



Work in the Office!

ARE YOU KIDDING ME?

From the Side Pocket

The topic of conversation at a recent QCC breakfast event centered on a discussion about whether employees will be coming back into the office to work. QCC member **Tarbell Martin**, retired Caltrans D-11 Senior Engineer, shared that some current Caltrans officials expressed concern that the lack of people in the office is leading to some disintegration of collective thought, mutual assistance and perhaps productivity and efficiency.

There is a movement toward renting out portions of District 11's office space due to a lack of employee attendance at their offices, a result of remote work locations.

An article in *'Market Watch'* by Quentin Fottrell, published June 13, 2023, stated that the battle over the post-pandemic return to the office is heating up. Companies cite productivity concerns. Employees say it's about control. Workplace experts point to companies sitting on billions of dollars of commercial property, and tech firms that over-hired during the pandemic, and are now looking to cut their workforce by pushing people to make a choice: go back to the office — or else.

Silicon Valley companies are doubling down on their efforts to get employees back to the workplace. Alphabet Inc.'s Google, Facebook owner Meta and Amazon are pushing to increase

the number of employees working at the office. Some Wall Street banks have also joined in.

Using an expletive, Tesla CEO and Twitter owner Elon Musk told CNBC in a recent interview: "I'm a big believer that people are more productive when they're in person. People should get off their ... moral high horse with their work-from-home bulls—. They're asking everyone else to not work from home while they do."

Google last week called on hybrid-work employees who are required to go into the office three days a week to do just that. It will track ID badges and consider action against very absent employees if they are chronically shaking off the office. CNBC reported this week that Google employees responded using memes on an internal site, with one reading, "Check my work, not my badge."

David Sacks, a venture capitalist and former PayPal executive, agrees with Musk about the supposed perils of working from home. "It's time to admit that remote work doesn't work," he recently wrote on Twitter. "WFH (Work from Home) Friday is a 4 day work week. Full WFH is a 2 day work week."

Sacks went on to bemoan the lack of accidental and casual office brainstorming. "Every interaction has to be scheduled, which means a lot of information-sharing doesn't happen," he said. "Remote is a great lifestyle, not a way to build a great company."

ELECTION RESULTS

By Mike Ogilvie

The QCC election of officers was completed. The deadline for returning ballots was April 15, 2023. There were 29 ballots returned. All were properly submitted and valid. There were no write-in names on any of the ballots and the pre-printed names of candidates were all voted for properly on all returned ballots.

The Certified election results are:

President: **Al Ochoa**

First Vice President: **Chuck Deyoe**

Second Vice President: **Jerry Hawley**

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Try this link to Historic 'California Highways and Public Works' Magazine.

<http://www.americanroads.us/forum/index.php?PHPSESSID=2ceb61e97c2d846c20a6107a40e397da&topic=249.msg456#msg456>

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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>

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION FOUNDATION (CTF)

Please donate to help an injured CT Highway Worker! **Leonardo Urrutia**, a Caltrans District 11 employee was injured and hospitalized while

on the job. An errant vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed drifted from the number 2 lane into the shoulder and hit the rear of a Caltrans state vehicle causing it to hit Leo.

A **Worker's Assistance Fund** has been established for Leonardo. The donated funds will be used to help him as he recovers during this difficult time. The California Transportation Foundation (CTF) funds its efforts with contributions from donors like you. By supporting the CTF Workers Assistance Fund, you are making a difference in the life of a family when the tragic news comes of an injured loved one.

All donations to this account go directly to **Leonardo Urrutia**. The donated funds will be used to help while he recovers. CTF is matching donations up to \$7,500. We are grateful Leo survived this tragic accident and are hopeful he will make a full recovery!

Donations may be made online at <https://donorbox.org/leonardo-urrutia-assistance-fund>. The donors will then enter their donation amount, click continue and then enter their contact information and payment information.

Donations to this account will not be tax deductible.

Donations by check should be made out to "CTF" and designated "**Urrutia Assistance Fund**" in the memo line.

Please mail checks to:

CTF
 9500 Kiefer Blvd., PO Box 276828
 Sacramento, CA 95827-6828

Remember to pay your dues and send back the **Membership Form** (Page 23) so we have your most current address, phone and email.

In Memoriam

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

Name	District	Date
Robert (Bob) Inman	03	Mar 24, 2023
June Elizabeth Otto	03	May 19, 2023
Diana Craddock	03	Apr 10, 2023
Nate Pickett	08	Feb 28, 2023
John W Anderson	08	Jun 01, 2023
Jim Strong	09	May 04, 2023
James (Jimmy) Snell	09	May 25, 2023
Don Nothdurft	11	Apr 25, 2023
Phil Yang	C	Apr 06, 2023

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!

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>

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 says he and Sandy joined two other couples as part of a Church group for a two-week trip to Israel.

Here is **Jim** and Sandy's story: We left from San Francisco on Monday evening March 13 and flew to Istanbul, arriving at about 10am. We then flew to Tel Aviv and started our journey around Israel. Our first stop was Shiloh, which was interesting but no great experience. We then went to Azekah and our first hotel very, very tired. The next morning, we boarded our bus and went to see the ancient boat of Galilee, and then Jaffa and Caesarea. Now, this was very impressive. It was a Roman city on the Mediterranean. There was no bay or port, so the Romans had to develop a safe haven for their ships. Ever resourceful, they knew Balsa floated and so they loaded huge boulders onto balsa rafts, floating them out off the coast and dumping them into the sea. This created a safe harbor for their ships. They built the city along with an open coliseum that faced the sea and could seat at least 4,000 people. They dug huge cisterns to hold their fresh water. Some of the original walls are still standing, as well as the coliseum. Then travelled on to Mt. Carmel and Nazareth, which was interesting.

Day three took us to Roman cities of Capernaum, Tabaha, Mt. of Beatitudes, Magdala and a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee. Day four took us to the Golan Heights, which was of interest, but not historic stuff. Day five was a wet day. We went to Beth Shean, which was an incredible Roman city, and the site of Jericho. It is unbelievable how they were able to build, and so much of it is still there. There are columns about 36 feet tall that are still standing. One series of columns are about 15 feet apart and have a tiled floor that runs about three hundred feet, makes a right turn, and goes about one quarter mile. Next, we journeyed to Masada, a city built by the Israeli people as a last refuge. It is on top of a mountain about 3000 feet high. It took the Romans over three years of siege to capture it.

