

TheQCCer

The Newsletter of the Quarter
Century Club

VOLUME 23, No. 3

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Reach out ...

BUTCH SAYS; "INVITE THEM TO JOIN!"

From the Corner Pocket

You are invited to be an active part of the growing web action of the Quarter Century Club as we move to a more dynamic phase of recruiting. When you read this, QCC - HQ will have sent three different invitations on a monthly basis to current Caltrans employees who have served the 25-year term to be recognized by Caltrans. The list of those invited is nearly 900 names and grows each month as new names of people reaching the 25-year mark are listed in the State Caltrans newsletter.

The Email invitation is often their first awareness of the Quarter Century Club as there are few members still working to talk with them. Moving into the digital age of recruiting has its burdens of grasping at the 'cloud', a more nebulous action than talking to your buddy at coffee break. But we have to acknowledge that today is not the same as we may remember yesterday. A big plus of this effort is that we can reach out and touch so many more than we might contact through any line of familiar friends and coworkers. And when we do well in this effort, you will be meeting many old and new friends along the way.

A simple action you can take is to send our QCC Secretary / Treasurer, Mike Ogilvie, the email

addresses of friends who you know that were Caltrans employees who are not currently QCC'ers. It's just that easy. You don't need to tell Mike when and where you know of this person. Just keep it simple and send him your email with a listing of names and email addresses of people that you think might be QCC candidates. When Mike sends the list to the email advertiser, all candidates get the email inviting them to join the QCC. And we will send a new note every month for the next year. If any of them choose to



'unsubscribe' they will be removed from any future mailings. You can even add your name and email address to the list as well to see what we are sending out.

Your next action is to send your president, Butch Biendara, something that you feel might be an attractive piece, either text or pictures that we can add to future Emailed invitations. With the awareness that the invitation goes out to a large and growing list of QCC candidates, we hope to put some 'shine' on the invitation. Do you have some colorful, artful and attractive thing to catch the interest of new members? Rather than old men setting on a bench, (get off your duff), do you have a photo of your last sky diving, mountain climbing or zip line trip?

And thirdly, you might also be talking with your web-savvy friends looking to find who might be the most qualified to serve as your QCC District

web host. I hope to see each QCC District have their own Facebook or other electronic link for members to stay in touch. If you can spare some time, contact your District Director.

Butch Biendara
QCC President

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**CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION
 FOUNDATION**
 By Kathy Freeman

The California Transportation Foundation (CTF) has established a Fallen Worker grant and a Workers Memorial account in honor of **Mark Santos**, 24 years old, who was killed while working as a contract employee with Job Train. **Mark** was cleaning up litter and clearing weeds on Route 101 in San Mateo County when a car veered off the road, striking and killing him and injuring another litter removal worker. **Mark** was the son of Caltrans District 4 Maintenance employee, **Alberto Santos**. CTF provided a \$2,500 Fallen Worker grant to the family to help with funeral expenses and has established a Workers Memorial account to provide further assistance to the family. CTF will match donations dollar for dollar up to \$5,000. To make a donation to the account, send a check to CTF

with “Santos” in the memo line to CTF at 581 La Sierra Drive, Sacramento CA 95862.

The Foundation established the Dick Murphy Memorial Sign account to pay for signage on the Los Angeles Regional Transportation Management Center (LARTMC). The sign will honor **Dick Murphy** (former District 7 Senior Transportation Engineer) for his legendary service to Caltrans by dedicating the Los Angeles Regional Transportation Management Center in his memory.

Another Memorial Sign account was recently established in honor of **Dean Patton** (District 3 Highway Maintenance Worker) to pay for signage dedicating an interchange on SR99 as the Dean Patton Memorial Interchange. Mr. Patton lost his life in May 2013 in a tragic motorcycle accident while on a charity ride to support the Workers Memorial Ceremony on the steps of the State Capitol.

On August 6th, the Foundation held a reception to honor the outgoing **Chairs of the Assembly and Senate Transportation Committees, Bonnie Lowenthal** and **Mark DeSaulnier**, respectively. More than 120 people attended and all had a good time. The event raised \$5,000 each for the Children of Fallen Workers Scholarship (available only to students who lost a parent on a transportation job in California) and to the Bimla Rhinehart Memorial Scholarship (available to California university students studying transportation). The event sponsors were Associated General Contractors of California; The California Transit Association; Professional Engineers in California Government; Nossaman LLP; Jacobs, Parsons Brinckerhoff; T.Y. Lin International; Smith Watts Martinez; Alta Vista; Psomas; Dewberry; Chaudhary & Associates; and Transportation California.

Congratulations go to the winners of the Foundation’s northern area Charity Golf Tournament held in July. It was particularly great

for the winning team of “Transpo Group” whose members included former Caltrans Director **Randy Iwasaki**, City of Pittsburg’s Public Works Director **Joe Sbranti**, **Bruce Haldors**, and **Marnie Primmer**. Thanks go out to all those that participated in the tournament and to the volunteers that helped make the event a success.

And if you missed the northern California tournament, you still have time to sign up to join friends and colleagues (such as District 12 Director **Ryan Chamberlain** and State Transportation Agency Secretary **Brian Kelly**) for fun on October 20th in Irvine at the Strawberry Farms Golf Club. More information and registration forms for this event can be found on the Foundation’s website (www.transportationfoundation.org). Proceeds from these tournaments help support our transportation community through scholarships, career development grants, Workers Memorial & Assistance grants and much more.

Rather read the QCCer on-line?

Go to

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

Information about QCC officers, history, and constitution are available at

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

Check the current haps at Caltrans at

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/ctnews>

Editor’s Corner: Have you tried the new Caltrans Statewide website? www.dot.ca.gov

There is a feature called “Quickmap”. I would recommend you try it as it has many helpful features, such as, real time traffic info, accident info, traffic video cameras, etc. Also, on the same page are various social media connections. If you like to watch videos of construction projects, try the “You Tube” icon and many Districts have uploaded various video clips.

In Memoriam

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

Name	District	Date
Bobbie Hribal	01	Jun 25, 2014
William (Bud) Woods	02	2014
Charlotte Lejonhud	05	Mar 27, 2014
Ken Miller	05	Apr 17, 2014
Dale Gordon	05	May 29, 2014
Lois Scamara	05	Jun 5, 2014
Howard Bentzinger	05	Aug 20, 2014
Tom Tokiharu Nagata	06	Aug 15, 2014
David Kaprelian	06	Aug 25, 2014
Jim Jackson	06	May 30, 2014
Larry Layton	06	Jun 18, 2014
Myra Lou Joe	07	Jul 29, 2014
Fred Jackson	08	Jun 20, 2014
Carolyn Johns	08	Jun 16, 2014
Barbara Nolte	08	Jun 15, 2014
Loren Barnett	08	Aug 20, 2014
V Ray Worthington	10	May 26, 2014
Claude Stewart, Jr	10	Aug 29, 2014
Ray Archibald	11	Jul 27, 2014
Bev Mckeough	11	Aug 22, 2014
E G Pomeroy	C	2012

The Haps in District 1

On July 10, we had a great time at the Red Lion honoring our fellow employees for their service. **Dan Ramirez, David McCanless, Gary Johnson, Harry Vance II, Kenin Parks, and Martin Reyes** were honored for 25 years of service; **Cindy Graham, David Brown, Friday Ululani, Gary Banducci, Greg Thorne, Linda Evans, Mark Suchanek, Matt McKeon, and Suzanne Theiss** for 30 years; **Beverly Chang, Stan Woodman and Time Ash** for 35 years; and **Stephanie Launer** for 40 years. Our District Director, **Charlie Fielder** served as master of ceremonies.

