Dick Longstreet's** passing in December. Services were held Wednesday, May 12 at Montecito Cemetery.

Those in attendance were approximately 20 and **Sybill Phillips, LaVerne Archie, and Linda Supernaw** were among the Caltrans family who were in attendance. Sybill remarked that his son Greg sure looks like him and lives in Montana.

Just a few words from **Tom Powell** on **Dick**: He was 92. He grew up in Colton and had a lot of stories of his early years and the city itself. He graduated from Colton High School in 1946, excelling in sports, especially baseball. He attended San Bernardino Valley College before going on to Oregon State University, College of Engineering, where he graduated with a BSCE. **Dick** was a registered Civil Engineer, and worked in the departments of Surveys, Construction, Material Lab, as well as many office departments. He was a longtime **QCC Member**. He also taught engineering classes at Valley College at night and many Caltrans employees took advantage of this.

I ended up driving him to coffee on Wednesdays for the past few years, as well as taking him to doctor and eye doctor appointments. When Greg called, he mentioned that he thought that his Dad died from complications of covid 19. **Dick** was also stepfather to his second wife's, Hazel, children. – **Tom Powell**

Thank you, Tom, for these memories of **Dick**. He will be missed by his many friends. He will be remembered for his friendly smile and the jokes he told. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family.

We also lost another long time **QCC member, Jim Balcom**. Jim passed away on April 28, 2021. A Celebration of Life was held Sunday, May 16, 2021, at Heritage Baptist in Colton, CA.

Jim was a long time Senior Transportation Engineer with Caltrans. His wife, Joanne, passed away a year or two ago.

Hopefully, we will have more information on Jim for our next newsletter.

Please send me any additional news or articles for our next edition by the first of September.

- **Marsha Lotze**

The Haps in District 9

Barbara and I are coping with the Government mandates but it is still frustrating. I received some updates from the retired Caltrans folks.

Joe Linzner reports: interesting year so far. We both received our CV-19 shots, mine was Moderna and Jenny's was Pfizer. Hardly any reactions for either one of us. Are readying the Cayman (Motor Home), planning a short trip to get back into the swing of motor homing. Had quite a bit of work done to make the MH a bit comfier. Are looking forward to trying it all out. Happy to hear you (Lance) are coping OK, Same is true here. Cannot believe it has been 17 years in retirement.

Ciao Jerry Gabriel reports: It has been a hard year. When people ask where I've been, I tell them, "It seems like my wife and I have been on

some other planet.” We did not do a lot of the things we used to do for a year because we were told to stay at home. We are getting back to some of them now, but slowly, due to lack of energy. I think we survived because of our natural immunity and God’s grace. One of the things I advocated for before I retired was to get the huge, noisy trucks out of downtown Bishop. I never thought I would hear the City of Bishop agree with that idea. Now they see the need, but I wonder if they will ever do anything about it.

Robert Watkins had a nice poetic reply: Thanks for the claim, ‘All is well here’. Need more rain.

Jim Kemp said “Nothing news-worthy. Hope you got your shots.” We arrived at our Michigan cottage safe and sound Tuesday (5/25/2021) evening. Good flight and on time. It was nice and warm here but that did not last long. It rained and blew early Wednesday morning. Thursday was cold but I still got a golf game in, but I was bundled up. Then last night, cold, windy and rain again. The pontoon boat was to be delivered at noon today, but I have serious doubts that it will happen. There are white caps on the lake plus the rain. We still have much to do to set up things up but hopefully this weekend we can get'er done. I had left my phone charger in Reno but I bought a new one so my phone is in service again. The computer and TV were hooked up yesterday. We will lose are our cable TV service on the 1st of July. I guess we will have to use a streaming service. Not sure how that works but I guess I'll learn. I played cards at Margaret’s sister’s house Wed. night, and they picked on me pretty good, I didn’t win a single game. They all loved it, so my arrival was well received. Hope all is well out west, **Jim** and **Margaret**. PS: The covid rules are all screwed up here just like CA. Some places fully enforcing and others nothing.

