



Award Programs

DISTRICTS 1, 8 AND 11 SALUTE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

From the Corner Pocket

The following account the District 8 employee awards program and lunch held May 24 at the San Bernardino Caltrans District office offers a great example of how cooperation can work. CTF area representative George Gray and I enjoyed a fun day in the sun with a very large crowd of District 8 employees, along with QCC directors **Taylor Smith** of District 8, **Dean Burns** of District 11, and Caltrans employees **Stacy Keck** of District 11 and **Rhonda Turner** of District 8

After learning about District 11's 26th annual awards recognition celebrated in Eureka from QCC Director **Arlene Hartin**, we have learned of District 8's outstanding 6th annual awards event. District 11 is just getting started in that direction and will have had its first awards lunch program on June 12th—before you read this.

Each district is unique. District 11 has an elegant off-site lunch funded in part by the district director and deputies who wash cars on Saturdays. District 8 raises funds with a very successful raffle to cover the cost of a catered lunch. And District 11 will combine its awards event with a reduced-cost lunch partly subsidized by PECG with a silent auction as a

fundraiser. I'd like to hear how other districts are progressing.

District 8 has five different types of awards with well thought-out criteria for each category. Several awards provide certificates of recognition to individuals or teams, and can be won by anyone who is nominated and meets the criteria. Individual winners in two of the categories can earn substantial trophies and cash. Nominations are evaluated using criteria and a top winner is recognized. An employee fundraiser covers all expenses. No tax dollars are used.

Our day in District 8 started with the four of us from District 11 driving up from the coastal "May-gray" of San Diego to a warm and sunny day—a nice change. We were met at the office by District 8 QCC Director Taylor Smith and went immediately to a courtyard where a DJ was playing good music. Canopies, decorations, tables and chairs were set up and employees were lining up in the shade of the building for lunch. We had a brief introduction to **Rhonda Turner**, the District 8 employee recognition coordinator who was directing the day's program and the operations to feed the eager crowd.

The district director and deputies wearing chef's hats decorated with highway art quickly served up a tasty Mexican lunch. The managers were the last to be fed (5 stars). A very large crowd of happy people mingled under canopies and the shade of trees enjoying the free lunch, the



music, and the employee awards and good fellowship. Those earning awards were invited up to be photographed with the district director in front of a large poster celebrating the day.

We took the opportunity to hand out as many QCC flyers and applications as we could. I expect that Taylor will have lots of new QCC District 8 members signing up soon.

The June 12 District 11 awards lunch will have an informational table to be manned by the QCC and CTF representatives.

There is significant talent out there to support you in your work, but it does take some effort to make connections. If you are retired and looking to turn loose some of your responsibilities, you need only to step forward to uncover the talent waiting to be invited. It's not "rocket science" to talk to your district staff and offer to help them revitalize the QCC.

Hundreds of Caltrans employees were hired after the 1970s layoffs and are now candidates to join the QCC. Get out there and find them and get them on board to add new enthusiasm and energy to your activities. And if you are not now contributing to your district's QCC events, it may be the time for you to call your current director and see how you can.

— Butch Biendara

Rather read the QCCer on-line?

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

A membership application and a wealth of information about QCC officers, history, and constitution are available at <http://ctqcc.150m.com/qcc.html>

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

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Secretary/Treasurer's Report

Yes, this could be the last issue you will receive IF...

... you have not paid your dues for 2007.

PLEASE check the mailing label on the front of this issue. If the date shown in the upper right corner is 12/31/2006, you are delinquent.

... you are an honorary member and the label shows "HON" or "ASSOCHON" and you have not yet notified the Secretary/Treasurer that you wish to remain exempt from paying dues.

Dues reminder cards and exempt status reminder cards were sent out last month. But almost 130 dues paying members are still delinquent. And almost 220 associate and honorary members have not requested exempt status.

I want to give all those "missing" members one last chance to pay dues or request exempt status before they are dropped from the mailing

list. Please get those dues/exemption requests in by July 31, 2007.

Several members have asked questions concerning dues and exemptions. Questions and answers follow:

How much are dues? Dues are \$15 per year.

I would have paid my dues, but I don't know where to send them. Send dues (and exemption requests to Kim Yarbrough, PO Box 2548, Vacaville, CA 95696-2548.

You can also e-mail exemption requests to: propman211@sbcglobal.net.

Why do we have to request an exemption every year? Whose idea was this, anyway? Bluntly, we want to make sure you are "on the right side of the grass". Sending the QCCer to those who are no longer with us, or who no longer care to receive it gets expensive. The idea was mine and was done as cost-cutting measure.

I want to thank all of you who sent in your dues and the exemption requests, and all of the notes also. It was good to hear from you.

To all of you who will be traveling the all over the globe (or around the corner) this summer, take care & be safe.

Until the next time,

—Kim Yarbrough

The Haps in District 1

This has been a hectic last quarter. **Amy Mizoguchi**, the personnel liaison who replaced me was expecting a baby and I was asked to fill in for a couple of months while she was on maternity leave. I was not sure about this but jumped back in anyway. It has been really great. Some things are the same, some different. I have been gone over five years so am seeing new people and new methods. The biggest change is that my reference material went from books to the computer, even the phone lists. Progress. I do

have to say that I will be ready to get back to my retired life.

At about this same time, some of our Caltrans people interested in preserving our district history got together to help organize our archive. This great group, which includes fellow QCCer **Guy Luther**, is working on different projects, including organizing historic photos, news clippings, books, and other items that were considered no longer needed for official business. We are finding, though, that this material is still needed and is a useful archive for the district. I understand several other districts are doing similar things. It is a great support to the work being done by our history group in Sacramento.

Both QCC and the Caltrans newsletter would like to have interesting stories relating to people and activities of the Division of Highways/Caltrans. It should be 400-800 words and include some pictures or a logo. We would love to hear from anyone who may have some interesting stories to share.

The 26th annual District 1 awards lunch is coming up on July 31, 2007 at the Red Lion in Eureka. This is the district's opportunity to honor employees who have worked for 25, 30, and 35 years. Hopefully, we will find more candidates for the QCC. Meanwhile, I have been spreading the word about QCC. I recently gave a talk to district managers about the California Transportation Foundation and included information on QCC. I did find some interest.

John Sherman recently returned to work for a time as well. He is also a great booster for QCC.

Jim and Linda Boyd made it over to the coast recently and I enjoyed meeting Linda and another friend for lunch. It was a great chance to catch up on the happenings both in Eureka and Redding. I also need to report that Linda got a hole in one on the golf course in February. I missed getting it in the last issue but that is too important to ignore. Congratulations, Linda.

Rusty Kay, widow of retired Bridge Engineer **Alton F. Kay**, and mother of retired Senior Transportation Engineer, **Bob Kay**, celebrated her 100th birthday on April 7 with a great party at Bob and Mary Kay's home. I get to see her quite often and really enjoy our visits. Happy Birthday, Rusty.

George Otterbeck survived the tax season. He helps a lot of people with their taxes. Now he too is back to work as the district construction liaison for the 10-mile bridge near Fort Bragg. He says that it is good to work with the old gang again.

Bob Trice and his wife have been enjoying their winter in Arizona. Their health has been good; they are enjoying their home enough to have it lined up for rental next winter. He reports that it even comes with a few coyotes running around in front of the house.

We are running into other happy Caltrans retirees at the monthly Order of Runeberg Swedish pancake breakfasts. Among them were **Harold Webster** and his wife, **Liz**, **Jim Lyon**, **Mike Jonckheere** and his wife, **Bert** and **Janice Bertolini** wife, and **Rick Knapp** (taking a break from his bicycle riding).

Regrettably, during this time my mother passed away. She was 93 and in declining health, but it is still a sad time getting used to her no longer being here. I was very touched that some of my Caltrans/QCC friends also attended her service. I really appreciated that support.

Al Toland, one of our retired Associate Transportation Engineers, passed away in May. Memorial services will be held for him on June 10 at the Wharfinger Building in Eureka. He had been retired only eight years and not quite 70 years old. He had a long Caltrans work history and leaves behind many saddened Caltrans friends as well as his family. Our deepest sympathy goes out to his family and friends. He will be greatly missed.

If you have any news for us, love the good stuff, but will accept the sad also, please contact me at ahartin@suddenlink.net.

— Arlene Hartin

NOTICE

This Could Be Your Last Issue!!

Please check your mailing label ... the date in the upper right hand corner is your dues "paid to" date. The Constitution now provides that members whose dues are not current by the end of February shall be dropped immediately from the Cue See Seer mailing list. Check it out! We wouldn't want you to miss a single issue.

Honorary Members

Please don't forget that the revised Constitution now states that all HONORARY members must notify the Secretary-Treasurer if they wish to continue their "dues-free" status. See officer list for Secretary-Treasurer address.

The Haps in District 2

We enjoyed the presence of fellow retirees **Ross Azavedo, Janet Benson, Janet Briggs, Dan and Vivian Cherry, Les Farley, Ralph Harkness, Gene Poch, Floyd Slack, Bob Towers, Keith Tumelson, Gene Wahl** and **Bud Woods**. We were also pleased to have former district director **Glenn Behm** join Russ Azevedo, Jerry Drennan, Gene Wahl and Bob Wenham and me for breakfast on March 19.

Jim Caragioli writes on April 16 that life goes on for an active retiree. "Gene Poch and I, along with a few other people, have

been very busy with our new library opening and a flood of books for our book sale on May 5. Grandson **Giovanni Caragioli** is growing like a weed and a second grandchild is on the way."

