



Happy New Year!!

ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS UNTIL JANUARY 31ST

From the Side Pocket

The QCC will have elections for the statewide executive officers in March/April 2023 and the new officers will take office on April 20th. **This will be the first election in over a decade.** The QCC Constitution requires an election each year and the plan is to have statewide elections each year going forward.

Although the Constitution does not limit the term of office, except for the President, the commitment should be looked at as a one-year term. If the incumbent does not want to continue and run for re-election, that is fine and they can resign after the one-year term is up.

For the office of President, the Constitution is more specific. It states, *“The President shall be elected for a one-year term but may stand for re-election. If successful in the re-election the President cannot run for that office any further time. Any President who has served only one year in the past is eligible to run for one additional year. No person may serve as President for more than two one-year terms.”* One more restriction on the Statewide Officers is that they cannot also be a District Director while in a statewide office.

Candidates are needed for President, First Vice President and Second Vice President. Currently, there is one nomination for President and one for VP. It is desirable to have at least two candidates for each office. So please consider who in your District would make a good QCC President or VP, perhaps even yourself, and submit the nomination to **Mike Ogilvie**, Secretary-Treasurer. The deadline for submittal of nominations is January 31, 2023.



QCC Logo

The duties for each position are not defined in the QCC Constitution, except for this; *“The duties of the various officers shall be the customary duties attached to each office.”* The President presides over the Executive Committee. The Constitution states; *“The responsibilities of the Executive Committee shall be to direct the affairs of the Club, authorize expenditures, and arrange for an annual audit of the financial records of the Secretary-Treasurer, as desired.”* The VP’s are members of the Executive Committee but beyond that have no additional defined duties.

Looking forward to seeing some great candidates stepping up as the QCC has some significant challenges to face. The March QCCer will have the election ballot for members to use for voting.

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State & District Officers

President: Vacant

1st Vice President: Paul Von Normann
9474 Vista Aleta
Valley Center, CA 92082
(760) 749-7013
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

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

Statewide Appointed Positions

Secretary/Treasurer: Mike Ogilvie
PO Box 421292
San Diego, CA 92142-1292
m.ogilvie@sbcglobal.net

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

Web Master: Andy Machen
174 E. 3rd Street
San Bernardino, CA 92410
andrewmachen@rivsan.com

District 1 Director: Arlene Hartin
2301 E Street
Eureka, CA 95501-4126
707-443-8841 ahartin@suddenlink.net

District 2 Director: Vacant

Treasurer: Donald Anderson
415 Moonstone Way
Redding, CA 96003
(530) 941-5895 don415anderson@yahoo.com

Secretary: Bill Belcher
3863 Aster Street
Springfield, OR 97478
shastaqcc@yahoo.com

District 3 Director: Jan Johnson
6 La Entrada Way
Yuba City, CA 95993-2130
(530) 751-9542 janiann47@gmail.com

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

Treasurer: Carleen A. Hagen
1568 Oro Grande St

Yuba City, CA 95993-1311
(530) 674-9026 HCDhagen@aol.com

District 4 Director: Nigel Blampied
323 Crestmont Drive
Oakland, CA 94619-2315
(510) 479-7070 nblampied@aim.com

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

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

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

District 8 Director: Sybille Phillips
PO Box 1046
Lake Arrowhead, CA 92352-1046
909-234-9247 krackinew@aol.com

Secretary/Treasurer: Marsha Lotze
20250 Majestic Dr
Apple Valley CA 92308-5030
760-247-2119 motze12@verizon.net

District 9 Director: Lance Hinek
1642 S Valley View Dr
Bishop, CA 93514-7600
760-873-3885 hinek@suddenlink.net

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

Secretary: Brian Young
1056 Bradford Circle

Lodi, CA 95240-7002
209-334-6028 blyoung365@gmail.com

District 11 Director: Kelly Manring
15467 Rainbird Road
Ramona CA 92065
619-390-8597 manring@cox.net

Secretary/Treasurer: Christine Valle
7955 Pat Street
La Mesa, CA 91942 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

Central District Director: Wes Lum
1437 El Nido Way
Sacramento, CA 95864-2903
916-243-9824 weslum@aol.com

Secretary: Jan Winbigler
7631 Nadia Way
Sacramento, CA 95831
916-393-2033 janwinbigler@gmail.com

Treasurer: David Saxby
PO BOX 6944
Auburn CA 95604
(916) 479-2978
Dpbear74@gmail.com

Recruitment: Lynette Bell
8814 Live Oak Road
Wilton, CA 95693
916-747-4068
lynetteannbell219@gmail.com

Editor's Recruiting Note:
Please check the current news for Caltrans
25- and 40-Year Awards and recent Retirees
<http://www.dot.ca.gov/ctnews>

RECRUITING MADE EASY

(Forward the website below to people you know that have 25 years of State Service or more)

Nigel Blampied, D4 QCC Director, has posted a page on the Caltrans website advertising the QCC to all Caltrans employees. The site can be accessed at: <https://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-4/d4-popular-links/forward-issue-2/quarter-century-club>

In Memoriam

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

Name	District	Date
Gordon Lee Bordsen	03	Dec 02, 2022
Peter Hom	05	Oct 21, 2022
Wally Cox	05	Nov 27, 2022
Guy Visbal	08	Sep 16, 2022
Martin G Tatera	08	Nov 03, 2022
Linda Perez	08	2022
Duane Sharp	08	May 05, 2022
John Nakken	09	Sep 22, 2022
George Nash	09	
Gerald (Jerry) V Smith	11	Sep 02, 2022
Milton (Milt) Costello Jr	11	Sep 29, 2022
Chris White	11	Oct 09, 2022
John Harvey Burnside	C	Nov 03, 2022

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 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 the same email 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 the same email. Let us hear from you!

