

TheQCCer

The Newsletter of the Quarter
Century Club

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Honoring our first QCC president

THOMAS E. STANTON

From the Corner Pocket

Greetings from San Diego! Hope this Spring finds you healthy.

We are all a bit shaken by what is happening in Ukraine. Sending positive thoughts to all involved. War just seems even more pointless when you hit a certain age. I know I am at that age. How about you? Senseless to sacrifice the young from any country.

Again, I will beat the drum for fresh recruitment. All those 1980's hires are in the retirement que. Hopefully things are opening up with retirement celebrations happening again. Current QCC members get yourself invited and pass out applications to join the QCC. Remember, first year membership is FREE.

Our very survival counts on recruiting new members. Also look at the 25 Year and 40 Year Awards in the Caltrans News <http://www.dot.ca.gov/ctnews> for people to invite to join.

Christine Valle, QCC President

NOTE: A new Roster is coming soon, see page 25. Also, this is the time to pay your annual dues, if not paid already.

Thomas E. Stanton First President of the Caltrans Quarter Century Club in 1939

Submitted by Andy Machen

Thomas Elwood Stanton was born and raised in Los Angeles. He graduated from Saint Vincent's College in 1899 with an A.B. degree. He then attended the University of California at Berkeley where he received a B.S. degree in mining.



T E Stanton 1881-1962

He began his professional career in the City Engineer's Office in Los Angeles in 1905, where he served successively as instrument man, chief of party and as assistant engineer in charge of sewer and paving design and construction. In 1912, he accepted the position of Principal Assistant Division Engineer in Fresno by J. B. Woodson, the new Division Engineer of the California Division of Highways.

In 1914 he advanced to the position of Principal Assistant Division Engineer in Sacramento. In 1920 he was made Assistant Highway Engineer in charge of general inspection throughout the southerly portion of the State. In 1921, when the Department of Public Works was formed, Stanton was appointed Assistant State Highway

Engineer until his appointment as Materials and Research Engineer in 1928, which position he occupied for the succeeding 23 years until his retirement in 1951.

Stanton was probably best known for work on the durability of Portland cement concrete. Mr. Stanton was the first to discover that one of the most marked forms of deterioration in Portland cement concrete was attributable to an internal reaction between constituents in the cement and in the aggregate. In other words, certain brands of Portland cement may contain small percentages of alkalis which cause no trouble unless the sand used contains certain minerals such as opal or similar forms of silica which will react with the alkalis in the cement.

During his professional career, Stanton was an active member of a number of American technical societies. He was a director of the American Society of Civil Engineers, 1937-39, and vice president in 1942-43. He served on the Board of Directors of the American Concrete Institute in 1943-44 and was elected an honorary member in 1955. Together with other honors for notable contribution, he was awarded the Wasson Medal by the American Concrete Institute in 1934, and the Norman Medal by the American Society of Civil Engineers in 1943, both for outstanding work in Portland cement concrete, especially for the discovery of the alkali-aggregate reaction.

(Source: ASCE Newsletter, Sacramento Section)

RECRUITING MADE EASY

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>

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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>

State & District Officers

President: Christine Valle
 7955 Pat Street
 La Mesa, CA 91942
casavalle54@yahoo.com

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

2nd Vice President:

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

Historian: Arlene Hartin

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

Secretary/Treasurer: Mike Ogilvie

PO Box 421292
San Diego, CA 92142-1292
m.ogilvie@sbcglobal.net

Editor: Chris Thomas

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

Web Master: Andy Machen

174 E. 3rd Street
San Bernardino, CA 92410
andrewmachen@rivsan.com

District 1 Director: Arlene Hartin

2301 E Street
Eureka, CA 95501-4126
707-443-8841 ahartin@suddenlink.net

District 2 Director: Donald Anderson

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

Treasurer: Donald Anderson

See above

Secretary: Bill Belcher

3863 Aster Street
Springfield, OR 97478
shastaqcc@yahoo.com

District 3 Director: Jan Johnson

6 La Entrada Way
Yuba City, CA 95993-2130
(530) 751-9542 janiann47@gmail.com

Secretary: Lib Haraughty

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

Treasurer: Carleen A. Hagen

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

District 4 Director: Nigel Blampied

323 Crestmont Drive
Oakland, CA 94619-2315
(510) 479-7070 nblampied@aim.com

District 5 Director: Kathleen Copeland

1255 Orcutt Rd A-2
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-0918
(805) 544-1834 BCopel4674@aol.com

District 6 Director: Terry Littleton

6675 N Woodson Ave
Fresno, CA 93711-1132
(559) 974-3885 TerryLittleton@comcast.net

District 7 Director: Dalia Jaramillo

4556 Yellowstone Street
Los Angeles, CA 90032-3757
(323) 365-4905 caltransdoll@gmail.com

Secretary: Vacant**District 8 Director:** Sybille Phillips

PO Box 1046
Lake Arrowhead, CA 92352-1046
909-234-9247 krackinew@aol.com

Secretary/Treasurer: Marsha Lotze

20250 Majestic Dr
Apple Valley CA 92308-5030
760-247-2119 mlotze12@verizon.net

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

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

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

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

Secretary/Treasurer: Christine Valle
 7955 Pat Street
 La Mesa, CA 91942 casavalle54@yahoo.com

District 12 Director:
 Francisco "CDR. Frank" Paras Jr.
 11439 Toscana Circle
 Stanton, CA 90680-3390
 (949) 294-7345 (714) 248-9158
SGTPARASJR@YAHOO.COM

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

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

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

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION FOUNDATION

By Mallory Fites

We are saddened to announce the passing of CTF Founder **Heinz Heckerroth** who passed away on Sunday, March 6. The California Transportation Foundation was founded in June 1988 by former Caltrans Chief Deputy Director Heinz Heckerroth. Mr. Heckerroth had recently retired from Caltrans and wanted to create a charity that would give back to the Caltrans community he dearly loves. He envisioned a non-profit that would one day be able to expand to serve private sector and other public transportation agency employees as well. Mr. Heckerroth served as the Foundation's first executive director and recruited a dedicated board of former Caltrans employees.



Heinz Heckerroth

Heinz and Hope Heckerroth endowed the H. Heckerroth Scholarship for university and college undergraduate students majoring in civil engineering, interested in pursuing a career in transportation after graduation, and who were affiliated with Caltrans (interns, volunteers, student assistants, employees). Mr. Heckerroth

was always a champion of the students who participated in the CTF Transportation Education Symposium and would personally introduce himself and meet with scholarship recipients at our CTF Transportation Forum and CTF Transportation Awards every year.

Will Kempton, CTF Board Member said, “No words can express the dedication and commitment this man had to his profession and to the field of transportation. Even after his retirement, Heinz wasn’t finished he created the California Transportation Foundation, an organization of incredible people that has grown and thrived over the years. He leaves an unmatched legacy and he will be missed.”

Today, CTF is a respected 501 c(3) charitable foundation with a diverse board that is ready to help the transportation profession. CTF will be here for years to come, testament to the legacy of **Heinz Heckeroth** – remembering those we’ve lost and aiding those injured in the job, recognizing achievement in transportation and educating the next generation of California transportation professionals.

To make a donation in honor of Heinz Heckeroth please go to www.the-ctf.org/donate or mail a check to CTF at 9500 Kiefer Blvd. PO Box 276828, Sacramento, CA 95826.

(More on **Heinz Heckeroth** on Page 26.)

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!

