



Thank you to Mike Ogilvie!

QCC SECRETARY/TREASURER SINCE 2010

From the Corner Pocket

How do you say ‘Thanks’ to someone as faithful as **Mike**. He has served for 12 years from 2010 until now as the statewide QCC Secretary/Treasurer.

Mike is in the process of relocating from San Diego to Murrieta, CA within the next few months, and he doesn’t want to take the job with him.

Some of his duties include maintaining a list of all QCC members, with their information; maintaining a list of receipts and payments for all QCC transactions; preparing an annual Treasurer’s Report; preparing a mailing list for the printing service to send quarterly newsletters; generating the biennial Roster of Members (included in this edition); reimbursing QCC Districts for QCC business expenses annually; print and send Honorary Certificates annually to those members who have reached age 80, as well as many others.

Mike uses Excel, Word and MS Outlook for all tasks related to club business and is willing to show anyone how and what he does.

Thank you, **Mike**, for all your work for the QCC over the years. We wish you well as you move to Murrieta!!!



History Corner

By Andy Machen

Route 66 Centennial-2026

The 100th anniversary of Route 66, with its eastern terminus in Chicago and its western terminus in Santa Monica, will be celebrated in 2026, according to Public Law 116-256, adopted on December 23, 2020 as an Act of the Senate and House of Representatives of the 116th U.S. Congress Assembled, known as the “Route 66 Centennial Commission Act¹.”

The Act stipulates that the President of the United States shall appoint a commission composed of 15 members, as follows: 3 members based on the recommendation of the Secretary of Transportation; 8 members, one from each state through which Route 66 passes, at the recommendation of the Governors of Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California; and 4 members based on each of the recommendations of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, the Majority Leader of the Senate, and the Minority Leader of the Senate.

Paraphrasing, the Act states that “Route 66 was the first all-weather highway in the United States

connecting the Midwest to California, and has played a major role in the history of the United States, becoming a symbol of the heritage of travel and the legacy of seeking a better life shared by people of the United States, having been enshrined in its popular culture [through songs, books, and other media]; that the year 2026 will be the centennial anniversary of Route 66, and that the commission shall recommend in a report to Congress activities that are fitting and proper to celebrate that anniversary in a manner that appropriately honors the Mother Road of the United States.”

From the County of San Bernardino website², “Route 66, also known as “the Mother Road”, “Will Rogers Highway”, or “the Main Street of America”, was constructed in 1926. However, the road's origins travel back in time (to 1912) before it was paved as one of the country's first transcontinental highways, the “National Old Trails Road³”.

The road has served the country well as families left the Dust Bowl and headed west to California during the Great Depression; moving troops and supplies during World War II; and becoming a destination itself to travelers seeking freedom of the open highway. Today, in excess of 250 miles of National Trails Highway (Route 66) can be found in the County of San Bernardino and the County Department of Public Works maintains nearly 150 miles from Needles to San Bernardino ... , And although Route 66 is no longer a main route across the country, it is a national treasure to be preserved and enjoyed for generations to come.

The information on [the County] website pertains to the reach from the easterly edge of Nebo Street in Barstow to Mountain Springs Road/I-40 entrance. This section of the roadway has 128 timber bridges that were built more than eight decades ago, and all are displaying the negative impacts of many years of weather, flash floods, truck traffic, erosion, earthquakes, animal life and other factors. By reconstructing and

rehabilitating the aging bridges, the safety, vitality, historical preservation, and accessibility of one of America's greatest treasures will be reinstated.”

Route 66 sticker shield and other merchandise is available from [Angel and Vilma's Original Route 66 Gift Shop, Seligman, Arizona](#)

References

1. [Text - S.1014 - 116th Congress \(2019-2020\): Route 66 Centennial Commission Act | Congress.gov | Library of Congress](#)
2. [National Trails Highway / Route 66 \(sbcounty.gov\)](#)
3. [National Old Trails Road - Wikipedia](#)
4. [U.S. Route 66 in California - Wikipedia](#)

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Editor's Recruiting Note:

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

**CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION
FOUNDATION**

By Mallory Fites

Below is information for the CTF fund that has been established for **Quanda McGadney**, Caltrans Maintenance Worker, who tragically lost her life recently. Here is a memo from the Caltrans Director to all Caltrans staff.

Dear Caltrans Staff,

It is with a heavy heart and great sadness that I must inform you of the loss of one of our Caltrans family members today. **Quanda McGadney**, a 51-year-old Caltrans Maintenance Landscape Worker in District 4, was struck by a hit and run driver this morning while working on Interstate 80 near Vacaville in Solano County. She succumbed to her injuries at the scene. The driver was apprehended by CHP and is in custody.

Quanda served the State of California for more than 18 years and has been with Caltrans since 2018. She is survived by her nine-year-old

daughter, Nairobi, and her two sisters, Priscilla Stevenson and Candice McGadney.