On day six, we went to the Fountain of Tears. Day seven took us to Eilat and on into Jordan. We spent the night at Aqaba. The next morning, we went to Petra, one of the historic Seven Wonders of the world. It must be seen to be believed. On the 9th day we visited Ben Gurion's tomb, Beersheva, along with many miles of desert. Day ten was off to the Mt. of the Olives, the Garden of Gethsemane and the Holocaust Museum, which was a very moving tour. Day eleven included trips to Mt. Zion and Gallicantu (St. Peter's Church). The City of David, Hezekiah Tunnel, Western Wall and Genesis Land comprised our journeys on day twelve.

The Thirteen day trip none of us will forget. Benjamin Netanyahu fired his Transportation Secretary, so all the transportation workers went on strike. Well, this closed down the airport as well as public transportation, etc. We were scheduled to fly out of Tel Aviv that evening to Istanbul and back to San Francisco. Along about three in the afternoon he realized he was in deep, and recanted so all ended well. We got home OK.

It was a wonderful trip but oh so tiring. We took about five days to get back to normal. – **Jim Ceragioli.**

-Bill Belcher

The Haps in District 3

Well Summer is almost here. Graduations are done and it's trying to rain again today.

District 3 held the Spring luncheon on May 21st at Carmine's (the old Ruthie's) in Yuba City. We decided to try out other eating locations in the Marysville/Yuba City area. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and the food was very good. The staff that served us was busy the whole time. It was great to see some members that we had not seen in a while. Not sure where we will go in the fall. Possibly return to Carmine's and see what their menu will be.

The picture below is a picture and stats of what our snow was like here in District 3.



Three District 3 retirees have passed since our

last newsletter report: **Diana Craddock, Robert “Bob” Inman and June Otto.**

June Otto’s daughter, **Jan Agesen**, sent the following article from the District 3 CT Update from June 27, 1986 (approx. 37 years ago).

JUNE OTTO TO RETIRE

It’s appropriate – Steno June Otto names June as her retirement month! June will leave the office June 27 and officially retire June 30.

She plans on exchanging busy days in Maintenance/Construction for days spent traveling, gardening, bicycling, doing handcrafts and enjoying other interesting activities. Husband Milt retired earlier this year from his civil service job at Beale Air Force Base, and the Ottos will be free to jump in their RV and travel wherever and whenever they choose from their District 10 home. Toronto, Canada is the destination for one trip this summer. June’s 93-year-old (but still very busy) father is there. June and Milt visited Expo 86 in Vancouver in May.

June’s path to California and eventually to Caltrans began in Ontario, Canada. She was born and grew up north of the border, and in 1953 took a leave of absence from her job with the Canadian railroad and trekked with a girlfriend to see the sights of Los Angeles and southern California. June and her friend had chosen a rooming house for their Los Angeles stay, and Milt was a friendly fellow who carried their suitcases inside when they arrived. It was a whirlwind courtship and even though June had been forewarned to “watch out for those fast Americans!” she soon called her boss in Canada and said she wouldn’t be coming back. Milt and June married that same year and June became an American citizen five years later.

June came to District 3 in April 1973. Before that, she held a secretarial position with Marysville Joint Unified School District. For the past six years, June and Barbara Woodward have “shared” the Maintenance/Construction steno position, each working 20 hours a week. “I highly recommend this work schedule,” said June “although sometimes on payday I have second thoughts!”

June reports that she has enjoyed the variety of work

assignments in Maintenance/Construction and values the friendships she has made in District 3.

The Ottos have three children. Daughter Jan Summy of Yuba City is also employed by Caltrans and daughter Terri Baker and son Ed both live in Sacramento. Sometime next month June will be helping take care of a “wee one” when daughter Terri presents the Ottos with their first grandchild.

Thank you, Jan, for sharing this article with us.

ROAD LAST TRAVELLED

Robert (Bob) Inman passed away in Yuba City on March 24, 2023, at the age of 96. Bob was born in Palo Alto, California, to Glen and Florence (Mastier) Inman. The family resided in Hollister, California, where Bob went to grammar and high school.

After high school, he served in the US Army and was Honorably Discharged in 1946. He then attended Heald Engineering College in San Francisco where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering.

Bob began working for Pacific Gas and Electric in Richmond, CA, before transferring to Marysville. He worked for PG&E six years and then went to work at the California Division of Highways (Caltrans) in the Right of Way Department where he spent the remainder of his career. While at Caltrans he attained his Professional Engineering Certification in Civil Engineering.

He met his wife, Lillie (Kunzi) Inman, while working at PG&E. They were married for 60 years prior to Lillie's passing in December 2014.

Bob also farmed prunes and walnuts. He enjoyed working outside, designing and building his own farming equipment and farmed until the 1997 flood at which time he and Lillie sold the farm and moved to Yuba City.

During his retirement years, he enjoyed doing projects around the house and was an excellent cook and baker. **Bob** spent time in Mexico, Canada and Alaska fishing. You could also find him out early in the morning on the Feather River with his dog Chloe. As Bob got older, he enjoyed just relaxing, watching the San Francisco 49ers and Giants and old Westerns.

Bob was a member of the Lutheran Church and a member of the Sutter County Museum. Bob also donated blood for over 60 years. Dad was a Christian Man and loved God, Country, Family and Friends.

Bob was preceded in death by his wife, Lillie; mother; father; and brother, Grover, who was shot down in an Air Mission in World War II.

Bob is survived by his son, Steven (Tess) of Sacramento; daughter, Janet, of Yuba City; grandson, Bryson (Katrina); and three great-grandchildren, Anthony, Sofia and Joseph of Marysville.

Published in Appeal Democrat April 1-4, 2023

June Elizabeth Otto, 96, of Yuba City, CA, peacefully passed in her sleep on May 19, 2023,



just three weeks short of her 97th birthday. She has now met up with her beloved husband, Milton Otto, her brother, Allan Green, along with her loving parents William and Eleanor Green. In addition, she will be

greeted by her two walking companions, Annie and Buddy, with their tails vigorously wagging. June will finally see all the friends she has made and lost over the years. Lately she would remark that so many of her friends have died, as she looked sadly through her address book with so many crossed off names.