In Memoriam

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

Name	District	Date
Heidi Pettersen	01	Jan 19, 2022
Janice Scott	01	Aug 16, 2021
Rudy Brown	01	Jan 15, 2022
Ben Van Zandt	01	Nov 23, 2021
Mary Ann Bottini	01	Oct 23, 2021
Bruce Marshall	01	Jun 24, 2021
James Ed Franks	03	Dec 11, 2021
Cliff Dunn	03	Jan 06, 2022
Rosa Quintana Brito	03	Feb 01, 2022
Dave Wood	03/08	Dec 19, 2021
Richard (Dick) Gee	04	Dec 25, 2021
Bob Dayton Tucker	04	
Dyer H Campbell	05	Jan 14, 2022
Goro Endo	07	Jun 12, 2020
Margaret Barnett	08	Dec 18, 2021
Doroteo Rocha	08	Jan 19, 2022
Edward (Ed) Hajj	11	Dec 20, 2021
Don Rosbaugh	11	Feb 02, 2022
Bennett Broadway	11	Feb 15, 2022
Dick Wehe	C	Dec 31, 2021
Heinz Heckeroth	C	Mar 06, 2022

The Haps in District 1

District 1 was able to resume the breakfast gatherings, the first one was on October 21, 2021 and then on January 20 2022. The breakfast group meets on the 3rd Thursday of the months of January, April, July, and October at 9:30 am at the Pantry on Broadway in Eureka. The group is still relatively small, averaging about 15 each time. **Lonnie** and **Maureen Arney** shared their homemade jams with anyone who wanted one. I got a jar each time. Yummy.

It is amazing how things can be so busy even with being retired and staying home more. I am sorry to have missed sending in the December report.

The Humboldt Co. Historical Society is now celebrating its 75th anniversary as of 3/3/22. As a volunteer, I gave my first zoom talk on 3/5 on the history of the society. In preparation for this, I reviewed our magazines from 1953 to the current one. It brought back lots of memories.

For those who may have attended Humboldt State University, it is now Cal Poly, Humboldt, congrats.

The church that **Catherine Moore**, **Mike's** wife, attends brought me a wonderful platter of her homemade cookies, Yummy again, as a thank you for a donation. She and Michael, a D-1 retired R/W Agent, are making it to the breakfasts now.

Another retiree, **Richard Philipsen**, has written and produced two books on our local history, which are very interesting. It was reported that he had recently become seriously ill. Fortunately, he is now recovering, and we hope to see him at the breakfasts again, especially when things have really opened up.

Mrs. Hallsten sent an email that she and her husband, **Harold**, recently moved to Roseville.

In a sizable section of our Times Standard for 10/24/21 was a wonderful story about **Wanda Vaughan**, widow of our retired engineer, **Ken Vaughan**. She was honored for helping promote Hummel collectables. She had started the Heart of the Redwoods chapter of the International M.I. Hummel Club in 1994.

Dennis Grinsell sent in a special report that he was able to visit his Sister-in-Law, **Heidi**, and help celebrate her 80th birthday in November. Sadly, she later passed away on January 19, 2022. Her husband, **George M. "Pete" Pettersen**, a long time Caltrans engineer and retiree, has previously passed on. We miss them both.

Sadly, we have also lost others. **Janice Scott**, who worked in Right of Way until her retirement in 2003, passed away 8/16/2021.

Ruby Brown, widow of D-1 Engineer, **Bob Brown**, passed on 1/15/2022. We knew her quite well as a loan officer at the Calif. State Employees Credit Union #20. I joined this credit union soon after going to work for Caltrans.

D-1 retired engineer, **Ben Van Zandt**, passed away on 11/23/2021. He would have turned 100 on January, 15, 2022. He enjoyed a 33-year career with D-1, from 1949-to his retirement in 1981. His son **Marty** also was an engineer in D-1 until his retirement.

Mary Ann Bottini passed away on 10/23/21 at age 93. Her husband, **Dean Bottini** was our Personnel Officer and my boss for several years. Her daughter, **Janet Bottini** moved up the administration ranks and was also my boss for a time. I liked and enjoyed getting to see Mary Ann and the whole family over the years. I still see Janet.

Sadly, **Bruce Marshall** passed away on June 24, 2021. He moved up in D-1 to being a Senior Right of Way Agent, then retired in 2000.

I look forward to more news from our District.

- **Arlene Hartin**

The Haps in District 2

Don Anderson, District 2 QCC Director, is working diligently to reestablish the in-person luncheons like we had before Covid disrupted operations. Hopefully things have settled down enough for us to begin connecting and sharing again.

Bill Belcher says “I have a surgery coming up soon, and will update you all in the next issue. What I find out may have some bearing on you and yours as you age. This is going to be a lens replacement surgery in the eye.”

Jim Ceragioli got back to me, and said he didn’t have anything to add for this issue.

All has been pretty quiet here in D-2.

- **Bill Belcher**

The Haps in District 3

Not much news from District 3. The Spring Luncheon will be held on Sunday April 10, 2022 at Peach Tree Country Club in Marysville. Looking forward to seeing our QCC members. To the District 3 members, remember it’s time to renew your QCC membership.

Does traveling to Disneyland for my 75th birthday count as vacation? A few weeks ago, my daughters took me to Disneyland to celebrate

my birthday. I’m a Star Wars junkie and I can’t say I got my fill, but I sure had a great time. Riding the various rides and watching people. Maybe that was the best part, watching people. Sometimes I wonder if they even look in a mirror before leaving their home or hotel. I rented a scooter and buzzed around looking at things, riding the rides and having a great time. We ended our stay on Friday night, watching the light show and fireworks on Main Street. I must say, Disney does put on a great show. Saturday at the airport while waiting for our plane, we had lunch at Ruby Tuesday’s. A couple sat at a table next to us, that hadn’t been cleared off. The wife complained to her husband about the lack of service and then proceeded to eat the garlic fries left by the previous diners. Oh my, people watching at its best.

- **Jan Johnson**

Road last travelled:

James Ed Franks:

Ed Franks passed away on December 11, 2021, at the age of 90. **Ed** was born on December 5, 1931, in Fieldton, Texas. He moved to California when he was 15 and has been a resident of the Yuba Sutter area since 1967.

Ed got his first job when he was 15 at UC Davis driving a tractor for 0.60 cents an hour. He retired from Caltrans after working there for 30 years.

He is survived by his wife Esther and sons, Gary, and Kevin.

Cliff Dunn:

We were told of the passing of Clifford Patrick Dunn, of Yuba City. He passed away on January 6, 2022. **Cliff** was born in Live Oak, CA, and was a resident of the Yuba-Sutter area for 86 years.

He graduated from Live Oak High School in 1953 and went on to enlist in the US Army. After the Army, **Cliff** earned his Civil Engineering

degree. He worked as an Engineer with Caltrans District 3 until his retirement in 1997 after 41 years.

He is survived by his son Jim, and daughters Vicki and Kristi

Rosa Quintana Brito:

Rosa Angelia Quintana Brito, passed away on February 1, 2022. **Rosa** usually held a full-time job with at least one-part time job, if not two. She worked for the Government at the Marysville Post Office, Sutter County for the Welfare Department, and retiring from Caltrans, District 3 in Marysville with 25 years of service.

Rosa is survived by her fiancé, her three sisters, her three children and grandchildren.