Our sympathy and our heartfelt prayers go out to **Quanda’s** family and all those who worked with her. She had many close friends within her work group, and Caltrans is providing support to her family and co-workers as much as we possibly can. While there is no blueprint for processing difficult news such as this, it would not be unexpected for you to be experiencing a wide range of emotions and reactions. I encourage you to reach out, support one another, and find your place for solace, including taking advantage of our department’s Employee Assistance Program (EAP), if you feel the need to talk with someone.

To help Quanda’s family at this difficult time, a memorial fund is being established through the **California Transportation Foundation**. Details will be forthcoming.

STEVEN KECK, Director

To make a donation to the **Quanda McGadney Memorial Fund** please go to www.the-ctf.org/donate or mail a check to CTF at 9500 Kiefer Blvd. PO Box 276828, Sacramento, CA 95826.

RECRUITING MADE EASY

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

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

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

In Memoriam

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

Name	District	Date
Merl Larson	03	Apr 09, 2022
Frank N Lauck	03	Mar 25, 2022
John O’Connor	03	
John Howard Stenzel	03	Apr 30, 2022
Clarence Palm	03	Oct 21, 2021
Charles Maloon	04	Jan 2022
Robert E Waddington	06	Nov 11, 2021
Clarice Gritters	08	Oct 05, 2021
Ralph Cones	09	Mar 20, 2022
William (Bill) L Hubbard	11	Mar 16, 2022
M Joseph (Joe) McSweeney Jr	11	Apr 19, 2022
Jack Kaingcade	11	2022
Connie Felton	C	Aug 23, 2021
Hugh (Dale) L Shawhan II	C	Feb 19, 2022

The QCC Website

By Andy Machen, Web Master

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

Here's how to get it posted on the Quarter Century Club website: Write your story in an email and send it to: post+speedreportsjs@coffeecup.com Your story is then transmitted to the CTQCC website where it is stored in a folder accessible only by the webmaster, who then extracts the text and pictures you sent and stores them in a private folder on the Stories page of the Caltrans District specified by you. The webmaster then sends you an email with a link to the page containing your story, accessible only by you and the webmaster. You can then view your story on the Internet,

make any changes you would like, then send them in an email just as you sent the original.

The webmaster then notifies you by email when the changes have been made. When you are satisfied with the web page containing your story, send an email to the same email authorizing the webmaster to post the story for public viewing. You can still add to or make changes to the story as described above after it is published by sending an email to the same email. Let us hear from you!

The Haps in District 1

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

The Haps in District 2

Jim Ceragioli tells us that he is sad to see that **Ron Kunkler** has passed away.

Bill Belcher relates a story about getting a new puppy during the early 2020 covid pandemic and scare. Due to the isolation restrictions and



limited access to friends and family, she was unable to get the socialization with people that generally occurs in a “normal” social environment for dogs.

Therefore, she has apprehensions about strangers,

and does not relate to “little people” (i.e. – kids).

Fortunately, this malady has been recognized, and dog behavior specialists are able to guide her through recovery, although it will take time to get through. It’s been an eye opener about this additional fallout from the covid 19 pandemic. **Bill** says, “We will get through it. If you are having similar issues, please look up dialogs on ‘pandemic puppies’ for information that will be valuable to you and your pet.”

- **Bill Belcher**

The Haps in District 3

District 3 held our Spring Luncheon on Sunday April 10, 2022 at Peach Tree Country Club in Marysville. Joining us were, **Gene & Joanne Abshire, Jan Agesen, Jerry Antonetti, Doug Becker, Jim Claydon, Susan & Pete Connelly, Chuck Dossey, Joe & Carroll Ferro, Libby Haraughty, Pat Howard, Sam Johnson, Dorothy Leeper, Bill & Lennie Malott, Ron & Carolyn Nelson, Brad & Jolene Owens, Dennis & Kathie Patterson, Bill Perkins, Wanda Rocha, Bill Sanders, John & Marilyn Sanger, Jim Scott, Bill & Marie Smith, Margaret Strain, Charles Vierria, Lita Wells, Wilbur, Sandra & Steven Wright, Joan Young & Sherry Wonder** and myself. As always the food, visiting and services were wonderful. Thank you everyone who found the time & energy to join us. Our fall luncheon is in the works and we hope to see you there.

From Jan Agesen and her husband Richard:

I am one of the younger QCC members from District 3, so some may not know me. My mother is **June Otto**, who worked in the maintenance office. (She is alive and doing well.) I retired in 2011 from the traffic ops department.

I would like to share a recent trip my husband **Richard** and I took. After being cooped up due to COVID, we wanted to take a Caribbean cruise, but did not want to fly or drive to Florida. We

enjoy cruising!

We decided to do something new and different. We rode Amtrak from Sacramento to Orlando. As long as you have a roomette, bedroom or a sleeper, it is a wonderful way to travel. We needed to ride three different Amtrak trains.