Jerry and **Terry Drennan** have just returned from a cruise on the Golden Princess around Cape Horn. This is their 12th cruise, teaching and directing bridge tournaments on various cruise ships. They have crossed the Atlantic six times in the last year and a half.

— Cam Garbutt

The Haps in District 3

The Caltrans Retirees Annual Spring Luncheon on April 12 at the Green House Cafe in Raley's Shopping Center in West Placerville was attended by 38 retirees and spouses. The local group was joined by people from Auburn, Grass Valley, Lone, Marysville, Plymouth, and Sacramento. Those attending were hosts **Doug** and **Grace Becker** and **Jerry Hamm, Dale Bourne, Bill** and **Barb Byer, LaRoy Carroll, Marty** and **Lucinda Cookman, Leno Cruz, Dave Danner, Max** and **Delores Dodson, Rich Elliot, Bob** and **Betty Fowler, Manuel Galvez, Darrell** and **JoAnn Hansen, Al** and **Delores Lara, Keith** and **Barbara Maggini, Dan** and **Roberta Mainwaring, Wally Mason, Bill** and **LaQuita Netto, Loren** and **Elaine Pollock, John Qualls, John Rocha, Bill** and **Barb Sands, Ross** and **Barb Shields, John Teresi** and **Martin Urevich**. Food was great and everyone enjoyed discussing old times.

Doug and **Grace Becker** have been enjoying catching Abalone in the Fort Bragg Area during the later part of April with **Doug**

reporting that bagging the limit was quite easy and usually accomplished early. Doug is an avid hunter and fisherman who enjoys both sports very much.

Jerry and **LuAnna Hamm** have just started a trip by auto that will take them through the southern part of the nation with visits planned to Grand Canyon and various sites in Arizona and Texas. They plan to be gone two to three weeks.

The Placerville Weekly Tuesday Breakfast group was honored by the presence of **CJ Kelly** from Marysville, resulting in an enjoyable time for all. CJ was in charge of the cleanup and opening of Highway 50 following the slide on the American River in early '83 and developed a great working relationship with the local highway maintenance crews.

Our breakfasts, held weekly on Tuesday at 8 am at the Green House Cafe in the Raley's Shopping Center in West Placerville, are open to all Caltrans retirees. No notification is needed. If you are free, come on out and join us.

From Marysville: It was good to see **George** and **Joanne Ellis** at the recent QCC luncheon. They have been a big part of the QCC family and we were happy to see both. I believe George also escorted **Tammy Garcia** and **Charlotte Dompier** to the luncheon.

Lita Wells writes: **Connie Keriotis** and I had a good 10-day trip to Arkansas and Tennessee. We did touristy things like the Cherokee Museum (Cherokee, North Carolina), Grand Ol' Opry, Graceland, Clinton Library and National Civil Rights Museum and enjoyed hiking to several waterfalls in the Smoky Mountains. We particularly enjoyed all the greenery in both states, but could have done without some of the thunderstorms that keep it so green.

Roland D'Arcy looks great and states his tan is from mowing his property and painting fences—not from playing golf.

Bill Green, former District 3

director and wife **Mary** are planning a trip to the east coast. A graduation is involved and a visit with family. Hope to hear from them when they return.

Recently saw **Linna Mullins** and **Carol Nelson**. Both look good.

Hope to see you in Fort Bragg this summer where I'll be spending a great deal of time. Have fun and be safe. Don't forget to send an e-mail to me about the short and long trips you are taking this summer.

— Susanna Ford and Keith Maggini

Dues Due?

Check the mailing label on your QCCer to find the date of your membership expiration. Please remit your membership dues as soon as possible.

The Haps in District 4

One correction to my last District 4 news: **Barbara Ann Birdsall** was the widow of **Dean**, not **Ralph, Birdsall**. Barbara, who was a longtime dispatcher and radio room operator for the Division of Maintenance retired in 1995 and passed away February 9, 2007 from cancer. Dean Birdsall was the superintendent of the San Leandro Maintenance Region in District 4.

The following is from District 4's *In Memory*: Barbara was a consummate professional in her daily work, always asking the pertinent questions, gathering the proper information and assisting anyone who needed help, support or understanding of operational procedures. She was a mentor,

friend and compassionate co-worker. Her skills were a great and much appreciated asset to the district and to Caltrans.

Her many friends and former co-workers still with Caltrans relay numerous stories of how Barbara helped them in work and in life. One in particular involved how Barbara and Dean would disappear for hours during the holidays to take presents to families who were struggling, including new workers at Caltrans. This effort on their part was always done in secrecy, without recognition or fanfare and always was paid for out of their own pockets. They did it because they enjoyed it and because they wanted to do so. This kindness enriched their lives as much as it helped others.

Barbara was predeceased by husband Dean and son **Robert Gardiner**, and is survived by daughter **Vicki Bale**; stepchildren **Jean Ingram** and **Gary Birdsall**; grandchildren **Nathan** and **Vanessa**; sisters **Sandra Walker** and **Laura Bohrer**. She was also a loving aunt to two nieces and two nephews.

Ted Nicou sent in his dues for the next two years, after which he will turn 80 and become an honorary member. Ted, who retired in 1992 after 40 years of service, in October 2004 married a church friend of more than 50 years who lives in Atherton.

Ted is a little upset at how the condition of our roadways has deteriorated and the use of bonds rather than increasing the gas tax to pay for highway construction, which will double the cost.

Ed and **Karen Coble** are looking to move to Walnut Creek to be closer to their daughter and granddaughter. Their daughter, **Alette**, is currently teaching at JFK University in Pleasanton.

Frank Pappa invited members of Ed Coble's Lunch Bunch to lunch at his house in August and extended the invitation also to their wives. **Bob Jacobs** quipped that as soon as **Jean**, Frank's wife, finds out about it, a divorce will follow in September!

Frank also remarked at the last luncheon that he was the oldest retiree of the group, at 85 years. This provoked a response from **Vern Waight** who is a sprightly 88 years.

Speaking of Vern, he has been promising to send me his memoirs so I can serialize them in this newsletter. They should be very interesting since Vern worked for the department from before World War II through the 1990s.

— Paul Hensley

The Haps in District 5

Hello. Hope your summer is off to a good start. We have been experiencing “June gloom” since May—hoping for more sunshine to bring color to the tomatoes.

Caltrans has made the front page of most newspapers the last few months, thanks to the swift repairs to I-880 and 580 in Oakland. The department and Director **Will Kempton** received kudos from the governor, legislators, city officials, and a grateful traveling public. Contractor **CC Myers** also received a BIG bonus for completing the project before the Memorial Day weekend.

Kudos of a different sort go to our Deputy Director of Construction, **Pat Connally**, who completed in the Boston Marathon in April. Pat finished in the top eight percent of men between ages 50-59 and placed in the top 19 percent of all men and women who finished the race. Pat says he is planning to run in future marathons and has his eye set on the Big Sur run along Highway 1 next year.

Pat recently became one of our newest QCC members, along with District Director **Rich Krumholz**. Welcome to the club!

The official Caltrans newsletter has invited Quarter Century Club members to contribute to it—thanks to **Heinz Heckeroth** for making this connection with the department.

We've been asked to submit articles between 400-800 words. If you have suggestions for stories from District 5 about the QCC, our members, or the good old days of Division of Highways, please let me know.

The CTF is accepting applications for the 2007 **Robert L. Negri** Memorial Scholarships. The deadline is October 31. Four scholarships in the amount of \$1,200 are awarded to college/university undergraduates majoring in Human Resources, Labor Studies, Public Sector Administration, or Business Administration. Current student assistants, volunteers, employees, and sons and daughters of Caltrans employees are eligible. For more information, contact **Donna Perry**, Division of Human Resources, (916) 227-7860 or email donna_perry@dot.ca.gov.

A note of interest: Those with long memories will recall the days of dialing “O” for an operator to place a telephone call. Then we went to “direct dial”, and **Liberty** 3-6000 became 543-6000. The next improvement was the establishment of the “lease line” or ATSS or CALNET; this system was supposed to be more economical than long distance. In May, we were notified that the CALNET access was being eliminated. Long distance calls are automatically routed to the least expensive service, and we will no longer dial “8” and the ATSS prefix. It's back to dialing “9” and 11 more digits for long distance—an improvement??

Congratulations to our Cashier **Joan McGrath** who retired on June 30. Joan had almost 40 years of service with District 5, META, and Water Resources. Joan was adamant about not wanting us to make a fuss over her leaving. Her friends and co-workers conspired to schedule a series of little surprises, luncheons, flowers, balloons, etc. and stretched the celebration over several weeks. Joan says she has no immediate plans, but she and **John** hope to schedule a cruise very soon. (I expect to have news of many

more retirements in the next few months as the "baby boomers" leave the workforce.)

Bob and I were pleased to be included in an 80th birthday party for **Al Jorge** in May. His wife **Delores**, kids and grandkids, surprised him with a BBQ dinner at the Community Center in Morro Bay. The hall was filled with friends and family and decorated with a golf theme. We enjoyed visiting with **Ken Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Babcock, Howard Bentzinger** and **Austin Carlton** and their guests, **Paul and Jewel Donatelli, RJ** and **Linda Brown, and Bill and Faith Fieldhouse**.

We're sorry to report the passing of **Richard "Dick" Jensen** on March 27 at age 83. He is survived by his wife **Betty**, sons **Ken** and **Jim**, daughter **Jackie**, and their families. Dick was born in Minnesota and served in World War II. After farming for a while, the Jensens moved to California, and Dick worked at the Santa Ynez Egg Company before coming to the Division of Highways. When I began working, Dick was part of the Reproduction gang including Bob Waltz, Jackie Fadley, and Lorraine Santos.