Dave Wood:

From **Amarjeet Benepal**, District 3 Director: “It is with a heavy heart that I share this information with you of the passing of **Dave Wood**. Dave was the Donner Area Superintendent in District 3 until his return to District 8 in 2017. Many know him for his social media tweets/posts regarding winter conditions on Donner Pass during his years in District 3. The information provided from District 8 is attached below:”

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of D8 Metro Region Maintenance Manager II, **David “Dave” Wood**. Dave passed away on Sunday, December 19, 2021.

The beginning of Dave’s successful career with Caltrans Maintenance started almost 24 years ago in 1997 with D8 North Region as a Caltrans Highway Maintenance Worker. With hard work and determination, a series of promotions followed. He promoted to Caltrans Equipment Operator II in May of 2000. In January of 2003 he promoted to Caltrans Highway Maintenance Leadworker. Two years later in December of 2005 he promoted to Caltrans Maintenance

Supervisor of Fawnskin Maintenance. **Dave** lateraled briefly to D6 Shaver Lake in 2006 then lateraled back to D8 Essex Maintenance in 2007. He was promoted to Caltrans Maintenance Area Superintendent of D3 Sutter Sierra Region in 2010.



Dave Wood

Dave’s success was amplified as the Superintendent of D3 Donner Pass, especially in the winter where his gift for public speaking was utilized by many news outlets covering snowy road conditions. As one reporter from FOX40 stated, “if you’re planning on driving over the top of the Sierra Nevada..., Wood is the guy who’s going to get you through.” This is just one example of Dave’s dedication to the people of California and all who travelled through our great state.

Dave promoted and returned to D8 in 2017 as the North Region Maintenance Manager I. A few months later, he promoted again as the Maintenance Manager II of the newly established Metro Region. Dave led the Metro Region until his passing. Dave will be remembered by his staff for his boisterous laugh, larger than life personality and his three famous rules; everyone gets paid on time, nobody goes hungry, and everyone goes home safe. He will be greatly missed.

Dave is survived by his wife Kirstin, three children, Suzanne, Stewart, Brianna, and his parents, Robert and Betty Wood. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers as they go through this difficult time.

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

- Jan Johnson

The Haps in District 4

Mike Condie writes, with a picture below; “Mike and Barbara Condie, both retired from D4, recently and had a visit from Shirley Choate, pictured below. Shirley started in D4, where we all met in 1983, then spent many years in D2, and finished her career as the Chief Deputy in D7.”



The latest issue of the *CT News* includes two District 4 obituaries. For those who do not read the *CT News*, here they are:

Richard "Dick" Gee, retired Caltrans engineer and District 4 Director passed quietly at home on Christmas evening after a several decades battle with Parkinson’s disease.

Dick was born on Sept. 30, 1931, in Canton, China. His father brought his family to the United States in 1938 and started their life in San Francisco. They lived in North Beach where



Dick grew up with his siblings. He attended Mission High School in San Francisco, then went onto UC Berkeley and obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering.

Through the draft, **Dick** served in the Army and spent time in Alaska working on helicopters. After his service, he obtained a master’s in public administration from Golden Gate University though the GI Bill.

His professional career brought him to the world of infrastructure and transportation. Dick spent over 25 years at Caltrans, working his way up through various assignments and ascending the leadership of Caltrans District 4. His projects included Interstate 580, Interstate 680, Highway 380, and the 92/101 interchange.

In 1981, a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity came his way. Legislation had been past in Sacramento allowing San Mateo County to consolidate 11 separate transit agencies into the San Mateo County Transportation District – SamTrans. This turned into his professional passion – serving as the District’s first Engineer/Deputy General Manager of Planning & Engineering. He worked at SamTrans for 12 years. He received a “Tranny Award” from the California Transportation Foundation, and in a letter from Congresswoman **Jackie Speier**, **Dick** was recognized for his “expertise in public works, rail and bus transportation to construct a mobility blueprint for San Mateo County for 2005 and beyond.”

Along with helping start SamTrans, he worked on a number of major infrastructure projects

including the Colma BART station, SamTrans' North and South Bases, and the peninsula commuter rail - Caltrain. He retired from SamTrans in 1993.

Aside from his passion for transportation, he was passionate about his family. He loved his wife—Helen, his love for 64 years. Helen loved him right back, being his caregiver for decades, until her health told her that she needed help.

He and his wife raised four children: Jeff and his wife Judie, Tara and her husband Brian, Susan and her husband Ed, and Eric and his wife Lonnie. He was blessed with nine grandchildren: Christopher, Elizabeth, Jacob, Edward and his wife Amala, James and his wife Sara, Alyssa, Brandon, Carly and Daniel, and four great grandchildren: Tristen, Isabella, Callie and Luna.

(Source: The above obituary appeared on the *Alta Mesa Funeral Home & Memorial Park* website in late December 2021.)

Bob Dayton Tucker, retired Caltrans maintenance worker died of natural causes, peacefully at home, with family by his side. He was preceded in death by his loving wife, Joan, and his parents, Sid and Mary Tucker.



Bob was born in Paso Robles and grew up during the Depression and WWII years. He enjoyed playing, hunting, fishing and being with his siblings, Sam Tucker, Mary Cornwall, Chickie Godsey and Cliff Tucker. He graduated from Paso Robles High School and entered the U.S. Marine Corps during WWII. After his Honorable Discharge in 1948, he returned to Paso Robles. A rancher at heart, he worked with local ranches and

harvesting crews. He also worked for the Farmers Alliance, as a letter carrier for the U.S. Postal Service, and in the oilfields of Standard Oil.

Bob married the love of his life, Joan Daniels, in 1952. They had two sons, Russ and Doug. They loved their life together for 63 years. He now joins her for eternity.

Bob began a new career in 1961 with the Division of Highways, now Caltrans. He began as a Maintenance Worker II in Hollister, then El Centro, and finally, Half Moon Bay, where he became foreman. Through hard work, night school and excellent mentors he became region manager of San Jose territory. There, he was in charge of employees, equipment and the recovery of roads and infrastructure after the Loma Prieta Earthquake in 1989. He retired in 2000 with many commendations and statewide recognition.

Bob and Joan enjoyed travel. They visited all 50 states, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, much of Western Europe, and took a family trip to China, 22 countries in total. The stories of their adventures were enjoyed by all. He enjoyed a round of golf and lived a great life.

Bob loved the people and history of Half Moon Bay. He joined the Volunteer Fire Department when he first moved to town. He rose to the rank of captain. He continued to serve on the Fire Board and was instrumental in getting the new fire station built on Main Street. He also served on the Coastal Planning Commission. His civic involvement also included the Lions Club, the I.D.E.S. Society, SIRS, the Portuguese Culture group, and the Spanishtown Historical Society.

Bob is survived by his sons, Russ and Doug. Russ's family includes his wife, Pia, daughters Vibeka, Camilla and Linnea, and four great-grandchildren. He also has many nieces and nephews who loved him and his great stories. He

had a hug and a handshake for everyone. He was a good man, a good friend, a great dad. He will be missed.

(Source: The above obituary appeared in the *Half Moon Bay Review* on Jan. 25, 2022.)

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

Equipment Mechanics Pat & Guy Remembered By **Gordon Analla**

They would be **Pat Reno** and **Guy Sutherlin** from the Equipment Division of Caltrans, District 4. Quite a pair they were. Pat was the Resident Mechanic at the Foster City Maintenance Station, while Guy was the Travelling Mechanic for the Region. They were not only co-workers but close friends as well. They were both unique individuals for sure. Pat was the more conservative looking while Guy looked to have a wild streak in him. However, looks were deceiving as both mirrored the other in many ways. It was their quest to give me a ration of s---, whenever they saw me. But it was all in genuine fun. I think they did call me “Shoes,” but also “Buffy” I seem to recall because of a certain shoe my wife picked out for me that reminded them of . . . well we’ll leave that for some other time.