At the luncheon, I learned that **Tim Ash, Stan Woodman** and **Beverly Chang** recently retired

and **Stephanie Launer** and **Linda Evans** will retire soon.

On July 17, we had our retiree/QCC luncheon at the Samoa Cookhouse. Forty people enjoyed the food and visiting. **Bill Cotnam** made the trip from San Luis Obispo, which he likes to combine with the Fortuna rodeo week. QCCer's in attendance included myself, **Alan Radford, Slater Smith, Tim Fisher, Rick Knapp, John Sherman, Dave Wilson, Dennis Grinsell, Tom Georgeson, Harold Hallsten, Don Comstock, Bob Myers** and **Vi Truby**.

It was great to see **Tom Quigley** and his son at the Elks Lodge recently. He was visiting from Oregon where he lives now. I also stopped by the Bear River Rancheria and had a quick visit with **Brenda Bowie**. She retired from the District as a CT Administrator and is now serving the Rancheria as an administrator.

This fall will be a busy one. **Vi Truby** and I will be part of a tour to South Dakota in early September. I have also been getting involved with the celebrations of the 100th anniversary of the Northwestern Pacific railroad and the 50th anniversary of the 1964 flood, called the 1000 year flood. Caltrans, esp. District 1, had their hands full repairing the highways and bridges damaged in that flood. People are still interested in the history of that flood.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of **Bobbie Hribal** on June 25, 2014, at age 85. She was a very important member of our District office staff prior to her retirement. I really enjoyed working with her.

I also received word that **Claude Stewart** passed away recently. He and his wife, **Sharon**, both worked in District 1, then moved to Stockton, when he received a promotion. She was also a classmate of mine and we stayed in touch with both after retirement. (See also D-10 Haps)

I hope to hear from our members about their activities this summer so I can include them in the next QCCer.

- **Arlene Hartin**

The Haps in District 2

Sandy and **Jim Ceragioli** took a trip south to Rolling Hills, where Sandy grew up, and her cousin Carla still lives. They left on a Wednesday morning at 7am and headed south on I-5, had breakfast at Williams (Granzella's of course), and then went through Walnut Creek to San Jose where they picked up US101. They spent the night in Pismo Beach which cost a fortune, but nice location right on the ocean, and had dinner that evening at Giuseppi's (definitely go to again when in the area). Then **Jim** and **Sandy** journeyed south through Santa Barbara and picked up Hwy 1 and took that the rest of the way south. They enjoyed their visit and then on Monday began heading home. Sandy had never been up 395 so they went out 91 to 15 and got onto 395 to Bishop and stopped at Manzanar to tour the site. Very interesting and a real Black Mark on our history, as is Tule Lake. The next day they headed north and got home Tuesday late afternoon. Their next planned trip will be north to Cottage Grove, Oregon and then on to Seattle area and Bellingham to see relatives.

From **Bobbie Shaw** (formerly Henry): I have decided to travel with Vintage Trailer groups. I sold the 1999 Tent Trailer I purchased in 2010 in Clear Lake CA and in 2014, for a profit, bought a 1967 vintage restored Shasta Starling. I'm gearing up to join a rally soon! I'm in love with my two Grand Daughters ages 12 3/4 & 1 1/2! I've had great camping trips this summer- most recent Quincy Lake with Caltrans Lady friends. This year I have been to San Diego 3 times. My Koi pond was featured this June on the Shasta Koi Club Pond-test tour. Our little family of 4

keep us all busy. Jordan entered 7th grade while Rylie's next big accomplishment will be Potty Training.... Life is a joy! Retirement is Awesome :)

It is with sorrow that I report to you the passing of **William "Bud" Woods** this month. Our condolences go out to his family and friends. He will be missed and his ever present smile remembered always.

- **Bill Belcher**

The Haps in District 3

The Annual Pre-Holiday Party will be on Sunday, November 9th at the Peach Tree Country Club in Marysville. Join us for an afternoon of delicious food, wonderful companionship and "guess the mystery guest" game. The winner will receive their meal free at the next party. The winner of the mystery guest last April was **Margaret Strain**. This popular gathering will get underway at 1:00pm with a social hour and the buffet will be served at 2:00pm. Dessert will follow. Hope to see you there!!

Jan Agesen has been enjoying her retirement to the fullest. Some of her trips included South Lake Tahoe, with her Mom, June Otto, for a week in the sun. Jan and her husband Richard spent a fabulous week at Cabo San Lucas, Mexico the first week in August. In addition, they have been riding all over on their Harley motorcycle and using their camp trailer whenever possible.

In May, **Carleen Hagen** and her husband Daryl spent 15 days on a river cruise on the Danube from Prague to Budapest. Also on the trip with them were QCC'ers **Pat Howard**, **Margaret Strain**, and **Mary Dossey**. A great time was had by all!

The History room project is moving along! **Charles Vierria** is working on the flat file

drawers to group photos, maps, memos, etc. **Palmer Haug** is completing the review of the VHS tapes which will be identified by title in the Past Perfect (PP) Program. **Carleen Hagen** is scanning early 1900's Sutter County photos and negatives into PP. **Dan Johnson** is going through boxes of Disabled Advisory Committee paper work. (Dan was the first D3 Disabled Advisory Chair back in the day!) The Oral History program should be back on track soon. **Irene Itamura** was our first interviewee and the transcript /disc of that interview should be available soon. **Mardell McClain** is identifying the people in a 1960's group photo. We can always use a few more people to help so if you are interested let **Lib Haraughty** (libbyanneh2@aol.com) know. She would appreciate your time and effort to this once in our time achievement.

Ethelmae Waller has stepped down as Chairperson of the District 3 QCC Social Committee. Ethelmae is needed at home taking care of her husband Jim. We thank her bunches for all her help in the past, especially the decorating and menu ideas for our two parties a year.

We need new members to join us. Please contact **Carleen Hagen**, membership chairperson, with anyone who wishes to join.

We are happy to report two new members, **Bruce Capaul** and **Mark Currier**, who submitted their applications at the Spring Party in April and joined in the festivities. Welcome Bruce and Mark!

Bill and **Lennie Malott** have not let any grass grow under their feet. Lots of traveling, including a cruise. Bill found the lost photo album that has a lot of neat photos of years past and certainly would have been difficult to replace.

We send out many thoughts to those who are ill and hope for a speedy recovery for all.

Please send news of your trips or vacation time to **Dan Johnson, Sr.** at his home address, 901 Dennis Way, Yuba City, CA 95991 or by email at boots3@syix.com.

- Dan Johnson Sr.

The Haps in District 4

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

The Haps in District 5

Hello! Hope you enjoyed a pleasant summer. We had some hot days here, but fortunately the coastal fog has returned.

The Caltrans District 5 Holiday BBQ is scheduled for December 10 at Trinity Hall in Edna. Be sure to mark your calendar. The office will be sending notices to retirees, so be sure they have your current address.

A major realignment of Highway 1 near Piedras Blancas will move nearly three miles of highway inland to protect it from erosion. The project is expected to cost \$57 million and take three years to complete. Land west of the realigned highway will become parkland, and a coastal trail extended to enhance access.