Sacramento to Chicago was on the California Zephyr, Chicago to Washington DC and Washington DC to Orlando. Our baggage went straight thru to Orlando, making it very convenient for us. As long as you were in a private room, you did not need to wear a mask. 3

meals a day were included with a private room, and they were DELICIOUS!

Upon arrival in Orlando and renting a car, we drove to Cocoa Beach (Cape Canaveral) to visit



my brother and his family. We toured the Kennedy Space Center and even witnessed two SpaceX launches from a distance. Spent time in Orlando seeing Old Town and ICON

park and just relaxing at our condo.

We boarded our ship, the Norwegian Cruise Line "Escape". It was a ten-day trip, stopping at Puerto Rico, Saint Martin, Saint Lucia, Barbados, Antigua, Great Stirrup Cay (NCL Private Island).



We visited all the ports to explore or enjoy the beaches.

After the cruise we wanted to ride Amtrak back to Calif across the southern US, but there is not an easy way from Florida. Instead, we rented a car driving to Ocala, FL to visit friends. Then we crossed the FL panhandle, where we enjoyed seeing beautiful beaches to Mobile, Alabama, and on to New Orleans where we stayed a couple of days. Our first time there and found it quite interesting. Even had Beignets for the first time. Hope to return during Mardi Gras in the future.

We boarded Amtrak's Sunset Limited in NO riding directly to Los Angeles Union Station where we transferred to the Coast Starlight back to Sacramento. The entire vacation was an experience I thoroughly enjoyed and look forward to doing again. The entire trip went smoothly. We were gone about 6 weeks.

I realize many other QCCers retired long before I did and have enjoyed many years of exciting adventures around the world and North America. Possibly sharing my adventures will bring fond memories back to you. Next time, I will be off to Alaska!!! Stay tuned...**Jan & Richard**

Road last travelled:

Merl Larson:

We were notified of the passing of **Merl Larson** on Saturday April 9 at our April 10 luncheon. Merl, a **QCC member**, is survived by his wife Marilyn and two daughters. No further information is available at this time.

Frank N. Lauck:

Frank N. Lauck passed away on March 25, 2022 in Orland. He is survived by his wife Lorine. After receiving his degree from Chico State, he obtained employment with the Division of Highways, District 3, later known as Caltrans. During his early years with Caltrans, **Frank** worked on building Interstate 5 as a construction

inspector. Later, he lead a survey crew during the building of State Highway 50. Frank transferred to the District Office in Marysville and worked on the design of Gianelli Bridge on Highway 32 in Hamilton City. At the age of 65 **Frank** retired from Caltrans.

John O’Connor:

We were told of the passing of John O’Connor, retired Maintenance Supervisor. John worked in District 3 from 1980 until his retirement in 2011.

John Howard Stenzel:

The following is from his legacy as stated by Lambert Funeral Home. **John** passed away with his daughters, Lacy & Hope by his side on April 30, 2022 in Roseville, CA. John was born on April 18, 1947 in Yuba City, CA.

John was a resident of Lincoln, CA, for 35 years. He worked for the State of California, Department of Transportation for 37 years and retired as a Caltrans Maintenance Supervisor. During his career, in the winter, he was a part of the Echo Summit Avalanche Control team in South Lake Tahoe. In the summer he worked on a paving crew across the District repairing our state’s highway system. His true joy in life was riding his Harley Davison motorcycle on countryside trips just to enjoy the freedom of the ride. John loved retired life and spent his spare time barbequing and relaxing in his home that he cherished.

John had many friends whom he loved and supported dearly without question. His services were held on Tuesday May 17, 2022 with a military funeral honors ceremony at the Sacramento Valley Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Dixon.

That’s it from District 3. Stay safe out there, until the next time.

- **Jan Johnson**

The Haps in District 4

Brian White writes, “My wife, Terri, and I sold our 32 year old home in rural Petaluma and relocated to Pendleton, OR one year ago. Our older daughter lives in this town with her husband and son. Our younger daughter, expecting a baby soon, lives with her husband and daughter in Portland, about 3 hours drive from here.

“We have decided to spend our sunset years closest to those who matter most: our girls and grandchildren.

“I keep in touch with those who were close to me in D4, but the staff has changed so much since I retired 11 years ago I don’t think anyone would know me. I still retain a lot of institutional knowledge from my years in Drafting Services and my experience as the overseer of the Office of Business Management but nobody ever asks or is interested once you walk out the door.”

Ed Coble writes, “This situation came to mind as I was thumbing through the June 2021 QCCer and saw a District 8 announcement that **Alberto Vergel de Dios** had been promoted to a Senior Engineer position and had received his BS degree from the University of Santo Tomas, Manila, Philippines. This reminded me that two of our engineers, **Joe Browne** and **Frank Pappa**, also spent time at this university during WW II as enemy non-combatant prisoners of war by the Japanese occupation.”

“**Joe Browne’s** family was living in China until the Japanese invasion in the 1930’s. They moved to the Philippines and were caught there at the start of WW II.