But I would like you to know, that I gave as good as I got with them both. I teased them and said they weren’t really mechanics because they never swore. I called them “yuppies,” and I named them appropriately Biff for Pat and Buff for Guy. A few times a fellow mechanic, **Ike Washington**, would come down to the yard and take care of business and converse with them. Well Ike knew me for years before Biff and Buff and he would really dig into me. This would get both Pat and Guy to howl. Guy, literally. You see Guy looked somewhat like a human Tasmanian Devil when

he got to showing his wild side. If you’ve ever seen that Geico commercial when the lady states she has “an animal in the attic,” well Guy would be that “animal,” in real time live person instead of animation. I state this with a fondness for the man. My wife met Pat and she told me he reminded her of the actor Beau Bridges. Something that Pat liked indeed.

Other times, their Supervisor **Ray Ahern** would stop by. Ray never had an issue with either of them. They knew their business and did an excellent job. They also had a good relationship with all the Maintenance personnel. Unless you messed with or messed up “their equipment.” Because that’s the way they saw it. They took pride in their work.

I went with them to their favorite lunch spot, Putley’s in Belmont, and believe it or not they were perfect gentleman. Pat, I saw the most often and many times if I have an equipment question regarding an accident or injury I was following up on as a Safety Officer, I sought Pat out for his opinion. I was always thankful when he took time to do so and help me out.

Like so many in Caltrans, there is a great deal of movement. Guy moved out of District 4 and went up to Northern California. Pat, he went to San Leandro, the District 4 Headquarters for the Equipment Shop as a white shirt (Supervisor) and then he got ill . . . cancer. He was off work for seven months. He returned to San Leandro still continuing with chemo. That’s the type of person he was. He had lost a great deal of weight. But his personality and grit was still as strong as ever. A few years later the cancer returned. He went off work and passed away from that dreaded illness. I was no longer working for Caltrans at the time, but I was informed of his passing and went to his wake. It was packed. Indicative of the type of person he was.

Guy, I never did get to say good-bye to before he headed up North. One day a few years ago I saw

his obituary. I was shocked. Saddened. Here were two wild and crazy guys, good guys, who had passed far too early in life. I know in my heart that they are up in Heaven and causing all kind of good-hearted mischief with those up above. Some things never change, and I know they didn't. Rest in peace Biff and Buff!

Earlier this year I was given a picture of Pat, Guy, and I at Foster City from **Paul Wilson**. It is something that I will always treasure; taken probably in the late 80's. Seeing it sparked this article. When I see it, I always smile. Until we meet again guys!

Thank you, **Gordon!**

- **Nigel Blampied**

The Haps in District 5

It's Spring, and we are hoping for more rain soon. It was a wet December, but January and February were dry. The green shoots we see now will soon be turning brown, increasing fire danger. You may have seen the January news about the Colorado fire that closed Highway 1 between Carmel and Big Sur. Our historic Bixby Creek Bridge was included in dramatic photographs of the area.

Good news for travelers: Caltrans' ongoing efforts to widen and upgrade Hwy 46 East continue, with a project on the next road section near Cholame set to break ground this Spring. The project includes \$136 million in State funding.

Four-footed travelers will appreciate a project started in February to construct a large wildlife UC under Hwy 17 near Laurel Road in the Santa Cruz mountains. This structure will facilitate the safe movement of mountain lions and other creatures that could otherwise be involved in collisions.

The article about the beginnings of the QCC in December's edition drew a response from **Bill Cotnam** regarding our District Engineer **Lester Gibson**. Bill shared that he delivered our local newspaper to Mr. Gibson at his home in San Luis Obispo. Mr. E.J.L. Peterson was the next Director, and he was Bill's first boss when he started in 1952. Bill has always been a source of information on our community and the Division of Highways. Thanks, Bill!

Congratulations to retired Maintenance Superintendent **Monte L. Vernon** who celebrated his 100th birthday on March 2.

I'm sorry to report the passing on January 14 of **Dyer H. Campbell**. Dyer was 93 and had been living with his daughter in Folsom. He was a long-time District 5 employee and worked in Construction for many years, along with other assignments.

Sorry I don't have more news to share. If you have begun to venture out post-COVID and are enjoying outings or travel, please let me know.

- **Kathleen Copeland**

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

Wes Lum from HQ / Central District contributed the following article:

Goro Endo, age 91, passed on June 12, 2020. Wes Lum was a good friend and colleague of Goro's. He has provided the following remembrance after consulting with **Ray Higa**,

Chuck O’Connell, and Janet Muramoto.

I met Goro in 1984. Since we are both from Hawaii, our friendship was immediate and long lasting. My responsibilities brought me to District 7 often. District 7 was a pioneer in Freeway Operations (aka congestion management) from the 60’s. In those early days District 7 addressed congestion and safety with Ramp Metering, Changeable Message Signs, Freeway Service Patrol, Incident Detection and Incident Response. The “42 Mile Loop” was an important test section of freeways (I-10, I-110, and I-405) that helped evaluate these systems before applying them throughout California. Goro was a leader and expert in the development of Ramp Metering and freeway traffic analysis (critical in evaluating these improvements). He was a “can-do” employee who helped with the success and growth for many of these projects. In 1987 he managed the Pathfinder Project where the public was able to drive a brand new Oldsmobile (from a fleet of 25) for a week. Their evaluation of the electronic vehicle mapping system helped Caltrans and auto companies understand how technologies could assist drivers in the future.

Goro’s ideas influenced many aspects of congestion management we experience every day. His efforts to easily provide Caltrans traffic flow information to radio and TV stations is automatic today. He was also part of the Smart Streets Project that coordinated Caltrans and Los Angeles City traffic signals to minimize congestion for motorists in daily traffic, incidents, and events. **Goro** even assisted me in HQ with co-authoring Budget Increase requests to the Governor’s Office for equipment and personnel for these projects.

Most people did not know of Goro’s work and accomplishments. Most only know of his kind, soft-spoken voice, and his helpful, can-do approach. He was a classic guy and real benefactor to all who drive the freeway system.

As a friend, **Goro** often accompanied me to meals on my visits to the District. He’d join me for breakfast in the produce market, round up the gang for lunch somewhere (J Town, Korea Town, etc), and accompany me to dinner. After his retirement I continued to visit Goro and **Amy** during my business and personal trips to SoCal. One trip in 2014 was for the Dedication of the TMC to **Dick Murphy**. At the event he and I were able to visit with many colleagues. Goro was swapping Freeway Ops stories with **Paul Chow, Al Iwamasa, Gary Graham, and Ray Higa**.



From Left to Right: Paul Chow, Goro Endo, Al Iwamasa

He is survived by his wife, Yemiko; daughters, Carolyn (Alan) Kobayashi and Cheryl (Robert) Segawa; grandson, Bryce Kobayashi; sister, Kiyoko West; and by nieces, nephews and other relatives. See Goro and Yemiko smiling on a trip to Japan below.



Yemiko and Goro

We miss you Goro and are so grateful to have had you in our lives.

- Wes Lum

The Haps in District 8

District 8 had their annual Christmas Luncheon after two years of the Covid pandemic on December 11, 2021, at Hannah's Restaurant in San Bernardino.