Mrs. **Dadie Wakeman**, widow of **Russell**, passed away on April 14. Dadie was born in Texas and grew up in Oklahoma where she and Russell met and married. Dadie was an accountant at the Paso Robles School for Boys then transferred to our Accounting office in 1972. After retiring in 1978, Dadie volunteered for the Red Cross, Paso Senior Center, and City of Paso Robles. She is survived by her son **Steven** and his family.

We also heard from **Bill Fieldhouse** who sent news from **Alan Estes**, saying that **Mr. and Mrs. Joe Babcock** had both recently passed away. (I'm sorry that I don't have more information; if anyone can add to this news, please let me know.)

If you have any news you'd like to share, please drop me a note or e-mail BCOPEL4674@aol.com.

— Kathy Copeland

The Haps in District 6



A graveside service was held May 21 at Greenlawn Southwest Memorial Park in Bakersfield for **Don McKenzie**, who passed away on May 16 at the age of 82. Mr. McKenzie was in the Navy

throughout World War II and moved to Bakersfield in 1946. He was an engineer for the State Division of Highways (Caltrans) for 42 years, supervising construction of state highways in Kern County and the Southern San Joaquin Valley, including the Grapevine.

Mr. McKenzie was a Board Member of the Safe I Credit Union for more than 30 years. He was a life-long member of the Church of the Brethren and helped to build the church buildings at Palm and A Street in Bakersfield. His wife of 49 years, **Margaret McKenzie**, died in 1996. He is survived by his three children, **Diane Thurley** and **Donald McKenzie Jr.** of Bakersfield, and **Janet McKenzie** of Sacramento; his grandchildren, **Jacob McKenzie; Fletcher, Brooke,** and **Shelby Thurley**; his two great-grandchildren, **Zoë** and **Quinn Thurley**; and by his special friend of the last 10 years, **Lois Herder**.

We also lost **John Mohn** this year on April 4. A memorial service was held at Fresno Memorial Gardens on April 11. John was born in Reedley on December 24, 1934. He had been ill with a form of leukemia. Included among family and friends were friends from his Caltrans family.

Ed Anderson, District 11, **Perry's** brother, writes: "Perry retired in 1987 from District 6, his last assignment being district equipment manager. Prior to that he was maintenance supervisor in Pinehurst, Shaver Lake and Lemon Cove. His entire service was in District 6 except a couple years as Leadworker in South San Francisco.

"Perry and **Teresa** remained in Fresno until three years ago when they moved to Grants Pass to be closer to their family. They had a good and active retirement until early last year when Perry became ill. This past month they moved into an assisted living complex where they have a very nice two-bedroom apartment. Their meals are in a nice dining room where they order from a menu. It is extremely nice and takes a huge meal preparation responsibility off Teresa.

Perry developed cancer again in April 2006, requiring major surgery. They removed the lower stomach and a small portion of the pancreas. The surgery was not completely successful and there has been a continuous slight drainage since that time. It is not possible to make repairs; the only possibility is that it would heal on it's own and it doesn't seem that will happen. He has lost considerable weight and strength and has very little appetite.

"Perry and Teresa say hello to all their friends; Their address is Perry & Teresa Anderson 203 S.W. Bridge St. Apt 23, Grants Pass, OR 97526; they would enjoy a call at (541) 956-8580"

Barbara and **Don Peaslee** will attend their grandson's graduation from Western Oregon University. Later in the summer they will visit their son, a professor at the University of Alabama. Traveling is a real challenge but with the help of a wheelchair, walker and their fingers crossed they will make it.

Nancy and **Jerry Fay** took their RV on a great trip last year. It began in Carson City, NV at a car show where they took their 1946 Mercury street rod, "Fat Merc." Next, to Winnemucca, where they visited with friends from Fresno for the day. Then on to Logan, Utah, where they met friends for a car show. After four fun-filled days they went on spend a week touring sites in Grand Teton National Park. Moving on up the road to Yellowstone National Park, they spent another week seeing

spectacular sights and many animals. Next stop, the Black Hills of South Dakota where they stayed in a beautiful RV park and checked out all the nearby towns as well as Mount Rushmore. They had a great time, saw marvelous sights and had a leisurely trip home in their RV.

Sounds to me like Nancy and Jerry are the ones to talk to when someone wants to visit national parks!

June and **Barney Deeter** went to Hawaii in April. The weather was perfect. They stayed at Kona by the Sea in a great condo. It had all the amenities plus a beautiful view of the ocean. They were about 100 yards from the sea wall. Every morning, the surfers were out. They stocked up on Kona Coffee and pineapples and had them sent to their kids in Bakersfield. (I wonder if any were left for mom and dad when they got home). All in all they had a great time!

Barbara and **Don Peterson** gave me an update from the Peterson casa in the Madera Ranchos. The year 2006 was quite a year for Don. In August, with no previous discomfort, he went in for a stress test and flunked. He ended up having triple bypass open-heart surgery plus having his carotid artery opened. The right carotid was 100 percent closed.

Needless to say everything went well. He's still getting up to form but each day is better.

In February, in celebration of their 57th wedding anniversary, Barbara and Don went to Calistoga for the spa treatment and some fine dining. Other than that everything is back to normal, keeping ahead of the weeds.

On May 8th we had our QCC Spring Banquet at the Yosemite Falls Restaurant in Clovis. It was a good crowd, which included **Shirley** and **Roy Anderson**, **Barbara** and **Dick Beck**, **Mary Berg**, **Alma** and **Ken Cartwright**, **Kay Chessman**, **Barney Deeter**, **Art Dodson**, **Nancy** and **Jerry Fay**, **Joyce** and **Lee**

Halderman, Maryann and **Ed Hokokian, Ken** and **Barbara Oliphant**, and **Don Peterson, Thelma** and **Chester Sohm, Jane Suo, Koke Uyeno, Bob Voss, Pat** and **Kim Yarbrough**, and me, **Terry Littleton. Ken Sawdey** showed up late but made up for it by joining the QCC.

News from Barbara and **Dick Beck:**

"We have taken a couple of trips during the last three months. The first one was in April to Oakdale, California where we boarded the dinner train for lunch and a three-hour trip to see the wildflowers in the foothills east of Oakdale. The lunch was delicious with excellent service and décor; all the posh of the old time dining cars with linens on the table, etc. The wild flowers were all but gone due to the lack of rainfall.

Our second trip was in May to visit Yellowstone National Park. We stayed at the Old Faithful Inn in a room overlooking the Old Faithful Geyser. The inn, built in 1906, was well restored with its seven-story high lobby and elegant dining room. We were happy to find that the park is recovering well from the fires of 1988 that burned nearly 800,000 acres, about 36 percent of the park. We saw some wildlife including bison, elk, moose and antelopes but no grizzly bears.

"We spent some time in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, enjoying the Grand Tetons. We were eating at a Mexican restaurant and in came three cowboys dressed in the proper attire including sidearms.

"We also took a side trip to Pinedale, Wyoming, to view the Museum of the Mountain Man.

"Since we were both raised in rural areas, we decided to forgo the freeways and return home on the back roads. This took us through Delta, Utah, Ely, Tonopah, and Beatty, Nevada and Shoshone, California, a delightful trip with little or no traffic; especially very few trucks.

"Something we had never experienced in our many years of traveling was that of fire alarms in motels. This time we experienced it

twice, a very piercing sound, once at 3 am when we had to evacuate the hotel from the 4th floor. It was interesting to see what people took from their rooms and how they were dressed. One fellow wore a bathrobe together with cowboy boots. Two ladies, obviously traveling, together emerged, one draped in the bedspread and the other the sheets and blankets. The alarm turned out to be false.

"The other fire alarm was in Barstow shortly after we had checked into our room. Dick went down to get a newspaper and while he was outside, the alarm went off.

"Barbara said, 'Here we go again!'

"When Dick came back in, the doors to the elevators were locked and he knew what was going on. Shortly afterward a motel employee said that it was a false alarm and opened the doors. All in all, we had a delightful trip."

A little note to jot down: we will have a **shish kabob** dinner on Dec 4 at **Hal Avakian's** church. Not the office party this time but just us over-the-hill gang so set the date aside. Also let's get together around late August or September. If you have any ideas as to where, just drop me a note or call 974-3885.

Thanks for being so helpful in getting the news out.

— Terry Littleton

CRUCIAL OBLIGATION

A couple was touring the capitol in Washington, DC, and the guide pointed out a tall, distinguished gentleman as the Congressional Chaplain.

"What does the chaplain do?" the lady asked. "Does he pray for the Senate or the House?"

"Neither," the guide answered, "He prays for the country when they're in session!"

Attention Engineers: The California Board of Registration is making a new exam site available to the Central Valley. It is tentatively set for October 2008 in Visalia. Proctors are needed, especially those who have previously worked at a test site. The Board also indicated that they might ask for active and retired members in the Central Valley to see if they're interested in becoming proctors for the test.

Contact:

**Board for Professional Engineers
and Land Surveyors**
2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite
300
Sacramento, CA 95833-2944
(866) 780-5370
or (916) 263-2222

Deadlines

The deadline for material for the QCCer is the 5th of the month in which it is published, although we prefer to get it earlier if we can. The next issue will be published in March. The final deadline for the next issue will be September 5th.

