



# The NorthState Public Employee

Affiliated with Public Employees Union, Local 1  
Serving BCEA Members in Butte County

**LOCAL 1**

Volume 20, Issue 7

August 2009

Local #1 represents public employees. Is independent. and is run by the members

## What is BCEA?

by Carole Kloss

Most of us carry insurance on our cars and homes, even our lives. Try thinking of the BCEA as an insurance policy for the workplace. Though some may not utilize its benefits for long periods of time, it's comforting knowing it's there when you need it.

Unfortunately, on-the-job injustices occur all too often. When they do, local BCEA officers – elected by the membership – are there to assist you and take care of the issues through a highly effective, issue-solving process. Many times, problems can be resolved with minimal effort.

Perhaps the best part of being involved in a BCEA is that it's member driven. Members elect who will represent them

and they have a voice in the day-to-day operation of the Union.

Like a good friend, BCEA is ...

- Voice in the Workplace
- A Place for Answers
- A Strong Negotiator
- A Friend in the Workplace
- A Group of Folks Like You

**A Voice in the Workplace:** BCEA members are working people like you who have joined together for a stronger voice in the workplace – a vote and a voice that speaks up for families, health care, safety, dignity and job security.

**A Place for Answers:** BCEA provides information, guidance and training on important work-related issues like health care, job security, workmen's compensation, contracts, safety, the environment and retirement – so that members can make their own well-informed decisions.

**A Strong Negotiator:** BCEA brings professional negotiators to the table with you who are fair, tough and experienced. We seek agreement from employers on industry-standard contracts, rules and practices that will benefit both employees and employers.

**A Friend in the Workplace:** We believe that a single person injured at work is one too many. That a single employee treated unfairly is one too many. Every day BCEA works to ensure that dignity,

safety and job security isn't special treatment, it's the way things are done.

**A Group of Folks Like You:** BCEA members are people just like you. We're a group of people who get together to share ideas and information about workplace issues. We're also proud to be active in our families, churches and communities.

## From Your President

by Jim Pulling

I have received a lot of calls from our members asking about cuts in pay and reduced benefits. Please understand that at this time, we really do not have anything on the bargaining table. The last offer received by the County was a repeat offer of one made in April. At that negotiation's meeting, it was decided by the joint coalition that the County was not bargaining in good faith and we, the Coalition, abandoned that meeting. We have since been in contact with the County's negotiator and have requested an impasse meeting to determine if we are actually at that point. We also asked him to schedule two meetings with a state mediator to see if we can hammer out a deal. As soon as we have some news of how things are progressing, we will certainly send out and e-mail to inform our members.

With the recession continuing, the union is working harder than ever to protect its members from this fallout. The County is faced with decreased tax bases and

**FROM continued on page 3**

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>BCEA Directory</i>	2
<i>BCEA Nominations</i>	2
<i>New Members</i>	2
<i>Catastrophic Leave</i>	2
<i>Employee Free Choice Act</i>	3
<i>Calendar</i>	4



**BCEA DIRECTORY**

2210 5th Avenue  
 Oroville, CA 95965  
 Phone: (530) 533-8003 or (800) 991-2232  
 Fax: (530) 533-7983  
 E-mail: bcea-gcea@onemain.com  
 Website: www.bcealocal1.org  
 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. & 1:30 p.m.- 4:30 p.m.

**Staff**

Executive Director Rudy Jenkins  
 Office Manager Eloise Herman

**BCEA Officers and Directors**

Jim Pulling, President 538-6608  
 Les Rodrigues, Vice President 538-7954  
 Leslie Roberts, Secretary 538-7282  
 Gary Jenkins, Sergeant-at-Arms 538-7606  
 Jennifer Honea, Treasurer 538-7321  
 Joe 'Ron' Hunt, Director 891-2756  
 Pat Stevens, Director 538-6222

