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## Voter registration rules in

### News briefs

Ohio and Florida were thrown out by federal judges in September for being overly restrictive, reported the AFL-CIO, which was a party to one of the suits that brought about the ruling.

**The minimum wage** in California will go up in two steps from the current \$6.75 an hour to \$8 an hour in 2008.

**A record** 46.6 million Americans had no health insurance in 2005 and fewer people received coverage through their employers, according to new US census figures. Nearly 1 in 6 Americans, or 15.9% of the country, was uninsured for some or part of last year, compared with 15.6%, in 2004.

**The annual Equal Opportunity Survey**, which helps the federal government identify contractors most likely to be engaged in systematic discrimination against women and people of color, is being eliminated by the Bush Labor Department, according to Workers Independent News (WIN).

**Trash talk:** An information booklet distributed by Northwest Airlines to its workers on how to weather steep wage cuts includes this money-saving tip: "Don't be shy about pulling something you like out of the garbage."

# Utility Reporter

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UNITY IS STRENGTH

For up-to-the-minute news, see our website: [www.ibew1245.com](http://www.ibew1245.com)

Serving on the Local 1245 Bargaining Committee at SMUD were, from left, Dave Butler, Ike Williams, Don Kreuter, Business Rep. Sam Glero, Dan White and Mark Flanders.

## SMUD Pact Ratified

Local 1245 members approved a new agreement with Sacramento Municipal Utility District by a wide margin. The vote was by mail ballot, counted on Aug. 15.

The six-year agreement provides wage hikes based on the Consumer Price Index, with a minimum of 4.75% annually in 2007, 2008 and 2009, and a minimum of 3.75% annually in 2010, 2011 and 2012. An annual maximum of 6.75% will apply in all years.

"The bargaining committee was very committed to protecting the interests

of all the employees represented by the union," said Local 1245 Business Rep. Sam Glero. "The large margin of approval for this package shows the committee was very successful in achieving this goal."

The agreement will phase out employee payment for 2% @ age 55 PERS benefit in the first three years. In years four through six the employer will pay the full cost.

Medical cost sharing for HMO and PPO plans will be a fixed dollar amount, changing each year depending on the

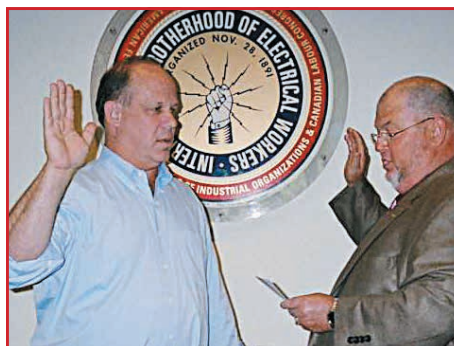
plan of choice.

The agreement provides a medical opt-out with proof of coverage, with the District paying the employee \$200 per month.

The agreement provides new 401K money, with a direct contribution by the employer depending on years of service with the District:

- Year 1-5: \$75 a month
- Year 6-10: \$100 a month
- Year 11-15: \$125 a month
- Year 16+: \$150 a month

*continued on page 3*



Tom Dalzell, left, is sworn in as Local 1245 Business Manager on Aug. 1 at Weakley Hall in Vacaville. Administering the oath is International Rep. Art Murray. Dalzell replaces Perry Zimmerman, who retired. Photo by Jennifer Edwards

## Sierra Pact Rejected

**Talks to resume mid-September**

Local 1245 expects to resume negotiations with Sierra Pacific Power in mid-September after members overwhelmingly rejected the company's first contract offer.

The union's bargaining committee met Sept. 1 to look at responses to a questionnaire distributed to members by the union. The questionnaire asked members to list in priority order their main objections to the company's contract offer. Responses were due back no

later than Sept. 13.

Regional meetings were being held during the second week of September in Reno, Carson, Tahoe, Fallon and Battle Mountain to give members the opportunity to offer feedback in person.

Interest in the negotiations is extremely high, judging by the huge turnout: 86% of eligible voters participated. Of those voting, an overwhelming 88% rejected the company's contract offer.

## Packaging love for the troops

As the seemingly endless occupation of Iraq grinds on, US troops are finding some very personal support from a Bay Area group that just wants the troops to know that somebody cares.

"Their Angels" is a Richmond-based group that gives one day a month and a

large dose of love to US troops, including those serving in Iraq. The group gathers on the first Saturday of each month at Hilltop Church of Christ in Richmond to stuff care packages with the little things that can help a lonely soldier get through the day: candy, razor kits, cross-

*continued on page 4*



'Their Angels' offer support

## Politics is money

Politics is about money. The candidates we elect will have a major impact—sooner or later—on the money we take home. Check out this month's special 28-page Candidate Survey to find out which candidates want to help us ... and which ones would be happy to step on our throats.

