

TheQCCer

The Newsletter of the Quarter Century Club

VOLUME 26, No. 2

JUNE 2017



A New Look for the QCC

BUTCH SAYS; "IT'S ABOUT TIME!"

From the Corner Pocket

I'd like to call your attention to our Quarter Century Club logo, and how it has evolved. In 1939, just 27 years after the California Division of Highways began, the Quarter Century Club began with this logo shown below.



Thirty-three years later, in 1972, legislation changed the title from the Division of Highways to the Department of Transportation and the logo was changed to reflect that, see below.



Forty-five years later we might note that any new *CANDIDATE* for the Quarter Century Club never worked for anything but the Caltrans CT logo.

To spark some thoughts in options for an updated Quarter Century Club logo, I've sketched up a few ideas for you to think on as starting points.

I'm not trying to shove any specific logo out there, and am very sincere in asking for your talent to create a new and better logo.

One might use the outer two rings of the current logo, stretched wider to include both the old red Tomato and the CT of today:



Another idea might retain the original Tomato, plus a stylized 'QCC' in the center and add the CT beside it with our name Quarter Century Club above them and relevant dates below them:



Or for a very clean design in the ultra-modern style with just the letters QCC in the colors of the current

bands plus a nod to the green of the CT logo might give us this;



These are some simple ideas from my simple mind to start a discussion. I invite any one of you to try your talent on designing a new logo for the Quarter Century Club. If we get a good selection of new ones, I'd hope that a few talented members might review them and come up with a "Final Four" to submit to the membership for their votes. And of course, one option is to make no change at all.

Are you up for an "Ad Hoc" committee effort to design a logo or select some of the best options. If so, I'd like to hear from you. You can also view the logos shown above at the QCC web site at <http://www.caltransquartercenturyclub.net/Logo/logos.html>

Butch Biendara, QCC President

Index

President's Remarks	Page 1
State and District Officers.....	Page 2
The QCC Website	Page 4
CTF	Page 4
In Memoriam.....	Page 5
District 1 Report	Page 6
District 2 Report	Page 7
District 3 Report	Page 7
District 4 Report	Page 7
District 5 Report	Page 7
District 6 Report	Page 8
District 7 Report	Page 9
District 8 Report	Page 12
District 9 Report	Page 14
District 10 Report	Page 14
District 11 Report	Page 15
Central District Report.....	Page 16
Events	Page 17
Wanted	Page 18
Honorary Members	Page 18
Membership Renewal Form.....	Page 19

State & District Officers

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

1st Vice President: Dave Weiss
10111 Canyonridge Place
Spring Valley, CA 91977-6915
(619) 820-5117 daveweiss@cox.net

2nd Vice President:
Francisco "CDR. Frank" Paras Jr.
11439 Toscana Circle
Stanton, CA 90680-3390
(949) 294-7345 (714) 248-9158
SGTPARASJR@YAHOO.COM

Historian: George E. Gray
9720 Oviedo Street
San Diego, CA 92129-3827
(858) 538-3027 gray850@aol.com

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

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

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

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

District 2 Director: James Ceragioli
1861 Shasta Pines Way

Redding CA 96002-0306
(530) 223-0208 sirravioli@shasta.com

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

Secretary: Bill Belcher
18600 Quail Ridge Rd
Cottonwood, CA 96022-9058
shastaqcc@yahoo.com

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

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

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

District 4 Director: Paul Hensley
161 Allen Drive
San Bruno, CA 94066-1602
(650) 359-5172 hphensley@gmail.com

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

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

District 7 Director: William Albany III
17200 So Stark Avenue

Cerritos, CA 90703-1822
(562) 865-2440

Secretary: Kirsten Stahl
100 S Main St Suite 100 MS13
Los Angeles, CA 90012-3712
(213) 897-0470 kirsten.stahl@dot.ca.gov

District 8 Director: Wesley J. Grimes
5818 N. Sycamore Avenue
Rialto, CA 92377
909-875-5400 wesleyj38@hotmail.com

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

District 9 Director: Lance Hinek
1642 S Valley View Dr
Bishop, CA 93514-1958
760-873-3885 hinek@suddenlink.net

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

Secretary: Brian Young
1056 Bradford Circle
Lodi, CA 95240-7002
209-334-6028 blyoung365@gmail.com

District 11 Director: Kelly Manning

Secretary: Christine Valle

Treasurer: Gary Darr
3011 Sylvia St
Bonita, CA 91902
(619) 479-0549 fatdog261@cox.net

Central District Director: Gary Bush
1420 Cougar Track Drive
Placerville, CA 95667-8728
530-642-8208 zbusharosa@wildblue.net

Secretary: Julie Bush
 1420 Cougar Track Drive
 Placerville, CA 95667-8728
 530-642-8208 zbusharosa@wildblue.net

Treasurer: David Saxby
 9503 Dunkerrin Way
 Elk Grove CA 95758-4402

The QCC Website

By the Webmaster

Do you have a story to tell? About your world travels; hobbies; favorite places; life experiences - anything at all? Here's how to get it posted on the Quarter Century Club website:

Write your story in an email and send it to:
post+speedreportsjs@coffeecup.com

Your story is then transmitted to the CTQCC website where it is stored in a folder accessible only by the webmaster, who then extracts the text and pictures you sent and stores them in a private folder on the Stories page of the Caltrans District specified by you.

The webmaster then sends you an email with a link to the page containing your story, accessible only by you and the webmaster. You can then view your story on the Internet, make any changes you would like, then send them in an email to post+speedreportsjs@coffeecup.com just as you sent the original.