“**Frank Pappa** and family were also in the Philippines. Frank’s father had purchased a plantation and intended to live there.

“Both families and other civilian non-combatants were incarcerated in the compound of the University of Santo Tomas in Manila.

Here is the story of **Joe Browne** (District 4 Director 1993 – 1997) as related by Joe:

“It has been over 75 years since we were liberated from the camp, but the memories are still vivid. The camp lasted 38 months from 1942 to 1945. **Frank** Pappa’s family and mine were there for the entire period. Frank and I were about the same age. We played soccer together.”

“The most vivid memory is that of being hungry all the time since the meals (mostly beans and rice) were not very filling. I weighed 70 pounds at liberation (normally weight over 100 pounds). The two foods we missed the most were milk and bread. My mother cleaned the bathrooms to earn money for extra food such as eggs. The camp held several thousand people from several different nationalities who were caught in Manila when WW II started.”

“We children were very fortunate the teachers in the camp started a school for us. The academics were so good that I skipped the 9th grade when we returned to the USA in mid-1945.”

“**Frank** and his wife **Jean** both passed away in 2015. **Joe** and his wife, **Patty**, are enjoying their retirement in Lincoln, north of Sacramento.”

The granddaughter of **Charles Maloon** informed the QCC of his passing away in January. Charles was a recent proud contributor to the QCCer as he wrote about celebrating his wedding anniversary with his high school sweetheart, **Yvonne**, who he met in 1945 and married in 1950.

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

- **Nigel Blampied**

A Unique And One Very Fortunate Individual

By **Gordon Analla**

The man walked at warp speed. Perhaps he thought that way too. Hard to say. The few words that he spoke, were staccato in nature. Not a tall man. The type that was always one of the first in the yard. He would put the coffee on. Always wore short sleeve Caltrans issued Idaho orange shirts . . . even when there was a morning frost or snow in the upper peaks. He was always there for callouts. I’m sure he wasn’t a California native. A twinge or twang of maybe mid-West, or Macon-Dixie lineage.

He was the type of person . . . a giving person. He had a good heart and would donate vacation time to those in need. He was gullible and his personality was the type to be used for other people’s advantages and purposes. That was a sad part of his persona.

He was involved in two of my most head scratching personal injuries in my 22-year career as a Safety Officer for Caltrans. Fortunately, in both instances, neither were of serious nature, though they very well could have been far more serious and even fatal.

The first one involved a Lead Worker who filled up two iced tea bottles with an herbicide. The individual then put them on the crew room table near his locker as he changed and prepared to take them home. The subject of this piece, must have been thirsty and reached to grab one and guzzle it down. The Lead worker informed him what it was. This only stopped him temporarily. As he opened up one of the bottles and took a big gulp from it. Almost immediately he became ill. During my post-accident investigation, no one ever stated that he was encouraged to take a sip. It seemed he acted alone. What did happen was he was taken to the emergency room with the Poison Control Center being notified.

Fortunately, he was released that same day. He didn't suffer any other ill effects.

The second instance involved a shoulder closure on an off-ramp. The closure was not yet put in place, as he prepared to help with that process. He exited the truck he was driving, a two yard, on the driver's side, the hot side of traffic. He was hit and run by a vehicle as soon as he got down. He was taken for emergency treatment at a nearby facility. I went to see him at the hospital within an hour of him being hit. His Supervisor was also there. The subject told me he exited the vehicle but that he was facing traffic. I don't think he thought he was lying to me. Perhaps he had his adrenalin going or what. I looked at his overalls and then it hit me! On his lower back and behind on the left side and on his left pant leg, also on the back, were imprints of the brand of the tire, and much of the pertinent information that is on a tire. It was amazing that he wasn't more seriously hurt. Someone, something, karma, was looking out for his benefit that day and the other instance. I should have given him the nickname of "Mr. Lucky," as he certainly was.

I can't honestly state that I and the above employee were close. But I did like him. He was what he was. No frills. A guy like other people I encountered in other Regions and in fields of life. I hope he's having a great retirement and I wish him the very best.

I think this is a suitable quote applicable to this man. It is from the baseball and buddy film, 'Bang the Drum Slowly'. "He was not a bad fellow. No worse than most and better than some. And he wasn't a bad ball player when they laid off him. From here on out, I rag nobody."

As far as the Lead Worker taking the product home, I didn't have any input in that part of the investigation. That was between the Region and Personnel. I would be a liar to state I never did anything like that. I am sure most of us did.

The Haps in District 5

District 5 did not submit an entry for this edition. Current news will be included in the next edition.

The Haps in District 6

District 6 did not submit an entry for this edition. Current news will be included in the next edition.

The Haps in District 7

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

The Haps in District 8

Welcome to summer! Where does the year go? Seems like we just had our Christmas Luncheon and now I'll be working on our Summer Luncheon. It will be held on the second Saturday of July as always at Hannah's Restaurant on Highland Avenue on July 9, 2022, at noon. Information will be sent out around the middle June about the festivities. **Sybill** and I hope that we'll have a great turnout. It's so good to get together and share experiences we've all had during the last two years. It was good to hear Kay's voice when I called to reserve our luncheon.