LEFT: Local 1245 Office Manager Tonya Alston (in IBEW sweatshirt) and some of her fellow angels gather on a recent Saturday to create care packages for the troops.

## Arcing and Sparking



Tom Dalzell  
BUSINESS MANAGER

## Participatory democracy in action

Participation in a contract ratification vote is one important way to measure the membership's involvement in the union. We often read of contract ratification votes in which less than half the eligible membership votes. Low turnout can be a sign that a union has failed to engage its members.

Good news: participatory democracy at both SMUD and Sierra Pacific Power is alive and well. In both cases, more than 80% of the members made the effort to vote. The driving forces were different, but the full engagement of our membership was the same.

At SMUD, management took a forward-thinking approach to negotiations. Difficulty in attracting and retaining skilled workers led management to recognize that SMUD wages had slipped in comparison to the market. In response, SMUD management took steps that were bold and decisive.

In return SMUD asked for and was given concessions on several issues. But these were issues in which market trends supported SMUD's arguments and the concessions that they asked for were neither extreme nor disproportionate.

Our membership at SMUD responded with an overwhelming "Yes" vote. By creating incentives and rewards, balanced with rational and modest concessions, SMUD and Local 1245 negotiators crafted an agreement that fully engaged our members.

Weeks later, our members at Sierra Pacific Power responded with an equally loud voice, but their message was "No." Sierra recently emerged from financial difficulties brought on by the energy crisis of 2001. The loyalty, sweat and talent of our members got the company through those trying times.

Sierra came to the bargaining table in 2005, its financial health restored, seeking major concessions. Its rationale for the concessions was never clear to our members, who could only surmise that

corporate greed was driving the company attack on benefits and wages.

In difficult negotiations, the Local 1245 bargaining committee was able to work with Sierra's negotiators to craft creative solutions to many of the issues where Sierra had proposed concessions. At the end, though, the package sent to the membership for ratification contained unacceptable concessions on wage and benefit issues.

Like their brothers and sisters at SMUD, our members at Sierra responded with an extraordinary turnout. Their answer was "No."

These ratification votes show tremendous involvement by Local 1245 members. The challenge ahead, especially at Sierra in the immediate future, is to harness that energy to achieve a contract that recognizes our members' contribution to the company's success.

## CALENDAR

- Sept. 30:** Outside Construction Service Awards, Bakersfield, CA
- Oct. 3:** Retirees Club, Santa Rosa, CA
- Oct. 5:** Retirees Club, San Jose, CA
- Oct. 11:** Retirees Club, Vacaville, CA
- Oct. 12:** Retirees Club, Dublin, CA
- Oct. 14:** 1245 Golf Tournament, Vacaville, CA
- Oct. 16:** Retirees Club, Merced, CA (Date is different from usual date for this month only)
- Oct. 17:** Nevada Voter Registration Deadline
- Oct. 23:** California Voter Registration Deadline
- Oct. 31:** Last Day to Request Absentee Ballot in Nevada
- Nov. 7:** GENERAL ELECTION; BE SURE TO VOTE!
- Nov. 17:** Service Awards, Petaluma, CA
- Nov. 18:** Stewards Conference, Petaluma, CA

## Utility Reporter wins top awards

IBEW Local 1245's newspaper, the Utility Reporter, was honored with five awards in the Labor Media contest sponsored by the International Labor Communications Association.

Competing with local unions nationwide, the Utility Reporter received first prize for Best News Story for a January 2005 story, "Confronting the High Cost of Living." The paper also won first prize for Best Collective Bargaining Story, "Moment of Truth," which recounted last year's wage negotiations with PG&E.

Both stories were written by Communications Director Eric Wolfe.

In addition, the Utility Reporter received the following prizes:

- Second Award in the Best Illustration competition for a caricature of Arnold Schwarzenegger as the Terminator in his attacks on teachers, nurses and other public employees, drawn for Local 1245 by artist Kathy Kifer.
- Third Award in the "Best Design" competition, perhaps reflecting the paper's recent change to a full-color format.
- Honorable Mention in the "Best Column" competition for Perry Zimmerman's "Helping Retirees Is In Everyone's Interest."



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Our Web Site can be viewed at [www.IBEW1245.com](http://www.IBEW1245.com).

Our phone number is (707) 452-2700.

## Union Made Savings for Cingular Wireless



New and existing customers **save 5%** on calling plans from Cingular, winner of the AFL-CIO's Union Lable & Service Trades Department 2003 Labor-Management Award.