June was born on June 11, 1926 in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. She enjoyed growing up on the shores of Lake Ontario and spending time at the cottage during the summers. She graduated from high school at age 16 and immediately took a job as a stenographer with the Canadian National Railway in the Accounting Department. After 10 years she took a leave of absence in 1953 and traveled with a girlfriend to Los Angeles wanting to see the sights. When the girls first arrived at their previously booked boarding house a young, handsome and friendly Milt Otto helped them with their suitcases. From that day forward, it was a whirlwind courtship for June and Milt leading to marriage six months later. June made the call to her former Canadian boss saying she would not be back. She had three children in the years to follow and became an American citizen in 1959. They were happily married for 54 years until Milt's passing.

Milt accepted a job at Beale AFB and the family moved in 1960 to the Marysville/Yuba City area. **June** enjoyed her work at Faith Lutheran Church as the church secretary. Later she liked being the secretary at Anna McKenney and Cordua Schools, both in the Marysville School District. Always wanting to better herself, in 1973 she began a career as a stenographer in the Maintenance and Construction offices of the California Department of Transportation District 3. She retired from CalTrans in 1986 to begin a life of leisure.

June lived a full life. Over the years, she loved baking, camping trips with her family, traveling in the RV throughout the states, several trips to Canada, Hawaii and Europe, enjoying Princess cruises and taking care of her flower gardens. She was still using her computer at age 96!

Family and friends were very important to her. She very much enjoyed playing the card game Hand and Foot for years with the same group of friends. Over the years, she volunteered in the

office of several organizations such as the American Cancer Society and the local Food Pantry. She was a member of the Marysville Art Club, Daughters of Leisure (DOLS), Red Hat Society, the Red Hot Prunes and the Yuba City Senior Center. June was a member of Saint Andrew Presbyterian Church, where she volunteered in Mother Hubbard's Cupboard Food Pantry.

June was an amazing woman. Always wore a smile. She would talk to anyone anywhere. She spread kindness and love and had a grateful heart. She will be fondly remembered by all those who knew her.

Published by Appeal Democrat May 31- Jun. 3, 2023

Diana Craddock passed away on April 10, 2023 at UC Davis. No further information is available.

Wishing everyone an enjoyable summer. Our lakes and rivers are full for the first time in ages. Until the next time, stay safe out there.

- **Jan Johnson**

The Haps in District 4

On Tuesday, May 9th, **Dianne Steinhauser, Michael Chan** and **Ed Coble** organized another Caltrans Retiree Luncheon at the Basque Cultural Center in South San Francisco, which drew a large group of Caltrans retirees. Another similar luncheon is planned for September 12 at the same location, starting at 11:30 am. If you did not receive an invitation to the May event, please contact **Mike** and **Dianne** at chanhausers@juno.com to receive the invitation for September.

The Birthday Group continues to meet on the third Wednesday of each month at the Guadalajara restaurant near Fruitvale Station, Oakland, under the able leadership of **Anita Appiano**.

The NP Lunch Group also continues to meet 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, coordinated by **Bill Uesugi**.

Similarly, the North Bay Retirees Lunch Group meets on the second Tuesday each month at 11:30am at various locations in the Santa Rosa area, coordinated by **Jerry Griffith**.

For more information on all these gatherings, see the Events section.

Here is another story from **Gordon Analla** below.

Remembering Richard **By Gordon Analla**

When I first came into the Safety and Health Department at Caltrans, I did so on a T & D (training and development assignment). It was difficult for me because I was a landscape worker and then was thrust into a maze of administrative work regarding the myriad forms having to do with personal injuries and motor vehicle accidents of which there were hundreds of both as well as first aid claims via the DPO (draft purchase order) process. I received a great deal of help from a high school classmate of mine, Glenna, and from the admin. support person Susan. However, the person that really had my back, then and in the future was Richard. He was in his mid-twenties, and we connected pretty quick. He had an enthusiastic sense of humor and a ready laugh, hearty and deep from his stomach. There was a closeness, almost like a brotherhood, that we joked, laughed, and shared mutual interests in.

Richard was part of the support staff in Safety. He and Susan were the ones that normally answered the telephone when it rang. Richard

loved to play the piano and sing. He was part of the Beebe Choir back in the day and they made guest appearances throughout the country. This was Richard's forte. I remember him telling me that someday he just loved to stay at home, play the piano, and relax. I thought, what a great, simple pleasure.

We at Safety back then, and many times after, were like Family. When Richard's Father passed the staff went to the funeral to pay our respects and to let Richard know we felt for him and the loss of his Father. Richard never admitted it, but we knew that he was gay. This was in the early 80's. It wasn't the time then for people to "come out" yet. We weren't concerned about him being so. But we were concerned with a few of his friends. There was something untrustworthy about a few of them. We didn't want him to get hurt. But his relationship with a fellow named Jason was solid. For that we were happy.

It was in the late 80's that Richard promoted out and went to Surveys. I knew one of his co-workers, Lawrence. He busted up when Richard told him the story of him and me. I was going for a coffee run to the cafeteria. I asked several people in the office if I could get them some. I didn't write down what they wanted but reinforced verbally with them. A fellow newbie, Mike, was in the direction of Richard, but behind him. I faced Mike and stated, "Coffee, black," checking to make sure. I was also facing in the direction of Richard, and he stated with a sense of seriousness, "What did you say?" I said that I was asking Mike. Then we both broke out laughing. Years later we would kid each other about the day Richard got "radical," with the word "What!" for emphasis. That is one of the things I remember most about him.

In the early nineties, Richard, my nephew Bryan, and I did an open casting audition for one act plays I wanted to put on that I had written. We didn't get much of a turnout that day at Fashion Island, but we had a world of fun. Just laughing

and fooling around and enjoying each other's company. My good friend, Stephanie, came by and she finally met Richard after talking to him for years on the phone. She was the contact person at Redwood Medical, a facility that many of our employees went to for treatment. It was great finally seeing them meet and their wonderful embrace and hugs all around.

A few years later Richard got sick. He came back to work and tried to gut it out. He had lost a great deal of weight, and it seemed like only a matter of time before he wouldn't have the strength to continue working. He did leave state service and died shortly after. The world is a far more serious place now that he has gone. I know I will meet him again and I will ask if he wants coffee!