The Haps in District 7

Someone is Listening

My copy of the latest QCC newsletter had yet to arrive when I got a call from eight-year retiree **Rick Stevenson**, who has 37 years of Caltrans service plus a previous five with the county. We remember **Rick** as the debonair black gentleman with the pencil-thin "Errol-Flynn" mustache, and double-breasted sports-jackets who worked in Construction Estimates with **Dottie Huff**. **Rick** filled me in that before **Dottie** was **Tom Tayrien** – **Rick** says

"Hi" and he is "okay". **Rick** also reminisced about **Ron Peters**, **Marilyn Reece** and traveling by train. "You really get to see the country that way". He was in the new building for a visit when there were a lot of holiday parties so he missed seeing some people. He says he's still around and he misses "you all."

The phone rang again and it was **George H. Glanzmann**, an ebullient 26-year retiree with 26 years of Caltrans service, notably in Transportation Permits, and working for **Dick Huntwork** in Maintenance and Surveys. George commented on a recent sighting of **Quint Alfafara**, who is currently working three days a week at the Foothill Maintenance Yard in Monrovia, and how to get in contact. George indicated he attended **Noby Adachi's** funeral. George wanted everyone to know he is doing great, and has certainly gotten his money's worth out 26 years of retirement!

Dues Blues

If you have a dues or honorary member status information to impart, please send the membership information, checks, etc. to **Leonard Thompson** directly... His address is: 3711 W. 64th St. Los Angeles, CA 90043. If you send it to Kirsten, it will be delayed while she re-routes it to Len.

Three Toms and a Chuck

Tom Gildersleeve sent an informative flyer regarding the **Tom Fera** Lunch Group. He writes, "Fortuitously, there have been no deaths or serious life crises reported thus far, so we may be home free on that score. One item needs to be corrected since my last announcement, however. Although **Tom Fera** kept this organization going for many years, he was not the first leader of this group. That honor goes to **Tom Tayrien**, who ran it for eight years until **Tom Fera** took it over. Maybe we should change the

name of the organization to "Three Toms and a Chuck". Since that probably isn't going to fly, on balance I believe we should leave the name the way it is. **Tom Fera** ran it the longest of anybody, and since he is deceased, it seems appropriate to honor him in this way. Besides, most of us who attend it now remember **Tom Fera** as the leader. We have also added one additional honorary member—**Corney Klesges**, **Bob's** widow, who asked to continue receiving the mailings. In addition to receiving the mailings, she is invited to attend whenever she likes, if she can stand a room full of Caltrans curmudgeons, most of whom are not named Tom.

As I have mentioned in the past, we will still accept \$5 contributions from anybody who wants to put it in our direction. If you've already done so, you don't need to do so again, although one of our non-curmudgeon members did exactly that. Some of our members who are definitely not curmudgeons have even donated more than \$5, some as high as \$20. Anyhow, you get the idea.

Recent Sightings

Sighted in at the Autry Center for Western Heritage in Griffith Park, CA – **Stan Lisczwitz** and his wife **Hendrina**, aka Ina, for the opening of the recent exhibit on "Dazzling Firearms", and "California Style."

Spotted in Seattle, **Marie Martin** and **Bob Walters**, at the "Friends of the Fighter Aces" Reunion. Also in Seattle for the "Aces" Reunion, and taking a flight on a historic B-17, the equally adventurous **Stewart Stahl**, who was also recently sighted at the White Sands Missile Range, Alamogordo Space Museum, Carlsbad Caverns, and Roswell, in New Mexico.

Via Con Larry in Central

and South America

Alas, we come to the final installment of the Travels of Larry... **Larry Loudon**, if you recall:

"I had been to Palenque before but this time I was able to go down into Pacal's tomb and see the beautiful coffin he is in. It is off limits to tourists but our guide is an archeologist and a friend of the head archeologist excavating there so he got a special dispensation. I never expected to be able to do that.

"Early in the preparation for the trip the guide asked me if there was anything I really wanted to see in that area. I told him it was my dream to see Bonampak but I knew that was not on the itinerary and probably not convenient to see. Wonder of wonders as we headed for the Guatemalan border we turned off the road and stopped at a guard post in an Indian village. He announced that he had added a special stop and that the Lacandon Indians would transport us into Bonampak. I cannot tell you how thrilled I was. Nor can I tell you my emotions when I got to see the beautiful murals and the buildings. All added at no extra charge.

"From Bonampak we bused to Frontera Echeverria, Mexico on the Usumacinta River, the border between Mexico and Guatemala. We boarded dugout boats with thatch roofs for the sun and boated downriver to Yaxchilan, a beautiful Mayan ruin. We spent a couple of hours there, returned to the boats and went upstream past Frontera to Bethel, Guatemala where we boarded a new bus (new to us) and went to Flores, Guatemala.

"From Flores we visited Tikal. Those are the ruins that you see pictured sticking way up above the tree canopy. Another beautiful place. I gained a tremendous respect for the engineering abilities of the Mayan engineers. I do not understand how they could stack limestone up so steep so high and not have the whole structure collapse on itself.

"Back to Flores and then on to Lake Izabal where we took a boat ride to Castillo de San Felipe, a Spanish fortress. It had a big chain that could be stretched across the waterway to prevent ships from sailing into the lake proper. We then went on to the Quirigua Ruins. These were interesting because the stelas there are made of sandstone rather than limestone. The sandstone is much harder and can be carved into intricate shapes and stands up to the weather.

"One stela had elephant heads at the upper corners complete with riders on the elephants' backs. Vandals have broken off the heads but the riders were still there as were the trunks. Our archeologist guide said he had looked up the original records of the investigations of the site and the pictures of that stela show the elephants clearly. He thought some archeologist had vandalized the stela so he wouldn't have to explain how the Mayans before Christ knew about elephants.

"From Quirigua we went to Copan, Honduras and visited ruins there. More tall stuff. We left Copan and went to Guatemala City. As we pulled into the hotel, several bus boys in white tuxes complete with white gloves came running out. The luggage bins were opened and they all exclaimed, "Where have you people been?" as they took off their gloves. The luggage was covered with a thick layer of dust, although "dirt" might be a better description. They unloaded the luggage, cleaned it all off and delivered it to our rooms. That place was posh. At dinner we could see a volcano erupting in the distance.

"The next morning we went to the Kaminaljuyu ruins and the Miraflores Museum. Kaminaljuyu is all that is left of the extensive ruins that have been covered by the modern city. Then we went on to Lake Atitlan where we boated, shopped, swam, hiked, etc. The next night we stayed at the Casa Santo Domingo Hotel, a restored monastery. The rooms there were complete with the old artifacts, including skeletons, etc., in the

rooms. They were all protected in glass. There we visited a jade jewelry factory. Along the way we stopped at an old obsidian mine and I picked up a number of rocks just lying in the highway parking areas.

"A year and a half ago the guide that we did the Guatemala trip with called and asked if I would like to go with him while he gathered information to set up a tour to Peru and that area. It was a whirlwind trip and would cost me the air fair but that was all. I had five days to pack, get shots, etc. I did it and we took off.

"We flew to Lima Peru, got a couple of hours sleep and then flew on to the Peruvian Amazon, got on a boat and went to a resort in the jungle. We spent a couple of days there, taking a motorized canoe ride thru the flooded side lands of the Amazon where pink dolphins were playing.

"We went up a side river to a banana plantation and hiked in and saw and held a three-toed sloth and a red bellied boa constrictor—he was around my arm [and] he could really squeeze. We saw the world's largest rodent and walked into a pond where huge lily pads were growing. Back to the boat and headed down river to go fish for some piranhas for dinner.

"On the way we ran into a tropical rainstorm that had me wondering what we would use to bail the boat with. We abandoned the fishing trip and went back to the resort and admired the wild macaws squawking in the trees. Next day it was back to the boat and back to the plane and back to Lima and then on to Quito, Ecuador.

"We caught a van and went to the Sacred Valley and visited several ruins. On the way there we stopped at Saxaywoman (not the correct spelling) where you see huge stones fit together so tightly you can't get a blade into the joints. Some of them weighed over 40 tons. We spent the night at a hotel in the Sacred Valley and caught a train to Aqua Caliente where we caught a bus to Machu Pichu. That place is much bigger than I thought.

"Again the stonework of the Incas was exquisite. I do not think we could do what they did with primitive tools. They made pipes to carry water that fit together so tightly that they did not leak. We went back to Quito by bus, train and taxi. Caught a plane to Guiaquil and then a plane to the Galapagos Islands.

"Alas, all good things come to an end and back to Guiaquil and to Lima. We took a taxi ride down to the Nasca Lines, those lines you can only see from the air, and caught a Cessna and flew over the lines for 45 minutes. They were very interesting. We taxied back to Lima and caught a plane home. We saw and did many other things, at least three two-week tours, in 10 days. Needless to say, I was bushed, but I would do it again given the chance.

"It was a great trip and I would really like to do it again.

—Larry

Be like Tom and Larry!

Don't forget to stay in touch. We want to know what you are doing and where you are doing it! Don't be shy. We'd like to hear from YOU! The address is: **Caltrans, attn: Kirsten Stahl, 100 S. Main St. Suite 100 MS 13, Los Angeles, CA 90012.** Phone 213-897-0470, or e-mail: kirsten.stahl@dot.ca.gov.

The Road Last Traveled

Ferdinand Ordon reports, "It is with great sorrow that I tell you that **Marie Richter** passed away early Thursday morning (March 15) after a long and tumultuous battle with cancer. **Marie** was a valued member of the Office of Traffic Investigations as an Office Services Supervisor before officially retiring in May of 2006. She joined us in 1969 in Construction for 12 years before coming to Traffic. In all, she gave 37 years of service with Caltrans. "She is survived by **Doug Richter** (Office of Permits), and their daughter, **Michelle**. Rosary Services were held

Wednesday, March 21 at Turner and Stevens Mortuary in Alhambra. Memorial Services were held March 22 at the San Gabriel Mission in San Gabriel.