To find out how to start saving visit [www.unionplus.org/Cingular](http://www.unionplus.org/Cingular)

## Unit change

**Unit 1219, Hollister**, has a new location beginning in October: Paine's Restaurant, 421 East St., Hollister.

*Mike Haentjens, Business Rep.*

**Unit 2318, Richmond** has a new meeting time effective in October: 4:00 pm.

*Lula Washington, Business Rep.*

## APPOINTMENTS

### US BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

#### Negotiating Committee

Tom McGahern  
Van Pender  
Pat Pipis  
Robert Skordas  
Dan Wyand

### SIERRA PACIFIC POWER

#### Ballot Committee

Michael "Scott" Hilderbrand  
Jim Pursel

### TRUCKEE DONNER PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

#### Negotiating Committee

Steve Murphy  
George Caballero  
Tami McCollum  
Mike Connell

### MERCED IRRIGATION DISTRICT

#### Negotiating Committee

Israel Haley  
Craig Tatum  
Jerrid Fletcher  
Ed Slown  
John Ellett

### CONFERENCES & CONVENTIONS

#### California Alliance for Retired Americans (CARA)

##### 3rd Annual Convention

Jack Hill  
Waite Anthney

#### IBEW-NECA Employee Benefits Conference

Ron Cochran

#### Inter-Union Gas Conference

Keith Hopp

#### Coalition of Labor Union Women National Executive Board Meeting

Dorothy Fortier  
Chris Habecker  
Anna Bayless-Martinez  
Gloria Flores  
Cecelia De La Torre

#### Nevada State AFL-CIO Constitutional Convention

Randy Osborn  
Chip Chadwick  
Vickie Borst  
Robert Vieira  
Pat Waite

#### APRI 37th Annual National Education Conference

Dorothy Fortier

#### IBEW Inter-Union Gas Conference

Jim McCauley  
Lou Mennel  
John Felts  
Bob Quinn  
Jim Findley  
Dennis Thompson

## SMUD Pact, continued from page 1

New employees hired after Jan. 1, 2007 and who obtain 25 years of service at retirement will pay 25% of medical plan for coverage, with the District paying 75%.

Other provisions of the agreement include:

- The Apprentice wage scale is increased, starting at 65% and moving to 95% of the journey level wage.
- Optional short term disability insurance will be offered to the employee and paid by the employee.
- All Mutual Aid overtime will be paid double time.

Art Torres served as judge of the election. Serving on the union's ballot committee were Carmen Guzman, Scott Hylton, Scott Sutherland, Paul Easley, Owen Yuen, Deno Correia and Jim Wilhelm.



**SMUD Ballot Committee** Tabulating the ballots in the recent ratification vote at the Sacramento Municipal Utility District were, from left, Scott Sutherland, Dino Corriea, Art Torres, Paul Easley, Carmen Guzman, Jim Wilhelm and Owen Yuen. Seated: Scott Hilton.



Photo by Lita Martin

United States Senator Barbara Boxer presents Perry Zimmerman with a framed copy of a tribute to his service that was read into the Congressional Record. Zimmerman retired as Business Manager of Local 1245 on Aug. 1. Boxer's tribute was one of many Zimmerman received at his retirement party on Aug. 26.



## Equity increases at WAPA

Members of Local 1245 working for the federal Department of Energy/Western Area Power Administration will receive wage increases and equity increases recently negotiated by Local 1245. The increases are as follows:

June 1, 2006: 3% equity increase.

October 1, 2006: 3% general wage increase.

April 1, 2007: 3% equity increase.

Negotiating for Local 1245 were Business Reps. Sam Glero and Ron Cochran.

## Wage hikes at City of Redding

Local 1245 members at the City of Redding Electric Department have ratified an agreement that raises wages 3.5% on Sept. 10 and another 3.5% following completion of the Department's certified training, which is estimated to be near the end of this year.

The wage adjustments are above and beyond the provisions of the current Memorandum of Understanding, which terms out in late August of 2008.

Senior Business Representative Larry Pierce assisted the union's committee, comprised of Dwayne Baker, Mark Larsen, Sean McCall, Bob Sandoval, and Business Representative Jack Osburn.

Utility Reporter

## TMWA preserves benefits

Members of Local 1245 ratified a new agreement with Truckee Meadows Water Authority that raises wages 11.5% over three years.

Members received a wage increase of 3.5% on June 1, and will receive 1.9% increases every six months during the final two years of the agreement. The agreement runs 37 months, from June 1, 2006 to June 30, 2009.