Time to Renew your Membership!

Send in your yearly Dues
See page 19, Membership Renewal Form

The Haps in District 1

District 1 did not submit an entry for this edition. Current news will be included in the next edition.

The Haps in District 2

District 2 has no major news items, however, **Jim Ceragioli** did say he's doing fine, and to expect a potential report of his exploits for the next issue.

Personally, I've been dealing with a setback in my left eye (again). The replacement lens surgery I had earlier this year failed. The lens detached itself and slid down the eye causing blurry double vision. Fortunately, the surgeon was able to go back in and reattach it in a better location, and so far, so good. Stitch in the eye comes out next week. **Anne** just had a new granddaughter, Anita, and one of my grandkids

is expecting a new arrival in the spring. In other words, things and events keep us busy.

Please contact me at shastaqcc@yahoo.com with items of interest or if you are interested in being the D-2 QCC Director.

To end this note, I'd like to wish everyone a wonderful Christmas and a happy (and healthy) New Year.

- Bill Belcher

The Haps in District 3

Hard to believe it's December 2022 already. Where has the time gone? I know I have another birthday coming up in February, but really? I'm not that old – and no I'm not telling how old I am.

The District 3 Fall Luncheon was held at the Peach Tree Golf and Country Club on Sunday October 9th. Everyone had a great time visiting and socializing as always. **Chiyo Nakagawa's** son, Dennis entertained us by playing the piano. Very talented, he plays several other instruments as well as playing in a band. We are planning our spring luncheon and hope to have a different location selected for our member's enjoyment.

Jan Johnson:

As I've said previously my family and I are Disney junkies. At the end of October, we went to Disney World. Many thanks to my ex-husband for taking my daughter's Tonya & Keri and me. Wow, that was an experience. Did you know Disney World sits on 45 square miles of property and they are planning on buying more property/ acres? The parks are miles apart from each other and you can't see Magic Kingdom from Epcot or Animal Kingdom or Hollywood or Disney Springs.

If you stay at a Disney Resort, you can be bussed

from the resort to whatever park you want to go to and back to your resort. It's great to be bussed from the resort to a theme park. No driving or parking hassles. Nor do you have to pay \$25 per day to park. Interesting highway signing once you enter "Disney" property. Instead of the normal green as we see going down a highway, the signs are RED. Its rather cool to see. People within the parks were so addicted to their cell phones; you have to watch where they are heading as they surely don't. Oh well, nothing new there.

We were able to visit with our Aunt Waneta and cousins Rhonda and Lanie. They live in Kissimmee, which is only a few miles from Orlando. Lanie works for Disney, at Epcot, as a Mechanical Engineer. We visited with Lanie while she was at work and then she got us onto two rides, no lines, wonderful to have her that's for sure. That's the end of my Disney trip for this year.

Jan and Richard Agesen recently returned from a six-week adventure involving various modes of transportation.

The Trip began with a quick flight to Seattle. The next morning, we boarded the Norwegian Cruise Line "Encore" for a 21-day trip to Miami. The ship stopped in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Los Cabo's, Mazatlan, Puerto Vallarta, Acapulco, Guatemala, Panama City and Cartagena Columbia. The journey took us through the Panama Canal. Watching how the the ship moved from the Pacific Ocean to the Atlantic Ocean was so fascinating!!



Upon arriving in Miami, we rented a car for our journey up the Atlantic Coast. Our drive up the coast was about a week after Hurricane Nicole hit Florida. We observed damage to beachfront homes and businesses. Luckily, it did not affect our plans.



Jan and Richard Agesen & Cruise Ship "Encore"

During our adventure, we enjoyed many ship excursions and visited many places of interest. One of our favorites was the Wright Brothers National Memorial in Kitty Hawk, NC where the first powered aircraft flew for 852 ft in 59 seconds in 1903. Overwhelming to think how far we have come since then.

We visited the home of Thomas Jefferson known as Monticello near Charlottesville, VA. It's on the back side of older nickels. We toured the downstairs of the home seeing some of the original furnishings and decorations. Also walked the grounds to see the lovely garden and



Home of Thomas Jefferson-Monticello

where the slaves worked and lived. A very interesting day.

Eventually boarded Amtrak for our return to Sacramento. We have come to enjoy riding the train. Travelers enjoy scenery that motorists or those flying will not get to enjoy. A roomette is the only way to travel if your journey is overnight. The coach seats are not comfortable for an overnight trip!!

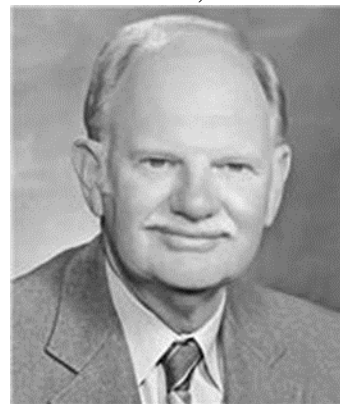


While it is nice to get away, it is equally nice to get home and enjoy your own bed and pillow. Wishing everyone a wonderful 2023!!!