The webmaster then notifies you by email when the changes have been made.

When you are satisfied with the web page containing your story, send an email to post+speedreportsjs@coffeecup.com authorizing the webmaster to post the story for public viewing.

You can still add to or make changes to the story as described above after it is published by sending an

email to post+speedreportsjs@coffeecup.com .
 Let us hear from you!

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

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION FOUNDATION

By Kathy Freeman

The California Transportation Foundation is matching donations for the **Annette Brooks'** Memorial Fund. Make a donation in memory of Annette Brooks, a Structural Steel Paint Supervisor, who was shot and killed by another Caltrans employee in April in Rio Dell. Donations will help her family during this difficult time but are not tax deductible. To make a donation, go to www.transportationfoundation.org/donate and select the "**Brooks Memorial Fund**" to designate your donation.

CTF proudly co-sponsored Caltrans' Workers Memorial Ceremony on the State Capitol steps in April. If you were unable to attend this incredible tribute to those who have lost their lives building, maintaining, and operating California's transportation system, you can go to www.dot.ca.gov/paffairs/workersmemorial to view the on demand video of the ceremony.

The California Transportation Foundation (CTF) was pleased to announce the 28th Annual CTF Transportation Award winners at its ceremony in May. The event was a great success recognizing California's transportation achievements of 2016. Winners from all modes, public and private sector, and from all regions of the state were recognized at this event. This year's prestigious award, Person of the Year, was presented to **Mike Kramen**, CEO, Transportation Corridor Agencies. The Honorable **Jerry Brown**, Governor of California; The Honorable **Jim Frazier**, Chair of California State

Assembly Transportation Committee, and The Honorable **Jim Beall**, Chair of the California State Senate Transportation and Housing Committee won the awards for Elected Officials of the Year. The Organization of the Year Award was presented to the Transportation Corridor Agencies.

The Project of the Year Award went to the Exposition Metro Line Construction Authority. Caltrans offices sharing in other project awards that were presented at the ceremony included District 3 (Structure Project of the Year: Raise I-80 Project); District 4 (3 awards: Interchange Project of the Year I-80/Yerba Buena Island Westbound Ramps; Operational Efficiency Program/Project of the Year I-80 SMART Corridor; and Other/Unique Project of the Year SFOBB East Span Seismic Safety, Pier E3 Demonstration Project); District 7 (Freeway/Expressway Project of the Year I-5 Widening at Carmenita Road); North Region (Conventional State Highway Project of the Year Buckhorn Grade Improvement); and to Caltrans for the Laurel Street Grade Separation Project winning the Local Streets Project of the Year. Congratulations and a “job well done” to all the above for their winning projects in this year’s Transportation Awards and for making a positive difference in California’s transportation community. Photos and more information on all the category winners and others sharing in the above awards can be found on the Foundation’s web site (www.transportationfoundation.org).

This year’s Caltrans Outstanding Management and Engineering in Transportation Awards at the above ceremony: Emerson Rhyner Award: **Clark Paulson**, Chief Division of Accounting; Charles H. Purcell Award: **Adnan Maiah**, Deputy District Director, Capital Outlay Support Program, District 12; Karl Moskowitz Award: **Sean Campbell**, Sr. Transportation Electrical Engineer Specialist, Caltrans Division of Research, Innovation & System Information; James E. Roberts Award: **Dr. Lian Duan**, Technical Specialist, Division of Engineering Services.

Just a reminder that the Foundation’s annual NorCal Charity Golf Tournament is scheduled for July 17th at the Yocha Dehe Golf Club at Cache Creek Casino Resort. Come and join in on the fun for a great cause. Information and registration forms can be found on CTF’s website (www.transportationfoundation.org).

In Memoriam

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

Name	District	Date
Ray Thomsen	01	Mar 22, 2017
Gerald Loffelbein	01	Feb 08, 2017
Lana Mays Millsap Skeen	01	Apr 27, 2017
Seilosa Helwer	01	Mar 27, 2017
Albert Nickols	01	Jun 03, 2017
Austin Carlton	05	Mar 13, 2017
Edward (Ed) Phillips	05	Apr 10, 2017
Richard (Dick) Elliott	05	May 21, 2017
Edward L Zamora	06	Mar 04, 2017
Tomiye Minabe	06	Apr 13, 2017
Stewart Stahl	07	Dec 21, 2016
Arthur Young	07	Jan 2017
Tom Tayrien	07	Feb 16, 2017
Harold Yamaguchi	07	Mar 10, 2017
Sydney Smith-Perry	07	Mar 14, 2017
Alex Beanum	07	Apr 29, 2017
Regan M Davis	07	May 05, 2017
Arnie Koetzle	07	May 30, 2017
Ernest (Ernie) Parke	08	Apr 14, 2017
C (Dean) Pitts	08	Apr 2017
Bruce Kean	08	May 19, 2017
Henry (Hank) Wolfe	08	May 2017
Monte Kurt Seibel	10	Apr 11, 2017
John Van Berkel Jr	10	Apr 27, 2017
Jack Lobenberg	10	May 22, 2017
Thomas (Tom) J Earley	10	Apr 13, 2017
Michael (Mike) Marquez	10	Mar 2017
Bill Toy	10	Mar 09, 2017
Gordon Wells	10	Mar 19, 2017
Stan Yamanaka	10	Mar 24, 2017
Jacob (Jake) Dekema	11	Apr 16, 2017
Manuel (Manny) Demetre	11	Apr 20, 2017
Jack Grasberger	11	Apr 15, 2017
Robert (Bob) Dougherty	11	Mar 20, 2017
Kenneth Allen	C	Apr 05, 2017
A Neil Dunham	C	May 11, 2017

The Haps in District 1

Dennis Grinsell on March 8th learned that our dear, 100 year old retiree, **Bob Myers**, was moving to be closer to his daughter on Saturday, March 11th. So

Dennis did the impossible, reserved the Pantry for Friday, the 10th, made many phone calls and had around 75 people attending a going away lunch to honor Bob. Special thanks to Dennis and to the Pantry for taking care of everything on such short notice. We will miss you **Bob**, all the best to you.