In June, **RJ** and **Linda Brown** hosted a summer BBQ at their home. A delicious meal was served by **Robert Bonilla**, with help from RJ's grandson. A pleasant evening was enjoyed by all.

We received a surprise phone call from **Terry Clark**, who retired from R/W several years ago and was our insurance agent for a time. He and

his wife celebrated their 50th anniversary last year by taking a four-month trip in Great Britain and Europe.

Bill and Faith Fieldhouse had a houseful of visitors in June for their granddaughter's wedding. It was a beautiful outdoor ceremony in Creston, followed by a reception and BBQ. Grandpa Bill was not doing the cooking, so they could relax and enjoy the festivities.

We attended a retirement party for **Louise Woolworth** at Croad Winery off Hwy 46. It was nice to see so many friends and coworkers, most from Maintenance.

The **Copelands** have been staying close to home lately, but we did make a trip to the Bay Area to visit family and attend a Giants game. Lucky for us, we were in Santa Rosa the weekend before the Napa quake.

As time passes, we lose more old friends. I'm sorry to report that **Mrs. Charlotte Lejonhud**, widow of **Ralph**, passed away March 27 at age 98. She is survived by her daughters Diane and Nancy and their families.

Ken Miller passed away April 17 at his home at age 88. In addition to his long career with Caltrans, Ken was active in the American Legion, Elks Club, and our local Credit Union. He is survived by his wife Jeanne, sons Jim and Paul, and their families.

Dale Gordon passed away on May 29 at age 89. Dale was born in Idaho and loved to fish there every summer. He served in the Army in WWII, stationed in Europe and England. He is survived by his wife Vivian, three children Rich, Cindy and Melinda, and their families.

Mrs. Lois Scamara, widow of **Bob**, passed away on June 5. She was truly a Highways lady, living in Big Sur as a child while her father oversaw the construction of the original Route 1.

She is survived by her five children Sandy, Russell, Daniel, Cathy and Barbara, and their families.

Howard Bentzinger passed away August 20 at age 89. He served in the Navy as a fighter pilot during WWII, and was later called to active duty during the Korean War, stationed on an aircraft carrier. He worked in R/W for many years, retiring as Supv. R/W Agent. Howard was a survivor of throat cancer, and he and **John Fisher** worked with the local Cancer Society, educating others on the dangers of smoking. He was preceded in death by his wife Rita and is survived by his children Curt and Debbie and their families.

- **Kathleen Copeland**

The Haps in District 6

I have spent quite a bit time in Portland, Oregon this summer with my oldest daughter and then taking care of my dad's house in Roseburg. He passed away last year. I guess it kept me away from Huntington Lake where there is no water. Hopefully this drought won't last another year.

Road Last Traveled

Former Fowler Mayor **Tom Tokiharuru Nagata** passed away on Friday, August 15, at the age of 88.



Nagata was born on March 15, 1926 in Fowler. While attending Selma High School, World War II broke out and he was imprisoned with all other West Coast Japanese Americans and sent to the Gila River Internment Camp in Arizona. Nagata served with the US Army 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and in 2011, he went to Washington DC to receive

the Congressional Gold Medal presented to the WWII Nisei veterans.

Nagata spent 41 years with Caltrans and then after the Loma Prieta earthquake, he enjoyed a second career with FEMA, assisting with post-disaster efforts after Hurricane Katrina, and in Guam, Saipan and Hawaii.

He founded and was scoutmaster for Boy Scout Troop 442 and was honored with the BSA Sequoia Council's highest service award in 1972. He was recognized as "Fowler's Citizen of the Year" by the Chamber of Commerce in 1973.

Nagata devoted countless hours to the Fowler community and served on the Planning Commission, the Municipal Hospital Board, a term on the Fresno County Grand Jury and Little League. In 1976 he was elected to the Fowler City Council and in 1978 he was elected Mayor.

He was re-elected to the City Council in 2004 but forced to resign due to health issues in 2007.

Nagata was involved with the Buddhist Church of Fowler, Fowler JACL, Japanese Language School, and the regional and national boards of the Buddhist Churches of America.

[**Editor's Note:** See article on the 442nd Regimental Combat Team on page 22.]

David Kaprelian was born in Clovis, California on August 25, 1925 to Helen and Kay Kaprelian. He passed away on August 22, 2014. David graduated



from Fresno High School in 1943 and shortly thereafter was called to serve in the US Army in WWII. After basic training, he joined the 736th Field Artillery Battalion at Fort Ord. The unit was armed with a new weapon, an 8 inch howitzer, the largest field piece of the war. This howitzer could accurately hit targets on the back side of a mountain from a very close range up to ten miles

away. The battalion was always in high demand as they were assigned to General Patton. The 736th was always in the action and David was in four of the five major battles in Europe, including the famous Battle of the Bulge.

After the war, Dave went to work for the State Division of Highways, later named Caltrans (he often said that Caltrans sounded like "he drove trucks rather than built highways"). He retired from the State after 40 years.

Dave married June Allen Jessing on January 31, 1975 and they enjoyed traveling by motorcycle and car. At each stop, they would always search for a place to dance. They belonged to several local dance clubs and were always on the floor. June was a very good dancer and Dave never enjoyed the idea of changing partners, so the match was made in heaven. Hopefully they will now be dancing on the clouds with the music of the angels. Since losing June, he has recently developed a close relationship with Jean Bradley and they have been able to enjoy each other's company. The time they spent together brought Dave great joy and companionship.

Jim Jackson, of Fresno, died peacefully on May 30, 2014, at the age of 78. Jim was born in Littlefield, TX to Martha A. Jackson and Wayne T.



Jackson, but the family moved to Fresno when Jim was six years old. Jim graduated from Roosevelt High School and Fresno State College with a BA Degree in business marketing. He worked for the California Department of Transportation as a Right of Way Agent for 20 years before starting Adanalian & Jackson Real Estate, Inc. Jim taught Real Estate and Appraisal courses at Fresno City College. He later became Vice President of Young at Heart Adult Health Care Center. He continued to work in Appraisals and Acquisitions for the California High-Speed Rail Authority, Guarantee Real Estate, and Century 21 C. Watson Real Estate.

Jim was an involved community leader: he served as President of the Fresno Chapter of the American Society of Appraisers, two terms as a Director of the Fresno Association of Realtors, and President of the Fresno Host Lions Club International.

Janet Layton just sent me this about her husband. **Larry Layton** passed away June 18th, 2014. In April he had the best checkup he had ever had and then the 1st part of May (I guess) he had a silent heart attack. He started feeling bad and it just progressed until he finally agreed to go to the hospital on May 25th, where he was hospitalized until his death. He had open heart surgery; bypass & a valve replaced and thought he was going to make it. They discovered an aneurysm, but thought it would not be an issue for a long time. Since we live so far out, I didn't want to bring him home without it being fixed, and then it started to leak and before they could get him to surgery, it exploded! Sadly I lost him very quickly, and when he was so close to being in great shape again. He was born April 17, 1929 and was 85 years old. After 35 years of marriage it is a hard thing to deal with. Miss him so much and so do the sheep.

From **Christine Mitchell**: "Gee Terry, it is so sad to lose these old friends!!! They seem to always go in little groups - like we don't want to be alone even when we pass on...."