The agreement also has a provision for converting unused sick leave into a health savings account when members



Business Rep. Pat Waite

retire. Under this provision, any sick leave in excess of 700 hours at the time of retirement will go into a 401(h) plan.

Medical benefits for current employees will remain unchanged during the term of the agreement.

Negotiating for the union were Pat Kykendall, Steve Enos, Jeff Westwood, Dennis Romeo, Chris Hires and Business Rep. Pat Waite.

## New Agreement at City of Healdsburg

Local 1245 members ratified a new agreement with the City of Healdsburg that improves wages.

The Memorandum of Understanding, provides a 7% general wage increase retroactive to Jan. 1, Business Rep. Joe Osterlund reported. An additional wage increase of 6% is effective July 1, with a

7% increase effective July 1, 2007.

Wage increases tied to a cost-of-living formula—with a range of 3% to 5%—will be effective on July 1, 2008 and 2009.

On Jan. 1, 2007, the PERS retirement



Business Rep. Joe Osterlund

formula will be pegged at 2.5% at age 55, with employees to pay 3%. On July 1, 2007, employees will pick up an additional 3% co-pay on PERS.

## Shasta pact approved

A new four-year agreement with the City of Shasta Lake raises wages and improves the retirement formula.

General wage increases include 2% effective July 1, 2006, 3% effective July 1, 2007, 4% effective July 1, 2008, with an equity adjustment in 2009 to be calculated on the average lineman's base pay



Business Rep. Jack Osburn

for Lassen MUD, Trinity PUD, and Plumas Sierra REA, but in no event lower than the City of Redding lineman's base pay rate. In no case will the 2009 equity calculation result in a decrease of compensation. All City of Shasta Lake classifications will be indexed to this journeyman lineman rate.

Effective July 1, 2006 the Public Em-

ployees Retirement System formula will be 3% at age 60, with the employer making all contributions.

Other provisions include:

- On-call pay calculated at two hours regular pay per day paid at the employee's rate and based on a seven-day shift.
- Group insurance cap raised to \$1,268 monthly, with future increases beyond the cap paid 80% by employer and remainder paid by employee.
- Increased meal allowance for meals not taken to one hour at the appropriate overtime rate.

Negotiating for the union were Dave Vandermeer and Business Rep. Jack Osburn.

## Wages hiked at Lindmore ID

Wages at Lindmore Irrigation District will go up 3% a year for three years under the terms of a new agreement negotiated by Local 1245.

Medical benefits will remain un-



Business Rep. Bob Dean

changed. The pact took effect Sept. 1.

Negotiating for the union were Robert Rodriguez and Business Rep. Bob Dean.

## Correction

The July/August Utility Reporter got its wires crossed on page 4. The person identified as Mel Hambrick is actually Gary Abrahamson of the East Bay Chapter of the Local 1245 Retirees Club. Our apologies for the mix-up.



## PG&E backs landmark bill

# Greenhouse gas emissions targeted by new law

Leaders of the California Legislature and Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger agreed on Aug. 30 to legislation that will mandate a reduction in the state's emissions of gases contributing to global warming to 1990 levels by 2020.

The cut would target the state's biggest industrial emitters of greenhouse gases, including power plants. The legislation was supported by Pacific Gas & Electric, which worked with the governor's office and legislative leaders to achieve a package the utility could support.

Although the legislation is not expected to have any immediate impact on members of Local 1245, the state's need to develop new, cleaner technologies is likely to spur the creation of jobs in California's energy sector, which could ultimately lead to an increase in union jobs. Local 1245 members, of course, will benefit along with everyone else if the movement to cut emissions and slow down global warming is successful.

California leaders hope to spur other states, and ultimately the federal gov-

ernment, to follow the state's lead. The Bush administration was unenthusiastic about California's initiative, reiterating its philosophical opposition to global-warming caps.

## PG&E Shop Stewards: Please Help

All IBEW Local 1245 shop stewards are asked to have new bargaining unit employees at PG&E write their personnel ID numbers on the paperwork they fill out for the union.

PG&E's new SAP payroll system is driven by personnel ID numbers. Local 1245 now needs to provide the appropriate ID number when we send requests to the PG&E payroll department.

We are preparing to attach a short notice to each form going forward, but we want the existing paperwork to come in with those ID numbers.

It appears that each new hire is provided with their personnel number on the first day of work. New hires may also obtain the number through the PG&E Intranet by clicking on "My Stuff" and "About You".

## PG&E Benefits Open Enrollment

Union-represented employees at PG&E enjoy a comprehensive package of negotiated benefits. Open Enrollment is our annual opportunity to choose the options that best meet our individual and family needs.