Everyone had a great time and those in attendance are as follows: **LaVerne Archie, Diana Barich, Mike Beauchamp, Judi Hudgens, Stan & Ina Lisiewicz, Marsha Lotze, Andy Machen, Sybille Phillips, Tom Powell, Fred Rios, Mike Perovich**, new member **Vera Holloway, Bob Sassaman**, new member, **Charlotte Sheehan, Linda Supernaw**, new member **Jo Stringfield, Norm Suydam, Linda Wilford**, and **Priscilla Williams**. Everyone seemed to have a great time visiting after not getting together for over two years.

Press release from **Tamie McGowen** on December 22, 2022, on Caltrans Helps Transport the U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree.

Greetings Team Caltrans!

"Tis the most wonderful time of the year, and Caltrans has been active in spreading that joy across California! Every year, the U.S. Forest Service selects the White House Christmas Tree from a different national forest. This year, an 84 foot U.S. White Fir Tree, nicknamed "Sugar Bear", was cut from Six Rivers National Forest in District 2 (Willow Creek, CA) in the far northwestern corner of California. Caltrans played its part in permitting the trip through California. After travelling thousands of miles through the state and cross-country to Washington, D.C. the tree was lovingly displayed on the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol over the holiday season!

The tradition of the Capitol Christmas Tree, or "The People's Tree," began in 1964 when Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, John W. McCormack placed a live Christmas tree on the Capitol lawn. Since the 1970s, the U.S. Forest Service selects a tree from a

different national forest each year for display at the U.S. Capitol.

To learn more about "Sugar Bear" and the U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree click here: <http://www.uscapitolchristmastree.com/>.

Press release from **Tamie McGowen** on January 14, 2022, on the Feds Make Historic Investment to Fix CA Bridges:

Dear Caltrans Family

I am very pleased to report that today the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) announced new apportionments for its national bridge program, an historic initiative made possible by the recent passage of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

The program is the largest investment ever made in American history to fix bridges, dedicating \$26.5 billion to the states and \$825 million for Tribal transportation facilities over the five years of the law.

FHWA confirmed that California will receive \$4.2 billion over five years, more than 15 percent of FHWA's total national bridge program budget! California will receive nearly \$850 million this fiscal year.

This is exciting news and an especially excellent way for Caltrans and our state's communities to begin the New Year of 2022.

Congratulations!

Item of interest from **Tamie McGowen** on January 25, 2022. In a move applauded by both environmental organizations and the construction industry, today Caltrans announced that we have issued new standard specifications approving the use of low-carbon cement by our contractors in building and maintaining California's transportation system.

Because cement is the "sticky" ingredient that holds concrete together, Caltrans uses the

material extensively. In 2017 alone – the latest year we have data – Caltrans used 325,000 tons of cement to make concrete, which released approximately 283,000 tons of CO₂ into the atmosphere. By using low-carbon cement, we can cut these emissions by up to 10%, which is equivalent to taking more than 6,000 cars off the road!

This very good news is another example of Caltrans' profound and ongoing commitment to Climate Action, one of the three foundational principles. Thank you to all who made this possible!

Informal Get Together the 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. If you contact her the first time – **mention QCC**, leave your name and number and she will contact you back.

Many thanks to **Linda Wilford** for the beautiful flyer. The first luncheon was held on Wednesday, January 26, 2022. Attendees: **LaVerne Archie, Jo Springfield, Matt**, her partner, **Rosanna Roa, Sylvia Mata, Ken Holmes, Sybille Phillips, Charlotte Sheehan, Priscilla Williams**, and **Marsha Lotze**.

Many topics discussed! **Jo** is a ham radio operator in Crestline. She, **Matt** and **Sybille** are members of the Drayson Sports Center in Loma Linda, <http://Drayson.LLU.edu>. Some health organizations pay for membership! **Jo** and **Matt** enjoy Barre, Circuit training and the track, **Sybille** the Aqua Gymnastics, the Jacuzzi, and the saltwater pool. **Priscilla** is busy with the water agency in Arrowhead Villas. **Rosanna, Sylvia, Jo, Matt**, and **Ken** enjoy Blue Grass at the Yucaipa Brewery. Everyone is busy! **Sybille's** ears did not reach to the general discussions of **Marsha** and **LaVerne's** end of the

table. Join us in April but contact **LaVerne Archie** for the location!

There were a lot of promotions from January through March that were all reported by **Jean Advincula** on behalf of District 8 Communications:

The **Deputy District Director, Traffic Operations** announced the promotion of **Thomas Ainsworth** as Supervising Transportation Electrical Engineer in the Division of Traffic Operations effective January 17, 2022.

Tom Ainsworth joined Caltrans, District 8, in 1989, as a Student Assistant and then a Transportation Electrical Engineer in 1990. He has worked in the Division of Construction, Design, Planning, Traffic Operations, and became a Senior Transportation Engineer in 2000.

Tom graduated from California State University Fullerton with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering and has been a registered Electrical Engineer since 1999.

On a personal note, Tom is number eight in a family of nine siblings. He is married and has two sons. He enjoys traveling, golf, working out and spending time with his family and friends.

Deputy District Director, Design:

I am pleased to announce the promotion of **Vinh Truong** as Senior Transportation Engineer for Design E in the Division of Design effective February 10, 2022.

Vinh started his engineering career as an intern at Metrolink, working in the Division of Structures Maintenance. In 1998 he joined Caltrans District 8 with Design. He worked in Construction and Design for many years.

Vinh graduated from Cal Poly Pomona University with a B.S. in Civil Engineering in 1968 and has been a licensed Engineer since 2005.

Vinh is happily married with one son. He enjoys spending his free time with his family going camping, taking his son to hockey practices and games or watching the San Francisco 49ers and the Anaheim Ducks.

Deputy District Director, Construction:

I am pleased to announce **Mujahid Quereshi** has been selected for the Senior Transportation Engineer position for Unit 2319 in Riverside, effective February 8, 2022.

Mujahid joined Caltrans in 1999 as an Assistant Resident Engineer in District 8 and assisted in various freeway construction projects. He has worked as a Resident Engineer on many projects.

Mujahid earned his B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Engineering and Technology (UET) in Lahore, Pakistan in 1984 and earned his Masters in Civil Engineering from California State University in Long Beach in 1995.

Outside of work, Mujahid enjoys walking, jogging, travelling, and spending time with family.

I am also pleased to announce the promotion of **Peter Koury** to Senior Transportation Engineer in the Division of Construction, effective January 10, 2022, in the Colton Construction Field Office, Unit 2320.

Peter joined Caltrans in 1998 as an Assistant Structural Representative in District 8 and assisted in the construction of bridges on Route 210 from Claremont to Fontana. He also assisted in the construction of soil nail walls in the San Bernardino Mountains and seismic retrofit of Colton steel bridges.

Peter earned his B.S. in Civil Engineering from Loyola Marymount University in 1987 and earned his Professional Engineer license in 2010.

Outside of work, Peter enjoys visiting with his grown children, cooking, traveling and tasting multi-ethnic foods. In his spare time, he also enjoys hiking the San Bernardino mountains, photography and oil painting.

Deputy District Director, Traffic Operations:

I am pleased to announce the promotion of **Haissam Yahya** as Supervising Transportation Engineer in the Division of Traffic Operations effective January 3, 2022.

Haissam joined Caltrans District 8 in 1991 and has worked in the Division of Planning, Design, Program/Project Management and Traffic Operations.

In 2017 he was on an acting assignment as the District 8 Sustainability/Asset/Innovation Program Manager for 9 months and as District 9 Deputy District Director for Maintenance/Traffic Operations Division for 3 months.