On April 19th, the District 1 Worker's Memorial was held to honor CT workers who were killed on the job. With the possibility of rain, it was held inside. Each of our District employees were honored and a framed resolution honoring them was presented by **Rob Christensen**, a representative of State Sen. **Mike McGuire** to our District Director, **Matt Brady**. The room was packed.

On April 20th, 29 attended the District 1 retiree/QCC breakfast at the Pantry. Everyone had a great visit and breakfast.

Arlene managed to get in two trips, one at the end of April to Florida, Georgia and South Carolina, and the other a road trip up 101 to Portland and then to Seattle to see the Boeing Air Museum, among other wonderful sites.

Sadly, our District lost more retirees and family. Our fellow retiree, **Ray Thomsen**, passed away on 3/22/2017. He had worked as a District 1 Draftsman and Senior Delineator for 40 years before retiring. He left behind his dear wife, Marlene, who was also a long time District 1 employee, and his family. We enjoyed seeing him often at our quarterly lunches, and later breakfasts, and at the local car shows where he displayed his car, most recently a 1947 Chevy Coupe. His service was attended by family, friends and fellow District retirees.

Gerald Loffelbein passed away on 2/8/17 at the age of 89. He retired from the District 1 Shop in 1985 and became a commercial salmon fisherman for several years. He is dearly missed by his wife Corrine and family including great grandchildren.

Lana Mays Millsap Skeen passed away on 4/27/17. She worked in the District 1 Shop and had the distinction of being the first female Equipment Material Specialist in the State of California. She worked for Caltrans for 31 years and was an Equipment Material Manager II in District 4 when she retired.

Two spouses of our retirees also passed away. **Seilosa Helwer**, wife of **Paul Helwer**, a District 1, then Dist. 10 engineer, passed away on 3/27/17 in Stockton. She was born on the island of Nukulaelae in Tuvalu. We were privileged to hear talk and music relating to her island. Paul had been my Eureka High classmate and his Dad, **Sam**, was our District Engineer before promoting to CT Headquarters in Sacramento.

The other spouse was **Albert Nickols**, husband of **Barbara Nickols**, who had retired from our District 1 Shop. He passed away on June 3 at the age of 80. He was drafted into the Army in 1960. After his service, he returned to the County Road Dept. and retired after 38 years of service. He will be missed by his dear wife of 56 years, Barbara, 3 sons, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. I always enjoyed seeing him in our annual Rhody parade, riding his horse with the Hum. Co. Sheriff's Mounted Posse Search and Rescue.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the family and friends of **Ray Thomsen**, **Gerald Loffelbein**, **Lana Skeen**, **Seilosa Helwer**, and **Albert Nickols**.

I am always interested in news.

- **Arlene Hartin**

The Haps in District 2

Well folks, **Sandy** and **Jim Ceragioli** tell us they went on another trip this year in March. This time it was to celebrate his son's 50th birthday. He decided he wanted to go to the Mexican Riviera with family and any friends that might want to go. It ended up Family only.

From **Jim Ceragioli-** **Sandy** and I took a drive to Rolling Hills to spend a few days with her cousin and significant other for a couple of days before boarding our ship in San Pedro Harbor to set sail for Puerto Vallarta, Mazatlán, and Cabo San Lucas. We were on Princes Ruby and had a nice time. The highlight was in Cabo where we had a chance to swim with a dolphin. Of course, it was also nice to spend 7 days with son James and his wife Tracy, as well as our Grandchildren Giovanni, Isabella, and Tracy's family members.

One other highlight was where we stayed going south and north. On the way down, we spent the night in Pismo Beach, because we enjoyed our stay there the last time, and there was a great restaurant there. Sorry to say, but the restaurant burned down just two weeks previous. We did manage to find a good substitute called "Rosa". Then, on the way north, we spent the night in San Luis Obispo where we got to eat at the other outlet of our burned out Pismo restaurant. The name is Giuseppe's and it is a great place to eat. You all must try it sometime.

The trip home was a nightmare for the first number of hours. We left Rolling Hills on Sunday morning at about 10:45. We got on the 405 headed north and looked forward to an easy drive to the 101 which was 29 miles. Well folks, less than 3 miles north, we came to a halt and it was stop and go for the next 26+ miles. We got to the 101 and low and behold, stop and go all the way to north of Santa Barbara. This congestion was not only north bound. Both directions were solid traffic on a

Sunday. No way would I ever consider living in that mess.

That is all from D-2 this time. Please send me any stories that you want included for the next edition.

- **Bill Belcher**

The Haps in District 3

District 3 did not submit an entry for this edition. Current news will be included in the next edition.

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

Typical summer weather here on the Central Coast...May gray followed by June gloom. Not sure what the following month is called, but we frequently have a foggy Fourth of July which makes it hard to see fireworks at the beach.