Benefits Open Enrollment this year for current employees is tentatively scheduled for Nov. 3-16, although these dates are subject to change pending implementation of SAP.

For retired employees, Open Enrollment is Oct. 20 - Nov. 2.

Employees whose mailing address has changed since last year's Open Enrollment, or who plan to be on vacation during Open Enrollment, should call the HR Service Center at 1-800-788-2363.

## PG&E rate settlement

Pacific Gas and Electric, the California Public Utilities Commission Division of Ratepayer Advocates and the Coalition of California Utility Employees (CUE) in August filed a proposed settlement agreement in the company's 2007 General Rate Case.

CUE is a coalition of utility unions, including IBEW Local 1245, that represents the interests of utility workers in

regulatory matters.

The settlement agreement would provide additional base revenues of approximately \$213 million in 2007 to ensure sufficient funding for the upkeep, improvement and growth of PG&E's electric and gas distribution systems and its electric generation facilities. The additional revenues are not expected to result in a significant net change in customer electric and gas rates for 2007, as declines in other revenue requirements are expected to partially offset GRC-related adjustments.

## Packages, continued from page 1

word puzzles, powdered drinks, comic strips.

Each care package is carefully inspected to make sure it meets the guidelines for overseas mailing to the troops. Food items, for example, must be manufactured and sealed.

"We want the recipient to have peace of mind that these items are safe," said Their Angels volunteer Tonya Alston, whose day job is Office Manager at IBEW Local 1245 in Vacaville.

Alston learned about Their Angels through her church in Vallejo. Her son had recently served in the US Air Force and the idea of doing something to support the troops appealed to her.

The group got started in November of 2004, when Marva Lyons, operating out of the Hilltop Church, joined with others to write letters and cards to the troops. The following September, they stepped up their effort by adding material goods to their words of support.

Since then, more than 3,400 care packages have been assembled and mailed. Each package, consisting of a quart-sized baggie stuffed with goodies, contains a handwritten note and a themed napkin.

"For Labor Day, we did napkins with a flag on them," said Alston.

There are 50 packages per box to make sure that each person in the platoon receives a package.

Participants include those from military families, and some who are not. Kids sometimes help out, and their participation is welcomed.

"One of the parents or grandparents will show them what to do. We inspect each bag afterwards anyway, so we don't stress about it," said Alston.

Each package includes the group's



Packages contain words of encouragement along with the drinks, snacks and razor kits.



Fifty care packages go in each box. The group sends out 350 packages on average each month.

website and Lyons' e-mail address, and the Angels have received many appreciative notes from US troops around the world.

Despite the growing controversy over the continued US occupation of Iraq, the politics of the war doesn't much concern the Angels, according to Alston.

"It doesn't matter what your particular politics are regarding the war, those troops are there doing a job and they need to know they have the support of their countrymen and women," Alston said. "Most of these folks have sons in the military. They just want their child to come home."

## Mirant contract provides security

Two contracts between Mirant and PG&E have improved the job security picture for Local 1245 members at Mirant.

Under the contracts, Mirant will provide power from its natural gas-fired Pittsburg and Contra Costa power plants to PG&E. PG&E has contracted for approximately 2,000 megawatts of capacity for varying terms beginning in 2007. Mirant earlier had filed a notice of intent to shut down Pittsburg Unit 7 and Contra Costa Unit 6, but now will withdraw that notice.

"These agreements are critically important to IBEW employees at Mirant because they ensure that no employees will face layoff, voluntary or otherwise, this year or the foreseeable future," said Local 1245 Business Rep. Hunter Stern. The agreements also provide evidence that the company can continue efforts to turn around its business in California, he said.



Their Angels founder Marva Lyons with some youthful helpers.



## What about the “retired team”?

*Editor's note: The following letter from retiree Jim Haslouer was originally sent to PG&E CEO Tom King. It is excerpted here with Haslouer's permission.*

Dear Mr. King,

I am a retired Electric Crew Foreman with over 35 years of service. I write to you because I believe that you are an innovative and take-care-of-business type of guy.

In today's corporate environment, stockholder and employee alike have lost faith in the “big company.” You know as well as I that the image of the company is only as stable as the decisions made by executives and employees alike. We have been at the cutting edge of both technology and innovative ideas, and have set the bar for other utilities. There is an opportunity for PG&E to step to the front of the pack.

In the past we were all part of the same *family*. Now the new buzz is, “Let's all be part of the *team*.” Well, there is a forgotten group of alumni that have fallen through the cracks. And that is the “retired team.” We are in dire straights financially and economically.