Road Last Travelled

From the Appeal Democrat on December 8, 2022:

Gordon Lee Bordsen entered this world on Sunday, January 6th, 1929 and departed December 2nd, 2022. Born to Tonder and Jennie



Bordsen of Norway, he had two sisters. He grew up on a sheep ranch in the Sutter Buttes. He entered school not speaking English but Norwegian. At age 14, Gordon was given a special driver's license

permitting him to drive to and from school,

because the school bus didn't go far enough to pick him up. Of course, Gordon and his Model B Ford, "drove all over California".

In 1946, **Gordon** graduated from Sutter Union High School. **Tonder**, as he was known back then, played football, basketball, baseball, was in student leadership, a member of CSF, and was active in FFA. After graduation, Gordon attended Yuba College.

Drafted into the Korean War, Gordon spent time in England building airfields. Upon returning home, Gordon met Carol Jean Herbranson and on Saturday, June 19th, 1954, the pair married in Minnesota. The newlyweds moved to Stockton where Gordon attended and graduated from the College of the Pacific (now known as University of the Pacific).

The Division of Highways, now known as the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), in the central valley needed people with his skill set. He desired to be assigned to the Marysville office where he started as a right-of-way agent. He assessed land as part of the construction of the Interstate Highway System. Growing up on a ranch and having worked on farms gave him unique and valuable insight into the value of rural properties. **Gordon** helped secure the land to expand I-5 in Colusa and Glenn Counties, Highway 20 in Sutter, Yuba and Nevada counties, and Highway 99 in Butte County.

The family was active in the Lutheran church, rarely missing a Sunday. **Gordon** was an active member of the Yuba-Sutter community. He taught classes at Yuba College on Real Estate Appraisal. He was the voice of the Sutter Huskies Football for over 25 years. A passionate member of the Marysville Rotary Club, he was club President and in 1987, Rotary District Governor. In 1963, Gordon and Carol Jean became charter members of the Sons of Norway, Snowshoe Thompson Lodge.

From **Jan Johnson**: I remember playing Pinochle with Gordon and probable 14 others every day at lunch time in the cafeteria which was located in the basement of the old District 3 building. Single deck, ugh, I learned playing it double deck, quite the adjustment. Enjoyed playing with **Gordon** and the rest of the gang.

Until next time. Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Be careful out there.

- **Jan Johnson**

The Haps in District 4

The Annual **Ed Coble** Lunch Bunch Christmas Luncheon was held on December 13. News from the luncheon will be included in the next issue of the QCCer. Ed Coble was helped this year by **Mike Chan** and **Dianne Steinhauser** and the luncheon was held at the Basque Cultural Center in South San Francisco.

The birthday group continues to meet on the third Wednesday of each month at the Guadalajara restaurant near Fruitvale Station, Oakland, under the able leadership of **Anita Appiano**. The December 21 meeting will recognize the birthdays of **Mike LeFavre**, **Roger House**, and **Elizabeth Clemente**.

On a personal note, at the December deadline for this newsletter, I am working on grading for my course on Transportation Project Management as part of the MS in Transportation Management (MSTM) at San José State University. I had several guest speakers during the class, including retired Caltrans Director **Laurie Berman**, retired Caltrans Chief Deputy Director **Jim Davis**, and a bright new Caltrans Senior Transportation Planner, **Marissa Brown**. It was a privilege this year to interact with several students who are up-and-coming Caltrans employees, including students from Districts 2, 4, 7, 10, and HQ.

Apart from me, MSTM faculty members with Caltrans experience include retired CFO **Norma Ortega** and current program manager for Statewide Connected Corridors, **Nick Compin**. The MSTM operates under the guidance of the board of the Mineta Transportation Institute, where former Caltrans Directors **Will Kempton** and **Jeff Morales** are chair and vice chair respectively, and former and current Caltrans Directors **Toks Omishakin** and **Tony Tavares** are on the board. If you know of anyone who is looking for, or would benefit from, a graduate degree in Transportation Management, please direct them to the MSTM at San José State.

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

Encountering Two Miracles From The Loma Prieta Earthquake In One Day By **Gordon Analla**

It was a Saturday morning over a week plus from the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake. I had been a Safety Officer for Caltrans for over seven years. I was about to meet an employee that could have ended up dead or severely injured. He was an Engineer in the Construction Branch, who had been admitted to Highlands Hospital in Oakland earlier in the week.

I won't give his name, but the individual was injured when one evening in the dark of night he entered the remains of the Cypress Freeway. A "Ramp Closed" sign was posted along with delineation and barricades. He opened an area enough so his truck could pass through. Put the delineation back and then proceeded to drive off that highway. How far he and his truck fell, that I don't know. All I know was I saw the pictures of the truck and it landed upside down, flat as the habitual pancake. He had to have been wearing his seatbelt, and as the film "Room to Live" states, it certainly was.