Not too much to report but seems to add up as I write. As always, a great big "Thank You" to **Linda Supernaw** for forwarding interesting items, promotions, retirements, etc. to me for our District 8 newsletter and our President, **Sybill Phillips**.

The informal QCC gathering at the Mexico Café on 3-23-22 was attended by **Vera Holloway, Silvia Mata, Priscilla Williams, Laverne Archie** and **Sybille Phillips**. **Vera** and **Sylvia** are looking towards retirement and appreciate the advice from our retirees. They swapped many stories and had a great time while enjoying the good food. They voted to have the next informal QCC gathering at the Black Bear Diner, 1603 W. Valley Blvd. in Colton. NW corner of Valley and Pepper.

The informal QCC Luncheon was held on 5-25-22 at the Black Bear Diner in Colton and a good time was had by **Tom Powell, Vera Holloway, Sybille Phillips, Priscilla Williams,** and **Laverne Archie**. All enjoyed yummy and humongous plates of breakfast or lunch! They were back on Friday after 4 p.m. for the unlimited fish fry! Talk went across nearly a decade of history of Caltrans, projects, the region, and friends, past and present.

The informal lunches are held on the 4th Wednesday of ODD months – QCC membership not required – locations vary - contact Laverne Archie, 909-936-9940. The July luncheon was cancelled due to our regular Summer Luncheon. The September one will be Wednesday 9-28 at noon at the Sizzler on Waterman Avenue, just north of the 10 Freeway.

Linda Grimes appreciates calls, 951-764-1108. (FYI – Her home address has changed to 5850 N. Sycamore, Rialto CA 92376)

Mary Bermudez also appreciates calls! 323-526-8526 – no voice mail.

Marsha and I would welcome some new blood as Secretary-Treasurer and President! Please let us know! Perhaps we can vote on a regime change in July?

Thank you again to **Linda Wilford** for the QCC membership flyer she did for us!

Kudos to **Linda Supernaw** for forwarding the District 8 Director info!!

Linda also heard from **Joe Fehrenkamp** of his last day of work and retiring on April 28, 2022. She expressed enjoying working with him all these years and hopes that he'll join us for the QCC luncheons in July and December. Please forward us your address information and/or e-mail address Joe.

President, **Sybille** gave a presentation at the Rim of the World American Legion Post 360 about the Quickmap (<http://Quickmap.dot.ca.gov>) and how helpful the information is about road incidents, fire evacuation, and much more . . . and the next afternoon SBD-18 was closed between Lake Gregory Drive and Rim Forest!!! Still no estimate when the pending slide-out can be fixed...

We were surprised to hear of the retirement of our District Director, **Michael D. Beauchamp**. According to his wife, **Paula**, she decided to retire because her health is great and she wanted to capitalize on this. Mike wasn't planning to retire quite this soon but I think he has been a bit envious of my schedule and he likes the idea of planning his own day.

Paula further notes she is so proud of her hubby **Mike**. He is wrapping up his 40- year career in transportation in the Inland Empire. He had his hand in so many bridges and roadways in our network. Looking forward to his retirement years knowing that the best is yet to come. The hat is a custom- made hard hat to go along with his rum and coke. The guitar will be a new endeavor. Maybe he can play it on our 7 day Blues Cruise.

A retirement party for **Mike** was held on April 21, 2022, in the District 8 Courtyard from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Congratulations to **Mike, Paula** and their family on his retirement. We

hope you have a great retirement and continue being a great QCC member for a long time!

Received notices from **Jean Advincula** on behalf of District 8 Communications on the following promotions. The following 3 notes were sent on behalf of the Deputy District Director, Traffic Operations.

“I am pleased to announce the appointment of **Sivakkolunthar** (Siva) as Senior Transportation Engineer for Traffic Operations Capital Support Unit in District 8, effective March 21, 2022.”

“**Siva** received his BS of Science Degree in Civil Engineering in 2004 and MS (Civil and Environmental Engineering) degree in 2009. He has over 17 years of engineering experience on various transportation, civil, geotechnical, tunnel and construction projects in CA, NV and the country of Srilanka.”

“He has successfully completed a one-year out-of-class assignment of the Design E Unit. He was managing and leading various projects. Siva joined Caltrans in 2018.”

“**Siva** enjoys spending time with his family, playing volleyball, hiking, and traveling. As a recent achievement, he climbed Mt. Whitney, the tallest peak in the 48 states in 2021.”

“We are pleased to announce the promotion of **Samer Georges** as Senior Transportation Engineer, over TMC Operations in the Division of Traffic Operations, effective April 1, 2022.”