When you retire, if you're of the worker-bee clan, PG&E pretty much kicks you loose; you have to pay a large

portion of your medical premiums, and there is no longer any vision or dental in your plan. Of course you can purchase an optional plan that will cover you and your spouse for dental and vision. However, this option is out of the financial reach of a large percent of the retirement community.

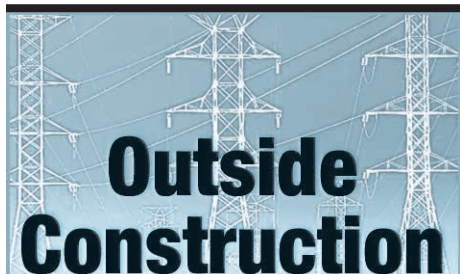
PG&E is a stock-driven entity and, as we both know, business is business. PG&E has been able to pass off the cost of inflation and the cost of doing business to recoup their dollars. However, we—the retirees—do not have the avenues, nor the resources, to pass on our ever-increasing expenses.

Mr. King, you are the CEO of the largest utility this side of New York. You could slam your hand down and say, “This is deplorable and ludicrous. Our retired employees deserve a better deal!” What a concept. Corporate executives taking that giant step forward by taking care of “that old team.” The team that helped us get to where we are today.

The “retired team” should be seen as an asset and not a biodegradable item. Taking steps to ensure a safe and secure future for the retirees would be a tremendous boost in the public image arena for PG&E. We have a considerable budget for our image. Why not spend it on an extremely valuable asset, the “retired team.” Every retired person is involved in his or her community. You name it, we're in it. We can reach out and be heard by hundreds—no, thousands—of people. Boy, did we work for the best company in the hemisphere or what?

*James Haslouer, Merced, CA*

Send letters to: Utility Reporter Letters, IBEW 1245, PO Box 2547, Vacaville, CA 95896. Note: We can't print personal attacks or letters dealing with union politics. Opinions expressed in letters are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of IBEW Local 1245.



The month leading up to Sept. 13 we had 67 calls for Journeyman Lineman; 24 calls for Apprentice Lineman; 1 call for Equipment Specialist; 14 calls for Groundman; 2 calls for Cable Splicers; and 1 call for UG Tech.



**Ron Cochran**

Total crews working:

Outside Line:	72 crews
Underground Tech:	17 crews
Pole Test & Treat:	46 crews
Signal Workers:	40 workers
Tech Workers:	57 workers

Utility Reporter

The books:

Lineman 1:	6
Lineman 2:	9
Lineman 3:	2
Lineman 4:	11
Groundman 1:	14
Groundman 2:	11
Groundman 3:	17
Groundman 4:	78
Equipment Specialist 1:	7
Equipment Specialist 2:	4
Equipment Specialist 3:	5
Cable Splicer 1:	1
Cable Splicer 2:	0
Cable Splicer 3:	2

There are 346 apprentices registered in JATC, of which 59 are working out of Local 1245.

Next joint safety meeting in Vacaville is Nov. 15.

Joint Apprenticeship Trustee Committee has asked me to find property in greater Sacramento, Woodland, Vacaville area for Apprentice Training Facility.

*Ron Cochran, Business Representative*



## Eureka, CA

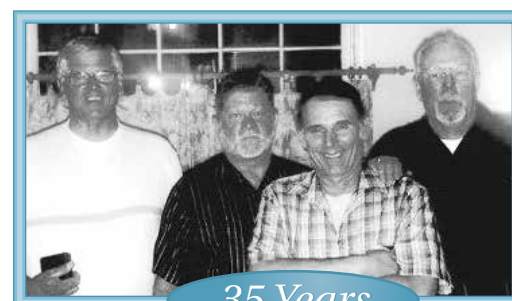
June 9, 2006



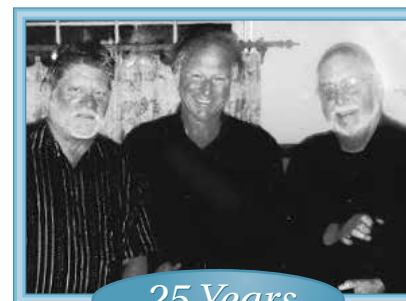
Gerald Bayless, left receives 60-year award from Business Rep. Richard Cowart.



40 Years



35 Years



25 Years

### THE HONOREES

60 Years

Gerald Bayless

40 Years

Robert Gibbs  
Roy Lewis  
MW Murray  
Robert Perry

Michael Rudick  
Henry Waely

35 Years

Donald Davis  
Lew Holst  
William Hough  
Barry Jensen  
Lynn Tackmier  
David Vigil

30 Years

Loren Ferguson

25 Years

David Brouzes  
Steven Jones  
Lloyd Mc Clelland  
Robert Seward  
Thomas Torgersen



**LEFT:** President Mike Davis convened the meeting in the traditional location for the August gathering: Reno, Nev.

**RIGHT:** Sam Tamimi, recently named as Local 1245's new Senior Assistant Business Manager, reported on the status of various grievances that have moved up the ladder.