RIP Richard. □

- Nigel Blampied

The Haps in District 5

Summer is a comin', and we are hoping for a pleasant season. Since Spring, we've had lots of rain, foggy weather, a few warm days, and even a thunderstorm.

Caltrans District 5 continues to be busy with storm damage repairs. Progress is being made on Route 1 along the Monterey coast, and local merchants are hoping it will be reopened in time for the summer tourists. Recently, ground breaking was held for a \$148 million project at the Cholame Y intersection of Highways 46 and 41. This is the location of several fatal crashes, including the September 1955 incident involving the actor James Dean. A "flyover" will be constructed to carry vehicles safely from 46 to 41 and eliminate the dangerous left-turn situation. If you would like more information on the District's activities, check out their Facebook page at Caltrans Central Coast (District 5).

Another District accomplishment that is not highway related was relayed to me by **Richard Rosales**. Our District golf team took the State

championship for the second year in a row. Congratulations to you all!

I recently attended a BBQ organized by our local CSR Chapter 10. It was held at Cuesta Park in San Luis Obispo. Those of you who are “old timers” will remember the park as the location for many CSEA and Caltrans summer gatherings over the years. (I even played in the creek there as a child.) Thanks to Chapter President **Leticia Soria** and her family and friends for giving us a delicious meal and great music. Among those attending were **Pearl Cole, Joan and John McGrath, Ranell Bailey, John Burke, Mary DeLeon, Steve Cadenasso, and Colin Jones** who will be retiring in a few months.

Colin told me that our old friend **Bill Cotnam** is currently residing at the Mission View Care Center. If you would like to send him a card, the address is 1425 Woodside Drive, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401.

I recently enjoyed a Road Scholar (Elderhostel) trip which included three days in New Orleans and a riverboat cruise up the Mississippi to Memphis. My fellow travelers were from California, Washington, Kansas, Virginia, and New York. I highly recommend this type of travel; the accommodations were pleasant and the food delicious.

If you have news to share about your travels or other activities, please let me know.

- **Kathleen Copeland**

The Haps in District 6

District 6 is looking for a new QCC Director and QCC Secretary/Treasurer. Please let **Terry Littleton** or **Mike Ogilvie**, statewide Secretary/Treasurer, know if you are interested.

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

Survival of the “**Snowmageddon of 2023 San Bernardino**” by **Jo Stringfield**, Cedarpines Park (4 miles from Crestline).

“The San Bernardino Mountains had historic proportions of snow this winter. There are many stories. I’m writing a little part of what Matt and I went through. It is kind of a blur now.

We all knew a storm was coming. No idea it was going to be called “Snowmageddon”, the “Epic Mountain Blizzard”. Many of us didn’t know that a disaster was about to happen. Now many are facing new living circumstances and high repair costs.

As always, we prepared for the snowstorm like any other snowstorm by stocking up on basic supplies. We also included cat food, cat litter, toilet paper, medicines and snacks. We made sure the all-house natural gas generator’s oil was topped off, vehicles full of gasoline and snow shovels out by the door. I’ve lived up here around 30 years and felt we were prepared.

The first storm started January 25th dropping 3-4 feet of snow. Then another storm January 27th, and another storm January 29th, dropping another 1-2 feet of snow. On February 22, a blizzard warning for the San Bernardino mountains and by February 25th, another 3-4 feet of snow fell.

On February 22nd, things started to go downhill for us. A huge tree snapped and fell across the road taking out the power lines for electricity, phone for house, internet and part of another tree.

Luckily, I am a licensed amateur radio operator. With no phone (nor cell) capability, the only way I could contact Edison was by contacting another amateur radio operator. A fellow ham was able to contact Edison (which is difficult to do in good weather) and report a tree down with hot wires. No one on my road could get in or out.

We had a Catch 22 situation, Edison couldn't get to the downed power lines until the road was plowed. The road couldn't get plowed until the tree was cut and moved off the road for utility trucks to get in.

The power wasn't restored until March 1st. There still was no phone or cell service, no internet or TV. The only form of communication was my contacts with other hams. Big Bear hams activated emergency communication from Big Bear to Crestline. Hams in the Valley were standing by to help in any way to pass information. Hams were on all day and most of the night.

On March 2nd, Matt and I were making sure at least one vehicle had snow cleared and could be accessible in case a plow came by. Not that there was anywhere we could go since the road had 3 feet of snow on it! I had walked back to the house and I turned to see if Matt was coming just in time to see the carport collapse on him and the car and truck. Luckily, Matt heard it and dropped close to the car on the parking deck and was able to crawl out and was not injured. Our vehicles were not as fortunate. It took about 6 days before a contractor friend could get to us to get the snow off the carport, take it apart and off the damaged vehicles.

The next day we heard (by ham radio) our local market's roof collapsed. They are hoping to get it opened sometime next year. There were other major damages to businesses and homes.

On March 9th roads got plowed. We didn't get internet for the phone, emails or TV until March

13th. But I still had ham radio communications. In a short period of time approximately 10 feet of snow fell.

There are many stories of how the community came together to help others. Neighbors were checking on neighbors. Maybe you didn't know them too well, but a little better now. Sheriffs were going door to door checking to see if the residents were okay or needed anything. Firemen from other counties came up to help residents dig out and get snow off their roofs. Free food and supplies were set up throughout the mountain areas for those in need. Volunteers were delivering food and supplies to those who couldn't get out.

Anyone who is interested knowing how amateur radio helped in this emergency, go to:

Ham Nation – Snowbound Hams Save the Day”
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xCQM4Ao0ojk&list=PL1KAjn5rGhiz78lmXZa1ds10jxAwAd3Aq&index=2>

- Jo Stringfield

Here is some news from an e-mail from **Norm Suydam**: Retirement is great, however I'm continually evaluating the designs of roads and freeways wherever I go. I just need to turn that off. That's the one thing about retirement and moving out of state, missing all those longtime friendships.

Yes, Tennessee. A lot of positive things about being here. The State has a balanced budget AND they have NO INCOME TAX OR RETIREMENT TAXES. Last year they had a surplus of \$\$ so that year everyone's vehicle registration renewal was just \$5. Can we say Savings! Everything costs less except food. It's about the same as CA AND, everyone is so friendly. People just like to talk. Lots of people where I live from Illinois moved here to retire. Last week I met a guy who lived in Wrightwood, about 1 1/2 miles from where I lived. Small world.