Caltrans District 5 has been in the news quite a lot recently. The closure of Highway 1 is a major concern, and there have been several articles looking back to the 14-month repair project in the 80's. This closure is expected to last a year or longer. Work is progressing on the bridge replacement, but the huge slide is still being monitored. If you'd like to see photos and video, check out the Facebook page for Caltrans Central Coast (District 5).

Another District 5 problem has been a spate of accidents, some fatal, on Route 46 east of Paso Robles and at the 41/46 intersection. Recent letters to the editor have suggested installing signals or constructing an overcrossing at this spot. The district will be looking for ways to improve safety, but it's difficult to prevent those accidents caused by driver error.

Congratulations to two recent retirees, **Richard Gonzales** and **Mary DeLeon**. Hope you will enjoy a chance to travel and spend more time with family.

We're sorry to report the loss of more Caltrans friends. **Austin Carlton** passed away on March 13 at age 83. He was raised in the San Diego area and received his education at SDCC and SDSU. He worked in both engineering and planning and retired as a Senior Planner.

Edward "Ed" Phillips passed away on April 10 at age 89. He was born and raised in the LA area and served in the US Army. He began his 35-year Caltrans career as a mechanic with Shop 5 before transferring to META. There he helped develop their training program and taught several courses.

Richard "Dick" Elliott passed away May 21 at age 87. He was born in San Francisco and grew up in Redwood City and Sacramento. He received his civil engineering degree from UC Berkeley and also a Masters degree. **Dick** served in the US Navy during Korean War and retired with the rank of Captain (Reserve). He worked in both District 10 and 5, and he retired as Deputy District Director-Maintenance and was an **Honorary QCC member**.

- **Kathleen Copeland**

The Haps in District 6

Just a reminder of the following events for QCCers to enjoy. A Caltrans Retiree Breakfast meets at 9am on the third Wednesday in September at the Waffle House on Route 68 in Lindsay. Please contact **Don Phillips**, 559-781-2057, for more information.

There is also an informal Coffee at 8 am every Thursday at Country Waffles at the NW corner of Herndon and Cedar. Additionally, an informal District 6 bunch meets at Santa Fe Basque Restaurant at 3110 N Maroa Ave, south of Shields in Fresno on the first Monday of the month.

Road Last Traveled



Edward L. Zamora was born in Madera, CA, on November 18, 1926, and passed away on Saturday, March 4, 2017, at the age of 90. Edward was employed by Caltrans for 35 years before he retired in 1988. He also worked part time for Blair, Church, & Flynn for 25 years.

From **Virgle Ray**: "How sad, one by one the leaves fall, like leaves on a tree in the fall. The smile is the new flower in the spring; in this case the grandchildren are our future and our smile. Our condolences to Ed's family."



Tomiye Minabe passed away peacefully on April 13, 2017 surrounded by those who loved her. She was born on November 16, 1927 to Kanshiro and Mitsu Yabuno and was a lifelong resident of the Fresno area.

Tomiye was retired from Caltrans, having worked there for more than 20 years. She and her

husband, Shiro, loved to travel and spend time at their home in Cayucos. She will be greatly missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing her. Special thanks to **Pat Weil, Rosie and Mary** for caring for her all of these years, especially at the end.

I will be leaving tomorrow for a week in St. Thomas. Looking forward to it.

- Terry Littleton

The Haps in District 7

It never hurts to ask! **Tom Almany** had been asking for several years, “does anyone else want to be the District 7 QCC Director?” At the annual luncheon at Taix, in December, he got a volunteer, **Dalia Jaramillo**, SEIU active member, Right of Way Agent, and daughter of **Mary Jaramillo**. Let’s give **Dalia** a warm welcome to her new endeavor!

Monthly Reunion

Pencil in the second Wednesday of the month, for food, friends, travel and adventure... at the **Tom Fera Lunch Group!** Members and others meet the second Wednesday of each month, except December. The remaining 2017 and some of the 2018 dates and addresses follow below.

RESTAURANTS AND PROPOSED LUNCHEON DATES FOR 2017 and beyond

[Second Wednesday of every month except December]

July 12, 2017	China Olive
August 9, 2017	Joselito's West
September 13, 2017	Steer N' Ale
October 11, 2017	China Olive
November 8, 2017	Joselito's West
December 2, 2017	QCC luncheon
January 10, 2018	Steer N' Ale
February 14, 2018	China Olive
March 14, 2018	Joselito's West
April 11, 2018	Steer N" Ale

May 9, 2018	China Olive
June 13, 2018	Joselito's West

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

Steer N’ Ale Restaurant; 3644 E. Foothill Boulevard, Pasadena, CA 91107; (626) 796-2278

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

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.

San Gabriel Monthly Meeting

A third Caltrans monthly reunion meets on the Third Thursday of each month at 11:30 AM, in San Gabriel at: **The Golden Soup**, 1039 E. Valley Blvd., San Gabriel, CA, between San Gabriel Blvd. and Walnut Grove Ave.

Steve Leung encourages anyone who's interested, retired or not.

For more information, e-mail Steve Leung skingleung@yahoo.com

Something Fishy in Utah?

Bill Minter writes, “I have not been all that well of late, but I am quite well enough to respond to the recent edition of the QCCER. For those who remember me, I left D-7 some 22 years ago. I used to be member of the **Tom Fera** lunch group. [Although I] live in Utah now, I have not become a LDS (Latter Day Saint) in the process. I am still a ‘Mackerel Snapper’. I’ll sign off for now, good to hear from all of you. On 2nd thought, I

probably said a bit much. Just hello for me to the gang in D-7." **Bill Minter**

[As a point of history, and now considered a badge of pride, devout Catholics were once labeled "mackerel snappers" because of their regular consumption of fish on Fridays. Excerpt from "Mackerel Snappers" by **Spencer Allen**]

Got Gas?