**LEFT:** Dennis Thompson, representative for San Jose, asks a question concerning the division of responsibility between Title 200 and 300 classifications at PG&E Garage.



**RIGHT:** Brian Kapaun, an alternate representing PG&E General Construction, asks Sam Tamimi about SAP-Payroll.



**LEFT:** Assistant Business Manager Howard Stiefer reported on organizing.

**RIGHT:** Grove representative for Stockton Division of PG&E, City of Lodi, discussed a problem with classification. Resource Co.



**LEFT:** Tom Cornell (seated between Vice President Art Freitas, left, and Southern Area Member Dave Scott, right) attends his first Advisory Council meeting as an Executive Board member.

**RIGHT:** Assistant Business Manager Howard Stiefer reported on possible regulatory action to mandate additional fall protection.



**LEFT:** Lee Thomas, left, representing Humboldt Division at PG&E, confers with Terry Andreucci, representing Drum Division of PG&E, Plumas Sierra REC, and City of Roseville.



**RIGHT:** Assistant Business Manager Dennis Seyfer reports on contract settlements at various employers.

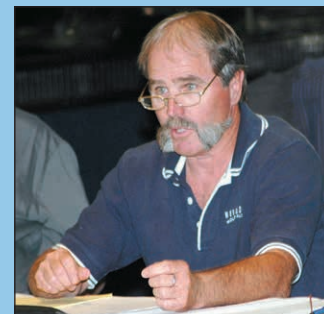


**LEFT:** Line Clearance Tree Trimmer Representative Carl Lamers reported that Local 1245 prevailed in an arbitration against EPA Provco in a wrongful termination dispute.

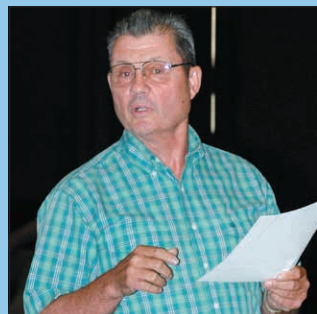
**RIGHT:** Dave Morrison represents Frontier on the Advisory Council.



**LEFT:** Chip Chadwick attends his first Advisory Council meeting as the Nevada representative.



**RIGHT:** John Harper represents Shasta Division of PG&E, City of Redding, Lassen Municipal Utility District, Shasta Dam Area Public Utility District, and Bella Vista Water District.



## Local 1245 members heat up parades

### Hot Stix Drill Team

Members of the Local 1245 Advisory Council got a break from the usual order of business when the Sierra Pacific Hot Stix Drill Team gave a surprise performance. As an amazed Advisory Council looked on, the Drill Team marched around the meeting room in a variety of formations, brandishing modified hot sticks to the beat of patriotic music.

Hot sticks, of course, are the tools that lineman have traditionally used to work on live conductors.

The drill team, composed of Local 1245 members, was organized 10 years ago and has performed in a variety of venues, including Veterans Day Parades in Virginia City and Reno, a Fourth of July Parade in Susanville, and the Butte Mountain Arm Pit Festival ("That was interesting," remarks team member Leslie Stephan).

The team has also performed in Hawthorne, Austin, Winnemucca, Tonopah, Elko, Sparks, Gardnerville and Mindin. In California, the team has put in appearances in Truckee as well as the Doo-Dah Parade in Pasadena. In case you don't know about the



Doo-Dah Parade, "It's Mardi Gras and the Reno Pride Parade rolled into one," the team explains.

**LEFT, PICTURED FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:** Rita Weisshaar is a Working Foreman, with 20 years in the union. Clerical Rep Kiki Lockhart has 4 years in the union. Customer Service Reps in the group are Vickie Borst, 25 years, and Leslie Stephan, 3 years. Other Local 1245 members in the group, but unable to attend the Advisory Council performance, are Customer Service Reps Alice Cherry and Tracy Kuykendall. Denise Stone, who is not a member of the bargaining unit, is also part of the team.

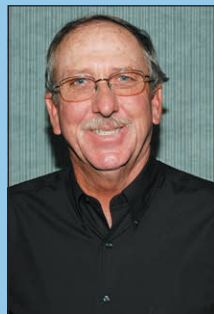


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**LEFT:** Mike Cottrell is the new "At Large" member of the Executive Board.