Other responses: **Jim Bowles** texted a thumbs up. **Bud & Jerri Moody** texted “Nothing new, we’re both good”. **Ken & LaDonna Rischer**

emailed “Sorry **Lance**, I don’t have anything to contribute. Thanks.”

There is no information about **Doug Boyd, Ralph Cones, Dick Clark, Sam King, Don Kitchens, Marv Nelligan, Heigo Orav, Katy Walton, Jay Smart, Gene Snyder, Link Stanley, Von Tatum, Mike Weier, Jim Passie, John Beischel, Loyd Hopper, Craig Holste, John Ritter**. As the saying goes, no news is good news.

Dan Chambers passed away May 8, 2021, in Bishop from a fast-acting cancer. Dan worked for Caltrans Construction in Bishop for about 20 years and had worked in the Los Angeles area for Caltrans also. Our condolences to his family and friends.

- **Lance Hinek**

The Haps in District 10

District 10 did not submit an entry for this edition. Current news will be included in the next edition.

The Haps in District 11

Happy summer to all our QCC Members! This summer is even more of an awakening as our communities, towns and state are beginning to open up after the last year of lockdown. Hopefully all (or most) of you are vaccinated now and able to move about more freely and get together with friends and family.

We are looking to plan some QCC events in the near future, so will want to hear feedback on what you would like to see happen this summer and fall. Potential events on the agenda include a happy hour this summer and of course the annual picnic this fall.

The QCC Facebook Page is still a good source of info so don't forget to take a look at it once in a while! Important dates, dues forms and other items of interest to club members can also be found here. Hopefully, all of you sent in your dues so you can continue to be members in good standing! Let me know if you don't know where to send your dues or how much you owe, and we'll get you current!

The ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out) breakfast at the Denny's in Fletcher Hills has just been held for the first time the pandemic; Denny's is now allowing group indoor dining, so plan on attending the 3rd Wednesday of the month so this month it will be on June 16. It will be great to see everyone again.

Recent Retirements

Lauren Kemp retired at the end of April after almost 38 years with Caltrans and says she looks back fondly at her time at Caltrans and the many new and lifelong friendships she developed during the years. She retired from her position as the Construction / Geotechnical Liaison in the Environmental Stewardship Branch. Her first day was on July 31, 1983, and she wasn't really thinking long term but "here I am looking back on what a great organization we are. My parents, step-father, uncle and cousins have worked for Caltrans, so it has always been a family thing for me". She is looking forward to retirement life and thankful for the many great experiences at Caltrans.

Kris Buenger retired after 33 years with the department and is extremely grateful to have had a career doing what she loved for all those years. She began as a student assistant after her dad gave her the head's up about the opening in Graphic Arts. Over the years, she enjoyed the challenges and interesting design work she was assigned including working on newsletters, public awareness campaigns, logo designs, advertising for transportation projects and creating intricate project maps. She took photos,

shot video, rode in helicopters and CHP airplanes, traveled all over the state and witnessed new freeways being born and won a few awards along the way. She interacted with some very wonderful, supportive people and feels that "State workers in general are some of the most underrated, underpaid, sarcastic, but hard working and enthusiastic people you will ever meet, and I've been entertained by many of my coworkers over the years". **Kris** met her husband at work and enjoyed working with him for years. She is looking forward to spending their golden years working together at their new past time – relaxing retirement!

May 1st was **Fred Abdipour's** last day at his favorite workplace, Caltrans. He wanted to acknowledge all the wonderful supervisors' and managers he worked with over the 32 years, who gave him great personal and career support. **Fred** retired from his job in Traffic Safety & Operations, North Region with lots of memories working on counter flow traffic plans for I-15, detours for infrastructures at major earthquakes and the San Diego wildfires in 2003, 2005, 2008. He believes that Caltrans will continue to evolve to grow and prosper.