One April morning in Tujunga, **Marie Martin** spied "a gas Company truck parked outside. He was back later around 6 pm. I could smell gas in the sideyard. Later a couple of big trucks came. They bored holes in the pavement and dug a big trench in the neighbor's driveway. First they said my tree broke the gas line. Later it turned out the real estate people selling the neighbor's house did it making a hole for the post for the FOR SALE sign. Gas guys were there until after midnight. Then the guy to put back the pilot lights for stove, dryer, water heater came at 3:30 am -- really! He says the vent pipe for the house furnace has a hole in it and I have to get repairs before they will light the furnace. Naturally it's cold today -- fortunately we have the fireplace. And how was your day??"

Contacts and Recent Sightings

Bob Murlin, who worked in Right of Way from 1950 to 1987, writes, "I never see any posts from former Right of way Agents so I will post one now. I had lunch with long time R/W guys, **Dean Grenier** and **Mel Alstead**, last week at the Acapulco restaurant in Long Beach. We are all getting up in years but still able to get around to meet friends. I also made a trip to San Diego to spend a couple of days, including St Patrick's day, with former agent, **Frank Spees**. He lives on Sail Bay in the Mission Beach area. When we were younger with wives and kids, we went camping a lot, often at Bass Lake." You can contact **Bob** at <robmur@earthlink.net>

Marie Martin, at the Tam O'Shanter Restaurant in Los Feliz, for carved brisket sandwich, French

onion soup, English Trifle, and "Toad-in-the-Hole" (beef stew served in a Yorkshire pudding). **Marie** and **Bob Walters** had just returned from England and Scotland in early June, dodging terrorists, as they went, and having high tea at the House of Lords, hob-knobbing with members of Parliament as they overlooked the Thames River. As members of the Sherlock Holmes Society, **Marie** and **Bob** get around. In May, the Portland,



Oregon Chapter "commemorated the fight to the death between Sherlock and Professor Moriarty at Multnomah falls. [Marie's New Foundland hound] **Bismarck** is appropriately dressed in black for the occasion."

Moving On...

Art Salazar, announced his retirement and writes, "As I reminisce in my last few weeks here, if there is anything I am most proud of in my 37 years at Caltrans it is my involvement with PECG (particularly **Gerald James** and **Stephen Beck**) that resulted in the construction of our present day District 7 office building that opened September 2004. Anyone that remembers working in the old, unsafe and dilapidated DOB/DOX buildings can attest to the dreadful conditions that we endured while working there. The... 2003 article, 'Moving Down the Road' by **Chip Jacobs** of the *Pasadena Weekly*, accurately captures the events and attitudes leading up to the new building, which was still in construction at the time. Lest we forget, I truly hope that today's

D7 employees appreciate all that was done to fight for and win the battle for our current offices, an accomplishment that for 25 years I had been told ‘would never get done.’” A celebration of **Art’s** Career will be held June 22, 2017 at Steven’s Steakhouse in the City of Commerce.

The Road Last Traveled

Stewart Stahl, beloved husband and friend, passed from this life, on December 21, 2016, after a short battle with metastasized adenocarcinoma. A celebration of life was held for his Caltrans Family on February 14, 2017, in the District Office. Services were held at the National Cemetery in Riverside, California, attended by close friends and family. He is survived by his wife and companion of 37 years, **Kirsten Stahl**, his 93-year-old Father, **Ernest Stahl**, and brother **Martin Stahl**. Stewart was a **QCC Member** for many years.

Paul Perez shared that **Arthur Young** passed away in January of this year, [2017].

Steven Tayrien, son of **Tom Tayrien**, wrote, “Dear Friends, with a heavy heart and much sorrow, I need to let you know that Dad passed away Thursday, February 16 at 5:30 p.m. **Jay** (my brother) and **Diane** (his wife) are here with me... Any questions, please call **Diane** at 918-581-7806.” A Masonic Funeral service, and Military Graveside service were held at the Palm Cemetery, Las Vegas area on February 23, 2017. **Tom Tayrien** was one of the founders of [The **Tom Fera**] lunch group and an **Honorary QCC Member**.

Carol Huntwork wrote, “It is with my deepest regret to let you know that **Harold Yamaguchi** passed away on Friday, March 10, 2017. He was **Dick Huntwork’s** best friend along with **Dick Laughlin**. They used to have their Friday lunch in Chinatown. Now the three of them are together and can resume their lunch dates. There will be no service, only family.” **Art Salazar** wrote, “I am sorry to hear of **Harold**

Yamaguchi’s passing; he was one of my Design seniors early in my career. Below is a 1964 photo of **Carol Schumaker** meeting with other engineers in the old DOX building; **Harold Yamaguchi** is the young man in glasses.



DiAnna Watson, writes “Dear Caltrans family, with a heavy heart and overwhelming sadness I regret to inform you that **Sydney Smith-Perry** passed away Tuesday, March 14th. **Sydney** is survived by her father, **Robert Smith** and brother **Evan Smith**.” Funeral Services were held on April 20, 2017 at the Inglewood Cemetery, Chapel of Chimes.

Chuck O’Connell related sad news from “**Dave Kilmurray** alerting me that he had gotten a call from **Vicki Beanum** that her husband, **Alex Beanum**, had passed away.”



Their children, **Vicki**, **Felicia** and **John**, added, “Dad passed away Saturday April 29th from a respiratory illness. Our family has appreciated the love and support you have provided us over the past few days as well as the many years of laughter and friendship.”