He was my first encounter with a miracle that day. His injuries were not life threatening and I don't believe anything was broken. He was severely contused if there is such a thing. He looked like a professional fighter who was on the losing end of a decision or a knockout. But overall, he was okay. I didn't want to harass the individual or bombard him with many questions. This was the first time we had met. I was simply concerned for him and asked if there was anything he needed, if there was anything I could do for him.

He told me that the treatment was good and that he was going to be released soon. We did talk about the accident, but I don't remember the specifics too well. He knew he had made a mistake, and I can only imagine what he felt like when he knew what was transpiring. He did continue his career with Caltrans, and we did encounter each other from time to time. If there was any adverse action taken against him, I was not privy to it. My professional opinion, he had paid enough with the experience. I believe with my heart and soul, he simply made a mistake and paid for it dearly . . . he was very fortunate that it wasn't worse.

The second miracle I encountered that day, was not so much the person, but the experience, the magnitude. After visiting the engineer at Highlands, as I exited the main lobby, it was filled with media personnel, lights, camera, action, and reporters reporting from the scene. I had no idea why they were there. I don't remember if I saw a fellow Caltrans employee or asked someone, but I learned that a Caltrans engineer, **Steve Whipple**, had helped rescue a man still alive after the quake. Steve was out checking the site, somewhere I believe on the Cypress. It was early morning and the adrenalin from the Earthquake had passed, and as I seem to remember it, the beginning of the day was rather mundane, if you could imagine that. Then it happened. Steve with a flashlight in hand, some

15 feet above him, noticed a person in a car. There was movement which caught his attention. The person was Buck Helms, and this occurred 89 hours after the '89 Earthquake, oh the irony. He called for assistance and Mr. Helms was taken to Highlands. That was the second miracle of that day.

The story doesn't end happily. Unfortunately, despite valiant efforts by the medical staff and the gentlemen himself, Mr. Helms succumbed one month and one day after the quake. But so amazing that he battled, that he lived, that he held on, all that time. That was the great takeaway of the human spirit.

Steven Whipple was one of nine members from the Bay Area that were recognized for their efforts during the Loma Prieta Earthquake and were given the honor of throwing out the first pitch(es) of game number three, the resumption of the World Series between the Giants and the A's. Way to go Steve. A very quiet gentleman.

(Gordon Analla: I always thought this of the devastating earthquake. I believe because the Giants and A's were playing or tried to play the game, it saved many lives. As I feel that many fans headed home early to catch the 5:05 start time on television. It is surely something the way certain things in life work out. Don't you think?)

- Nigel Blampied

The Haps in District 5

Happy Holidays! It's mid-December, and we've just had our first big storm. Highway 1 has been closed twice in Monterey County due to slides and falling rock. Power outages, flooding, fender benders, etc. are keeping our Maintenance folks busy. Locally, a huge tree fell in the plaza at the Old Mission, but fortunately no pedestrians were affected.

Good news for travelers driving between San Joaquin Valley and the Central Coast: The CTC has approved funding for a \$171 million project to improve the Cholame "Y" junction of Rte 41 and 46. The intersection will be replaced with a flyover connection to transfer eastbound traffic on Rte 46 to northbound Rte 41. Ground breaking will happen next March, and work is expected to take three years.

A pilot project to improve traffic flow on Rte 101 near Pismo Beach would widen the inside shoulder into a part-time travel lane on weekdays. Concrete barriers separating N/B and S/B lanes will gain about 10 inches in height. This has met with some resistance from local officials because it will obscure views of the coast. Other parts of the project include a park-and-ride lot on Price Street and extension of the shared use path in Shell Beach.

Those of you who use Facebook may want to check out the "CT Retirees" page. Thanks to **Barb Ronimus**, a former D-5 employee, I've enjoyed seeing several articles about our district from the CSAA book "California Highways" by Ben Barlow, published circa 1920. They remind me of the book and video produced by CT in honor of our 100th anniversary.

After being cancelled the previous two years, our D-5 Holiday BBQ was held at Trinity Hall on December 6. People were very happy to see old friends and catch up on news. Several retirements were announced, including District Director **Tim Gubbins**, **Buddy Cruz**, **Julie Gonzales**, **John Luchetta**, and others whose names I missed. We enjoyed a delicious BBQ thanks to **Vince Zorn** and crew, guided by **Bill Fieldhouse**. Several big gift baskets presented by the Deputies were raffled off to the delight of the audience. Emcee Buddy asked retirees to stand, and **Pearl Cole** was recognized as being retired for 38 years! He also asked attendees to

stand if it was their first BBQ, and it was great to see so many new employees.

Please think good thoughts for **Herb Filipponi** who is recovering from an accident. His daughters tell me he is on the mend and hoping to return to the winery soon.

Sad to report that we recently lost two old friends. **Peter Hom** passed away on October 21 at age 95. He was preceded in death by his wife Millie. Pete retired in 1988 as a Senior Transportation Engineer and enjoyed travelling, going to family reunions, and designing projects for his children and grandchildren. He was a member of the D-5 golf team for many years.

Wally Cox passed away on November 27 at age 93. He was preceded in death by his wives Othel Lee and Udella. Wally worked in Maintenance in Bakersfield, New Cuyama, and Santa Maria. After retirement he started growing avocados in Arroyo Grande.

- Kathleen Copeland

The Haps in District 6

District 6 is looking for a new QCC Director and QCC Secretary/Treasurer. Please let **Terry Littleton** or **Mike Ogilvie**, statewide Secretary/Treasurer, know if you are interested.