"I really am so glad you keep in touch with us - don't know how I'd hear much if I lost contact with you!!!"

"**Tamara & Roger Henderson** are here with us till Wednesday & then will be in Vegas for a couple weeks. We have spent the last 2 evenings with them, & will be seeing them in Vegas of course as well."

"**Mickey Pearson** called me last week; he sold his house & they are building a new one off of Stockdale Highway; still in Bakersfield. He and **Linda** are doing great; grandson Cole is getting

his license & will graduate high school in 2016. **Sheri West** retired, is still in Bakersfield, and is going on a tour to Switzerland for 10 days in October. **Nora Luttrell** is doing great; her husband retired this year; her grandchildren (3, I think) are doing great in school. I got a card from **Barbara Beck** a couple weeks ago - she's finding it a bit rough dealing with **Dick's** death & all the financial & emotional details, but the boys are all helping her. That's all I know right now. Hi to everyone whenever you see them - I miss you all!!!!" **Christine**

-**Terry Littleton**

The Haps in District 7

District Holiday Luncheon Reunion is just around the corner. Roll back the clock and prepare for a hefty dose of nostalgia...

Saturday December 6, our QCC holiday luncheon has been reserved at **Taix**, the famous French Restaurant and LA landmark, 1911 W Sunset Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90026, near Echo Park, (213) 484-1265, just off the 101 Freeway near downtown. If you are web oriented, see more about **Taix** at their website, taixfrench.com

The cost will be \$25 and include a full meal of salad, chicken marsala or pot roast, dessert and coffee/tea. Parking is on-site valet for \$3. A big thank you to Carol Hunwork who made the arrangements this year! Show up as early as 11 AM, lunch will be served at noon-ish. Make your check payable to: **Tom Almany**, and mail it to his address, 17200 So. Stark Avenue, Cerritos, CA 90701-1822.

District 7 and 8 continues their coordinated efforts to be on different Saturdays, so we hope you can attend and be part of the celebration not apart from it. Be among the people we are privileged to talk to, not just someone we talk about!

Tom Fera Monthly Group

Only a few more 2014 meetings are left to get together for the **Tom Fera** Lunch Group, the second Wednesday of each month (except December). Upcoming meetings are:

RESTAURANTS AND PROPOSED LUNCHEON DATES FOR 2014

[Second Wednesday of every month except December]

October 8, 2014 China Olive

November 12, 2014 Joselito's West

December 6, 2014 **QCC luncheon** at Taix

China Olive Chinese Restaurant; 9224 Reseda Boulevard, Northridge, CA 91324; (818) 998-3688

Joselito's West Mexican Restaurant; 7308 Foothill Boulevard, Tujunga, CA 91042; (818) 951-2275

For more information about meetings, etc., contact: **Chuck O'Connell** at (661) 253-3428 or chuckoconnell@prodigy.net, or **Tom Gildersleeve** at (661) 259-6226 or tgilders@pacbell.net.

Ventura Monthly Meeting

Another Caltrans retiree luncheon, is held the third Monday of each month at 11:30 AM, in Oxnard, at:

BJ's Restaurant & Brewery, 461 Esplanade Drive, Oxnard, CA.

For more information, e-mail Dick Stewart at dick@jps.net.

Track Record Huntwork Style

Carol Huntwork has been far-a-field this year, and shares the following: "**Rita Even** [and I], and several ladies from [our] woman's club attended the 140th running of the Kentucky Derby. **Rita** was our bet maker and we came out ahead. On the plane going to Kentucky we were fortunate to have 2 jockeys, **Gary Stevens** and **Mike Smith** and the trainer of the favored horse

"California Chrome", **Art Sherman**, just 1 row ahead of us. They made the flight fun as they mingled with all of the passengers and took pictures. One of their friends, who is a jockey agent, even called a pretend race during the flight. We also visited Hillerich & Bradsby makers of Louisville Slugger baseball bats. We toured some of the horse farms and watched the Pegasus parade. We also toured the Churchill Downs museum and the backside horse barns and watched the horses' workout. We stopped at the Galt Hotel for a mint julep that was a first and last time for this drink. We then stayed with our friend, **Mary Dea**, in Radcliffe, Ky. She and her daughter, Monica, made all of our hats for the derby races. We met some of the ladies from her woman's club and toured Radcliff and Elizabeth Town. We celebrated **Rita's** birthday at a new Mexican restaurant in Radcliff. The staff serenaded her and had her wear a huge sombrero."

"In June I bowled in a national bowling tournament in Reno. My teammates were **Alex** and **Fran Blanco**. **Henrietta Moreno** went along for moral support. Two of the ladies came home with casino winnings. Awards were given for length of time bowling in this tournament which is held once a year at various locations in the States. I received my 30 year award, **Alex** her 33 years award and **Fran** her 35 year award. We have been bowling together in this tournament for at least 35 years and don't know how much longer we can last. In 2016 the tournament is in Las Vegas and that might be our swan song."

"In July, **Dick** and I visited our brother-in-law, **Clyde**, in Plummer, Idaho for a week. **Dick** goes to breakfast with his group, just like home. A friend of his took us on a jet boat ride on the Snake River. We took a lunch and visited an orchard, where you can pick the fruit and then onto a museum. There were a lot of houses on the river and all of your supplies must be brought in by boat. The weather was hot, hot. We missed the birth of a Suffolk Punch foal by a matter of

hours. I had a front row seat watching a crew across the road during their haying operation. We will be visiting him again next year.”

Computer Health Advice

Most of us have health concerns, but most of those details fall into the TMI category – too much information, and not all of us are comfortable to share or read about those items.

Tom Gildersleeve has some other health advice, but no need to be squeamish here, “I have been commenting about computer changes on the way, and the demise of Windows XP... If you are still on XP, I suggest that you upgrade to either Windows 7 or 8. I chose 7 for myself because it is very much like Windows XP in terms of how it functions. You can go into a place like Fry’s and they will put it on your computer for less than \$100. I also had commented on having a cloned replacement of your hard drive available, and as luck would have it, I myself ended up having to swap out the hard drive on one of my computers recently. The problem was with Norton Internet Security. I became suspicious that it was not properly downloading and installing updates, and rather than take any chances I swapped out the hard drive, which effectively eliminated the erratic behavior. Afterwards I cloned the replacement drive back to the one I replaced.”

“I keep harping on computer health with you because, among other things, it is essential that those who receive e-mails from me continue to do so if our luncheon group is to remain viable. If we should suddenly end up with a large number of people unable to receive e-mails anymore, it would not bode well for our continued luncheons.” **Tom**

Tom Travels to France

In late July, **Tom Almany** wrote, “My wife and I are in Theza, in southern France, helping my son's family while he undergoes a stem cell transplant treatment for non-Hodgkins lymphoma. I am in France until August 20th

while he is recovering. My phone calls to the U.S. don't cost any more than a local call here in France.”

“Everything is good with me and my wife. However, we [have been to] Perpignan, France for the third time this year to be with my son and his family. Each trip has been for a month or more. He is doing real good and should be completely cured by the end of the year.” **Tom Almany**

The Dog Days of Summer

Marie Martin, companion for two canine friends, writes, “The big aquatic center in Astoria, [Oregon], allows dogs to swim just before they empty the pool at the end of summer. **Bismarck** and **Lefty** [enjoyed] themselves. There were lots of big dogs, two Mastiffs, a St. Bernard, a couple of Great Pyrenees, but the most joyous swimmer was a little 10-year-old Jack Russell terrier.” **Linda Wright**, also a canine companion, adds, “Obviously Astoria is much more civilized than anyplace around here -- I can't imagine where around here they'd have a "bring your dogs to swim" event before closing the pool at the end of season!”