Alex graduated from Michigan College of Mining and Technology with a degree in Civil Engineering and was active in the ROTC in

college. He attained the rank of 2nd Lieutenant with the US Army Corps of Engineers, and worked as a transportation engineer with Caltrans until he retired in 1999. He continued to work as a transportation expert witness for several more years, and was the past Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem with the City of Cerritos, a Trustee on the Southeast Mosquito Abatement District Board, and Member of the L.A. County Commission on Disabilities. A public Memorial Service for **Alex** was held in the Memorial Chapel, Forest Lawn Long Beach on Monday, May 8, 2017.

Lohit Kotha, Senior Transportation Engineer, Design Branch B, writes, "It is with great sadness and heavy heart to report that our friend and colleague Mr. **Regan M Davis** passed away on Friday May 5, 2017 after a lengthy battle with brain cancer.

Marie Smiley wrote to **Chuck O'Connell**, "You may know this by now but just in case you don't, **Arnie Koetzle** passed away on May 30, 2017 at the age of 91. He worked for CT for 40 years in several departments including Bridge, R/W and in the early carpooling program. He retired in 1990. "I always remember **Arnie** and how friendly and kind he was to me. May he rest in peace."

Be like Bill, Bob, Art, Marie, and Carol!

A few moments to share some excitement and memories of good times with our friends, and shared experiences makes all the difference! 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.

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

WAKE UP

Send those cards, and letters, or just make a call!

Many thanks to those who forwarded information and who were not otherwise mentioned above.

- Kirsten Stahl

The Haps in District 8

Jim and **Pam Landfried** retired a couple of years ago to Colorado Springs, CO and are now volunteer drivers for "Save the Storks", a worthy organization and their favorite. We miss you guys.

Mike Williamson, recently retired from Surveys, joined the Wednesday Coffee Group and shared his experiences; common to many in the group and they're glad to welcome him. He's a former submariner and his website is <http://www.bonefishbase.org/> and is quite interesting. **Mike** is also our newest QCC member. Glad to have you!

Jim Miller finally got his Hole in One plaque marking his hole in one last month. **Jim** and **Linda Miller** set off in their motor home for a trip to Arizona, visiting family and then off to Mt. Rushmore. . . **Hiep Bui** recently completed a 42-mile bike ride, one of many he has been taking.

The Riverside Press Enterprise recently featured front-page articles about **Julie Paez, Jesus'** wife, who was shot two times in the San Bernardino terrorist attack. Recently, on a trip to therapy, she was struck by a fully loaded trash truck. She was not injured but the car was demolished.

Tom and **Bonnie Powell** recently took a road trip to Utah and visited friends while there. **Naidu Athululu** recently returned from a trip to India, only to discover he will require serious medical

treatment. Hope all goes well and keep us posted.

Andy and **Kay Anderson** recently hosted extended family on a cruise to Ole Mexico.

Wes and **Linda Grimes** celebrated their 56th wedding anniversary on April 8th. **Linda** got a new I Pad from the Mac Store, replacing her ancient one! **Taylor Smith** is planning a 95th birthday party in late June at Mitla's in San Bernardino.

Frances Jacques was the guest of honor celebrating her 90th birthday, hosted by **Chris** and **Christie Jacques**. A large group enjoyed a bountiful buffet and enjoyed telling stories of days gone by... Yours truly remembers working for Frances's boss **Mr. Baker** in the Maintenance Office for a month while she was on her honeymoon! Wow, and "Congratulations" to **Frances**.

Janice Feenstra is getting used to her new quarters, moving out of her long-time home for a smaller living space. Enjoy your new home Janice.

Mike Babich, a Landscape Architect in Design, is retiring in June after 37 years and a luncheon was held on June 26, 2017. He is saying Adios to Caltrans, 'It's Fiesta Time' and **Mike** plans on going boating. Good Luck and Best Wishes, Mike!

Cyrin Kwong, Traffic Operations, is retiring June 30, 2017. No information available AND **Andy Machen** is considering retirement (since he sees how **Sybille Phillips** is having a lot of fun!) Andy was also responsible for revamping our Quarter Century Club website. Thanks a bunch **Andy**, it looks great!

Ruben Reza is also planning to retire at the end of the year. (If anyone has information on these retirements, etc. please let your President **Wes**

Grimes or Secretary **Marsha Lotze** know, so we can keep our members informed.)

Too many of our friends have recently passed away:

Ernest "Ernie" Parke passed away peacefully on April 14, 2017, at age 87. Ernie was one of our most faithful **QCC** members (**Honorary**) and was always at our Christmas and summer parties and he will be sorely missed. **Ernie** was born in San Bernardino and spent most of his life in the San Bernardino area. He served in the U.S. Air Force in the Korean War from 1952-1957. He graduated from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, in 1961 with a degree in engineering. He worked as a Highway Engineer for Caltrans in the San Bernardino office from 1958 until his retirement in 1991, with 33 years all in District 8.

In 1962, he married the love of his wife, Kay, and they were married 49 years until her death in 2011. During their time together they traveled and cruised throughout the world to more than 65 countries. He will be missed by numerous nieces and nephews as well as his many Caltrans friends.

C. "Dean" Pitts, another long-time **QCC Honorary** member passed away in early April. He had worked in the District 8 Materials Lab before taking a position in Sacramento, setting up a statewide materials testing system.

He had been ill with cancer and a stroke and is survived by his wife, Sharon, his children and grandchildren. He and Sharon had been married for 67 years. **Dean** was known for his expertise and humor.