“**Samer** graduated a five-year program as a structural engineer in Syria and worked as a civil engineer for five years before immigrating to the United States. He received his PE in 2009 and PMP certificate in 2011. Mr. Georges worked for two different computer companies before joining Caltrans in 2011. He started in Design A and then rotated to hydraulics in 2011 and to Construction in 2012. He became a Resident

Engineer and started an out-of-class Senior assignment in the Colton Construction Office for 9 ½ months before accepting another out-of-class as TMC Manager in June 21.”

“In his spare time he enjoys spending time with his wife and twin daughters, taking care of his trees, listening to music, reading and drawing.”

“We are pleased to announce the promotion of **Dirk Spaulding** as Senior Transportation Engineer over Transportation Management Systems (TMC) Support in the Division of Traffic Operations, effective April 11, 2022.”

“**Dirk** started with Caltrans District 8 in 1998 after graduating from Cal Poly Pomona with a BS in Electrical Engineering. Started in Construction as an Inspector, he then moved to Information Technology (IT) where he advanced to Branch Chief. In 2008 he transferred to Traffic Operations and has had two long-term acting assignments. One as TMC Operations Chief and recently the TMS Maintenance Chief.”

“**Dirk** has twins, a son and a daughter, and spends much of his personal time with his family, camping, hiking, off-roading, and working on projects around the home.”

The following was sent on behalf of the Deputy District Director of Maintenance.

“We are pleased to announce the promotion of **Mehdi Mirjamali** as a Senior Transportation Electrical Engineer over Transportation Management Systems (TMC) Branch in the Division of Maintenance, effective May 9, 2022.”

“**Mehdi** joined Caltrans District 11 Ramp Metering Branch 1999. His roles ranged from lead of the communication systems group to acting Senior Electrical Engineer. His latest project in District 11 was managing the upgrade of the TMC video wall systems to the latest

control and display technologies. **Mehdi** attended Oklahoma University and received a BS in Nuclear Engineering. He later received a MS in Electrical Engineering from West Coast University.”

“Outside of work, **Mehdi** enjoys spending time with his family, wife and 3 sons. One thing you’d be surprised to know about Mehdi is that he is into gardening and enjoys cloning plants and fruit trees.”

The following was sent on behalf of the Deputy District Director, Design.

“I am pleased to announce the promotion of **Cat Vu Quach** as a Supervising Transportation Engineer in the Division of Design, effective May 16. Cat will be managing the roadway design units.”

“**Cat** graduated with a BS in civil engineering from Cal Poly, Pomona in 2004 and has been a licensed civil engineer since 2006. Cat joined Caltrans, District 8, Division of Design as a project engineer and in January, 2021, he served as Office Chief for the District Office Engineer. Most recently, Cat served as interim Supervision Transportation Engineer since July 1, 2021.”

“**Cat** is happily married with two daughters. He enjoys spending his free time with his family going off-roading and taking his girls to volleyball practices and games. He also enjoys woodworking and cycling.”

“Please join us in congratulating the above District 8 employees on their promotions.”

On a sad note, the wife of one of our beloved Deputy Directors, **Ed Gritters**, passed away on October 5, 2021. Ed Gritters started his career with the Division of Highways in 1954 and retired in 1987. He was a Deputy District Director in Project Development when he retired. His wife, **Clarice** had COPD for years, then

caught a bad cold, not covid, and then complications set in. She went very fast and was 93 when she passed.

Ed was very friendly and always had a smile on his face when I was first working at the Division of Highways and his wife was always by his side for all the retirement parties, and other activities that were held then.

Belated thoughts and prayers to the whole family and thanks go to **Janice Feenstra** for the information.

Earth Day

April 22, 2022

How Caltrans is doing its part, brought to you by Caltrans Equal Opportunity Program Headquarters.

Today is the day to show support and raise awareness for environmental protection. Today is the 52nd anniversary of the birth of the modern environmental movement in 1970.

Caltrans is funding nearly \$300 million for local beautification and community improvement projects through Clean California Grants. Since the campaign’s launch in July, 2021, we have

- Cleaned up 270,000 cubic yards of trash.
- Started over 100 local beautification projects that are scheduled to be completed by June, 2024
- Started the new Anti-Litter Campaign Focused on Water Quality, “Let’s Change This to That”

To learn about Earth Day or any of our other history and heritage celebrations, please contact Ask.EEO@dot.ca.gov.

2022 Fallen Worker Memorials

Paying Our Respects

[See next page]

Since 1921, 189 Caltrans employees, tragically have been killed on the job. One of the biggest hazards faced by highway workers is inattentive, or distracted, motorists.

Each year, Caltrans honors its fallen employees at the statewide Workers Memorial on the west steps of the state Capitol. Family members, co-workers, friends, and the general public are invited to attend the memorial, which takes place this year at 11:00 a.m. on April 28, 2022.

The Fallen Workers Memorial is a time to remember those who lost their lives building, maintaining, and operating California's world-class transportation system. I am extremely pleased that we do not have any new Caltrans employee names to add to our wall this year. The observance also honors our fallen contractors and highlights transportation safety awareness for all, including the traveling public.