Shhookk Up in So Cal

“I was in downtown LA Friday night”, sounds like a song, but it was really an earthquake... **Kirsten Stahl** writes of the earthquake in April, “and it shook pretty good. I got under my cubicle as did one of my people working OT. It went on for at least 20 seconds. I could hear things continuing to settle for several minutes after. Nothing fell that I know of. I had not planned to call Stew, because if it was in the Valley, it was unlikely he would have felt it. THEN, the phone rang and it was **Stew**.”

“He had been at home about 7 miles from the epicenter, when it started to shake. It shook really hard there, for about 30 seconds. Some art work fell over, and several DVDs stacked up over the TV. The cats went nuts, and the dog was

scared. Stew checked our two large windows, and they were both intact. So we fared pretty well.”

“The next day, we saw about 1 out of 10 businesses in a three block area of east Whittier, had their large plate glass windows broken out. We went to breakfast later in La Habra, closer to the epicenter, but they had no damage. Most of the places we went in the La Habra, Whittier area were in good shape, and two of my people who live closer to the epicenter also fared well - just shook up a bit. (Ha Ha).”

“We felt several of the larger 3.4+ aftershocks, **Stew** felt the 3.4+ pre-shock on Friday, about 1 hour before. And on Saturday at home, we felt two of the aftershocks, one mid-afternoon, and one in the evening. There was another Saturday AM, but we were driving to Whittier, and did not feel it. There have been many smaller ones, which those closer to Rosecrans/Imperial epicenter have felt. A few unlucky ones, right on top of the epicenter had the most problems.”

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the more recent victims in and near Napa in late August.

Contacts and Recent Sightings

At the historic Tarpon Inn, in Port Aransas, TX, in June, **Marie Martin, Bob Walters,** and **Kirsten** and **Stewart Stahl**, which **Marie** describes as a Texas “Margaritaville”. A highlight was taking the 5-minute ferry back toward Corpus Christi, and wading in very disturbed gulf coast beach; with sand like quick sand, “If you stood there too long, you’d sink in to your calves.” **Kirsten** explained. They met up again in San Antonio, just missing the “Spurs” victory parade and gridlock by a day.

Tom Gildersleeve wrote in late July, “I have just received a phone call from **Gene Wahl**, who is a retired District Director from District 1 with over 40 years of service. He and his wife have recently moved to Northridge, and plan to start

attending our lunches, including the one coming up next week. So, for those who will be attending, please give them a warm welcome.”

In response to a query about **Doris Nakamura, Tom Almany** wrote, “The last time I saw **Doris** was last August. I picked her up and took her to **Mike Miles** retirement luncheon. She was using a walker to get around and her memory was not as it usually was. She did not know where she was living. I picked her up from the PALMCREST GRAND - Assisted Living - Retirement Home and Memory Care Community. The address is:
3503 Cedar Avenue #223
Long Beach, CA 90807

Doris had two cell phones: (323)774-7751 and (213)718-5837. She was mostly using the (323) number.

Hope this information helps. Please let me know what you find out.” **Tom**

Moving on...

Sam Alameddine wrote, “I have accepted a position as a Supervising Transportation Engineer with the High Speed Rail Authority (HSRA), effective tomorrow, June 30th.”

“After 26 1/2 years with Caltrans, I leave with a sense of mixed emotions. There is sadness at the thought of leaving a place where I have invested a major part of my life working, and at leaving the many dedicated colleagues and friends who are so precious to me. Colleagues and friends who have helped me grow professionally, and have helped me attain the great sense of satisfaction that is achieved by getting things done. Yet, along with the sadness, there is also a feeling of excitement for this new phase of my career.”

“It has been a true privilege to work with you all. Thank you for making my career at Caltrans a positive one. My very best wishes for

continued success. I expect to continue to see you and work with many of you, on planning and implementing projects that affect our State. With warm regards, **Sam**".

Keith Teraoka, with over 35 years of State Service retired at the end of July, without fanfare. His co-worker **Sam Chen** wrote, "I first met **Keith** in September 2000, several days before I formally started working for D7OE. My first impression about **Keith** back then was that he was very conscientious, or even bossy, to introduce me to read a lot of things even before I started to work. As a person who already worked in private consulting for almost 20 years, 14 years later, I can name **Keith** as one of my best friends; and those things he taught me, are priceless. In my view, if **Keith** was working for a private company with our type of work, he will be the only person I want to say, is indispensable. Well... I know he probably will refuse to go to any farewell party; but if you like to see him or send e-mail to say good luck to him, he definitely will not refuse. So... please do so before it's too late." Sincerely yours, **Sam Chen**

The Road Last Traveled

Keep your fingers crossed... or as **Dan Peterson** responded, "Remember - no news is good news", or when **Tom Gildersleeve** announced, "It would appear that nobody has done anything exciting like dying last month... and so I have nothing to report. Take care all, and stay healthy." Nothing like saying something like that to put a jinx in...

We regret to announce that **Myra Lou Joe**, wife of **Bob Joe**, passed away unexpectedly on July 29, in Ventura, California. **Myra** was born in Champaign, Illinois, in 1933. Her services were held on August 4, at the Ted Mayr Funeral Home, and interred at the Ivy Lawn Memorial Park in Ventura. When **Tom** sat across from **Bob** at the last Tom Fera luncheon, he noted her absence. **Tom** wrote, "I sat across from her at the July [Tom Fera] luncheon, at which time she was the

picture of health, and three weeks later she was gone." For all of us who knew her, she will be greatly missed.

Be like Carol, Tom, Tom, Marie, Sam, and Dan!

Support your local post office and send a card or letter. An e-mail would do too! Stay in touch! Please send your items, to: **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.

Tom Almany reminds you that the District 7 QCC Director and Treasurer are available, and you can reach him at 17200 So. Stark Avenue, Cerritos, CA 90701-1822.

Please send **DUES (checks), membership applications and honorary member status information**, to Statewide QCC Sec/Treas **Mike Ogilvie** directly...

WAKE UP!

Count your blessings, or better yet, share them with us. Many thanks to those who forwarded information and who were not otherwise mentioned above.

- **Kirsten Stahl**

The Haps in District 8

Wow, where has the summer gone? Here's hoping that everyone had a great vacation, cruise, or travelling by car to visit our great United States.

Our midsummer luncheon was a great success and we had a great turnout for our delicious meal at Kay's Restaurant in San Bernardino on July 12, 2014. We lived dangerously and added a third entrée of Chef Salad with soup; along with our Chicken Supreme and delicious Swiss Steak. Turned out to be a hit and all entrees were great.

Those in attendance were **Dan Armstrong, Jim Balcom, Dick Barrett, Mary Bermudez, Judie & Gerald Brown, John & Doris Estrada, Janice Feenstra, William Feenstra, Wanda Gernux, Wes & Linda Grimes, Dick & Louise Haight, Hal & Pat Herring, Al & Judi Hudgens, Frances Jacques, Jim & Pam Landfried, Stan & Ina Lisiewicz, Dick Longstreet,** and guest **Don Troy, Marsha Lotze, Jerry Lunt, Maxine Nelson, Ernie Parke, Sybille Phillips, Tom & Bonnie Powell, Taylor & Katie Smith** and **Linda Supernaw**. Those who had reservations but didn't make the festivities were **Joe Gomez** and guests **Joe Ramirez & Jason Moreno, Doug & Linda Hogue, Karen Jessen,** and **Virginia Reed**.

