



The NorthState Public Employee

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

LOCAL 1

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

No State Budget No Negotiations

by Rudy Jenkins

With the Democrats out last week and the Republicans out this week at their respected conventions, there has been no one at the State Capitol to pass a budget. As you might have expected, as there is no State Budget, the County does not know how their budget will fare and is hesitant to negotiate a new MOU and especially monetary issues.

If the State decides to borrow from the Counties again under Prop 1A, this will cause a loss of over 3 million dollars to the Butte County General Fund monies. This could trigger more layoffs.

Your BCEA Negotiation team has met twice with the County. The last date

being July 8th where we were told by the County there wasn't much they could do until after the State budget was passed. The County offered to meet in August but said they really didn't have much to talk about.

Both sides have exchanged some proposals but there has been nothing more than clarifying these proposals at the negotiation sessions. When the budget is settled in October and the County offers some solid monetary proposals, we will have another Bargaining Advisory meeting for any interested BCEA members who wish to attend. At this meeting, we will go over all the proposals from both sides to solicit your input.

(\$.75) for each one-fourth (1/4) of the shift served during the qualifying period. Employees shall not be entitled to shift differential compensation while on sick leave, vacation or other paid leaves.

This payroll error came about due to employees filling in only the hours worked in KRONOS. Some employees who worked during this period and filled in the exact time, KRONOS automatically picked up the \$1.00 per hour shift differential, if the time was after 5 p.m. or on the weekends. BCEA is trying to determine who all was affected by this payroll error. BCEA is only aware of two departments (Health and Public Works) that this occurred. If you feel you were affected by this payroll error, please contact BCEA so we can include you in the grievance resolution.

Shift Differential Grievance

by Rudy Jenkins

A BCEA Class Action grievance was filed regarding that some employees were not paid their rightful shift differential pay during the fires Butte County experienced this last June and July.

The MOU states: **14.03 Shift Differential Pay:**

A regular employee who is required as part of a normal work schedule to work a majority of the shift between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., or the Saturday and Sunday day shift between 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. shall receive, in addition to regular pay, eight (\$8.00) for each shift worked as shift differential compensation. The shift differential shall be prorated to the nearest seventy-five cents

Board of Supervisors Adopts New Computer Policy

by Rudy Jenkins

At its last meeting in August, the Butte County Board of Supervisors adopted the new Computer Policy. BCEA met with the County four times last spring over the policy to provide input to the policy. While a lot of redundancy remains in the policy, it has been pared down by about ten pages and is now much easier to read and understand. In the near future, everyone will be given a training on the new policy and asked to sign off after they thoroughly understand the new policy.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

BCEA Directory	2
BOD Nominations	2
New Members	2
Catastrophic Leave	2
About Unions	3
PH Message	3
BCEA Calendar	4



BCEA DIRECTORY

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 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. & 1:30 p.m.- 4:30 p.m.

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 Fran Harding, Treasurer 538-6509
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BCEA Board of Directors Elections

By Rudy Jenkins

This year at the annual Membership meeting on Tuesday, September 23, 2008, a "White Ballot" will be cast for five new Board of Directors. As there is only five members seeking the five open positions on the Board of Directors, there is no need to hold a secret ballot election as in the past. The members who were nominated are Maynard "Jim" Pulling from the Treasurer's Office; Les Rodrigues from Behavioral Health; Joe "Ron" Hunt from Agriculture Department; Fran Harding from Child Support Services, and Gary Jenkins from Public Works. After these new Board members are seated, the elections for new officers will commence. Please plan to attend this important meeting which will be held at the BCEA office on Fifth street in Oroville at 6:00 p.m.

Fast Facts

Every day people post more that 65,000 videos on YouTube.

 In 2006, MySpace surpassed 100 million profiles.

 Since 1999, the number of blogs has grown from 50 to 50 million.

 More than 50 percent of blogs are written by children younger that 19.

www.sciam.com

 Complementary Notary Services provided by Eloise between the hours of 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Please call for an appointment at 533-8003.

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

Name	Department
Brigitte Bentley	District Attorney
Eric Meli	DESS
Cerita Penman	Assessor

To donate vacation or compensatory time, complete the Catastrophic Leave Donation forms available from the BCEA office, our Directors, Stewards, Site Reps or website.

www.bcealocal1.org

The History of Labor Day

by Carole Kloss

I know that county employees are looking forward to the day off for Labor Day. I know I did: it was another day to take some time to do extra chores or go on a little weekend trip. So I was thinking that maybe everyone doesn't know why we have Labor Day, here is a little history.