On a personal level, Haissam is married and has three sons and one grandson. He enjoys traveling with the family playing cards, taking walks and spending time with his grandson.

Deputy District Director, Design:

I am pleased to announce the promotion of **Kevin Dinh** as Senior Transportation Engineer for AADD and Delineation units in the Division of Design effective February 1, 2022.

Kevin started his career in the private sector in land development in 1994 and joined Caltrans in 2000 in the Division of Design as a Transportation Engineer. Through the Department's Rotation Program, Kevin worked in the Divisions of Construction and Operations.

Kevin earned his B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of California, Pomona. He has been a licensed Civil Engineer since 2008.

Kevin is happily married and has two kids. He enjoys watching basketball games and is a die-hard Lakers fan.

I am also pleased to announce the promotion of **Greg Clark** as Senior Landscape Architect in the Storm Water Quality Unit, effective March 1, 2022.

Greg joined the Caltrans District 8 Landscape Architecture Design Unit in 2018 after serving 22 years in the private sector. In 2020 he served as acting Senior Landscape Architect for the unit before joining the District 8 Construction Division as a Construction Stormwater Coordinator/Environmental Compliance Liaison. He has been serving as the Acting Senior Landscape Architect for his unit since November 2021.

Greg graduated with a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas in 1996.

Greg is married, has four children and two grandchildren. He spends as much time as possible with his family and friends and enjoys most outdoor activities, studying his genealogy, home improvement projects, frequent BBQs, and slapstick comedy.

Deputy District Director, Right of Way:

Please join me in congratulating **Paul Mim Mack** on his promotion to Senior Specialist in Local Programs.

Paul joined State service in 2005 as a Deputy Commissioner/Special Investigator for the Department of Real Estate and joined Caltrans in 2013 as an Associate Right of Way Agent. During his time at Caltrans, he has worked in

appraisals, acquisition, project coordination, estimating and half his career in local programs.

Paul earned his B.A. in Political Science from the University of California, Los Angeles, in 1999 and is presently enrolled in the Masters of Transportation Management program at the Lucas College of Business at San Jose State University.

Outside of work Paul enjoys, gardening, cooking, traveling, and spending time with family, especially his nephews and niece.

District 8 Director:

I am pleased to announce the promotion of **Kurt Heidelberg** as District 8 Deputy District Director of Environmental Planning effective March 1, 2022.

After a career in the consulting world, Kurt joined Caltrans District 8 as an Associate Environmental Planner, Archaeologist in 2005. He was promoted to Senior Environmental Planning in 2018. In his time at Caltrans he has worked on many large scale projects, including the SR-58 realignments, U.S. 395 shoulder widenings, and the Cajon Pass rehabilitation.

Kurt attended Virginia Commonwealth University where he received a B.S. degree in Mathematics and a M. S. in Computer Science. He later attended the University of California at Riverside where he received a M.A. in Anthropology with a focus in Archaeology.

Kurt has been married to his wife, Gabrielle for 22 years and they have one daughter, Matilda, who is 20 years old this month. In his spare time he enjoys travel, attending music concerts, cooking, cave diving and playing his guitars.

Please welcome all the employees on their promotions in District. It takes hard work, time and energy for all of you. Welcome to your new assignments and Congratulations!

Note from **Dennis Salcedo** on his retirement. “After thirty-one and a half years, I am hanging up my hardhat for the last time. My last day of service will be Thursday, March 3. I would like to thank everyone in the Department of Transportation for making my career at Caltrans a positive and productive experience.

From being a part of the first District 8 Honor Guard to participating in a majority of the Annual Worker Memorial Motorcycle Runs, the gratitude and compassion for my Caltrans family has always held a special place in my heart. I will continue to participate in the Annual Worker Memorial Motorcycle Run and support the Fallen Worker Memorial Fund.

I would like to send a special thank you to all the men and women in the Maintenance Field Division. The maintenance forces truly are the heart of Caltrans. Without the maintenance troops our highway system would collapse.

My future days will be spent enjoying my family, which includes spending as much time as I can at my grandchildren’s various school and social events. I will also be seen riding my motorcycle up and down the highways whenever I need wind therapy.

To keep in contact with me, and to follow my shenanigans after retirement, look me up on the various social media outlets.

Stay safe Brothers and Sisters.” **Dennis Salcedo**

Please keep **Linda Grimes** in your thoughts and prayers as she continues having medical issues and is currently bedridden. She is still residing with her oldest son, Chris and his wife several houses down from Linda’s home. She would like to hear from her Caltrans friends by telephone or home visits. If you don’t have Chris’ address, please call me at 760-247-2119.

In Memoriam:

During the holiday season I received a brief note from Brett Barnett that his mother, **Margaret Barnett** had passed away on December 18, 2021 at the age of 95. Margaret was the beloved wife of **Loren Barnett**. He was a long time **Quarter Century Club Member** and was a Deputy District Director of Construction for many years.

He was the first Deputy that I met when I started work at the Division of Highways in 1962. He was a very nice and personable man and his wife, Margaret, was always with a smile on her face and very friendly. – **Marsha Lotze**

Deputy District Director, Maintenance:

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of District 8 Metro Region Maintenance Manager II, **David “Dave” Wood**. Dave passed away on Sunday, December 19, 2021,

See District 3 HAPS for more information.

Doroteo Rocha tragically passed away on January 19, 2022. Doroteo was a Caltrans Equipment Operator II in District 8, North Region Maintenance.

A Worker’s Memorial Fund has been established in **Doroteo’s** name. Donations by check should be made out to “CTF” and designated “Rocha Memorial Fund” in the memo line. Please have people mail checks to:

CTF

9500 Kiefer Blvd. P.O. Box 276828

Sacramento, CA 95827-6828

That’s all folks and have a great winter and early spring. Please remember to send me items for the QCC newsletter or your President, **Sybille Phillips**.

- **Marsha Lotze**

The Haps in District 9

Barbara and **Lance** are doing fine so far this year. We had a cold snap the last week in February with the lowest temperature this winter recorded at 13° on Feb 23. Looking forward to the warmer weather.

There was a wildfire along the Owens River near Bishop on Feb 16 with strong winds with gusts of 50 MPH. The east side of the town of Big Pine was evacuated and the evacuation lasted about a day. The fire burned over 4,000 acres.



Airport Fire - Feb 16, 2022

Got this update from **Bob** and **Janet Watkins: Lance**, all is well in the state of Washington. I am still riding my bike. Spring is on the way. The daffodils are out. Janet and I ordered a new Ford Pickup last October and the supply chain still has us waiting.

From **John** and **Mary Ritter**: Thanks for checking with me; I am disappointed to say that there is nothing of interest to report. Hope to visit you and Barbara one of these days. We are still looking for a property in Bishop so Mary can live near her daughter. Not to mention the difficulty of maintaining the 5 acres of brush and oak trees here that are falling down, apparently due to drought.

Barbara & I hope everyone is doing OK. We are doing fine except for the cold snap that occurred the end of February.

“I used to be indecisive. Now I’m not so sure.”

- **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

Spring is here and I can’t believe the first few months of 2022 are already gone. It looks like the pandemic is slowing down (though we’ve heard that before) and that, coupled with vaccinations, have enabled us to move about a little more freely these days. Mask mandates have been removed in many places for the vaccinated, and we’re thinking it’s time to schedule some events for our members. It’s been a long time and I know that some are still hesitant, but we’ll start slowly and see what kind of response we get.