Gill & Jeanette sent their regrets as to missing the lunch. Their son and some of their family took them on a short cruise for their 60th anniversary. Congratulations to both of them, especially, as they haven't missed any lunches for many, many years. They also wanted to give everyone their greetings.

Mary Reeder also sent her "regrets". She fell over a month ago and is having problems with her back due to osteoporosis. She really wanted to attend but her daughter is taking care of her in her home in California City. She wanted to tell everyone hello and had her 88th birthday last month. Congratulations, Mary, on your birthday and we hope to see you at our Christmas Luncheon. It will be on the second Saturday in December and your daughter and family are invited to attend with you. We'd love to see you.

Our state president, **Butch Biendara** sent his regrets as he was going to be out of town, but he sent a Caltrans logo watch for a gift. Mrs. Pat Herring was the lucky winner! Another of our members also donated a gift and that was won by **Bill Feenstra**.

We have heard of the pending September retirement of **Mike Miles**, former Deputy District Director – Planning and other posts in southern California. Mike is retiring with a 36 year career.....Great work Mike, and best wishes for a Happy Retirement.

Unfortunately, all our other news isn't very good. President, **Wes Grimes**, saw an obit for **Roger Teal** (San Bernardino County Contracts Engineer) that he passed away in July. He worked for the County Highway Department, starting in 1964 until his retirement. He was well known by many in District 8 as he interacted with Caltrans on many projects. He was ASCE Man of the Year in 1999 for the Inland Empire Chapter. He retired near Crescent City and is survived by two sons and a grandson.

Our "Honorary" President, **Taylor Smith** found it very unusual to be reporting three deaths on the same e-mail.

Fred Jackson, a former District 8, Senior Transportation Engineer who transferred and promoted to Headquarters many years ago passed away on June 20, 2014, at a care facility in Fair Oaks, CA. He would have reached his 92nd birthday on June 24. Funeral services were pending. Yours truly remembers when she began work with the Division of Highways in 1962 that Fred was a very friendly and helpful engineer. Our thoughts and prayers are with all his family and friends in their time of sorrow.

Carolyn Johns' niece informed us that **Carolyn** passed away suddenly on June 16th. She had been relatively well and was enjoying the many activities at her senior retirement home in Ventura, CA, but suffered an aneurism on the aorta. A brief graveyard service was held on June 26th at Hillside Memorial Park in Redlands.

Her niece came across the announcement for our midsummer luncheon as she was cleaning Carolyn's apartment. She knew that Carolyn

enjoyed her time with the **Quarter Century Club** so wanted to let us know. **Carolyn** had a long, successful career with Caltrans and was always up to any party or festivities we had in the past. I'll always remember her one year when she was a harem/belly dancer on Halloween many years ago. Our sympathies go out to her family and friends.

Taylor also informed us that **Barbara Nolte, Les Nolte's** widow, passed away on June 15th. Memorial services were conducted in Beaumont on June 24th, with burial in the Redlands National Cemetery. Les passed away in April 13, 2013. Les had been a Resident Engineer in Construction for many years.

Sadly we lost our oldest **Quarter Century Club** member, **Loren Barnett**. Loren, 96, retired District 8 Deputy Director – Construction, passed away peacefully at home on August 20, 2014. He served Caltrans 44 years and retired in 1982. He led the District Construction Department in building freeway routes 10, 15, 40 and 91. He served as an officer in World War II and Korea.

Loren spent the last 30 years in active support of the mentally ill, establishing an apartment complex in Redlands for the high-functioning mentally ill as part of the R-SB Harbinger Corporation, a local non-profit organization. The fourth apartment of this complex, and other work was supported by the Kiwanis organization.

He loved the outdoors, animals (especially birds) was a boy scout and a leader in Redlands' Troop 7 with his two sons. **Loren** was also a YMCA supporter and volunteer, working at Camp Edwards near Barton Flats.

Condolences to **Margaret**, his wife of 62 years, their sons Bart and Brett, his wife Joan, and two grandchildren. Services were held at the Riverside National Cemetery on August 28th, with a memorial gathering followed in Redlands.

Loren and **Margaret** were very active with **QCC** and will be greatly missed. He always had a big smile on his face at our luncheons and was very appreciative of all the work that all of us did to make the luncheons memorable for everyone. Many happy thoughts and prayers go out to all his family and friends. He will be sorely missed.

REMEMBER, save the second Saturday in December for our **Christmas Luncheon**. It will be held **December 13**, at 12 noon at Hannah's Restaurant in San Bernardino.

- **Marsha Lotze**

The Haps in District 9

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

The Haps in District 10

District 10 retirees continue to meet on the last Tuesday of the month for breakfast at Denny's in Stockton at March Lane and I-5. It originally started at 8 a.m. but people started coming as early as 7:30 a.m. So the people that continued to come at 8 a.m. didn't want the early birds to talk about them so they soon joined them except **Dick Mesa** who has been a hold out until recently.

Speaking of **Dick Mesa**, be notified that the District 10 Caltrans retirees' **Fall Luncheon** will be on Thursday Oct 2nd at U.J.'s restaurant, 7628 Pacific Ave., Stockton. Social Hour at 11:00 a.m. with Lunch Served at 12:00 p.m. The speaker to be announced. Price is \$16.00 total. Selection of Salmon, Roast beef or Chicken. RSVP **Dick Mesa** by **Monday Sept 29th**, 6528 Herndon Place Stockton, CA 95219, (209) 478-

6594, dickmesa@aol.com. Also mark your calendars for The Ghosts of Christmas Past luncheon for Wed Dec 3rd at Club Pheasant in W. Sacramento.

Chris Wendland's Adventures

I have been working on accomplishing items on my bucket list and recently was fortunate to complete a couple of thrilling adventures. First adventure was a zipline, what a breathtaking experience. Soared a quarter mile at approximately 50 mph over a canyon. Now I know how a bird feels!!

The second adventure was truly an adventure of a lifetime. I am a die-hard Nascar fan, have been to a lot of races and keep my Sundays open to watch on TV. I drove a Nascar car at approximately 100 mph for twelve laps, what a thrill, a real adrenaline rush and I am ready to do it again. My family now considers me to be



the speed queen of the family!! **Chris Wendland**

From **Bill and Darlene Selling**: “Hi y'all. We'll it is time to hit the road again. We headed north from FL. We have had 5 great weeks here at our daughters!! Did a few projects, some local site seeing at the beach and a great week in Orlando seeing family and having an awesome time at all the parks with our daughters' family.”

“We leave here on July 5th for Ft Benning GA, then Stone Mt GA and on to Pigeon Forge TN. From there we will be heading to Charleston SC, Myrtle Beach SC, Ft Bragg NC, Raleigh NC, Fredericksburg VA, Lancaster PA and end up in NJ to attend two New York Broadway Shows; Lion King and Phantom of the Opera and the new 911 Museum that just opened.”