**BCEA Stewards**

**Chief Shop Steward-**

**Jim Pulling**, Treasurer 538-6608  
 Kelley Albright, Chico Beh Hlth 891-2999  
 Doug Arnold, Public Works 538-7157  
 Brett Cambra, Gridley Public Works 538-7606  
 Carrie Erickson, Child Sup. Serv. 538-7088  
 Stephanie Eveatt, Child Sup. Ser. 538-7414  
 Christine Foreman, Chico DESS 879-3479  
 H. Leon Frazier, Behavioral Hlth. 538-5216  
 Gregory 'Randy' Frieze, Probation 538-7265  
 Bill Grogan, Facilities Ser. 538-7408  
 Rick Haynes, Behavioral Hlth. 538-6930  
 Jennifer Honea, Sheriff 538-7321  
 Gary Jenkins, Public Works 538-7606  
 Linda Madison, Paradise Beh Hlth 872-6328  
 Jesse Magana, Chico Public Works 891-2769  
 Brent McGurie, Chico Beh Hlth 891-2997  
 Les Rodrigues, Behavioral Hlth. 538-2158  
 Patricia Sanchez, Public Hlth 532-5696  
 Beth Standley, DESS 538-5135  
 Pat Stevens, Public Hlth. 538-6222  
 Tracy Snyder, Public Hlth 532-5696  
 Mark Wiertersen, Neal Rd. Landfill 345-2326



**Nominations  
 for  
 BCEA Board  
 of Directors**

Now is the time to participate more fully by nominating someone you know or better yet, nominate yourself to be a director on the BCEA board! Candidates are encouraged to run for the five available seats on the ten-member board.

Nomination forms can be requested by calling 533-8003.

**Criteria:**

Must be a member in good standing for a period of one year. Must have demonstrated prior commitment and involvement in union affairs. Must be nominated by ten members of the BCEA unit.

Officers will be elected according to Article X of the BCEA bylaws.

**Deadline:**

Completed nomination form and a candidate statement must be received by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, August 21, 2009. Please submit paperwork to your Local 1 office at 2210 5th Avenue, Oroville.

*Welcome New BCEA Members*

Name	Dept
Heather Brantley	DESS
Lisa Brantley	DESS
Douglas Gallaher	Behavioral Health

**BCEA Members in Need of  
 Catastrophic Leave Donations at this time:**

Name	Department
Beckie Evenson	Behavioral Health
Sherri Lee	Assessor
Patricia Prichard	Child Support Svcs
Sandra Tonjes	DESS

To donate vacation or compensatory time, complete the Catastrophic Leave Donation forms available from our Shop Stewards, the BCEA office, or Human Resources-Payroll.

### Multicultural Health Fair

Saturday, August 29  
11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Martin Luther King Jr. Park  
2921 B Street  
South Oroville

Community resource information from youth programs, job trainings, food voucher referrals for low income seniors, fun events, and a contest with prizes for the children. Free food, a farmer's market and live entertainment.

*A day of health, learning and fun!*

Contact Butte County Public Health for more information.

### Amusement Park Tickets for Sale

Member Prices	General Admission
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**Tickets available through BCEA office :**

<i>Discovery Kingdom</i>	\$ 27.00	\$ 29.99
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**Tickets available through Martinez Office :**

**Phone Number 1 (800) 585-0054 or (925) 228-1600**

<i>Disneyland</i>		
<i>2 day, 10-up</i>	\$138.00	\$143.00
<i>2 day, 3-9</i>	\$119.00	\$123.00
<i>Legoland</i>	\$ 45.00	\$ 63.00
<i>Great America 7 &amp; up</i>	<i>not sure</i>	
<i>Universal Studios</i>	\$ 57.00	\$ 67.00

(Tickets purchased through Martinez Office will be mailed out through the U.S. Postal Service. Allow 2 weeks to receive.)

Sorry, we cannot accept checks.