The memorial is held in conjunction with Caltrans Safety/Awareness Week and highlights the importance of motorist and employee work zone safety.

I thought that the above two articles received from **Linda Supernaw** would be of interest to our Quarter Century members.

Everyone have a wonderful summer and hope to see you all at our Summer Luncheon in July.

- **Marsha Lotze**

The Haps in District 9

Barbara and I are still upright and still moving however slowly. Our activities center around gardening and keeping everything working here at home. We do not travel anymore, just stay close to home and enjoy

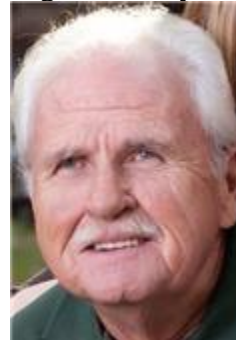
getting the updates from the family and friends.
– **Lance Hinek**

Bishop weather has been cool and windy this spring. We got a phone call from **Chuck Gillem** who lives in Sacramento. He sounded good and goes out with his buddies for coffee on a regular basis.

Bud and Jerri Moody stopped by for a chat and brought some Agriculture newspapers. They live in Hammil Valley north of Bishop. Bud and Jerry volunteer at the Fair Grounds during Bishop Mule Days.

Ken and LaDonna Rischer report: Nothing new on this end. Just living the dream. **John & Mary Ritter** report: Nothing new here-thank goodness as no news is good news.

Ralph Cones passed away in Las Vegas, NV on March 20, 2022. Ralph worked in Design and Right of Way Engineering in District 09. He



retired in 2005 after 40 years of dedicated civil service. After retirement **Ralph** volunteered at Laws Railroad Museum building exhibits and caring for the museum grounds. Ralph cherished his family. He enjoyed the outdoors, traveling, camping, and

fishing. **Ralph** loved woodworking and even built two sailboats and a canoe. He was a member of the Rainbow Club and local wood carving groups. Our condolences to his family and friends. [From *Inyo Register* 4-21-22]

We hope everyone is doing OK. Take care, stay cool and carry on. Bob Hope said, "I don't feel old. I don't feel anything until noon. Then it's time for my nap."

- **Lance Hinek**

The Haps in District 10

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

The Haps in District 11

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

The **ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out)** and **JULIET (Just Us Ladies Innocently Eating Together)** breakfast at the Denny's in Fletcher Hills has resumed, so plan for the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 8am to come out and join the gathering. Some recent attendees were **John Barnes, Terry Cirilo, Leon Edmonds, Jerry Hawley, Dave Kaufman, John Markey, Dave Moody, Mike Ogilvie, Roy Riesgo, Larry Smith, Jim Zopfi and Butch Biendara.**

Here is some information regarding a recent promotion in D-11. The announcement of **Stefan Galvez-Abadia** to Deputy District Director of Environmental by **Gustavo Dallarda**, District Director.

"Stefan comes to us from District 4, where he started with Caltrans in 1989 as a Transportation Planner. Until recently, he spent his entire career in the Bay Area and had a variety of responsibilities. From 1990 to 1995, Stefan was the Statewide Coastal Commission Liaison. In the late 1990's, he found his way into the Environmental Division. In 2008, he became the Statewide Toll Bridge Program Environmental Manager. In 2013 **Stefan** became the Office Chief for the District 4 Environmental Office. He essentially held both roles until his appointment

to District 4's District Division Chief of Environmental from 2019 to 2021."

"Stefan received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Geography and Community & Regional Planning from Texas State University in San Marcos, TX in 1985."

"Stefan joins District 11 as one of the leads on the San Diego-Coronado Bridge Suicide Deterrent Project. In his spare time, he enjoys spending time with his son, as well as mountain biking and trail running. Please join me in welcoming **Stefan** as the newest member of the District 11 Executive Team."

A Road Last Traveled

It is with great sadness to inform you of the passing of **Bill Hubbard**, a good friend and fellow co-worker. **William Leslie Hubbard**, a loving father and grandfather passed away on March 16, 2022 at the age of 89. He was born on January 2, 1933 in San Diego, California and graduated from San Diego High School in 1951. After high school, he went to work for the Alaskan Railroad. He then enlisted in the army and returned to Alaska. He shared many stories with his family of his time there.

After the army, **Bill** returned to San Diego and studied civil engineering at San Diego State University. He then went to work for the California Division of Highways (Caltrans) as a civil engineer for over 38 years. **Bill** married **Bonnie Williams** in 1961. They enjoyed traveling all over the world. He was a San Diego Chargers fan and season ticket holder for 25 years.



Source is from Featheringill Mortuary: <https://www.tributearchive.com/obituaries/24311578/william-leslie-hubbard>

Longtime Caltrans engineer **Joe McSweeney**, age 89, passed away on Tuesday, April 19, 2022. **Mortimer Joseph McSweeney Jr.** was born February 24, 1933.



Joe was the backbone of the District 11 Survey Office for many years.