Trying to stay out of trouble. - **Norm Suydam**

Thanks to **Wanda Gernux, Teri Lopez, Priscilla Williams** and **Laverne Archey** for informing us of this sad news: It has come to our attention that one of our Caltrans Retirees Mr. **Nate Pickett** passed away on February 28, 2023.

Nate was a Senior Transportation Planner at Caltrans District 8 from 11/1990 to 10/2010 He worked in Planning and as the Minor Project Manager in PPM. Nate was a very interesting man and one of only a few that I know of that ran for public office while a Caltrans Employee (Mayor of Barstow). Nate was owner of Riverpride Consulting & Development in Barstow from 8/2010 to Present.

An **Honorary QCC member, John W. Anderson**, age 91, of San Bernardino, CA, passed away on June 1, 2023. **John** was a surveyor for the State of California for 38 years.



He was a 50-year member of the Native Sons of the Golden West; a member of: the San Bernardino Elks Club, Quarter

Century Club, San Bernardino Masonic Lodge, Scottish Rite, Al Malaikah Shrine, the past president of San Bernardino Shrine Club, and the High Twelve.

Published in San Bernardino County Sun -June 4, 2023

Sent on behalf of the Acting Deputy District Director, Traffic Operations.

I am pleased to announce the appointment of **Mourshad Haider** as the Senior over Ramp Metering and Traffic Signals for Riverside

County in the Division of Traffic Operations effective June 1, 2023.

Mourshad graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering with an emphasis on Power Engineering in 1994 and earned his MS in Applied Mathematics in 2005 from Cal Poly University, Pomona. He began his Caltrans career in 1998 as a Transportation Electrical Engineer in Traffic Signal Operations and worked for 5 years before he transferred



to Freeway System in 2003. As a lead Systems Support Engineer, Mourshad worked on various key projects for District 8 such as 91 CIP, I-15 Toll Lanes, and I-15 Express Lanes ITS element infrastructure. He is the Contract Manager for the Statewide Ramp Metering Information System (RMIS). He introduced the dual loop concept to Traffic Monitoring Stations and Ramp Meters. It is currently implemented in several districts and has resulted in improved accuracy for speed and vehicle classification data.

Currently, he is upgrading 170 controllers to 2070 controllers for all ramp meter locations in District 8 and is modifying technology for all ramp meter locations to be accessible remotely from the central system. He is also involved in I-15 Smart Freeway Project and the I-10 Express Lanes Projects for ITS element's communication and integration. Mr. Haider has served on the District Equity Committee representing Traffic Operations since Feb 2022 and as a member of D8 innovation team. He was also the acting Senior for Riverside Mobility Systems.

Mourshad is happily married to his wife **Touhida Haider** who works for Project Management and blessed with two children, one son and one daughter.

Sent on behalf of the Deputy District Director, Maintenance.

Mathew Evers started his career in December of 2012 as a Permanent Intermittent Maintenance



Worker I working in the District 8 Warehouse and on the District 8 Striping Crew. Mathew later was promoted to Caltrans Equipment Operator II on the Camp Angeles crew in

the San Bernardino Mountains. Mathew continued to excel while working for the Maintenance Division and achieved two additional promotions to Lead Worker on District 8 Guardrail, and then as the Supervisor on the D8 Vactor Crew.

Mathew likes to spend time with his wife and kids vacationing and camping. In his free time Mathew enjoys riding his OneWheel and watching Baseball, his team is the San Francisco Giants.

Please join me in congratulating and welcoming **Mathew** to his new appointment as Caltrans Maintenance Area Superintendent over the Culvert Inspection Unit.

An e-mail from **Ahmad Shah** (I think this is how many of us feel about our CT family)



To my Caltrans family:
When I started working for Caltrans in 1993 as a TE Civil, I had no idea what an amazing career and journey I was starting. Over the next 30 years, I had the humbling experience of

working for one of the best organizations in the world. I always thought I would work for Caltrans as long as I had the passion, drive, and enthusiasm, to come to work every day and try to make a difference in the life of the residents of

the great State of California. And if it began to fade, I would retire. That day never came. So, instead of waiting, I have decided to pass on the torch to the next generation of Project Engineers at Caltrans who are ready, and fully capable of taking Caltrans to the next level.

During my career here, I had the distinct pleasure to work with so many wonderful people. It has been a privilege to work alongside so many talented engineers and an absolute honor to serve as a Project Engineer for almost 23 years and Senior Design Engineer /Project Engineer for 4 years.

Working for Caltrans has been the highlight of my career and an extremely rewarding experience. I will cherish these memories for the rest of my life. I respect and value the many friends I have made here in District 8 and across the State and look forward to fostering them in the future.

Thank you for giving me the honor to work with you. All the best to my Caltrans family.

Regards, Ahmad Shah



Dana Robie, Senior Transportation Surveyor, from R/W retired with 30 years of service with a Retirement Party at Johnny's Tacos & Sports in Redlands on June 1.

We had a good turnout at the bi-monthly lunch at Sizzler on May 24. In attendance were **Andy Machen, Walt Griffin, Laverne Archie, Vera Holloway, Charlotte Sheehan, Linda Supernaw, Wanda Gernux, Sybille Phillips, Jay Rodriguez, Jo Stringfield, Matt Fleming, Tom Powell** and **George O'Neil**. It was really

nice sharing memories with Co-Workers we hadn't seen in ages...

The next meeting will probably be September 27 because of the Summer Luncheon.

Remember we will be having our **Summer Luncheon** on July 8 starting at 11:30 at Hannah's on Highland Ave in San Bernardino. **David Bricker** will be our guest speaker. I'll be sending the flyer soon by e-mail to those that get the QCC'er by e-mail and snail mail for those that don't. Can't wait to see you all...

Stay Safe You All and Remember 8 is Great!

-Linda Supernaw

The Haps in District 9

Another brief report from District 09. I send emails to several retirees and not much of a response. Barbara and I do not go out very much so not many opportunities to meet people.

The snowpack is melting at a good clip with the Owens River flowing bank to bank and every ditch has water running. There is constant reminder about the dangers of the highwater flows. On Saturday May 27 a women died after falling into runoff-fueled Bishop Creek.