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

It is the end of 2022 and the year has gone by too fast!

Our Christmas Luncheon was held on Saturday, December 10, 2022, at Hannah's Restaurant in San Bernardino at noon. The new District 8 QCC officers were selected. Hear more about the festivities in our next newsletter.

Note from **Sybille Phillips**: It is my pleasure to announce that **Andy Machen** will replace me as the D-8 QCC Director starting next year. I look forward for good things to come.

Note from **Marsha Lotze**: This is my last newsletter. I'm retiring as Secretary/Treasurer after approximately 25 years. **Linda Supernaw** and **Wanda Germux** will be handling everything starting in January. Please share stories about what you are doing at Caltrans or in retirement with them so they can share it in the QCCer newsletter!

Special Note: All QCC members of D-8 and all the QCC Statewide Officers extend a big **THANK YOU** to **Marsha** for her contributions to the QCC over her many years of service!

A Transportation Innovation Fair was held on Tuesday, October 25, 2022, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 464 W. Fourth St, San Bernardino, Ca 92401. All innovative companies doing business in Southern California were asked to join Caltrans, District 8 for the event. **Sybille** attended the Innovation Fair on the lawn of the DO. Very interesting exhibits and vendors/consultants/CT Divisions. Sybille enjoyed meeting up with many friends from Caltrans!

Sybille has joined California State Retirees (CSR) and the Retired Public Employees Association (RPEA). We can't have enough people watching out for our retiree benefits!!! If you are interested contact **John Chiu**, Membership Chair for the CSR, (951) 237-1193. John worked in Planning before he retired. For

RPEA contact **June Kopple** at (909) 583-1082. Both organizations were gracious and let me announce info about the CT QCC as several CT retirees are members.

Sybille encourages everyone to please invite friends to join the D8 QCC – and if they are not eligible – invite them to the Informal Gathering! Everyone have a joyous holiday and a great New Year!

The November QCC Informal Gathering was held at the Sizzler in San Bernardino on Waterman. **Andy Machen, Fred Rios, Priscilla Williams, Vera Holloway, Laverne Archie, Sylvia Mata, Charlotte Shehan, Walt Griffith,** and **Sybille** attended and had a great time sharing stories, info about retirement issues, etc. The next gathering will be January 25 at noon same place (noon on 4th Wednesday of odd months – location can vary – check with Laverne).

Also, please remember that **Andy Machen** would love to have Caltrans memorabilia (in case your children or relatives do not want them). Please make your wishes known and give them the QCC phone numbers in case they want to contact us.

Received from **Daniel Rubinstein** on behalf of Director **Tony Tavares**, on the temporary appointment of **Janice Benton** as the Acting Assistant Deputy Director for the Middle-Mile Broadband Initiative effective Monday October 3, 2022.

Janice will provide critical statewide leadership and strategic direction as we partner with the CA Department of Technology to construct the Middle-Mile Broadband network. This effort aims to bring high-speed broadband service to underserved communities. Through the program of projects Caltrans is delivering it will construct the middle-mile network that will serve as the backbone for the state's effort to strengthen broadband connections that improve

Californians' access to education, health services and employment opportunities.

Janice has been with Caltrans for thirty-years and has worked in Headquarters Design and many other areas and was recently Deputy District Director of Traffic Operations in D-8. Please join Tony in congratulating Janice on this important position for not only Caltrans, but for all of California!

From **Jean Advincula** of District Communications on behalf of the Deputy District Director, Construction. **Nick Truong** has been selected as the temporary Senior Transportation Engineer for Unit 4491 located at our Murrieta Field Office, effective September 6, 2022.

Nick graduated from UCLA with a civil engineering degree in 1988. Nick began his career with the Department of Transportation in 1991.

Nick has worked in Traffic Design, PS&E, Design, and Construction for a total of 31 years with Caltrans.

From **Jean Advincula** of District Communications on behalf of the Deputy District Director, Maintenance. Pleased to announce the promotion of **Iyad Namy** to the position of Senior Transportation Engineer in the Division of Maintenance, effective September 12, 2022.

Iyad earned his B.S degree in civil engineering in 1993 and his M.S. and PhD in civil engineering in 2000 with 27 years of engineering experience. He has been a licensed civil engineer since 2009 with a Project Management Professional certification since 2016.

Since joining Caltrans Iyad has completed two Out of Class assignments. He worked as a lead engineer in his unit, managing and delivering a variety of transportation projects including Highway Maintenance, Capitol Preventive

Maintenance and maintenance station Design/Build projects.

From **Jean Advincula** of District Communications on behalf of the Deputy District Director, Design. Pleased to announce the promotion of **Kirk Bayless** to the position of Senior Transportation Engineer. He will be assigned as the District Office Engineer in the Division of Design effective October 3, 2022.

Kirk started at Caltrans in 2000 as a Transportation Engineer in the Design Division. He joined the Construction Division in 2004, working in Materials Engineering, Constructability, Claims and CPM Scheduling Units.

Kirk worked on numerous high-profile projects, particularly along the Route 15 corridor, including the Devore 11 Pavement Rehabilitation, a design sequencing project, and the Victorville to Barstow Widening, among others.