We’ve been thinking about a luncheon and want to plan it for outside somewhere in Old Town. I’m meeting with some members at a restaurant this month that has a large outside patio that I think will work for your group. I’ll send out an email after we’ve checked out the place! We’ve also been kicking around a camping trip to Agua Caliente County Park in the fall for those who enjoy that type of activity. We’re thinking of late October or early November. Several of us have camped there recently and really enjoyed the park and surrounding desert area. I’d also like to get some feedback on what you’d like to see happen this year for our club so email me with your ideas. Keep checking our District 11 QCC Facebook page for updates and other items of interest to club members.

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

The **ROMEO (Retired Old Men (and Women) Eating Out)** breakfast at the Denny's in Fletcher Hills has resumed, so plan for the 3rd Wednesday of every month to come out and join the gathering. This month it will be on March 16, if you're comfortable dining indoors.

A Road Last Traveled

We are sad to share that retired Senior Transportation Design Engineer **Edward Hajj** passed away. Ed lost his battle with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) on December 20, 2021. He retired from Caltrans in September 2017. Ed spent his entire career at District 11. His 34-year career began two years after he graduated from SDSU as a Civil Engineer in 1981. Once at District 11, his first assignment was as an on-site engineer in Imperial Valley in 1983.

As his career progressed, **Ed** became instrumental in several projects throughout the region. Along the way he earned notable achievements including the SR-905 Senior Design Manager in 2011 and won a Caltrans Excellence Award for the SR-78 Auxiliary Lanes in 2013. After Ed was diagnosed with ALS in 2015, he and his family traveled Europe three times and made many lasting memories. When he reflected on his years at Caltrans, he commented on the wonderful people he encountered and the lasting friendships he made during his 34 years.

Ed is survived by his wife Donna and daughters Sarah and Emily along with son-in-law John Kirby. Services were held on January 29, 2022. The family is requesting donations be made to the

San Diego Chapter of the ALS Association - <http://webgsd.alsa.org/>

A longtime **QCC member Don Rosbaugh**, passed away on February 2, 2022, thirteen days shy of his 91st birthday. Don grew up in Somerset, Pennsylvania and was a sonar tech in the Navy during the Korean War. He started working for Caltrans in 1958 after graduating from Indiana Tech in Fort Wayne, Indiana on the GI bill. Don started his Caltrans career in central California, moved to San Diego in 1965 and started work in District 11 that same year. He retired from Caltrans in December 1991 as a Design Engineer. Don passed away peacefully in his sleep.

He is survived by his son Don and his wife Jani; daughter Dianne and her husband Mark; his grandchildren Stacy Rosbaugh, Kayla Bolinger and her husband Jeff, Chris Bouchard and his wife Michelle, and Scott Bouchard; his brother Bob and sisters Barbara and Janet; and a slew of nieces and nephews.

After he retired, **Don** moved from San Diego to Melrose, Florida in 1995 and lived there in a house he built until his death. He did not want a service and his only request was burial in a Veterans Cemetery. His family carried out those wishes.

Bennett Broadway, longtime Caltrans employee passed away on February 15, 2022. Bennett was diagnosed with cancer in 2016 and endured surgery, radiation, and chemotherapy for the next six years until he passed. Bennett was born August 22, 1943, in Houston, Texas. He spent 5 years aboard the USS Canberra in the Navy. He met his wife Judy while they attended college and they were married in 1970. They have four daughters and seven grandchildren. After the Navy, Bennett worked for the United States Post Office and Westminster West Seminary prior to being hired in District 11 in 1984. He worked as

a cashier and in budgets until his retirement in 2009 after 25 years.

A memorial service for **Bennett** was held at the Reformed Presbyterian Church of San Diego. The family has suggested gifts to the church designated to the Handicap Accessibility Project.

In other news: This issue of the QCCer will focus on preparation for the Member Roster that is printed every two years. See article on page 25 by QCC Secretary-Treasurer Mike Ogilvie. Please make sure to update your contact information regarding change of addresses, email address, phone numbers, etc. I have had several emails bounce back recently, so if you want to stay up on current QCC events, we need to know your most recent contact info!

- Kelly Manning

The Haps in District 12

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

The Haps in Central

Central is having the Spring luncheon on Thursday, April 21. We're hoping the diminished Covid numbers will enable more members to join us. We also hope to see a few new and prospective members. We're offering a free lunch to them as an incentive. See you at the Old Spaghetti Factory.

What a find! Recently, my friend asked me if I knew **John Beaton**. I said I only knew of him. He was in charge of TransLab during my college years. My research often utilized Caltrans reports which would have his name as the Boss

of the researcher. So, my friend offered me a stained-glass window that was presented to Beaton at his retirement. Apparently, my friend's neighbor is a relative and wanted to find a Caltrans home for it. See photo below. It will be offered to Translab for historical reference.



Stained Glass Window for John L Beaton
39 years of service

Meanwhile, I found this on John Beaton in the Caltrans website:

[https://dot.ca.gov/programs/transportation-library/shortsummaries-of-oral-histories-Beaton, John Interviewed by Francis Hveem](https://dot.ca.gov/programs/transportation-library/shortsummaries-of-oral-histories-Beaton,John-Interviewed-by-Francis-Hveem)

Here is a copy of the above article:
John Beaton began his service with the Division of Highways in 1929 as an Engineering Aid. He later worked for the Bridge Department until after World War II when he transferred to the State Personnel Board. He returned to the Division of Highways Design Department. He was named State Equipment Engineer in 1963 and then in 1964 was appointed Chief of the Materials and Research Department.

Topics covered include Kings River Canyon job and working with Camp 39 convict labor, participated in survey of county-built bridges when a large number of county roads taken over by State in 1933. Worked with **J. W. Vickrey** to devise reorganization/expansion plan for Division of Highways to meet requirements of Collier Burns Act of 1947. Recruited junior civil engineers from out of state in 1950s. Worked at Materials and Research Lab under Francis Hveem, laboratory fire of 1956. Welded construction of bridges, use of T1 Steel for Carquinez Bridge, utilization of prestressed concrete on bridge building, initiation of dynamic testing of guardrails/crash tests using radio-controlled automobiles and Governor Hiram Johnson's legacy of noninterference by politicians in the operations of State Government.

Caltrans Retiree **Dick Wehe** passed on the last day of 2021, New Year's Eve. His obituary accurately describes his life and can be located at:

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/sacbee/name/richard-weheobituary?id=32423044>

Jeanne Scherer states: **Dick** graduated from U.C. Hastings School of Law, at San Francisco and started his legal career with the Caltrans Legal Division in Sacramento in the early 1970s. For his first ten years **Dick** was assigned primarily eminent domain cases in support of the department's expansion of California's highway system. For the next two- plus decades **Dick** specialized in dangerous condition of public property and negligence tort cases. He was a founding member of the "tort fort"— a group of sometimes rowdy but always dedicated trial lawyers in HQ Legal responsible for defending the state in complex, multi-million dollar tort cases.

Dick quickly earned a reputation as one of the pre-eminent public entity trial lawyers and was a formidable opponent in the courtroom against

many of the top law firms in California. He excelled at developing comprehensive litigation strategies and worked closely with maintenance employees and engineers to be effective witnesses on behalf of the department. **Dick's** ability to explain complex legal and engineering concepts in layman's terms, combined with a humble and self-effacing personality, enabled him to develop trust and rapport with judge and juror alike.