“After NYC, we will be heading to MA, ME and VT before we start heading west. Well we will leave tomorrow Aug 1st for MA and VT. From there we will be heading west to IN, MO and on to MT. We had a great time at Ft Benning and Stone Mt. Stone Mt is an awesome place and lots to do. We did have a small problem with a circuit breaker overheating and melting the buss bar. Home Depot helped me get that fixed and we had power again. From there we went to Dolly Wood in TN which is one of the best family parks in the US! We made a short stop in NC for a visit with a HS friend from Japan and then on to Charleston SC and Myrtle Beach SC. We had a grand time seeing the sites and eating their great food! Next was a visit to Ft Bragg NC and the 82nd Memorial.....very moving to say the least!!! Then on to NC State U to visit the school our granddaughter is attending, beautiful school!! Then on to Lancaster PA, one of our favorite places to visit. I noticed our 5th wheel trailer was settling down to the Pin Box, the part of the hitch that connects to the truck. After doing some checking, I found cracks in the welding....not good!!! Turns out there was a trailer repair place about a mile away. They opened the front up and found more cracks.....NOT good!!! It took them a day to make the repairs and we had to stay in a motel for one night. They were not sure how we made it there? We do, the good Lord was watching over us again and we were again blessed!!! Anyone who has a 5th wheel trailer may want to take a flashlight and check the welds, a lot of stress on the pin box and frame, especially after 120,000 miles like ours has. After we got the trailer repaired, back to the campground and a night of rain and thunder like we have never seen! At 5AM, they knocked on all the RVs doors along the creek as it had come up 7 ft and we had to move. Our last stop was in NJ and trips to NYC to see the NEW 9/11 Memorial, one of the most moving memorials we have ever seen!! They did an awesome job with this and all should go see it!!!! We also saw some of the sites in NYC and two Broadway shows,

Lion King and the Phantom of the Opera. Awesome shows!! Even with the few bumps in the road, we are having a great time, seeing some great places and meeting some great people!!!! See you in Sept or Oct? Love to all!" **Bill & Darlene**

Road Last Traveled

V. Ray Worthington born June 23, 1939 passed away on Monday, May 26, 2014, in Sonora, CA. He excelled at work and was well known as the go-to guy for building/designing bridges and freeways in the state of California. Even after retiring, he was called back to work as a consultant many times.

Claude Stewart Jr., age 76, born August 14, 1938, passed away Friday August 29, 2014. Claude was a District 10 retiree resident of Stockton and husband of **Sharon Stewart** and supporter of the **QCC**. Claude retired in 2000 as a Supervisor in District 10 Maintenance after 34 years with the State. He started in District 1 in 1968, later moved to District 7 Ventura County, and then back to District 1. He worked approximately 20 years in District 10 before his retirement.

- **Brian Young**

The Haps in District 11

The D-11 QCC **Annual Potluck Picnic** is on Saturday, **October 11, 2014** at the Sweetwater Summit County Park in Bonita from 11am to 2pm. You should have already received a notice in the mail. The address is Sweetwater Summit Regional Park, 3218 Summit Meadow Road, Bonita, CA 91902 (619-472-7572. **Parking is Free!**

This is a new location and time of year so please all come and make this a success! Hopefully by October 11th this hot and humid weather will have past.

The food will begin being served at noon. Grilled chicken, sausages, and hot dogs with buns will be provided. You may bring a "potluck" dish also to add to the fun. The cost is \$10 per person or \$5 per person if you bring a dish. Condiments, plates, cups, etc. will be provided, as well as water, soft drinks, and beer.

Bring your family and invite your friends. We will also have a raffle prizes and a 50/50 drawing. If you did not get a flyer or have questions, please contact **Gary Darr** at 619-479-0549 (h) or e-mail Fatdog261@cox.net. We need to know how many will be coming so please mail in your card with your check as soon as possible.

The monthly Romeo meetings continue to be well attended with anywhere from 30 to 40 attendees. Come join us on the third Wednesday of every month. We start gathering at 8 AM and place our orders by 8:30 AM at the Denny's at the corner of Fletcher Parkway and Navajo Road. **ROMEO = Retired Old Men (and women) Eating Out.**

From **Carl West**: Just talked to **Bill Dotson**. He is okay but his wife **Dorothy** is in a convalescent facility after breaking her hip. At 91, it takes a while to heal! Bill doesn't drive anymore and uses a walker. He said they might move up to Escondido where his daughter lives. Bill said to say "Hi" to all the Romeos.

Road Last Traveled

Word comes that **QCC** member **Ray Archibald** has passed away quietly on Sunday, July 27, 2014 at the age of 74 of heart failure in the Sharp Memorial hospital where he was being treated.

Ray began his career in 1962 in San Diego as a landscape maintenance worker and moved ahead to be an engineering aid, technician and then an assistant engineer in Los Angeles in 1984.

He retired in 2002 with 40 years of service and

his major outside interest of track and field meets took him to many far flung events winning many Senior competitions. Even in his twilight years he was as active as a blind man can be.

Gary Darr reports: **Bev Mckeough**, wife of D-11 surveyor **John Barnes**, passed away in her sleep on Friday, August 22. Bev worked for many years in the District 11 Construction office and retired as an Associate Program Analyst in 2010. She will be missed by all who knew her.

- Leslie Franklin

The Haps in Central

Wow, summer is almost gone and fall will soon be here. Won't miss the summer heat!

The Central District held its' summer luncheon at the Dante Club in Sacramento. A grand time was had by the 50 members by exchanging travel stories and catching up with what's been happening since our last get together in the Spring. And, of course, the raffle of wine and chocolates is always a hit.

Imogene Ryder, who now lives in Eugene, Oregon, made a surprise visit to the luncheon and **Larry Orcutt** was a guest of **Wes Lum**. Larry who is still working in Equipment at Cal Trans said he will be joining the club.

Kay and Hugh Griffin: "We celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary by meeting the 13 members of our immediate family for nine days at Walt Disney World in Florida at the end of May/early June. Between Magic Kingdom, Epcot, Animal Kingdom, and the two water parks there were plenty of activities for grandchildren and older folks in Walt Disney World. The highlights for

us were when our family rented a deluxe cabana with a widescreen TV where we watched the special "This is your life" DVD put together by our sons. Several days later another highlight was cruising around the two Disney World lakes (one natural and one man made joined together) for an evening in a three bedroom yacht complete with a butler - watching first hand the light show on the lake plus a spectacular view of the evening fireworks at the Magic Kingdom's castle - complete with the piped in music and story coming from the castle. Everyone agreed that fireworks will never be the same henceforth!"

"We decided to drive so we could see some sights and visit friends and relatives on the way. We drove over 9,100 miles in seven weeks and stopped at Biosphere 2, Carlsbad Caverns, the 9/11 Memorial and Museum, and the Reagan and Kennedy Presidential libraries. Our travels on the East coast took us from Florida to Vermont with two stops going and coming across the country in Oklahoma City to visit with our youngest son and family."

"On August 29, our actual anniversary day, we received a beautiful "Shutterfly" book - full of memorable photos of our family enjoying our Disney World great adventure."