Samuel Gompers, who was the founder and longtime president of the American Federation of Labor said, "All other holidays are in a more or less degree connected with conflicts and battles of man's prowess over man, of strife and discord for greed and power, of glories achieved by one nation over another. Labor Day . . . is devoted to no man, living or dead, to no sect, race, or nation."

More than 100 years after the first Labor Day observance, there is still some doubt as to who first proposed the holiday for workers. Some records show that Peter J. McGuire, general secretary of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners and a cofounder of the American Federation of Labor, was first in suggesting a day to honor those "who from rude nature have delved and carved all the grandeur we behold." But Peter McGuire's place in Labor Day history has not gone unchallenged. Many believe that Matthew Maguire, a machinist, not Peter McGuire, founded the holiday. Recent research seems to support the contention that Matthew Maguire, later the secretary of Local 344 of the International Association of Machinists in Paterson, N.J., proposed the holiday in 1882 while serving as secretary of the Central Labor Union in New York. What is clear is that the Central Labor Union adopted a Labor Day proposal and appointed a commit-

tee to plan a demonstration and picnic.

The first Labor Day holiday was celebrated on Tuesday, September 5, 1882, in New York City, in accordance with the plans of the Central Labor Union. The Central Labor Union held its second Labor Day holiday just a year later, on September 5, 1883. In 1884 the first Monday in September was selected as the holiday, as originally proposed, and the Central Labor Union urged similar organizations in other cities to follow the example of New York and celebrate a "workingmen's holiday" on that date. The idea spread with the growth of labor organizations, and in 1885 Labor Day was celebrated in many industrial centers of the country.

Labor Day addresses by leading union officials, industrialists, educators, clerics and government officials are given wide coverage in newspapers, radio, and television. The vital force of labor added materially to the highest standard of living and the greatest production the world has ever known and has brought us closer to the realization of our traditional ideals of economic and political democracy. It is appropriate, therefore, that the nation pay tribute on Labor Day to the creator of so much of the nation's strength, freedom, and leadership — the American worker.

So enjoy your Labor Day, and you know from some of my previous articles the sacrifice others made so that it is possible. Also come to the BCEA picnic and get to know the people who are still striving to protect your rights and working to improve your work place. Your stewards receive no compensation except for your respect and involvement.

Smoke-free Entryways Good for Public Health

by Raúl Raygoza

Environmental Health Division
Butte County Public Health Department

Public Health recently received inquiries from employees and the public requesting clarification of smoking laws related to the distance a person can smoke in proximity to a government building. California Government Code Section 7597 says that, "no public employee or member of the public shall smoke any tobacco product inside a public building, or in an outdoor area within 20 feet of a main exit, entrance, or operable window of a public building, or in a passenger vehicle, as defined by Section 465 of the Vehicle Code, owned by the state." This law, commonly called the "smoke-free entryway law" and enacted like many other policies to protect workers, reflects the change in social norm of Californians towards resisting tobacco use and preventing exposure to dangerous unnecessary secondhand smoke. The smoke-free entryway law is good for public health.

As public servants, we set the example for the public by abiding by the laws; including the smoke-free entryway law. Employees may help indirectly by moving away from the building if they smoke. They may also help more directly by asking their coworkers and clients/customers to move away from the doorways or operable windows if they are smoking.

The best way to set a good example for the public and others and to improve your own health is to refrain from smoking altogether. For assistance with quitting, please call the California Smokers' Helpline. This telephone program can help you quit by providing self-help materials, referrals to local programs and one-on-one counseling at no cost. Visit the Helpline for more information at www.californiasmokershelpline.org or call them at 1-800-NO-BUTTS.

Be Our Guest

**BCEA, Local 1
Annual Picnic**

Saturday, September 6

**Oroville Lake Fore Bay
11:00 am—3:00 pm**

**Everything is FREE
(including the parking).**

**So come spend the
afternoon with
friends and family.**



“Promise to tell the truth, including the parts you’d prefer to keep for an upcoming book or movie deal?”

When you’re finally holding all the cards, why does everyone decide to play chess?

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

~~~~~  
The only cure for insomnia is to get more sleep.

sun	mon	tue	wed	thr	fri	sat
	1 Labor Day	2	3	4	5	6 BCEA Picnic 11 AM - 3 PM Fore Bay Oroville
7	8 BCEA Office Closed	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16 PEU, Local One BOD Mtg 7:30 PM Martinez	17	18	19	20
21	22 Fall Begins	23 BCEA, Local 1 BOD Mtg 6:00 PM Oroville	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	september 2008			