From **Jean Advincula** of District Communications on behalf of the Deputy District Director, Design. Pleased to announce the promotion of **Ferdinand Delacruz**, to the position of Senior Transportation Engineer, Electrical in the Division of Design effective October 20, 2022.

Ferdinand began his career with in 1998 as an Electrical Engineer in the Division of Traffic Operations. He later transferred to Electrical Design. He worked on many projects in various areas with a variety of electrical PS&E packages, helped implement new technology like VDS (vehicle detection stations), CMS technology and much more.

Ferdinand holds a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from Cal Poly Pomona and earned his E.E. and P.E. license in 2006.

From **Jean Advincula** of District Communications on behalf of the Deputy District Director, Administration. Pleased to announce the appointment of **Eric Dionne** to the Chief of Public & Media Affairs position with District 8 which encompasses Riverside and San Bernardino counties. It is the largest geographically of the 12 statewide Caltrans Districts with four interstates and 32 routes totaling over 7,000 lane-miles.

Eric joined the District in 2016 as a CEO II and Leadworker where he served in Mt. Pass, Dry Creek, and Fawnskin in the mountains. He is also a certified rock scaler for the department.

Eric served most recently as the Maintenance PIO since June of 2021. He served as the point of contact providing service to the public, media, and other agencies. He also created video and audio production with social media content for the District.

In his new role, **Eric**, will organize, facilitate, and execute a comprehensive outreach program to inform stakeholders, the media, internal audiences, and the public of the activities and objectives of the department.

Eric attended the University of Nevada, Las Vegas from 2004-2007.

From **Jean Advincula** of District Communications on behalf of the Deputy District Director, Construction. Pleased to announce that **Sara Hartz** will be serving as the Acting Regional Lab Manager, Supervising Transportation Engineer, in the Division of Construction effective January 3, 2023.

Sara began her state career in Maintenance as a permanent intermittent Caltrans Highway Maintenance Worker in 1996 and within 8 months she received her commercial driver's license and became one of the youngest women CDL holders at 18 years old. Sarah went back to

school and received her civil engineering degree from Cal State University, Northridge in 2004. She went to work for Structures Construction for 13 years and has continued working for the department.

From **Jean Advincula** of District Communications on behalf of the Deputy District Director, Administration. Pleased to announce the promotion of **Susanne Kulesa** to the position of Strategic Partners Manager within the Division of Administration, Office of Employee and Strategic Engagement effective September 21, 2022.

Susanne spent 17 years working in public service for the County of San Bernardino. She then spent 5 years working for a nonprofit organization supporting organ and tissue donation prior to accepting the position of District Equal Employment Opportunity Officer at Caltrans, District 8.

Susanne holds a B.S. in Psychology from the University of CA, at Riverside and a M.S. degree in Education from the University of Phoenix.

A Retirement Open House for Acting District Director **Diane Morales** was held on Nov. 29, 2022. Diane has 23 years of Caltrans service. **Sybille Phillips** attended this open house and noted that the “Caltrans Hat” creators made her a beautiful and interesting Caltrans/Hawaii/Ocean creatures hat! **Meardey Tim** gave a very eloquent presentation, chronicling Diane’s career at CT, the projects she was part of, her various teams and activities! Others shared similar experiences and thanked her for her support. **Dave Bricker**, retired Environmental Deputy, also came. Sybille was a little late so others may have spoken before Meardey...

Regina Garcia is also retiring. A luncheon at The Mexico Restaurant on Highland Avenue was held on Wednesday, December 14th.

Another longtime employee, **Jamal Saleh** is retiring. A dessert reception was held on Thursday, December 15th in the District 8 office.

Congratulations to all these District 8 employees!

With tender hearts and fond memories, we mourn the passing of **Guy Visbal** on September 16, 2022. He was 93 years young. Guy married his high school sweetheart, Joan Visbal in 1950 at Keesler Air Force in Biloxi MS and they shared 71 loving years of marriage. After serving in the US Air Force during the Korean War, he began a memorable 40- year career at Caltrans in San Bernardino. Guy cherished the friendships formed there and was proud of planning Inland Empire bike trails and roadways.

Guy’s love of sports included playing football at San Bernardino HS and St Mary’s college. He carried on that passion by coaching many youth football teams and Little League teams. He and Joan loved riding their tandem bicycle along bike trails and at Catalina Island. The loving duo shared adventures, backpacking and hiking Mt. Whitney, Yosemite Half Dome, and other national Parks. Ballroom, country dancing, and later teaching dance together are all treasured memories.

Source: San Bernardino County Sun on Sep. 24, 2022

From **Jean Advincula**, District Communications on behalf of the Acting District 8 Director, it is with deep sadness that I inform you of the passing of former Caltrans District 8 employee, **Martin G. Tatera**, on Thursday, November 3, 2022 in Upland, CA.

Martin had a long and successful career as a registered civil engineer with Caltrans starting in 1991 until he retired on July 1, 2009. He worked in Design Oversight and Project Management. He was later promoted to Senior Transportation Engineer where he was in charge of the Hydraulics and CADD units.

Martin was very liked and respected by his staff and peers. He was a man of immense knowledge and wit. He was a self-made man who believed in education and hard work. Martin will be greatly missed by everyone who knew him.