"What a wonderful way to celebrate our 50 year Anniversary!" **Kay and Hugh Griffin**

Doug and Gloria Moore report on a fantastic trip: "We spent 6 weeks of the hot AZ summer on a road trip knocking off bucket list entries, listening to great music, doctor visits and reconnecting with family across the US. This was our 2nd long road trip and we have this thing figured out... book everything ahead with free days mixed in and pay for everything up front. All we had to do was show up. With that said, we left AZ in mid-June with our first stop being Carlsbad Caverns National Park. We had always wanted to see them and now we have. Not much to do in Carlsbad but... From there we split a

week between San Antonio and Austin, TX visiting botanical gardens, shopping and site seeing along the SA River Walk. We visited the Alamo, LBJ Presidential Library and the various music venues. We had no idea that 6th St in Austin was that insane... The following 2 weeks were split between Memphis and Nashville. Memphis was fun but a very "wet heat" that we are unaccustomed to. We spent our days visiting downtown and the river parks and spent our nights on Beale Street for all the great food and music. We toured Graceland and were again in awe of the "King". It was an afterthought that turned out to be a memorable event of our trip."

"We tootled into Nashville on July 2nd just in time for the 4th of July celebration - a huge annual event. We love Nashville... **Gloria** sees a doctor at Vanderbilt twice a year so we scheduled the 4th of July week for bi-annual testing and her Doctor visit. We feel like regulars at the Honky Tonks on lower Broadway. The talent is amazing and the atmosphere is addictive. Broadway was closed for the night of the 4th as we joined 290 thousand other crazies to listen to big name country artists and witness a fireworks display like we had never seen before. We made friends from all over the U.S. that night! We were glad we took the shuttle into town... We also visited plantations, the Bluebird Cafe, Country Music Hall of Fame, and spent several nights at the Grand Ole Opry, where we saw a number of great country performers and legends. I even found time for golf."

"Next up was a stop at my cousin Jim's in Mansfield, Ohio to visit my birthplace and childhood home. It had been almost 39 years since I had been "home" and the first very nostalgic event of the trip. We visited homes and towns, parks where I played as a kid, schools I attended, snapped pictures of the Amish buggies, had a small family gathering and visited the resting place of many family members - some for the first time. Of significance, this year is the 50th anniversary of my Mothers' death. It

seemed as if Jim knew everyone in Mansfield and wanted us to meet them also. We met a neighbor who I spent 1st thru 5th grades with at elementary schools in Shelby, OH. She started throwing out teacher and classmate names and the memories came flooding back. What a hoot! We had planned to visit the Rock and Roll/Pro Football HOF's but never got around to it. Next time... After waxing Jim at the golf course, it was time to leave Ohio for a scheduled date with Sir Paul McCartney in Kansas City, MO on July 16th."

"We stayed in downtown Kansas City near the Sprint Center and enjoyed the concert party atmosphere, great food at Jack Stack's BBQ and one of the best concerts I have ever been to. 72 year old Paul played 3 hours straight with 4 encores. He begged the crowd to go home after the last encore. He was very gracious, did wonderful tributes to Jimi Hendrix, John and George, a solo set and did just about every song you could think of. There's a bucket list check off! Next morning we left for Branson, MO for a week of R&R at a Marriott where we did exactly that. Then it was off to Concordia, KS for another family reunion. Concordia is a farming community and my Mom's hometown. We stayed with my Aunt and Uncle. Darlyene is the last surviving sibling of 7 children. I reconnected with a couple of cousins who drove in to stay while we were there and we visited and took many walks down memory lane again. It had been 40 years since we were together but the bond of family made it feel like just yesterday. All 6 cousins were KSU grads+ and very successful. Susan had lost her home in the Chapman, KS F-4 tornado in 2010. What a harrowing story we got to hear. We left Kansas wishing we had more time but Colorado Springs and Santa Fe were booked and waiting for us."

The last week of the trip was split between these two sites that we talked about visiting for years... We hung out in Manitou Springs and Old Town Colorado Springs, found good food and eclectic shops and visited the beautiful Garden of the

Gods. We had planned to take the train up Pike's Peak but daily afternoon rains slowed us down. Santa Fe was all we hoped it would be and more! The accommodations were 1st class, the food was nothing short of memorable, the art was some of the best and coolest stuff we had ever seen, the people were warm and friendly and the scenery was spectacular. We spent a day in Taos as it was just an hour drive away. If you do Santa Fe, you have to go to Taos... Way cool place. The last days drive home was the worst day out - weather wise (go figure) with monsoon rains for the 500 mile drive. Flooding and torrential rains were the order of the day. We had worried about what kind of weather we would encounter going across the country but it was a non-issue. All the scary weather waited until we were gone before it showed up at the places we visited. Must be karma. We stopped at "Standing on the Corner" in Winslow, AZ for pic's and souvenirs from that iconic location. That was the final stop before putting it in the barn on Saturday night, August 2nd. Forty five days and 6,400 miles plus memorizing the menu at Crackerbarrel just makes us want to go back and do it again. It wasn't enough time..."

Doug and Gloria Moore

Road Last Traveled

On a sad note, we lost two members, **Fred Jackson** (see D-8 Haps) and **E.G. Pomeroy**, died in 2012.

Mark your calendar for our Holiday Fling which will be held at the Dante Club on Wednesday, December 10th. Have a Happy Thanksgiving everyone!

- Gary and Julie Bush

Events

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

District 1 -

Caltrans retirees and QCC members meet on the 3rd Thursday of the months of January, April, July and October at 11:30 am at the Samoa Cookhouse.

Contact **John Sherman** at jsherman1@Humboldt1.com or call (707) 498-2629 for details.

District 2 -

Retired Caltrans Ladies Lunch Bunch meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 11:30 AM, location varies. Contact **Judy Tucker** at linedancerjudyt@citlink.net

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

District 3 -

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

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

District 4 -

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

Contact: **Ed Coble** 925-465-4219, edcoble49@astound.net

Administration Retirees Lunch meets on the third Wednesday of each month at the Mexicali Rose Restaurant in downtown Oakland at 11:30am. Contact **Anita Appiano** (aappiano@pacbell.net) or **Kathy Freeman** (kathy.freeman1@att.net).

The North Bay Caltrans Retirees meet on the 2nd Tuesday of every month. Contact: **Jim Boulter** 707-546-3097, jboulter@comcast.net

District 5 -

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

District 6 -

The Caltrans Retiree Breakfast meets at 9 am on the third Wednesday in March and September at the Waffle House on Route 68 in Lindsay. Contact: **Don Phillips** 559-781-2057

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

An informal District 6 bunch meets at Santa Fe Basque Restaurant at 3110 N Maroa Ave, south of Shields in Fresno the first Monday of the month.

District 7 -

The Tom Fera Monthly Luncheon Club meets on the second Wednesday of the month (except Dec.) in LA.

See **D-7 Haps** for dates, addresses and phone numbers.

District 8 -

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

District 9 -

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

District 10 -

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

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

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

District 11 -

Annual Picnic - October 11, 2014
Sweetwater Summit Regional Park in Bonita
Contact **Gary Darr** at 619-479-0549 (h) or e-mail
Fatdog261@cox.net

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

Central District -

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

442nd Regimental Combat Team

The 442nd Regimental Combat Team was the most decorated unit for its size and length of service in the history of American Army warfare. In total, about 14,000 men served, earning 9,486 Purple Hearts. The unit was awarded eight Presidential Unit Citations (5 earned in one month). Twenty-one of its members were awarded Medals of Honor. Beginning in 1944, the regiment fought primarily in Italy, southern France, and Germany.

To Honorary Members

Have you seen this option-

FREE PRINTED COPIES

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

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

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