Cheryl E Kizer reports that **Helen Baker**, a long-time Caltrans employee (25 years) passed away on Sunday, February 25. The funeral was scheduled for **Friday, March 2, at Holman United Methodist Church in Los Angeles.** Internment was at Ingelwood Cemetery.

Susie Lim reported the passing of **Dan Staple**, husband of **Phyllis Staple**, from an ongoing pulmonary ailment on January 25. He is survived his two children **Brad** and **Andrea**, two stepchildren **Paul King** and **Susie Hess**, both Caltrans employees, and numerous grandchildren.

Wake Up!

At the U.S. Military Academy, there is a phrase, "No Excuse, Sir!" Well, there is "no excuse" for not sending **Kirsten** a note about your activities, so send those cards and letters!

Many thanks to others who forwarded this information who were not otherwise mentioned above: **Tom Almany III, Chuck O'Connell** and **Heinz Heckeroth**.

— Kirsten Stahl

The Haps in District 8

September 2006 was the end of an era. Since September of 1962, **Grace Vinzens**, a stock clerk in District 8, has prepared a memory book for any retiring employee who wanted one. She also made "Goodbye" books for those who transferred to another district or agency. Her index indicates she has assembled approximately 500 Memory Books, from anything she could beg,

borrow or accumulate memorabilia. Her files reached 57; including all group pictures since 1950, miscellaneous items provided by employees, and all departments profiled in our newsletters. Each recipient had the opportunity to add memories through pictures and letters. Each district director allowed them to be assembled.

When Grace was told she could no longer use state facilities, she said first "I was mad and disappointed; and then I was relieved." At age 84, with 24 years of service and 29 years of volunteering, she will package the history and put it in a box car and that will be the end.

The **Grimeses, Wes and Linda**, celebrated their 46th wedding anniversary this year on Easter. It was the first time in 46 years that it fell on Easter. They will celebrate by bowling in a tournament with two of their sons, **Chris** and **Scott**. Then, on Friday, they leave for Europe and will be gone till May 24. They sail from Houston, Texas to England and then bounce around Europe for three weeks. They will visit Bratislava, Vienna and Budapest, as well as Holland. *Bon Voyage!*

On March 28, the Retired Caltrans Ladies got together for lunch at Nena's Mexican Restaurant in downtown San Bernardino. Fourteen ladies showed up for lunch—**Mary Bermudez, Judie Brown, Eleanor Campbell, Janice Feenstra, Angela Hall, Margie Hobbs, Elaine Hughes, Frances Jacques, Carolyn Johns, Connie Keefer, Marsha Lotze, Donna Rodriguez, Angel Thompson** and **Grace Vinzens**.

Mary recently talked to **Wilmer Carter**, an ex-Division of Highways employee who now is a local assemblywoman. Wilmer expressed regrets that she couldn't join us for lunch, but was looking forward to possibly seeing us in the future. Wilmer was a former aide to Assemblyman George Brown and she also has a high school in Rialto named for her—a real success story.

Judie and her husband **Gerald** traveled to Oregon in January and Texas in March. They visited friends and relatives in 17 states in October and November. They are enjoying their 11 grandchildren. They have volunteered on the Goodwill Board for San Bernardino homeless.

Angela traveled to Italy last year, went to Michigan and Kentucky in September and traveled to Hawaii in December. She is still involved in her antique business and has taken several buying trips last year to the Midwest, Texas and New Mexico.

Angel says she and her husband, Walt, are still cruising. They have two cruises planned—an 18-day trip from Miami to Portugal, Greece, and Italy, and, in October, a 10-day trip from Fort Lauderdale to the Southern Caribbean. She is adjusting to having Walt at home since he retired. He never gets under foot because there is always something to do in the garden.

Marsha is a volunteer at the Victorville CHP office. She went through a two-week academy last year, which included driving a CHP vehicle forwards and backwards through an obstacle course, learning how to use radar guns, safety, radio and driver training. She volunteers one afternoon a week and occasionally at public relations functions. She is now the secretary for the senior volunteers program.

She is still stamping cards for friends and family and going to her grandsons' Little League games, hockey games and basketball games. She also enjoys her granddaughter's softball games. She is planning on joining the Local Friends of the Apple Valley Library.

Frances went on a Grand Circle Tour to Australia, New Zealand and Fiji. She couldn't find anyone to go with her, so at the urging of her family and friends, she got brave and went alone. She was the only one without a partner and the only one from west of the Mississippi; but she had a fabulous trip and took her tour

director's advice and "got her ship out of the harbor."

Margie and her husband are enjoying their new home and new friends in Hemet. They will leave soon for Texas to enjoy the beach for a couple of months.

Janice and her husband, **Don**, now have 21 grandchildren—lots of fun. They took the train trip in Copper Canyon, Mexico early in March. On Saturday, March 31, they will host a lunch for Don's Orchid Society—47 people signed up!

Donna is enjoying her two-year old grandson, **Ryan**, and awaiting the birth of a granddaughter in April. She had taken up a hobby of beading and making jewelry.

Grace is thinking about cleaning out 42 boxes of memory book files in Donna's garage. She will be 85 in May and she says, "Bless each day"!

Everyone enjoyed getting together and looks forward to the next luncheon, probably in September.

Grace Vinzen has had an article published in the "Stirring Up Memories" section of Reminisce magazine.

Lutefisk: an Acquired Taste

Grace Vinzens writes, "At the end of World War II, one of the many GIs I had corresponded with came to see me in Omaha and wanted me to meet his parents, who lived in Page, North Dakota. The snow was so deep, the train had to back into the station.

"The family welcomed me and were eager to introduce me to one of their ethnic delicacies. So off we went to Fargo, more than 50 miles away, to shop for the ingredients needed for lutefisk. It was served simply, with plain boiled potatoes...an acquired taste, so they told me."

Jim and **Evelyn Irwin** have recently moved from Cherry Valley to the Mission Commons in Redlands.

Dick and **Louise Haight** accompanied their daughter and her husband on a Mediterranean cruise in April.

Wes and **Linda Grimes** have made it safely back to the "good ole USA." Linda reports they got home May 24th from a great two-month Cross Atlantic Cruise/European trip, safe back home and very tired from all their adventures. The highlights included Windsor Castle, Stonehenge, Buckingham Palace's changing of the guards, Vienna's historic sites, many king's and queen's resting places, plus the tomb of Henry VIII and a boat ride down the Danube. They visited Miami, Bermuda, the Azores, Ireland, France, England, Holland, Vienna, Bratislava and Budapest. On their last night in London they went to a London theatre to see the musical comedy "Mama Mia".

"We walked our feet off through the busy streets, underground rail, castle grounds, museums and parks. During our travels we went by car, bus, plane, train, ship, boat, horse and buggy, escalator, stairs, elevators, taxi, and foot—these two old folks did not do too bad, but sure were tired at the end of the day. It's good to be home—but we probably will start scouting out another trip—we do have a two-week RV camping trip in August to Oceanside."

"Right now it is rest and manage to get back into our time zone—we have changed time zones about 20 times—we do have a bit of jet lag. Well, we are home and nice to be in our own beds once again. Take care and top of the morning to you".

Hip! Hip! Hooray! we have two new members: **Tom Powell** and **Joe Potwardowski**. We also have two prospective employees, **Charlotte Sheehan** and **Pat Hennessey**, who are still working who have expressed interest. We need to be active in recruiting new members.

Congratulations are in order to **Jim Landfried**. He was married on March 17th to a wonderful woman, **Pam**. They had a

beautiful wedding with QCC member **Jim Miller** as best man. Jim and Pam enjoyed a relaxing honeymoon in Hawaii. All the best to both of them for many happy years together.

Several retired Caltrans women and others still working meet for lunch the second Wednesday of each month. Any Caltrans "gal" is invited to join us at Nena's on "D" Street at 11:30.

On a serious note, several of our members have been under the weather.

Stan Martin is still suffering from the neck injury he incurred in a fall last November. He is able to walk with a cane and is scheduled for surgery on his spine in mid July.

Paul Kirst fell and broke his ankle in early April. He expects the cast to be removed early in June. In the meantime he is very mobile with an electric cart. **Mary** reports that he and the cart are a household hazard.

Kay Parks suffered a small stroke with bleeding around the brain in mid April. She was admitted to Redland's Community Hospital via the emergency room, moved to the Loma Linda Medical Center, transferred to Eisenhower Hospital in Rancho Mirage, returned to the Redlands hospital, again transferred to Loma Linda Medical Center and is presently in the Asistencia Rehab Center in Redlands where she is receiving therapy. The prognosis for her recovery is excellent.

John Estrada had open-heart surgery on May 11 for the replacement of an aorta valve with a seven-day recuperation at the Kaiser Hospital in Hollywood. He is now recuperating at home and has lost considerable weight.

All our thoughts and prayers go out to all our members who are recuperating from illness. We all hope a speedy recovery for all of you.

Our thoughts and prayers also go to the families of members who passed away recently. Some were QCC members and some were retirees of Caltrans.

Sam Martin, 88, died on April 19.

Although born in Los Angeles, he was nearly a lifelong resident of Colton. He retired from Shop 8 in 1981 where he had spent 25 years as a Heavy Equipment Field Mechanic.

Leonard Cornett passed away in Victorville on March 20th. He had worked for Caltrans as an Environmental Planner for 35 years. He enjoyed flying, motorcycling, trains and railroads.