Memorial services were held at Forest Lawn in Covina. **Sybille Phillips** attended Martin's Memorial and noted that not only did he work 18.3 years with CT, but he had also worked at several other organizations. **Karen Jessen, Joya Gilster** and her husband, and two more Caltrans gentlemen were there. Everyone shared how funny **Martin** had been and how he loved his British cars and to have a good time! Also highlights from his career at CT. Sybille was impressed because Martin persisted in his engineering studies even though he was working to support his wife and four sons while going to school! It took him 10 years to get his degree – but he got it!!!

Allan Kirst forwarded the sad news of the passing of **Linda Perez**, District Safety Officer, in the 1990's through the early 2000's. No other information available.

Received a note from **Carol Sharp** that **Duane Sharp** passed away on May 5, 2022, at the age of 91. Duane was a long time Construction Department Transportation Engineer. He was a Resident Engineer for as long as I can remember.

All our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of **Guy, Martin, Linda, and Duane.**

- **Marsha Lotze**

The Haps in District 9

On December 1, 2022 **Jim Kemp** organized another "Old Farts Breakfast" which was held at the Bishop Country Club. Twenty-four people attended, mostly retirees. The speakers were **Cris Talbert** and **Bryon Winzonread** from District 09 who

discussed Caltrans electric vehicle policies and promotion. California is advocating electric vehicles in a major way.

I had a slide show of old pictures from the 1970's and 80's of Dist. 09 employees that was displayed on a large TV. There were 273 photos and it took about an hour to cycle through. The attendees were: **Kit Birmingham, John Biechel, Mike Carrington, Dick Clark, Mark Dossey, Louis Elias, Bart Godett, Dan Holland, Donna Holland, Craig Holste, Loyd Hopper, Jim Kemp, Bud Moody, Bob Pingel, Lora Rischer, Ken Rischer, Gail Rosander, Rob Sanchez, Jay Smart, Tim Schutz, Jim Snell, Dan Young** and myself.

The winter weather has come to the Owens Valley, with freezing temperatures in the mid 20's and snow on the Sierras and on the White Mountains with lots of leaves on the ground.

John Nakken passed away on Sept 22, 2022 in San Luis Obispo. John worked mostly in Design in Dist 09. He retired in mid 1990's, not sure of the date. He was a good Engineer. Our condolences to his family and friends.

George Nash also passed way. We do not have any info on when he passed away. George worked mostly in Design with some time spent in Construction. He was Deputy District Director for Design. Another good Engineer. Our condolences to his family and friends.

"Did you hear about the new Restaurant called Karma? There is no menu: You get what you deserve.

- **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

The end of the year is upon us and it's hard to believe that 2022 is almost over. I apologize for the lack of communication lately, but I was traveling for most of the summer and had surgery in September! If you're like most of us after hunkering down for two years, we got our vaccines and have gone back to leading mostly normal lives (or our new normal anyway).

On that front we're trying to start planning for a regular slate of events in 2023 with a luncheon to kick things off in the spring. We have the list of those of you who paid for the last luncheon in 2022 that was cancelled and will email you to see if you'd like to sign up for the upcoming one as well. If we don't have your emails, we can't contact you, so please send me those. I won't add your email to my contact list unless you specifically indicate you want to receive emails from me. Depending on the number of responses, at that point we'll open it up to the remaining members who didn't RSVP for that last event.

A camping trip to Agua Caliente County Park has also been discussed. If you are interested and might like to participate, send me your feedback.

Keep checking our District 11 QCC Facebook page for updates and other items of interest to club members.

Remember to send in your dues so you can continue to be members in good standing! Dues have to be sent in to the QCC post office address. Your renewal form is included on the last page of the Newsletter so make sure you fill it out.

The **ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out)** and **JULIET (Just Us Ladies Innocently Eating Together)** breakfast at the Denny's in Fletcher Hills has resumed, so plan for the 3rd Wednesday

of every month at 8am to come out and join the gathering. This month it will be December 21st.

From **Gabriel Acero**, Structure Construction: It is with great pleasure that I announce **David Toci** as the new D11 Senior Bridge Engineer (Supervisory), Structure Construction Office B, effective October 14.



David graduated from San Diego State University in 2002 with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering.

Prior to joining Caltrans, David worked for several consultant engineering companies where he was the Project Engineer for a large contractor on the I-805/Olympic Parkway Interchange in City of Chula Vista and a Construction Management Consultant on several projects in San Diego. He joined Caltrans in 2008 and has worked on several large District 11 projects, including the SR-52 extension through the city of Santee, the Brawley Bypass Phase 3 in Imperial County, the I-805 North Design-Build Project, the Mid-Coast LRT Extension through UCSD, and the Sweetwater River Bridge project on I-805. David was also a Structures Construction Winter Training instructor in 2016 and 2022.

Claire Dodge notified us that **Tom Bouquin** retired on Oct. 6 after 34 years with Caltrans. He had experience in many departments in D-11 and was currently Chief Deputy.

A Road Last Traveled

Jerry Smith, an **Honorary QCC Member**, passed away on September 2, 2022 at the age of 89. Jerry was born October 24, 1933 in Escondido, CA. He attended Escondido High School and joined the US Naval Reserves during the Korean War. He started his 37-year career

with the Department of Transportation (then known as the Division of Highways) in 1954 working as a surveyor, and rose through the ranks to become the Deputy District Director of Construction prior to his retirement. Over the course of his career, Jerry became a registered engineer and worked on many large projects in Alpine, Mission Valley, Santee and El Centro.