There is still lots of water standing in the low spots in the Valley. Mule Days came and went without any issues. There were lots of people in town which is good for business. We did not go to the parade again, it is difficult to go then find a spot to stand or place a lawn chair. The local paper does a good job of covering the activities.

From **John & Mary Ritter**: Thanks for asking. Nothing newsworthy here, thank goodness. Looking forward to visiting you and Barbara one of these days.

Jim Strong passed away May 4, 2023. He was living in Livingston, MT with his wife Miki. No details. **Jim** worked in Dist 01 and 09 mostly in Construction.

The following was published June 6, 2023 Inyo Register
James Snell, also known as **Jimmy**, passed away peacefully on May 25, 2023 at the age of 86 in Bishop, CA. He was born on December 22, 1937 in Arizona.

Jimmy worked in District 09 in Construction and Surveys. He will be remembered as a very good friend to those who knew him. May he rest in peace.

"At age 20, we worry about what others think of us... at age 40, we don't care what they think of us... at age 60, we discover they haven't been thinking of us at all." - **Ann Landers**

God Bless America!

-Lance & Barbara 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

Happy Summer to all of you. Hopefully you're all busy planning (or traveling on) some great vacations this year.

Our spring luncheon was held on April 19th for the first time since 2019. Our 2020 luncheon was canceled due to the pandemic, so this year's event was greatly anticipated by our members. We had a good turnout with over 65 members and guests attending. As usual, the 50/50 and donated item raffles were a big success with the

profits going into the QCC fund for future events. This provides free drinks at our happy hour and hamburgers and hot dogs for the picnic so keep donating folks! We should have some pictures up soon on the Facebook page for those who weren't able to attend. Thanks to all who made the luncheon a success and for those who traveled from as far away as Sacramento to attend, we appreciate it!

We've scheduled a happy hour event this summer on July 25 at the Barra Barra in Old Town and are working on a fall picnic as well. We're trying to find a sponsor for a picnic at Admiral Baker Field so if anyone is retired or active-duty military, please let me know. Our backup plan for a picnic is San Dieguito County Park in North County, but that will likely be on a Friday as the weekends are booked up. We'll also need people to help with the set up and clean up for the picnic so email me to sign up for that.

Keep checking our District 11 QCC Facebook page for items of interest to club members. Remember to send in your dues so you can continue to be a member in good standing! Dues have to be sent in to the QCC post office address. If you don't have the form, email me and I'll send it out to you. [also on page 23] In the past, I sent out email updates to prior members, but now my email list only includes active members.

The ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out) breakfast at the Denny's in Fletcher Hills is held on the 3rd Wednesday of every month to come out and join the gathering. The next one is July 19!



Michael Oreiro, Senior Design Manager of Central Corridors announced a retirement celebration for **Kiersten Bousquet** on June 8 at 5pm at the Coronado Brewing Company San Diego Tasting Room.

A Road Last Traveled

A longtime **QCC member, Don Nothdurft** passed away at the age of 92 on April 25, 2023. Two of Don's sons **Tony** (Surveys) and **John** (Engineering Services) followed him into State Service at Caltrans, and John still continues working in District 11 today.

Don is survived by his wife of 72 years, Elvira, six of his eight children, his 18 grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

Don was born on November 19, 1930 in Cape Girardeau, Missouri. In 1947 at the age of 17, Don accompanied his friend, who was interested in enlisting, to the local Navy Recruitment office. Don enlisted in the Navy that day. In 1950, while stationed as an Air Traffic Controller at the Alameda Naval Air Base, Don attended a dance at the USO where he met Elvira Martinez. A year later on September 29, 1951, they married.

After his discharge from the Navy in 1952, Don attended Contra Costa Junior College and went on to graduate from California Polytechnic Institute at San Luis Obispo in 1958 with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. After graduation, he began working for the State of California, Division of Highways (CalTrans) in San Luis Obispo.

In 1960, Don and Vera, their four children, and Vera's parents moved to San Diego. Don participated in Little League and Scouting. He was an active member of Saint Catherine Labourer Church, the Knights of Columbus, and E Clampus Vitus. In 1999, **Don** retired from CalTrans after 41 years.

Source: Dignity Memorial- El Camino

In other news: From **Gustavo Dallarda**: "Please join me in welcoming **Nikki Tiongco** as the South County and Trade Corridor Director, effective June 1. Nikki has been with Caltrans for 15 years.

In those earlier years, Nikki rotated through various departments in the Division of Engineering Services.



In 2018, she was promoted as Senior Bridge Engineer and in 2021 she took over the responsibility of Project Manager for the South County Trade Corridor (SCTC). As the acting SCTC Director appointed in 2022, Nikki led the Otay Mesa East site preparation contract, the Harbor Drive 2.0 and Vesta Street environmental clearance, and the South County asset management projects. Nikki has been responsible for overseeing the construction and rehabilitation of many complex structures in District 11, including the San Diego-Coronado Bay Bridge. She was the structures lead for many emergency projects and a regular trainer in the Resident Engineer Academy and the Structures Construction Winter Training Program.

If **Nikki** is not at work, she’s practicing yoga, hanging out with friends, playing the piano, or out of town sightseeing.”

From **Kelly**: A well-deserved promotion for one of District 11’s best and brightest young engineers. We don’t have to worry about the future of Caltrans with people like Nikki in charge! Congratulations and best wishes . . .

- 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 gathering for the Central District at the Old Spaghetti Factory was enjoyed by many. **Roberto (Bob) Buendia** from Research and **Cynthia Ingram** from Budgets were newcomers to our crowd that totaled 33! YEA!! (Photos below)



Allen Wrenn made two trips last year in an attempt to make up for the travel restrictions we have all faced with the Covid restrictions.

Last Summer he made a month-long trip to Europe. Along with his lady friend, he flew into Frankfurt, Germany and rented a car. For two

weeks they traveled in Southern Germany, where they stayed in small towns, staying in hotels where they were usually the only English-speaking guests. Then they joined a Viking tour group that took them to attend The Passion Play in Oberammergau, Germany. This is the Play that has been presented every ten years since the 1600s to tell the last days of Christ's life, along with His trial and crucifixion. After that they visited Salzburg, then went on a cruise on the Danube, down to Budapest. From there they were transported to Prague where they stayed three nights in a hotel that was converted from a Monastery.