Bruce Kean, District 8 Materials Engineer and supervisor of the Materials Engineering Unit, passed away on May 19, 2017. Bruce had just retired on April 6, 2017, after over 28 years of dedicated State service. He is survived by his wife, Lydia, and their daughter Patricia. **Bruce**

touched many of our lives daily over the years and will be deeply missed both professionally and personally.

Henry “Hank” Wolfe passed away in May. He was a Bridge Resident Engineer in District 8 and several other Districts. Hank was born in 1931 and as a young man headed west to be a part of the interstate building boon. Educated at the University of Southern CA, he joined the Division of Highways where he worked for over three decades. His son, **Dr. Ray Wolfe**, was a District 8 Director and now is with SANBAG.

Hank leaves his loving wife Susan, his children and grandchildren. Hank, Dad, Dapa, you will be sorely missed.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all our friends and members who passed on. Remember them with your memories and thoughts always.

- **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

On Monday April 17th **Brian Young** invited neighbors, friends and some relatives to come to a backyard barbecue party and hear cell Block 7 Dixieland Jazz band play <https://www.cellblock7.net> at his house in Lodi and help him celebrate becoming an octogenarian. Some District 10 folks that attended were **Dick & Florene Mesa, Bob and Ardyth Biffell, Tom & Joan Wright, Bob and Lynn Hargis** and from the greater Sacramento

Area **Ray & Carol Zelinski, Fred Fletcher, Harold Mitchell and Don Woosley.**



We continue to meet at U.J. Restaurant in Stockton for breakfast at 7:30 a.m. on the last Tuesday of the month.

The Spring luncheon at U. J. was well attended per Dick Mesa. We had 38 people at the April Luncheon.

The picture below was taken at U. S. Congressman John Garamendi's Basque BBQ on



Saturday, May 13, 2017. From Right to Left, Dick Mesa (provides the work force for BBQ), John Garamendi and Brian Young, volunteer.

Road Last Traveled

Since the March QCCer, we lost **Bill Toy, Mike Marquez, Beverly Colvin, Gordon Wells, Stan Yamanaka, Monte Seibel, John Van Berkel Jr., Tom Early and Jack Lobenberg.**

Monte Kurt Seibel passed away on April 11th after a valiant fight against cancer. **Monte** was a renowned professional land surveyor, owning his own business from 1972 until his death. He was also an engineer with Caltrans, who retired after 40 years of service.



John Van Berkel Jr. died on April 27, 2017 at the age of 71. Predeceased by son, **John Van Berkel III**. A 35-year employee of Caltrans, he retired in 2006 as Chief of SHOPP.



Beverly Colvin, 61, of Galt died in Stockton on Feb. 28, 2017 after fighting cancer for a year and a half. She was born Beverly Hinkle on Aug. 8, 1955 in England and had lived in Stockton for 20+ years and in Galt for 29 years. **Beverly** worked in the Caltrans planning department and had served in the U.S. Army. (from Galt Herald)

Jack Lobenberg passed away May 22, 2017, one day shy of 93, after living a long, productive and joyful life. In 1942, he enlisted in the Army and was assigned to the 282nd Signal Pigeon Company. He landed at Normandy on Omaha Beach with his pigeons in a portable coop! After the eventual demise of his flock, he was assigned to work as part of the signal corps in France and Belgium. He was employed for most of his working career as a Traffic Engineer for the State of California, helping to develop the state highway system.

On April 13, 2017, **Thomas "Tom" J. Earley**, passed away at the age of 81 from heart failure. Tom was a Veteran of the U.S. Army, stationed in Fort Lewis, Washington. **Tom** retired in 1998 after a 37-year career as a Right-of-Way Agent

with the California Department of Transportation (CalTrans), Division of Highways.

Michael (Mike) Marquez passed away in March. He worked 37 years for Caltrans mostly in environmental engineering.

Bill Toy passed away on March 9, 2017. He worked over 30 years for Caltrans as a Resident Engineer in construction.

Gordon Wells passed away on March 19, 2017. He worked many years for Caltrans as a Materials and Research Engineer.

Stan Yamanaka passed away on March 24, 2017. He worked many years as an engineer for Caltrans.

- **Brian Young**

The Haps in District 11

District 11 QCC has a new president, **Kelly Manning** and a new secretary, **Christine Valle**. Everyone in D-11 says congratulations and we look forward to good things. Former President **Heidi Martin** had resigned.

Save the Date! A flyer will be going out soon with information about the QCC Picnic this fall. The date is Saturday, October 14 and the Picnic Chair is **Jerry Hawley**. The location is the same as last year at Sweetwater Regional Park in Bonita and parking is \$3. Burgers, Hotdogs & Drinks will be provided and the picnic is free to all potential new members. We're recruiting cooks so please step up and help out! Raffle items are welcome as always.

On a sad note we lost four D-11 members since our last edition.

From **Nancy Nickerson – Robert (Bob) Dougherty** passed away on March 20, 2017, he was 52. **Bob** worked many years in Structures Construction in D-11 on many major projects. He will be missed.

From **John Grisafi– Manuel (Manny) Demetre** passed away on April 20, 2017 at the age of 84. He was an **Honorary QCC member** and worked over 30 years for Caltrans as a R/W agent and later as the Rideshare Coordinator in Planning. **Manny** is responsible for getting most of the Park and Ride lots throughout D-11 up and running.

Jack Grasberger, 87, passed away April 15, 2017. He had worked for Caltrans for over 40 years and has been retired for 20 years and was an **Honorary QCC Member**. When he retired he was the Chief Deputy in District 11 and was responsible for guiding many projects through to completion.