Rene Figueroa retired after 28 years with Caltrans and his last day was March 26, 2021. Rene worked in several departments along the way but spent most of his time in Construction and retired as a Resident Engineer working out of the Bostonia Field Office in El Cajon. Along the way, he made some great lifelong friends, but is most proud of his family including his wife, Diana and his three children whom he will get to spend time with in his retirement.

John Williamson retired on March 19, 2021, after 30 years at Caltrans. Like his friend Rene, John finished his career as a Resident Engineer in Construction working out of the Bostonia Field Office in El Cajon. John took a leave of absence during his career at Caltrans to go to Law

School, became an attorney, and worked for a while with the Caltrans Legal Division.

Road Last Traveled

It is with great sadness that we announce the loss of one of our fellow Caltrans family members, **Massoud Daneshvari**. District 11 received news about the untimely passing of longtime Caltrans Transportation Engineer on Thursday, May 13 after almost 23 years of service to the state. Massoud started at Caltrans in the late 1990's after graduating from San Diego State University with a Bachelor of Applied Science in Civil Engineering and spent his career as an Assistant Resident Engineer at District 11 in Spring Valley. **Massoud** is remembered very fondly by the people he worked with as a tireless and dedicated public servant. He enjoyed his duties working on projects assigned to his Resident Engineer. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family during this difficult time.

District 11 received sad news about the passing of longtime Caltrans Designer **Pat Thomas** on Saturday, April 10 at the age of 77. Pat had been battling dementia in recent years and is finally at peace. **Pat** started at Caltrans in the early 1980's and spent her career as a civil engineer in the Design Department in District 11 until her retirement in December 2005. She went on to work for the engineering firm HNTB who was then contracted to Caltrans for design work on the I-15 managed lanes. Pat is remembered very fondly by the people she worked with as a tireless and dedicated public servant and was asked by Caltrans management to return after her retirement to help finish several projects. Pat is survived by her husband David, children Joni, Debbie, Connie, Sheila and Michael along with 11 grandchildren including her grandson **Ryan** who is continuing her legacy as a Caltrans Design Engineer in District 11. Thoughts, stories about Pat and/or e-cards/messages may be emailed to **Ryan Brooks** at ryan.brooks@dot.ca.gov.

Longtime Caltrans employee **Gerry Austin** passed away on Saturday, March 27 at the age of 73. He started working for Caltrans as a Highway Landscape Worker 1 on August 10, 1970. When he was diagnosed with skin cancer, he came to work indoors for Maintenance Support as Training Coordinator. He retired in 2003 in that position after 33 years of service with Caltrans. **Gerry** and his wife Jackie were married for 53 years. Jackie was by his side when he passed away peacefully after a prolonged illness. Many of Gerry's stories were about his son Donald who was the apple of his eye. Donald and his wife, Paula, currently live in northern California where he is Superintendent of the Palo Alto Unified School District. Thoughts and stories about Gerry may be emailed to **Ted Thurston** at ted.thurston@dot.ca.gov.

Doug Tugwell's son Steve notified us that his dad passed away in February. **Doug** came to work in District 11 in the early 1970's as a supervisor in Construction Surveys and retired as a Senior Resident Engineer in Construction. He was a faithful **QCC Member**. One of his last projects was the Route 52 freeway project between 805 and 15. He was well received and respected. An informal gathering was held at Doug's house on Saturday, March 20 to celebrate his life. On Sunday March 21, his family went out on the Paradiso to spread his and their mother's ashes at sea.

Remember to send in your feedback on any QCC events that you would like to see happen this summer and fall.

- **Kelly Manring**

The Haps in District 12

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

The Haps in Central

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

Events

Because of Covid, all these Events may be cancelled. Please verify that the group is meeting prior to attending.

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 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.