Henry "Hank" Lewandowski, 70, died April 9 in Grand Island, Nebraska. Hank started with the Division of Highways in Eureka in 1957. He transferred to District 8 in 1970. He retired in 1992 because of ill health. He and Joyce moved to Grand Island in 2002.

Barney Chapman, 84, passed away on April 30th in Riverside following a stroke. He had lived in Riverside for over 40 years. He started with the Division of Highways in 1963 as a civil engineer and worked for more than 21 years before retiring as a meteorologist. Prior to his state service Barney served in the Marine Corps during WWII and fought on Iwo Jima. Following his service with the Marines he served in the US Army Air Corps for 21 years. His memorial services were held at the Faith Lutheran Church in Riverside; he was buried at the Riverside National Cemetery on May 10th.

Again, our condolences go out to family and friends for their loss.

—Marsha Lotze

The Haps in District 9

We saw **Jim Kemp**, who stopped by to say hello. Jim golfs three days a week in Bishop so he is keeping busy. I was recovering from prostate surgery. I had some complications, pulmonary embolisms, and blood clots in the lungs. I am

doing much better and on the mend. We also saw **Nancy** and **Chuck Gillem** who live near Roseburg, Oregon. They came to Bishop to visit their son **Andy** and **Lorri** and family for Mule Days. Their son **Dave** and **Lynn** and family from Sacramento came for the visit also.

From **Dan** and **Bernie Young**: "We were vacationing in the Imperial Valley when Dan got an e-coli infection. They made it back to Bishop where Dan was in the hospital for several days. He is 98 percent recovered."

From **Don** and **Joyce Beldon**: "Don came home from the hospital April 12 after having a mild heart attack on Sunday morning. Tuesday they took him to Modesto via ambulance and then did angiogram but no other procedures. He has some blockages in his heart but they are in places where they can't do much about them. The doctor, whom we like very much, explained a bunch a things that had never been told to us before re his heart problems in 2000 and so we feel we are much more educated about his health. He is going to be on several medications and perhaps they will insert a pacemaker at a later date. He is not a good candidate for more stents, angioplasty, bypass, etc. He is feeling just like he always feels and is very positive about everything. Things are going good."

From **Harold Jones**: "Not much going on up this way right now. Talked to **Roy Brown** (retired Bridgeport Maintenance Crew Supervisor) on the phone recently. He's living at Topaz Ranch Estates now (moved from Bridgeport about a year ago). Like the rest of us, Roy is one the "golden years folks," so is experiencing the happenings associated with this phase of life! He said his daughter (Debi) helps him out a lot, so this keeps him going."

Ran into **Clint Hershey** the other day. He was busy helping out with the annual Lions Club Easter egg hunt in Walker. Clint has been doing this for many years, and likes to watch all the "action" (especially the little kids, he said).

Got to visit a little with **Joe Sam** at our monthly Korean War Veterans Association meeting on May 3rd in Carson City. Joe, **Ed Reilly** and I are members of that chapter, so we get to see each other some and shoot the breeze about the old Division of Highways days!!). Ed was apparently out of town for this last meeting, so didn't get to see him. Maybe next month?

From **John** and **Mary Ritter**: "We went camping in Oregon and Washington and did some sightseeing. John enjoys traveling."

From **Jim Bowles**: "Not too much different this year—spent the winter (two months) in Yuma with family and friends and did a lot of golfing, You'd think I'd get better but it hasn't happened yet! We run out to our place in Palm Springs as often as we can to relax and do a little work around the place until it gets too hot.

"Planning on a trip to Nevada to see my daughter and grandkids then my twin niece and nephew graduate from high school at the end of this month, then on to Oregon to see my other daughter and family for a few days.

"I did do a short motorcycle trip to Death Valley to meet up with a couple of friends from the Sacramento area. It was a nice trip and I missed riding DV, I used to do that run once or twice a year when I lived in Good ol Bishop. Huh, CC?

"Other than that not much happening, just getting older but that's better that the alternative, 10-4?

It is with great sadness that we announce the sudden passing of **Bob Marsh**. Bob came into our lives when he moved to Bishop in 1977 with his wife **Christa**, two sons, **Tim** and **Mike** and two daughters **Lisa** and **Julie**. He transferred from the Caltrans Los Angeles office to the Bishop office where he worked in Highway Design, Construction and Right of Way. Bob retired from Caltrans in 1995. He was an active member of the United We Ride motorcycle club. He delighted in traveling about in his motor home and enjoyed hunting and fishing in the Sierra. He was an

excellent marksman shooting metallic silhouette targets with a 22-caliber pistol. He was a generous contributor to many charities.

Bob had an easy going personality, a good sense of humor, and enjoyed being around people. He was president of the local chapter of the Retired Public Employees Association. He was a good husband, father, and friend.

We send our sincere condolences to his family. He is survived by his son and daughter-in-law, **Tim** and **Lauren Rafferty** of Bishop; son **Mike Rafferty** of Redding; daughter, **Julie Peters** of Bishop, and grandchildren **Mike Rafferty** of San Diego, **Clint** and **Jenelle Rafferty** of Bishop and **Tiffany** and **Ryan Rafferty** of Redding.

— Lance Hinek

The Haps in District 10

District 10 QCC'ers and friends continue to meet for breakfast before 8 am at Denny's on March Lane at I-5 in Stockton on the last Tuesday of the month.

Wes Gilkey won the drawing for his breakfast at the March 27th meeting.

Ron Lesan is still doing income tax preparation for folks in the Lodi-Galt-Linden neighborhoods. Busy this month---everybody getting things submitted early.

Don Simonich made a rare appearance.

Kim Yarbrough (QCC Secretary/Treasurer) and his wife **Pat** joined us for breakfast on April 24. Other rare attendees included **John Reid** and **Jack Thompson**.

Bob and **Ardyth Biffel** completed their planned cruise from Valparaiso Chile along South America, Central America and up to San Francisco. They stopped at 16 ports. One high point was observing a tuna feeding frenzy that was about 300 feet wide and three miles long and must have contained millions of tuna feeding on herring. In the next port, in Manta

Ecuador, they had a balcony view of tuna boats offloading about 150 tons of tuna. This all was so much fun that the Biffels have already signed up to go to Alaska in May.

Stan Yamanaka won the drawing for his breakfast on May 29.

Bill Zieker was present and reported that he received a pacemaker on May 25th and feels fine.

Bob and **Ardyth Biffel**—off to Alaska: "Hello all, here is another ongoing saga from the cruising log of **Bob** and **Ardyth**. After having a speedboat conk out on us in Peruvian waters, nine miles offshore and having to be rescued, you'd think we would have learned something. Well, I guess not, as we headed to Alaska right after we got home from that three-week paddle wheel boat cruise in Alaskan waters.

"And yes, you got it right again. At about 1:30 am the second night on trip, our *Empress of the North* hit a shoal and tore holes in the bottom. Sure was a rude awakening. Loud and very bumpy there for awhile. Most people thought we had hit an iceberg, as we were on our way to the Glacier Bay area. The Captain and told us on the emergency speakers every step of the way what they were doing.

"The rescue SOS was sent out and anyone nearby that heard were on their way to help. There was no fire, although there was bad smoke for a few minutes. We were told to get dressed, get our prescription meds, take our life vests and head for our muster stations. This was over a period of maybe 15 minutes. So had time to do all the above. Well, some people did. A couple men just wrapped a blanket around themselves and took off. They happened to sleep in the nude. My my. They were brought clothes so no free show. Darn.

"The Captain was on speaker every few minutes to let us know they had found the leak area and they were filling the opposite ballast tank from the flooded tank on the other side. The boat came upright again soon

after, low, but at least afloat. The deck had as much as 8 percent slant to it, which made it hard to walk. As the boat needed to be taken to a dock, in this case back to Juneau, as soon as possible, we all had to get off to lighten the load.

"Wheelchair and handicapped people were the first off as soon as help, in the form of a fishing boat, arrived. No way could they be gotten off safely if we'd had to abandon the boat in a hurry. So they had it worse than we did. As it was dark and a little drizzly, about half of us—maybe 100—were in the showroom as our muster room.

"There, the young girl singer Lindy, and Bill the piano player kept us all laughing and singing. Even though I think she was really scared, (and afraid she had just lost her new job) she was so delightful we didn't think of what was going on too much, or how uncomfortable the life vests were, especially after Bob sneaked out to see how much space there was between the deck and the water level. Ardyth still has a sore jaw line from the pressure, after a week.

"As it got light and we could see better, it all looked much better than in the dark. Helicopters were overhead and all sorts of small boats around us. Eventually we all were asked to board a coast Guard cutter tied up to us. We were among the very last to climb aboard, and stood at the back wrapped up in blankets, etc, that the crew threw over the rails to the rescue boats under them to help people against the chill and shock.

"All the beds were stripped to use to help us. They passed out chips and water and cookies while we waited. Cannot praise the captain and the young crew enough. Bravo!

"Eventually we all were gathered up and put onto the Maritime Ferry Columbia, and taken to Juneau. Our Empress had beaten us back so that was a cheerful sight. The Majestic America line has treated us all so well. We had food on the ferry and at the Centennial Hall in Juneau, then we were bused to the airport to fly us to Seattle for a night's stay at

the DoubleTree Hotel, with all food etc. free of charge. Also on Tuesday, they flew us all home from a very short vacation with the promise of another free cruise on any of their boats. All riverboats, I think.

"Also our costs were reimbursed. Our belongings were packed up and sent to us too. We had not been allowed to go back to our staterooms once we left for evacuation. Head counts were very important so they had to keep us in place after they had checked us in. All in all, we can't wait to get back on board that lovely small boat and finish this wonderful trip. We saw hundreds of sea lions and half dozen whales in that short time. Imagine what more we will see when we get back up there!