Jacob (Jake) Dekema passed away on April 16, 2017 at the age of 101. **Jake**, also known as “Mr. Freeway” and “Mr. Caltrans”, was the District Director from 1955 to 1980. So much could be said about him and his career that it could fill a book. So instead of trying to capture everything here, the following links are provided.

<http://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/news/environment/sd-me-dekema-obit-20170505-story.html>

[http://www.ascelasection.org/images/uploads/229636-ASCE Newsletter \(Jun 17\).pdf](http://www.ascelasection.org/images/uploads/229636-ASCE_Newsletter_(Jun_17).pdf)

A note from daughter **Pamela Dekema** to **Butch** – “There will be a Celebration of Life for my Dad. Yes, this will be open to the public. That said, it would be helpful to have a rough idea of how many people might actually plan to attend. (Dad would not be happy to know that we had run out of refreshments for his friends & admirers.) So perhaps you could encourage your members & associates to drop me an email if they're planning

to join us. Our family will look forward to meeting Dad's professional circle. As well, if anyone has stories to share about how truly marvelous **Jake** was, we'll be all ears.”

Sunday, 9 July 2017, 2 p.m.

Casa de Manana, Lower Lounge

849 Coast Boulevard

La Jolla, CA 92037

pamela.dekema@gmail.com

The Haps in Central

Wow, June is here! Where has the year gone? On April 27, the Central District (HQs) held its Spring Fling luncheon at the Dante Club in Sacramento. We hold three luncheons a year to renew old friendships and enjoy a good time with those members still working and those who have retired.

Those in attendance were **Elizabeth R Abersold, Nancy Benjamin, Jerry Severson, Joan Anderson, James & Arlene Borden, Gary and Julie Bush, Maria Cornelius, Bob &**



Bernardine Chapman, Chuck Chenu, Chuck Davis, Ed Delano, Joe Dobrowolski, Peter & LaOna Doljanin, Jim Drago, Connie Felton, Bob Giess, Hugh & Kay Griffin, Ron & Luann Hollis, Merle & Denise Larrabee, Wayne & Gloria Luney, Wes Lum, Jay Norvell, Gene Poch, Chuck & Jane Pivetti, Dick Pryor, Glen

& Laura Rosander, Jane Russel, David & Judy Saxby, Warren Weber, Jan Winbigler, Allen Wrenn, Greg Wong, Ken & Geri Wigglesworth.

One of our new members **Greg Wong** was also in attendance. We had a visitor from District 2, **Gene Poch** who enjoyed himself and won one of the door prizes.

Since the last newsletter we increased our membership by four! Yippee. Yes, **Butch**, there is hope: **Terry Abbot, Sri Balasubramanian, Doug Boyd** and **Greg Wong**. Welcome to the group.

On a sad note, we lost 3 of our members. **John Van Berkel** [see D-10 Haps section for more information] passed away April 27, 2017, **Kenneth Allen** passed on April 5, 2017 and **A. Neil Dunham** passed on May 11, 2017. During his career, he held various department manager and director positions. He served as Deputy Director of the Department of Transportation. Before retiring he became Deputy Director of the State Water Resources Control Board.

On June 15th I will be making a presentation and handing out applications for the Quarter Century Club to those HQS employees receiving their 25 year awards. I am hoping to generate some new members! **Malcolm Dougherty**, the Director, will also be receiving his 25-year award!

Dick Pryor writes: I am feeling lucky because I went skiing 22 times this year. Trips were to Colorado, Utah, Mammoth and Lake Tahoe. At 82 years old, I'm hoping for another 3 years of skiing.

You go **Dick!**

- Gary and Julie Bush

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

Events

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

District 1 -

Caltrans retirees and QCC members meet on the 3rd Thursday of the months of January, April, July and October at 9:30 am at the Pantry on Broadway in Eureka. Contact **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 in LA.
See D-7 Haps for Details

Ventura Monthly Meeting

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

BJ's Restaurant & Brewery, 461 Esplanade Drive, Oxnard, CA. For more information, e-mail **Dick Stewart** at dick@jps.net.

San Gabriel Monthly Meeting

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

Steve Leung encourages anyone who's interested, retired or not. For more information, e-mail **Steve Leung** <skingleung@yahoo.com>

District 8 -

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

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 U.J.'s Restaurant located at Hammer Ranch Center, 7628 Pacific Ave. in Stockton. (209-957-2081).

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

District 11 -

D-11 Retirees meet 3rd Wednesday at 8am every month at Denny's at Fletcher Parkway and Navajo Road.
Call **Butch Biendara** for more info

Central District -

Luncheon at the Dante Club at 11am
Contact **Gary** or **Julie Bush** (530-642-8208)
zbusharosa@wildblue.net

WANTED

by Andy Machen

Past copies of the QCCer newsletter from as far back as possible to complete an online database of past newsletters being posted on the CTQCC website. If you have electronic copies, or the means to scan the newsletters, please send them by email to the following address:
post+speedreportsjs@coffeecup.com

If you have paper copies, please send a list by date to the same address. The webmaster will let you know which editions are needed, to avoid duplication. You can then mail them to:

CTQCC Webmaster

P.O. Box1239

San Bernardino, CA 92402

The webmaster will scan them and mail them back to you after scanning.

To Honorary Members

If you are at least 80 years of age, you are classified as an Honorary member of the QCC. Being an Honorary member qualifies you for a discounted rate for the printed QCCer, or the electronic version of the QCCer for free.

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

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