In October and November they made another month-long trip, this one being a driving □ trip from California to South Carolina and return. The trip totaled almost 6,500 miles, with the main purpose being to attend a family reunion in Hilton Head. Along the way they visited Old Town Albuquerque, The Morro Building Museum and Memorial in Oklahoma City, various Civil War sites in Knoxville, Tennessee, The Biltmore Mansion in Asheville, North Carolina, The WWII Museum in New Orleans, The Johnson Space Center in Houston, and The LBJ Presidential Library and Museum in Austin. Along the way they also visited a high-school friend of Allen's in Murphy, North Carolina. Now **Allen** is looking forward to their two cruises in May of this year. □

We are mourning the passing of a good friend and Caltrans colleague, **Phil Jang**.

Memories of Phil Jang

On April 6, 2023, **Phillip Jang** passed after months of fighting a serious ailment. Our good friend and colleague is loved by many. Here are some stories starting with me, **Wes Lum**.

I met **Phil** on the sidelines of a soccer game. Our sons were teammates in the Arden Park Youth Soccer League. We immediately shared our backgrounds: Chinese, family, and work. He was

a Caltrans District 4 engineer until being laid off in the 1970s. He expressed an interest in returning to Caltrans. I had a vacancy and hired him in 1986. He competently ran the statewide Highway Operations Capital Improvement Program, for **Jim Borden** in the Operations Division.

(Photo of a recent dim sum lunch with colleagues and family photo)



Phil and I grew close, as did our families. I learned about his childhood in China (he could converse in Cantonese with my parents!); his high school and university schooling in Berkeley; and his love of fishing and good food; and most importantly, his love of family. Over 40 years we frequently lunched at numerous restaurants throughout Sacramento and socialized at family gatherings and our children's activities. His son, Bruce remains a good friend of my son, Ben. His youngest, **Karen**, is an Environmental Planner for Caltrans in Sacramento. His oldest, Joanne, also worked as a summer intern for me many years ago.

- **Wes Lum**

District 4's former Director, **Harry Yahata**, has known **Phil** over 50 years. Phil's first Caltrans position was as a highway designer in Harry's Design Squad circa 1970. Harry remembers Phil being a competent and dedicated engineer and a good writer. Their relationship grew, and Harry attended Phil and Cathrine's wedding. Of course, Harry knows their children Joanne, Bruce, and Karen.

Soon after, Phil was promoted by **Ann Hansen** to work in the Environmental Program after the California Environmental Quality Act passed in 1970. As you can guess, with little seniority, Phil was among the hundreds of Caltrans employees who were laid off in 1976.

Over the years **Harry** and **Phil** remained very good friends and fishing buddies. He often traveled to Sacramento to fish with Phil in Folsom Lake. As fishing stories go, Harry remembers the one that got away. One day Harry hooked on to a very large catfish. As he reeled in this monster, Phil realized he forgot to bring the net! As Harry fought the fish, they discussed how to land it without a net. The plan was as Harry brought the fish near the boat Phil would use his needle nose pliers to grab its open mouth to haul it in. Well, the teeth of that 15 pounder scared Phil, and he would not get his hands near the fish's mouth. As you can guess the fish got away.... That was the last time Phil forgot to bring a net.

Phil is remembered by **Kris Kuhl** who writes the following: Phil was my supervisor in the Division of Operations (soon to become the Division of Traffic Operations) in Headquarters from August 1988 through July 1990. Phil was the HOV Systems Branch Chief which included myself, **Rebecca Harnagel**, **Scott McGowen**, and **Mike Auslam** — all young engineers fresh out of Central Design. **Kay Griffin** was our division chief before she left to become the Office Engineer.

We worked in a small office in the southeast corner of the sixth floor of the HQ building (the rest of the division staff were on the fourth floor). Our office furniture and cubicle partitions were the castoff crap that no one else wanted. Same with the computers (mine was an IBM 286 — eventually we got Mac SE's on our desks). This gave us something of a misfit attitude which I think helped us form a strong bond as a team. We certainly had esprit de corps.

Phil gave us our assignments and let us do our work with minimal interference. He treated us as professionals and advocated for us. For example, in the days of tight travel budgets, he insisted to the division budget folks that we needed to travel to the districts to meet with our counterparts and review the HOV projects then planned or underway. Otherwise, Phil argued, there would not be an effective working relationship — the districts wouldn't call us. He got us the travel money and we were able to do our jobs.

Phil was very committed to his job and to Caltrans. He held no grudge after being laid off in the 1970's (he worked in District 4 at that time). As an example of his dedication, I remember Phil had tickets to Hawaii for the following week, but Kay Griffin asked Phil to attend a conference in Minnesota that week (she was supposed to go but she had a conflict). Phil cancelled his Hawaii trip to go to the conference. I don't think he even told Kay that he had approved vacation and airline tickets.

Thanks to Phil's leadership, coaching and mentoring, I became a better writer, organizer, and presenter. From Phil, I learned a lot about forming effective working relationships with executive management — our deputy, **Lee Deter**, in particular.

Phil eventually got promoted to Supervising TE and became a Traffic Operations reviewer/district coordinator.

About ten years ago, I arranged a reunion lunch for Phil with Mike, Rebecca, and Scott. Phil enjoyed seeing us all again and hearing about our families. The last time I saw Phil was around 2019, when I ran into him at Costco (you meet everybody there!). After a brief catch-up on our families, I told him that he was the best boss I ever had. He paused in thought for a moment, then he told me how much he appreciated hearing that. Safe travels and may you RIP. -**Kris Kuhl**

Joe Elharake also worked with Phil on many operations projects and policies. He describes Phil as one who “Always wants to do what’s right for the traveling public.” More importantly, Phil was dedicated to his family — family always came first. He shares a few stories here:

I am deeply saddened by the loss of my good and dear friend, **Phil**. Our friendship of over 35 years started around 1987, while I was working on HOV projects in District 7 and he was the Headquarters Branch Chief of HOV Operations. Over the years we became very close personally and professionally. We come from different backgrounds and enjoyed sharing life during our many fishing trips. We could discuss anything and everything without fear of judgement. He was my best of friends, someone who spoke sincerely and always from the heart. Our discussions often revolved around each other’s family. Phil was blessed by an amazing wife, and 3 brilliant and sweet children. They were always his greatest source of pride and joy!