Milton M. Costello Jr. passed away peacefully on September 29, at home with his beloved spouse, Elba Carolina, by his side, family at his bedside and faithful dog, Betty, at his feet. He was 94. **Milt** was born in Norfolk, Virginia and settled in San Diego when he was five years old.

He graduated from Grossmont High School, served in the US Army and went on to study Civil Engineering at SDSU, graduating in 1951. He met the love of his life, Elba Carolina Velazquez, while vacationing in Mexico. They married two years later in 1955 and went on to have five children, raising them in San Diego.

Milt worked over 40 years for California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) as Senior Resident Engineer and District Construction Engineer on various highway and bridge projects throughout San Diego, including the Lilac Bridge and the I-15 Miramar By-pass. Milt left a legacy on San Diego not only with the dozens of transportation projects he built but also with the next generation who tried their best to fill his shoes and live up to the standards he set.

Chris White passed away on October 9, 2022, at the age of 76, from complications after surgery to correct a recently identified congenital heart abnormality. He was born in San Francisco in 1946 but grew up in San Diego. He graduated from USDHS "Uni" (63) and San Diego State (68), where he majored in anthropology with an emphasis in archaeology. Following two years of active duty in the Navy, he returned to his education in anthropology in graduate school at UCLA.

Chris taught anthropology courses at SDSU as a Department Lecturer in the mid-1970s. Following his active teaching career at SDSU, he worked in the private sector as a consultant, providing archaeological expertise for various project environmental impact analyses. His services were retained by several major utility companies in the Western U.S.

In 1980, **Chris** was hired as an archaeologist by the Caltrans San Diego office, where he remained until his retirement as Chief, Environmental Resource Studies Branch in 2009.

In other news: Per QCC Secretary-Treasurer **Mike Ogilvie**, emails are still getting bounced back so please provide us with your current contact information!

On a personal note, I'm now the proud grandma of a new baby boy! My daughter Corey safely delivered baby Henry on November 20 at 11:45 PM. Welcome to the world Henry!

- Kelly Manning

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 (aka HQ) had its December Luncheon at the Old Spaghetti Factory. Forty-three (43) new-comers and old-timers gathered for a terrific time of visiting, food, and raffle winnings. Central has been successful in recruiting newcomers, most of whom intend to join. Members were so pleased with the results that they unanimously voted to continue the recruiting and sponsoring lunch for first-time visitors. At both the August and December lunch some attendees were so engaged that they stayed late.

PHOTOS OF DECEMBER'S LUNCHEON:



Omar Patel, Jan Winbigler, Dave and Judy Saxby



Lynette Bell with Glen and Laura Rosander



Mary Beth Herritt and Jim Elder

During lunch, **Wes Lum** was reelected Director by acclamation. There was discussion of Statewide QCC Officers, but no interest was expressed.

Several members and first timers were planning to attend but missed because of illness (colds, flu, or covid) or traveling out of town. We look



Terrie Bressette from TransLab

forward to our future attendance growing as we get healthier and bring in new members. We wish to thank **Dean Coats** from TransLab for keeping Wes in the loop of activities, retirements, and passings of retirees from TransLab. Dean recently passed his baton to **Ken Pinkerman**.

We also wish to thank **Ray Zelinski** for keeping **Wes** informed of bridge engineers who have passed. Ray is a leader in Sons-in-Retirement (SIRs) Branch 23 that includes many Caltrans retirees, especially bridge engineers.

We are sad to report the passing of **John Harvey Burnside** on November 3, 2022. John was born on May 24, 1941 in Los Angeles, California and died on November 3, 2022 in Big Oak Valley, California following a courageous battle with an aggressive form of cancer.

John attended Cahuenga Elementary, Virgil Junior High, Belmont High School, Los Angeles City College, and the University of California, Berkeley, graduating in 1964 with a degree in Civil Engineering.

John began his Civil Engineering career with the California Department of Transportation and remained there until his retirement in 2004 after forty years of service. While with CALTRANS, he worked on the feasibility and development of Modern Roundabouts and continued as a highly regarded consultant after retirement.

He will be dearly missed by many life-long friends. *Source: Los Angeles Times*

- **Wes Lum**

Events

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

District 4 -

The Caltrans Lunch Bunch normally meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 11:30am at various locations on the Peninsula but is currently inactive.

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**, retronl@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 -

Informal Get Together meets 4th Wednesday of odd months at 12:00 currently at Mexico Café. Bring a friend – QCC membership not required. Everyone pays their own. Locations may vary. Please call or text **LaVerne Archie**, 909-936-9940. RSVP desired but not required.

District 9 -

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

District 10 -

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.

Central District -

QCC Spring Luncheon is Thursday, April 13, 2023. Where: Old Spaghetti Factory, 1625 Watt Ave, Sacramento. Contact **Dave Saxby** 916-479-2978 or dpbear74@gmail.com.

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.

QCC Membership Renewal Form

Effective 2022

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

Name _____ District _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zipcode _____

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 and mail to:

QCC

PO BOX 421292

SAN DIEGO CA 92142-1292