Ron Lutz: "We just returned from four weeks in Aix-en-Provence, France. We had a lovely little Provencal apartment on the third floor (that's four floors for us). No elevator. By the end of the four weeks we could make it all the way, carrying groceries, without stopping. Lovely little town; lots of universities and students. Food was fabulous, as one would expect—surprising though, how much Italian food was served.

"There are lots of cars but most everyone downtown was walking—a very trim bunch of people. Our impression of a typical French person is one who walks very quickly down the street, cigarette and cell phone in one hand and munching on the end of a baguette in the other hand.

"The streets were washed every morning. Mini street sweepers worked the area several times a day, garbage was picked up every evening and the street corner trashcans were emptied at least once a day—very clean. The countryside was lovely.

"We took a guided tour once a week to see villages and outlying buildings. One day there were only four of us—almost like having our own personal tour guide. We wound up getting the same guide every week—very personable and knowledgeable. She also works at the American University (where our eldest went many, many years ago) and she

said she is very disappointed to note that the American students are smoking more and more. Of course, over there, almost everyone still smokes. Fortunately they are starting to require restaurants to clamp down on it.

"They have street markets several times a week; often several markets going at the same time. Very early in the morning people are scurrying about, going to market. Things are sold 'ready to eat' there. Don't buy ahead!

"And then, after having a great time over there, we stopped in Glen Ridge, NJ (12 miles from Broadway) to visit our daughter and family. Rosanna, our daughter and our granddaughter went in to New York City to see a production of *Mary Poppins*. Rosanna says it is the best show she has ever seen—Broadway or otherwise. Bert actually danced up the walls and across the ceiling, and of course, the entire family flew out over the audience. Spectacular according to the girls.

"Now we are resting up a bit before our Berlin/Eastern Europe trip in the fall."

Bill Seiji: "I talked to **Laine Sevy** this afternoon and he said it would be all right for others interested in having his home phone number at his summer home. The number is (435) 676-8162. So if you wish to contact him in the high country, that is the number to call.

Laine Sevy to Bill Seiji (e-mail):

"We have been pretty busy around here this month—our granddaughter is getting married here in St. George, Utah this coming weekend May 12th. Most of the family has been in and out the past week.

"We will be moving back to Panguitch, Utah sometime after May 15th—probably take more than one trip. We have a half truckload of houseplants and I have some tomato plants I take over and replant in my greenhouse.

"If you have never heard of the Utah Jazz, be ready to see some good basketball when they take on the Warriors. I predict the Jazz will win the series in 5 games—so be aware.

John "Cappy" Roger Richards of Acampo passed away in Lodi on May 25, 2007

at the age of 84. John was born in Canton, Ohio on July 31, 1922 to **John and Helen Richards**. He served in the United States Army during WWII from 1942-1946. He moved to California, settling in the Bay Area, first San Bruno and then Antioch. He later made his home in the Jackson area for a number of years, and eventually moved to Acampo.

He worked for Caltrans as a Civil Engineer for 32 years before his retirement. John was a highly accomplished man who loved the outdoors. He was a licensed pilot, boat certified skipper for sailing, skier, scuba diver and a world traveler. He was proud of his Irish heritage, enjoyed people, and was a wonderful storyteller. John felt a strong connection with his relatives in Ireland. He was a member of the Elk's Lodge in Stockton, National Ski Patrol, Avalanche Experts, Sons of St. Patrick in Jackson and St. Joachim Catholic Church.

He is survived by his wife, **Helen Richards** of Acampo; two daughters, **Kathleen (Peter) Collins** of Stockton and **Dereen (Dave) De Schryver** of Mokelumne Hill; step-son, **Selmer "Jay" (Diana) Olson** of Gilbert, Arizona; two grandsons, **Jay** and **Clayton Olson**; sister, **Lois Matekel** of Auburn.

Note: Many family, friends, and fellow workers from Caltrans attended "Cappy's" services conducted by **Father Michael Kelly** at Lodi Funeral Home on Wed May 30th with Irish background music.

Reva Mae Bowen, 86, passed away, on March 10, 2007. She was born March 4, 1921 in Duke, Oklahoma to John E. and Bessie L. Parrish. Along with her parents and older brother, John Jr., she moved to Calaveras County as a teenager. After graduation from Calaveras High School she married Delmar Bowen in 1938. Reva and Del lived in Northern California their entire married life, settling in Stockton where they raised their family. Reva worked at the Boy Scout Council

for several years and attended Stockton Junior College.

She became an accounting clerk with the State of California, retiring from Cal Trans after more than 24 years of service in 1980. In 1990 Reva and husband Del relocated to Lodi. She was a member of the State Employees Retirees and First United Methodist Church, Lodi. Reva loved to tend her roses and read - she rarely missed an opportunity to go to the Lake Tahoe casinos. She is survived by her children, **Ronald C. Bowen** (Jeanne) of Stockton, CA and **Sondra B. Huff** (Steven) of Woodbridge. She is also survived by her five grandchildren, ten great-grandchildren and her constant companion, grand-doggie Cargo.

Gerald R. Stacy passed away on January 31, 2007 at the age of 85. He was born September 25, 1921. He had been a resident of Stockton for 50 years. Gerald was a veteran of the US Navy and US Army during **WW II**. While serving with the Navy, he was stationed at Pearl Harbor and was at sea when Pearl Harbor was bombed. He was transferred from the Navy to the Army and was part of a very small unit that went into Buchenwald Concentration Camp to liberate the prisoners. During his time in the army he traveled extensively throughout Europe and was awarded the Bronze Star. After coming to California, Gerald worked as a surveyor for Caltrans for 35 years. Gerald loved playing various sports and was a professional baseball player for a short time. He also enjoyed fishing and traveling.

— Brian Young

The Haps in District 11

From Jim Larson: "Greetings from Chiang Mai, Thailand! April is ending and May is upon us. This is where I stay most of the year when I'm not traveling. Chiang Mai is in the north about 400 miles from Bangkok.

From here one can easily get to Burma, China, Laos or Cambodia plus many direct destinations domestically.

"Several weeks ago Thailand and some neighboring countries celebrated *Songkran*, the country's New Year. I'm not much for festivals anymore but this was really fun to watch or participate in. Locals or foreigners are welcome. It began as a religious rite of splashing water on the Buddha in the temple. Not the big Buddha at the altar but a smaller one somewhere on the temple grounds. The idea was to wash away problems and troubles of the past year and start again fresh and hopefully worry free! It's a nice practice.

"Today *Songkran* is celebrated by pouring water on one another and everyone is involved. Its impossible to stay dry if one is out and about. This is the tame part. The old city of Chiang Mai is surrounded by a moat about 50 feet wide. The interior is about 15 blocks square. The streets around the moat are one-way on either side. This is where the main action is during the festival.

"On the streets are the marauders cruising about tossing water by the bucketful. At the curb are revelers drenching everything passing by on wheels or on foot. The marauders are in pickup beds with barrels of water with blocks of ice. There are commandeered Tuc Tucs (three wheeled taxis) with smaller barrels of water plus water guns. Motorbikes are there with two or three riders with mostly squirt guns.

"A showstopper happened just in front of where I was perched to take it all in. Five Thai ladies from the nearby bar came out along the curb in their shorts and tank tops and started dancing to the beat of a loud music system. Soon they were targets of all the passing marauders. Traffic slowed like on the 15 at rush hour. Water was in the air everywhere around the ladies. Every one was thoroughly soaked. Tables appeared and the ladies got up and increased their gyrations. This just intensified the water duels. It was really fun to see the faces of the marauders brighten when

they saw their prey—or after they had passed, an expression like, “I’m missing out!”

“Three hours later the ladies left, never to return, and it was never the same. I went to the same spot a day later, fun but not the same. Yeah, I got wet but I had time to enjoy a couple of cold beers and a nice cigar. The good life! Like I said, I’m not much for festivals because rooms are full, prices are up and too many tourists about. I saw a list once on the Internet of the top ten best festivals in the world. *Songkran* was close to the top and I can see why. If you want to join the party next year arrive in town about April 7 or 8, get a room, enjoy the northern countryside and get ready for a splashing good time.”

Long time member **John Haydon**, now of Chino Valley, Arizona, was checking on his dues and mentioned to **Kim** that his wife **Sally** passed away last year. John said that he, himself, is doing fine.

Bob Findlay has moved to Albuquerque New Mexico to be near his daughter. He lives in an assisted living facility. His address is: c/o Janis Wainright, 9715 Pebble Beach Dr. N.E., Albuquerque, NM 87111.

Memorial services were held on April 23 at El Camino Mortuary and Memorial Park for LaVerne Charles “Chuck” Gaunt, born June 1, 1934. Chuck, who died April 16 at the age of 72, wasn’t the tallest guy you would ever meet, but there are other ways to take the measure of a man. At his memorial service the main room of Memorial Hall was filled to overflowing with standing room only, and out into the reception area. Friends and members of his extended, blended family spoke very warmly and lovingly of Chuck and all he meant to them over the years.

In tribute, those who worked with him throughout his 35-year career attended one of the largest gatherings of current and retired Caltrans people, paying respects even beyond what might gather at an official function for employees on paid time and with free food.

At age 11 Chuck moved with his family to

California. At just over 17 years old he enlisted in the US Navy where he served for four years. His Caltrans career included the lab, construction, various freeway project designs, hydraulics, minor contracts (he said it was the best job he ever had), Senior Transportation Engineer, and District Maintenance Engineer supervising more than 400 employees.