### Wedding • Affirmation of Love • Anniversary Renewal of Marriage • Baptisms

Ceremonies performed for  
\* *Traditional*  
\* *Non Denominational*  
\* *Religious*



### Reverend Carole Kloss

7079 Lower Wyandotte Road, Oroville, CA 95966  
Home: 530-589-1832  
Cell: 530-990-3841  
Email: edna-2@hughes.net

No Fee ~ Donations accepted for Elders on the Standing Rock Reservation, North and South Dakota.

sun                      mon                      tue                      wed                      thr                      fri                      sat

august 2009							1 BCEA Nomination Forms Available
2	3	4 PEU, Local One BOD Mtg 7:30 PM Martinez	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21 BCEA Nomination Forms Due	22	
23	24	25 BCEA, Local 1 BOD Mtg 6:00 PM Chico	26 Sheriff's BBQ Fundraiser 11:00 AM	27	28	29 Multicultural Health Fair 11:00 AM Oroville	
30	31						



## BCEA Shop Steward Retiring

Best wishes to our Shop Steward, Bill Grogan, who is retiring August 28. Bill works at Facilities as a Lead Janitor. Bill truly exemplifies the spirit of brotherhood. He has always shown he has a strong voice for all workers and knows the importance of supporting American-made products. He will be greatly missed here at local. We all wish him a happy retirement.

—Eloise Herman

## FROM continued from page 1

decreased funding from Sacramento, and most agencies are taking the position that all employees must share the pain—even those represented by unions. It seems counterintuitive to reduce service at departments that produce revenue, but some budget planners are doing exactly this. While we at BCEA are of course concerned with the economic effect of the recession on our members, we have a greater concern: we don't want our members to become distracted from their work and fail to work wisely and safely. We don't want our members to have loss of focus if they dealing with managers that border on pettiness by scaring members with news of more lay-offs or things of that nature. We don't want the workforce angered but to stay focused on what is in front of them—their job and their work. The most important thing that they can do is to work smartly, safely and go home to their families at the end of the day.

If you read today's local paper, July 24, you would see that the elected officials have taken a reduction in pay. The paper leads you to believe that this was a salary

## Employee Free Choice Act

Passage of the Employee Free Choice Act is one of the most important political efforts of recent history. However, there are many misconceptions regarding the Act. Among other things, it is important to realize that the Employee Free Choice Act is an amendment to the National Labor Relations Act, and is not a brand-new law.

Instead, it basically does three things: increases penalties for employer misconduct; changes the choice for secret ballot from employer to employee; and speeds up the process. To read it for yourself, go to [www.employeefreechoiceact.org](http://www.employeefreechoiceact.org).

The best economic stimulus package for America is to put people back to work, with respectable wages and benefits. Help get it started by calling or writing your senators today!

*Note: Congress is scheduled to go on its August/Labor Day recess early in August. During this time, your Senators and Representatives will be back home in their respective districts. Their locale addresses can be Googled: find your senators and representatives.*

reduction. Although it is true that they have taken a salary reduction, the total 10% was not all salary. I believe if you investigate this, you will find items such as cell phones expenses that were used to make up the 10% reduction in salary. The Enterprise Record also states that the Board of Supervisors has not had the question brought up of a reduction in their wages. I distinctly remember at a board meeting months ago, one of our own union members posed that exact question to the board while standing at the podium seeking to keep his job. BCEA Executive Director Rudy Jenkins has mentioned this also during many Board of Supervisor meetings as it has been mentioned during many of our negotiation meetings with the County, but that question seems to also fall on deaf ears.

## Barbeque for Eric

The Butte County Sheriff's Office is hosting a lunch fundraiser in honor of Detective Eric B. Christopher on August 26<sup>th</sup> 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Butte County Sheriff's Office. Tickets are only \$10.00

Tri-Tip prepared by Mike Lash/Chico BBQ variety of salads, rolls, desserts, and beverages. Silent Auction to be held at the event.

Detective Eric Christopher suffered a catastrophic health emergency on June 22, 2009. After several weeks of ICU care in Chico, Eric has been moved to a rehabilitation hospital in Redding. The Sheriff's Office is seeking support from the community to raise money to help Eric offset medical expenses.

Checks can be made out to the Butte County Sheriff's Sunshine Fund. Donations accepted.

Please don't forget that we have elections coming up and you will need to follow the guidelines for nominations and voting.

Remember, the local union is run by those who participate. Attend your union meetings.

**It's Comin' in September**  
the BCEA  
Cookout

**Saturday, the 19th**  
11:00 a.m.  
Oroville Fore Bay



See you there!