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 each month at 11:30am at various locations on the Peninsula. Contact: **Ed Coble** 925-465-4219, edcoble49@astound.net

The Birthday Group (primarily retired Admin staff but all welcome) meets on the third Wednesday each month at 11:30am at Guadalajara Restaurant, 1001 Fruitvale Ave, Oakland. Contact **Anita Appiano** 510-813-3667 anita.appiano68@gmail.com

The North Bay Retirees Lunch Group meets on the second Tuesday each month at 11:30am at various locations in the Santa Rosa area. Contact: **Jerry Griffith**, tallones2@hotmail.com, (707) 494-2084

The NP Lunch Group meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 11:30am at Chevy's in Emeryville in odd months and Original Joe's Westlake in Daly City in even months. Contact: **Bill Uesugi**, patbillu@comcast.net, (650) 355-1410

The SF Lunch Group meets on the second Thursday each month at 11:30am in the Dragon River Restaurant, 5045 Geary Blvd (between 14th & 15th Ave). Contact: **Ron Lee**, retron@aol.com

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 -

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 -

No regular events are planned.

District 9 -

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

District 10 -

Details on events contact **Brian Young** 209-329-3445 cell or 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

District 11 -

D-11 Retirees meet 3rd 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 -

All QCC Luncheon events are held at the Old Spaghetti Factory, 1625 Watt Ave, Sacramento, CA 95864. Contact **Dave Saxby** for details and ordering your meal. Phone or email Dave at 916-497-2978 or dpbear74@gmail.com.

Summer Lunch, Thursday, August 19, 2021

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 page 23.

The Milk Carton

By Mike Ogilvie

I am resurrecting a feature used by a predecessor, Kim Yarbrough. Some members' contact information is no longer valid. They may not be lost, but I have not been able to get ahold of them. If you have any information, please let **Mike Ogilvie** know. At m.ogilvie@sbcglobal.net or CaltransQCC@gmail.com or QCC PO Box 421292 San Diego CA 92142.



Harley Gough, District 2
Randy Gibson, District 11
Jack Morse, Central District
Charles Paulsen, Central District

**Dist/
Dept****25-year Service Award**

recipients (Since July 2020)

(Info from **Caltrans News**)

1	David L. Pacheco
2	Jerry A. Brown
3	Carolyn M. Sullivan, Kerri J. Nafus, Thomas A. Gallup, John L. Martin, Sukhwinder K. Johal, Sheila Sadkowski
4	Annie X. Pham, Sarita M. Lowell, Todd Jaffke, Nandini Shridhar, Jove B. Watan, Nabi Bagheri, Diana Carballar, Wajahat Nyaz, Fiona Lee Ho, Hammid Hosseinian, Janet L. Wilcox
5	Paul P. Martinez, James E. Shivers, Johanna P. Andris
6	Rebecca F. Munoz, Larry T. Cao, Anna M. Perez, Jorge A. Aguilera
7	Loc X. Mai, Carl E. Capistrano, Patrick L. Morales, Mostafa Vessali
8	Milele N. Robertson, Russell W. White, Steven Magallanes, Nelson Rodriguez, Lorraine F. Mena
9	John C. Ernst
10	David N. Miller, Richard G. Wight, Gregoria Ponce
11	Roy E. Breedlove, Ary D. Jaff, Marco A. Limon, Daniel P. Schmidt, Edward E. Thurston, Emi C. Ito
12	Janice L. Espinoza, Jason E. Gonsman, Steven W. Sowers, Michael C. Flynn, Jamie L. Robinson
C	HQ
Acct	Linda Campos, Emma S.C. Albert
Eng Sv	Fredric W. Saylor, Nora Kyo, Angela M. Duprey, Benjamin J. Lenz
Equip	Robert S. Myers, Randy M. Westcott
HR	Monica R. Morse, Trisha D. Baird
IT	Beverly J. Page, Shabali N. Dudley, George Akiyama, Jay L. Tinker, Ronald D. Clemens
Maint	Marcia J. Sully, Gregory S. Gollaher
Misc.	Romulo R. Dioquino, Nelly Ohanyan, Sharon Bertozzi, Jennifer Burnett, Donna Berry, Jeffrey Spencer, Marylou P. Taylor, Genaro Deguzman, Stephanie G. Davis

QCC Membership Renewal Form, effective 1/1/2014

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 _____

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

Mail to:

QCC

PO BOX 421292

SAN DIEGO, CA 92142-1292