Chuck is survived by **Cathy**, his wife of 30+ years, his two sons, Dayton and Randy, his daughter **Holly**, his stepdaughter and stepson, **Gayle** and **Greg**, his sister **Beverly**, brother **Donald** and six grandchildren. Chuck is remembered as a selfless man who cared about others. Donations may be made to the American Diabetes Association or the American Kidney Fund.

Don't forget the QCC & RETIREE Picnic Saturday September 8, 2007 at Santee Lakes.

The Haps in Central

In the absence of a report from Central District, your editor will report that he has been busy performing with his jazz band, the Catsnjammer Jazz Band at the recent Sacramento Jazz Festival. Several old QCC friends made themselves known, including **Jim Borden**, **Elmer Jenkins**, **Joe Dobrowolski**, and our correspondent from District 10, **Brian Young**. Your editor will travel with his band to Pismo Beach on June 24 and wouldn't mind seeing a few QCCers from District 5 show up there, at the Veteran's Hall.

Gary Bush phoned to say that the annual fall barbecue will take place on September 26 between 4 and 8 pm at the College Greens clubhouse.

Foundation Matters

The California Transportation Foundation held its TRANNY Awards in early June at the Sacramento Convention Center.

Caltrans Director **Will Kempton** this year takes the winner's slot as Manager of the Year. This prestigious award, along with the Person of the Year Award to **Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger** and the Organization of the Year winner, **California Alliance for Jobs**, reflects the impact of the Prop 1B Transportation Bond Program. **District 2** takes a special award titled "Special Award Historic Bridge" for its projects on the Feather River Bridges.

Also at the TRANNY Award Luncheon, **Caltrans Director Will Kempton** recognized Caltrans' own managers with special awards as follows:

- **Doug Failing**, District 7 Director--**Charles Purcell Award** (*Recognizes valued contributions by Caltrans engineering managers in transportation engineering and program management*): Developed the Calmentor Program (large businesses partner with small businesses to mentor and coach them). Program became a statewide model and has also caught the attention of Governor Schwarzenegger as a new strategy of reinvigorating business in California. Chosen by LA Times' West Magazine as one of the 100 most influential people in Southern California.
- **Jasvinderjit (Jesse) S. Bhullar**, State Highway Safety Engineer, Division of Traffic Operations--**Karl Moskowitz Award** (*Recognizes contributions by Caltrans registered engineers in transportation engineering*): Nationally known for his commitment to safety the traveling public and the State highway system; outstanding

efforts in bringing the national Strategic Highway Safety Plan to California.

- **Bruce Behrens, Chief Legal Counsel--Emerson Rhyner Award** (*Recognizes contributions to the field of transportation by non-engineering Caltrans managers*) Mr. Behrens is responsible for managing the Caltrans Legal Division representing the department in approximately 2,200 active lawsuits and providing legal advice to management and staff. He has appeared before countless bodies representing the state including the Superior Court of 22 counties and the Court of Appeals. Represented Caltrans in negotiations to reform the STIP programming and funding process resulting in passage of SB 45.
- **Thomas Ostrom**, Supervising Bridge Engineer, DES--**James E. Roberts Award** (*Recognizes outstanding contributions by Caltrans registered engineers to the field of transportation structures*) As chair of the Seismic Committee Mr. Ostrom coordinated the development and publishing of the original Caltrans Seismic Design Criteria. He also authored displacement-based design criteria and co-authored the bridge engineering chapter of the McGraw-Hill Standard Handbook for Civil Engineers 5th Edition.
Congratulations to **Doug, Jesse, Bruce, and Tom** for their outstanding contributions to California transportation. Caltrans also received the following nominations for project-oriented TRANNY Awards.
 - **District 1** Humboldt Bay Bridges Seismic Retrofit (Seismic Retrofit Award)
 - **District 2** Ponderosa Curves Safety Improvement (Highway Operational Award)
 - **District 3** SR 149 Environmental Mitigation (Environmental Enhancement Award)
 - **District 4** Maxwell Bridge Replacement (Highway Conventional Award) for the

Route 85/101 North Interchange (Freeway Interchange Award), the I-880 Coleman Ave. Interchange (Freeway Interchange Award) and Public Outreach for Lower Bay Bridge Deck Closure (Community Awareness Program Award)

- **District 7** Camarillo Transportation Hub (Environmental Enhancement Award)
- **District 8** Separation Seismic Retrofit (Seismic Retrofit Award)

You may wish to visit CTF's website (www.transportationfoundation.org) for more up-to-date information and photos of these and other nominees and a list of winners.

The TRANNY Awards are just one of the many programs and activities sponsored by the Foundation. Some of the others that involve Caltrans and active participation by its employees and retirees are listed below. In future issues of the **QCCer** we will share more information on these with you.

- Worker Assistance and Memorials—how a coworker or the Department can support employees or their families in times of need.
- Career Development—scholarship programs and more.
- Recognition and Awards—certificates, plaques, recognition ceremonies.
- Financial Management—conferences, raising funds, conference travel, special support for programs.
- Charitable Donations—payroll deductions from current employees. **QCC members** can participate through direct donations.

Participation is an important part of all CTF's programs and activities. Have you contributed this year? **A special thanks to those who have!** We wish to invite you, whether you are a current Caltrans employee or a retiree, to be a part of it. Check the Foundation's website for more information:

www.transportationfoundation.org.

In Memoriam

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

Name	District	Date
Joseph McDonough	01	January 1, 2007
Jack H. Smith	01	August 8, 2006
Al Toland	01	May 23, 2007
Gudun Erickson	03	January 10, 2005
Mary Hamma	03	February 12, 2007
Jack R. Thompson	03	February 17, 2005
Barbara Ann Birdsall	04	February 9, 2007
Catherine R. Gyorgy	04	July 31, 2006
Mon Jew	04	February 25, 2007
James R. Bollinger	05	January 3, 2006
James W. Carpenter	05	May 40, 2005
Eddie Devens	05	February 11, 2007
Richard "Dick" Jensen	05	March 27
Bruce Langford	05	December 22, 2006
John W. Mohn	05	April 4, 2007
Patricia Montoya	05	February, 2007
Steve Nahomiak	05	September 27, 2005
John P. Touhy	05	December 22, 2005
Dadie Wakeman	05	April 14, 2007
Donald McKenzie	06	May 16, 2007
Nobuko Adachi	07	February 17, 2007
Helen Baker	07	February 25, 2007
Gale B. Blanchard	07	May 28, 2005
Ralph C. Bywater	07	May 14, 2005
Maie Richter	07	March 15, 2007
Howard G. Roberts Jr.	07	June 1, 2005
Robert Rockwood	07	August 5, 2005
Ruby R. Sakurai	07	November 17, 2005
Dan Staple	07	January 25, 2007
Leonard Cornett	07	March 20, 2007
Bamey Chapman	08	May, 2007
Henry Lewandowski	08	April 9 2007
Sam Martin	08	April 19, 2007
Milton Redifer	08	August 16, 2006
Bob Marsh	09	April 6, 2007
Reva Mae Bowen	10	March 10, 2007
Peter Daniels	10	December 18, 2006
John "Cappy" Richards	10	May 25, 2007
Alfred Nicholas Sola	10	February 25, 2007
Gerald R. Stacy	10	January 31, 2007
Wayne B. Wilson	10	June 11, 2005
Keith Blair	11	March 15, 2007
Charles Gaunt	11	April 16, 2007
Alice Brooks	Central	March 19, 2004
John V. Reagan	Central	September 18, 2005

Events

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

District 1 - *No Contact*

CT retired ladies, second Thursday of each month at 12:30 pm at various locations. Call Marilyn Hernandez at (707) 442-1135 or E-mail ahartin@cox.net

Ret'd Highwaymen and Road Agents

meets on the 3rd Thursday of the months of January, April, July, and October at 11:35 a.m. at the Hometown Buffet at the Bayshore Mall in Eureka

District 2 - *No Contact*

Retired folks meet on the 3rd Monday of each month between 7:30 and 9 am at the district office snack bar, 1657 Riverside Drive, Redding

District 3 - *No Contact*

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

Breakfast at Perko's Yuba City at 7 am third Wednesday of every month

District 4 *Contact: Ed Coble, (650) 941-5156*

E-mail: edcoble49@worldnet.att.net

The **Caltrans Lunch Bunch** meets on the second Tuesday of every month—contact Ed Coble.

The **North Bay Caltrans Retirees** meet on the 2nd Tuesday of every month—contact Kearn Lee at (707) 538-3484

District 6 *Contact: Ralph Tritch, (559) 535-4295*

The **Caltrans Retiree Breakfast** meets at 9 am on the third Wednesday in March and September at the Olive Tree

Restaurant at the intersection of Route 65 and Hermosa in Lindsay.

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

District 7 *Contact: Tom Gildersleeve (661) 259-6226 tgilders@pacbell.net, or Chuck O'Connell, (661)253-3428 chuckoconnell@prodigy.net*

The **Monthly Luncheon Club** meets on the second Wednesday of the month in Los Angeles

District 9 *Contact: Lance Hinek, (619) 873-3885*

Lunch at Whiskey Creek meets on the first Friday of the month in Bishop—contact Lance Hinek for information

District 10 *Contact: Stan Randolph (209) 957-1278*

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

District 11 *No Contact*

ROMEOs (Retired Old Men Eating Out) meets at Denny's, Navajo road, at 8:30 the third Wednesday of every month

Central *Contact Gary Bush— (530) 642-8208*

Annual Fall Barbecue, September 25 from 4-9 pm at College Greens Clubhouse

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