Dick's contributions to Caltrans extended beyond his courtroom success. A natural born leader, **Dick** quickly assumed a leadership role in Caltrans Legal, first as a team leader and later as the Chair of Legal's Committee for Tort Liability and Risk Management, responsible for the development and oversight of statewide legal policies relating to client tort risk management issues and litigation practices. He worked closely with the Divisions of Maintenance, Traffic, and Design. His commonsense approach to risk management issues resulted in the development and implementation by divisions to reduce the department's tort liability. He taught at numerous internal training academies and for many years was a favorite instructor at the Kingvale Maintenance Academy, sometimes even riding his bike from Sacramento to Kingvale to teach class. When **Dick** retired in 2004, he was the Assistant Chief Counsel for Torts/Risk Management. His litigation skills resulted in the successful defense of hundreds of lawsuits, saving Caltrans millions of dollars.

Dick was proud to be a Caltrans attorney. He exemplified the finest attributes of the legal profession and was dedicated to public service. He influenced a generation of up and coming Caltrans trial attorneys and provided them the tools to carry forward his legacy with exemplary legal skills and integrity. - **Jeanne Scherer**

My friend, **Dick** and I met in the Caltrans HQ locker room in 1982 while preparing to bike home. He was one of a couple dozen regular bike

commuters — mostly Caltrans — who utilized the locker room and showers. Dick and I lived in the same neighborhood, Arden Park, and began 20+ years of commuting together.



Over the years we biked to work — rain or shine in freezing and stormy or heat wave weather. We thought extreme weather a challenge. On 110-degree days he would phone me at 2:00 to remind me to hydrate. We'd step into the shower in our bike clothes to wet them for the 10-mile trip home. On stormy days when car traffic was hindered by flooding or dark traffic signals our bike trip was faster than driving. Each year we'd bike over 4,000 miles together.

Dick was an initiator for many fun activities, which included: having a beer at the Rest Stop bike accessory shop on the trip home; planning evening beer tasting events; exploring Sacramento restaurants for lunch; comparing restaurants for the Best Hamburger; establishing a Hiking/Biking Club; and organizing our trips.



Dick was the best friend one could have. Always thoughtful, kind, and caring. One didn't have to ask, he was there to help. Dick was a dedicated family man and a true partner to his wife, Aleda — evidenced by their daily walks and jointly prepared gourmet dinners. Dick Wehe will be missed by his family and many friends. -Wes Lum

Upcoming Gatherings:

Spring luncheon: Thursday, April 21, 2022
 Summer luncheon: Thursday, August 18, 2022
 Where: Old Spaghetti Factory, 1625 Watt Ave, Sacramento. Contact Dave Saxby for reservations at dpbear74@gmail.com or 916-479-2978.

- 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 meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 11:30am at various locations on the Peninsula.

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

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 Spring Luncheon on Thursday, April 21, 2022 and Summer Luncheon on Thursday, August 18, 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 23.

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/>

2022 Roster is coming in June

Have you made or want to change your selection?

By **Mike Ogilvie**

The QCC Roster of Members will be printed and mailed along with the June 2022 QCCer newsletter. Your name will be listed. This will be the fifth biennial roster to include a member's contact information, at the discretion of each member.

This feature was requested by many QCC members that wanted other members to be able to contact them, as Caltrans no longer keeps or provides contact information for retired employees.

If you **don't need to pay dues** for 2022 and just want to **change your current selection** for Roster contact information, you can just send an email message with your desired selection to: CaltransQCC@outlook.com.

Otherwise, on the **Special QCC Membership Renewal form at the back of this newsletter**, you may check any or all of the first 3 boxes to indicate which of your contact information you want printed. Or, you can check the 4th box to indicate you do NOT want any of your contact

information printed in the roster.

Only the contact information on file in the QCC database will be used. Don't write in different contact information to be printed instead of what we have on file.

Look at the address block on this QCCer newsletter to see what you currently have in effect. Look for Roster < > on the line above your name. The letters between the brackets will be A=mailing Address, T=Telephone number, E=Email address, or blank=no contact information printed in the roster for you.

Example:

Status <R> Paid thru <2022> Roster <AE>

John Filmore

123 Main St

National City CA 91234

Note: members who receive the electronic version (e-QCCer) will see their current selection in the follow-up status email message, or they can look in their orange 2020 Roster.

If you don't specify or change your selection, your current selection will remain in effect for the 2022 QCC Roster.

Thank you for giving this issue some thought.

Welcome New QCC Members in 2021

Name	District
Ray Truttman	1
Ralph Blackburn	3
Vicki Montgomery	3
Gary Cherrier	4
Brent Soura	4
Daria Simolke	7
Judi Hudgens	8
Cecil Karstensen	8
Fred Rios	8
Donna Rodriguez	8
Diane Vermeulen	11
Shawn Rizutto	11

See the **California Transportation Foundation (CTF)** article on page 4 for additional information.

The CTF Founder **Heinz Heckeroth** passed away on March 6, 2022. The following information comes from the CTF website: <https://www.the-ctf.org/our-story>

Heinz Heckeroth retired in 1988 after 33 years of State service. In his early career with the City of Los Angeles, he was Project Design Engineer on the East Los Angeles Interchange. His career in the Department began in District 7 in 1955 and steadily advanced in positions of responsibility in District 7 and Headquarters, including Deputy Director for District 7, Chief Deputy Director for Resource Management, and participating in the planning for the creation of Department of Transportation. After his retirement, he founded the California Transportation Foundation.

Two of the main activities (among many others) that are part of the CTF's mission are helping Injured and Fallen Workers and the Transportation Awards.

Injured and Fallen Worker and Emergency Relief (IF&ER) Fund program was established to help California all transportation industry employees and their families who are in need of financial assistance because of death, injury and natural disaster. The program was established to aid employees during crucial times when quickly available funding is critical to meet the sudden costs of emergencies.

There are three categories. One is the Fallen Worker Grant that helps families of fallen transportation workers killed in the line of duty. Another is the Assistance and Memorial Fund for workers who have been injured while on the job and families of fallen workers. CTF matches these private donations up to \$7500. Lastly, Emergency Relief Grants are given to Transportation workers who have lost their home due to natural disaster.

Each year CTF awards the coveted Transportation Awards to the top project teams in 14 categories. They also recognize "the Big Four": Person of the Year, Elected Official of the Year, Organization of the Year, and Project of the Year.

The CTF Transportation Awards are held annually and this year will be on May 26, 2022 in Sacramento.

Celebrating Heinz Heckeroth

From the CTF: Join us at 5 PM May 26, 2022 at the Sacramento Sheraton as we honor **Heinz** with a special Lifetime Achievement Award that will be presented, along with the memory book, to his family.

Over the course of his career, **Heinz** touched many hearts and was always willing to mentor and advise. We know many of you will have memories you will want to share and we would love to hear from you. We will be compiling stories, tributes, and recollections to create a keepsake book for his family which will be presented on May 26, 2022 at the CTF Transportation Awards Banquet. Please go to our website to add a story or tribute:

<https://www.the-ctf.org/our-story>

Also, if you would like to donate in his memory, please go to the same website.

There will also be a Memorial Service on May 14th at 2 PM at St. Mark's United Methodist Church 2391 St. Mark's Way Sacramento, CA 95864.



Heinz Heckeroth and Will Kempton

QCC Membership Renewal Form Effective 2022 (SPECIAL ROSTER FORM)

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 _____

Select which of your contact information will be included in the **2022 QCC Roster of Members**

Check up to 3 boxes:

mailing Address Telephone number Email address

Check this box if you do **NOT** want any of your contact information printed in the 2022 Roster.

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