At the time I met him, Dist 4, 7 and 11 were proceeding full speed implementing their own district HOV Program while espousing different philosophies in terms of geometry and operations. In District 7, we had two demonstrations projects: first was the SR-91 (opened June 1985 as a part time utilization of the shoulder). The second was the SR-55, which opened November 1985 as a full-time facility. D-11 adopted the barrier-separated reversible concept, and D-4 preferred mostly part-time

operations and unlimited accessibility. These details are important in order to shine a light on the incredible task that Phil achieved by bringing about an overall HOV Guideline document. Caltrans subject matter experts from Planning, Design and Operations, as well as the FHWA and the CHP, were gathered to develop and produce the first HOV lanes Guidelines in California and the nation (FHWA adopted the document and published it under its own name). It took over two years of relentless dedication and monumental efforts of lengthy editing for the Guidelines manual to reach its final form. Phil wasn’t done yet... AB 680 passed in 1989 which allowed 4 Public/Private/Partnership projects in California. First out of the gate was the SR-91 Express Lanes. This required developing another first-in-the-nation concept for a fully automated facility, where all drivers were required to use a transponder. Initially some people thought that the Express lanes could be ready for an opening date of 1991. However, the complexities of the approach were many; the most worrisome was the driver’s reaction. Phil’s support was instrumental in these efforts, combined with a great helping hand from our dear friend Alex Kennedy. On December 27, 1995, the facility opened to a great success, and to this day it remains the model to emulate for designing and operating an Express Lanes facility.

Throughout all these efforts I was continuously working closely with Phil and doing some fishing after hours. On many occasions Alex would join us, and the competition would start for first, biggest, and most fish. As for me, I didn’t mind losing because the fun we had doing that was truly memorable!

Our friendship grew even stronger when two of Phil’s children attended college in Southern California—Joanne attending Caltech and Bruce attending Pomona College. That gave the opportunity for our two families to continuously get together, and a great bonding developed between our wives and his and my kids.

We would often talk for hours about everything. He was always there for me, through thick and thin. He was a shoulder to cry on, a sounding board for my ideas, and a source of endless laughter. I will never forget the time when my wife was diagnosed with cancer and needed surgery, and Phil flew to Orange County and spent the day with me in the waiting room.

Thank you, my friend, I'll never forget your kindness, compassion, and generosity. I know that you are in a better place now. I will always cherish the memories we shared, and the impact you had on my life. - **Joe Elharake**

Alex Kennedy was the District 10 Traffic Engineer in the 80s before becoming a Traffic Operations reviewer/district coordinator. Together, he and Phil solved many traffic operation problems and developed numerous policies in their collaboration as district reviewers. As Alex remembers, **Phil** would ask him about a traffic safety problem. Together they would develop a solution, which sometimes pushed the envelope (not exactly what's in the manual). But Phil wanted to do the right thing.

Alex remained one of Phil's closest friends and shares some of his stories: I first met Phil in 1988 in District 10 when I was the District Traffic Engineer and Phil was HQ Traffic Operations HB-4 program representative. I had a project which I believed was a good candidate for the program. After briefing Phil and taking him into the field, he told me his program could not fund the project because it didn't meet enough of the program's criteria to fund it. After a brief discussion, I asked Phil to return to HQ and send me someone who could fund my project, but thanks for coming.

In the year 1989, I was promoted into management in HQ Traffic Operations and the Chief of Traffic Operations programs which included Phil's office. Phil oversaw the HOV

program and the Park & Ride program. The HOV program was reactivated and there was a lot of pressure to build the HOV program throughout the state highway system. Phil and I met weekly, and we met with Division Chief, **Chuck Bartel**, monthly to assure the HOV program was moving ahead. Phil and I put together the plan for the HOV system and the timetable. Phil and his staff worked closely with each individual district during implementation. He oversaw all the districts as they put the HOV system in place. As the HOV system moved ahead, I asked Phil to undertake the huge task of putting together the HOV guideline manual. Phil accepted. We needed a statewide HOV committee, and we assembled the best field members on the committee. Phil was the chairperson and many members had very strong opinions about many issues. We resolved the issues. The HOV guideline was approved and signed by the Division Chief, and the FHWA adopted the CALTRANS HOV guideline into their system. For this work, Phil was recommended for the prestigious Karl Moskowitz Award, which he received.

In 2000, Phil was promoted to District Liaison in Districts 4, 6, 9 and 10. I transitioned to Chief District Liaison of 1,2,3, 5, 11 in 1997. As a senior liaison, I became his mentor and we worked very closely. We met daily, and I advised Phil as needed. Phil was able to get his area up and running. He would call me with an issue beyond his comfort zone and together we came up with potential solutions. He would make the final call. Phil and I worked together for 12 years as District Liaisons, and we bonded as brothers.

One day, Phil's daughter, Joanne, came fishing with us. Joanne got a bite and caught an 18-lb striper. She, coached by Phil, reeled it in and Phil netted it. The large fish was jumping and slamming into the bottom of the boat so I picked up a bottle off the bottom of the boat and hit this fish. The bottle shattered. We all laughed and the fish stopped. Phil's daughter may have caught

her largest fish that day, and Phil was very proud of her pulling in the fish by herself. We all laughed many times about this trip and the bottle blowing up. Joanne, Phil and I had a great trip and Phil and I had many more fishing trips in the same lake.

Phil and I spoke about the many things we worked on together and how we improved the highway systems. Around Phil I became a better person and I miss him terribly. – **Alex Kennedy**

Events

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

District 4 -

The Caltrans Lunch Bunch meets three times a year at the Basque Cultural Center in South San Francisco. Contact **Dianne Steinhauser** and **Michael Chan** at chanhausers@juno.com to receive invitations to these gatherings.

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

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 Sizzler on Waterman Ave 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 -

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 Summer Luncheon is Thursday, August 17, 2023. Where: Old Spaghetti Factory, 1625 Watt Ave, Sacramento. Contact **Dave Saxby** 916-479-2978 or dpbear74@gmail.com.

QCC Membership Renewal Form

Effective 2023

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

(PLEASE PRINT LEGIABLY)

Name _____ District _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zipcode _____

Phone (____) _____

E-Mail address _____@_____

Date of Retirement _____ Years of Service _____

Dues amount: _____ 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