Joe's Memorial Service was held at El Cajon Mortuary.

Source is from:

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/el-cajon-ca/mortimer-mcsweeney-10719839>

The following email came from the D-11 Public Information Office: We are saddened to learn of the passing of **Jack Kaingcade**. He was a long-time employee of the Division of Maintenance, stationed in District 8 and 11. **Jack** was highly respected for what he brought to his work every day and was well regarded by all sectors of our transportation partners. Our sympathy and our heartfelt prayers go out to Jack's family and all those who worked with him. He had many close friends within his work group,

Jack started working with Caltrans fresh out of high school at the Cactus City Rest Area in December 1969. During his career he would hold positions in Indio, Carlsbad, Escondido, Hollister and then back to Escondido where he finally retired as the Supervisor for Desert Center Maintenance in October 2009 and moved to Lake Havasu. He loved his job.

- Kelly Manring

The Haps in District 12

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

The Haps in Central

The spring luncheon on April 21st was enjoyed by two dozen smiling QCCers. Check them out in the following photos.





Upcoming Gatherings:

Summer luncheon: Thursday, August 18, 2022
 Winter luncheon on Thursday, December 8, 2022
 (Is this date ok for you?)

Where: Old Spaghetti Factory, 1625 Watt Ave, Sacramento. Contact **Dave Saxby** for reservations at dpbear74@gmail.com or 916-479-2978.

Dale Shawhan, was my friend, occasional bike commute buddy, and colleague. He passed on February 19, 2022 at the age of 85. See his **personally** written obituary!!!

<https://dailyinterlake.com/news/2022/feb/27/hugh-i-dale-shawhan-ii-85/>

- Wes Lum



Events

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

District 1 -

Caltrans retirees and QCC members meet on the 3rd Thursday of the months of January, April, July, and October at 9:30 am at the Pantry on Broadway in Eureka. Contact **Arlene Hartin** at ahartin@suddenlink.net or call (707) 443-8841 for details.

District 2 -

Retired Caltrans Ladies Lunch Bunch meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 11:30 AM, location varies. Contact **Retha Rubiec** at goldmine@c-zone.net.

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

District 3 -

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

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

District 4 -

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

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

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

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

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

District 5 -

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

District 6 -

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

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

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

District 7 -

Ventura Monthly Meeting

Caltrans retiree luncheon is held the third Monday of each month at 11:30 AM, in Oxnard at BJ's Restaurant & Brewery

San Gabriel Monthly Meeting

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

District 8 -

Informal Get Together meets 4th Wednesday of odd months at 12:00 currently at Mexico Café.

Bring a friend – QCC membership not required. Everyone pays their own. Locations may vary. Please call or text **LaVerne Archie**, 909-936-9940.
RSVP desired but not required.

District 9 -

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

District 10 -

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

Lenny's Huddle meets at 8:00 am on the last Tuesday of the month. Location has changed.
Contact: **Stan Randolph**, 209-957-1278,
stanran3672@aol.com

District 11 -

D-11 Retirees meet 3rd Wednesday at 8am every month at Denny's at Fletcher Parkway and Navajo Road.

Central District -

QCC events are Summer Luncheon on Thursday, August 18, 2022 and Winter Luncheon possibly on Thursday, December 8, 2022. Where: Old Spaghetti Factory, 1625 Watt Ave, Sacramento Contact **Dave Saxby** 916-479-2978 or dpbear74@gmail.com.

To Honorary Members

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

If paying the dues would be a hardship for you, you may be able to get your dues waived. Contact your QCC District Director and if they approve, send the request to the QCC Secretary/Treasurer. See Renewal Form on page 19.

Welcome New QCC Members

Name	Dist.
Sylvia Gonzalez	8
Vera Holloway	8
Kris Kuhl	10
Jo Stringfield	8

QCC Membership Renewal Form

Effective 2022

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

Name _____ District _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zipcode _____

Phone (____) _____

E-Mail address
 _____@_____

Date of Retirement _____ Years of Service _____

Dues amounts: check one

80+ years of age, born before 1931, printed /mailed QCCer	\$5	<input type="checkbox"/>
80+ years of age, born after 1930, printed /mailed QCCer	\$10	<input type="checkbox"/>
80+ years of age, online (emailed) QCCer	\$0	<input type="checkbox"/>
80+ years of age, printed /mailed QCCer*	\$0*	<input type="checkbox"/>
80+ years of age, NO QCCer newsletter, but keep me on your roster	\$0	<input type="checkbox"/>
Printed /mailed QCCer for younger members	\$20	<input type="checkbox"/>
Online (emailed) QCCer for younger members	\$15	<input type="checkbox"/>

*- this option is for hardship situations where the Honorary member does not have email and cannot afford the normal dues amount. Your QCC District Director's written approval must be enclosed with this renewal form.

Make any checks payable to the Quarter Century Club and mail to:

QCC

PO BOX 421292

SAN DIEGO CA 92142-1292