**RIGHT:** Business Rep. Darryl Norris discusses Regional Transit issues with Advisory Council Member Bill Gilliam.



**LEFT:** Assistant Business Manager Dorothy Fortier reported on PG&E issues relating to Resource Management Center positions and vacation scheduling.



**LEFT:** Bill Gilliam, representing Sacramento Regional Transit, discussed recent efforts to create a state approved apprenticeship for Bus and Rail.

**RIGHT:** Rich Perry reported that bargaining opens in October at the US Bureau of Reclamation.



**LEFT:** Gloria Flores represents PG&E Clerical at Large.

**RIGHT:** Dan Mayo, representing San Joaquin Division of PG&E, has this to say about Tom Dalzell, the new business manager: "Tom gets results."



**LEFT:** John Felts reported on contractors doing Local 1245 work at TransCanada.

**RIGHT:** Larry Rodriguez reported that there is no progress in the protracted negotiations with Alameda Power and Telecomm.



**LEFT:** Bob Quinn, representing PG&E San Francisco Division and General Office, dissects some company literature.



Former Business Manager Perry Zimmerman slices a cake presented to him by the union to honor his service. Recording Secretary Chris Habecker helps serve up the slices shortly before the lunch break. No one lost any weight on that particular Saturday in August.



Lou Mennel pays tribute to Zimmerman.

## Praise for Perry

Lou Mennel, representing Sacramento Division of PG&E, was one of several Advisory Council members to praise the work of Perry Zimmerman. Here's what Mennel had to say:

*I am sad that Perry Zimmerman retired.*

*He ran and won for Business Manager at a time when I was just starting to get involved with the union. In my first 18 years with the*

*company I never met any business managers. I didn't think you were supposed to.*

*Perry, you weren't just the picture in the Utility Reporter. At any time that picture would come to life and you would walk by and meet the members.*

*People had a lot to say about you, most of it positive. The one question I never got was: who is our business manager?*

*Thank you for all you have done for me and my union.*



Zimmerman expresses gratitude to the union for the opportunity to serve.

## Dalzell pledges to "sharpen focus"

# Continuity ... and change

Local 1245 members can expect both continuity and change from the union's new leadership.

Business Manager Tom Dalzell told the union's Advisory Council that he intends to continue the emphasis on member contact that was championed by his predecessor, Perry Zimmerman. At the same time, Dalzell pledged to increase the union's focus on the one activity that has the greatest impact on the union's membership as a whole: collective bargaining.



Business Manager Tom Dalzell

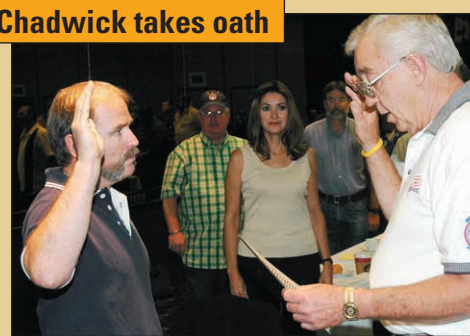
Dalzell told the Advisory Council that he endorsed Zimmerman's commitment to having close contact with the members.

"Nobody did it better than Perry," Dalzell said. "If I can do half the job Perry's done I will be happy."

Dalzell said he would continue Zimmerman's policy of designating business representatives to focus on two groups that traditionally have been difficult to serve due to their mobility: members in line clearance tree

*continued on following page*

## Chadwick takes oath



Chip Chadwick, left, was sworn in to the Advisory Council by President Mike Davis at the meeting in Reno on Aug. 12. Chadwick, employed by Truckee Meadows Water Authority, replaces Tom Cornell, who was recently appointed to the union's Executive Board. Chadwick will represent members in the most eastern part of the union's jurisdiction, including Sierra Pacific Power, Truckee Meadows Water Authority, Wells REA, Mt. Wheeler Power, and the City of Fallon.

**Dalzell**, continued from previous page trimming and members in PG&E's General Construction workforce.

At the same time, Dalzell plans some initiatives of his own, including "sharpening up our game on negotiations."

"I was and continue to be impressed with our negotiators," said Dalzell, a reference to the many negotiating committees that have tangled with management across the bargaining table during the past couple of years.

Dalzell pledged to use every available tool in support of the union's bargaining teams, including greater use of account-

ing and actuarial experts, and leveraging regulatory bodies when possible.

He reminded Advisory Council members that incremental changes won at the bargaining table may not make splashy headlines, but add up in people's paychecks and make a big difference over the years.

On a personal note, Dalzell lauded the late Joe Valentino as a business representative who had been a "friend and source of strength to the last three business managers" before his untimely death in 1993 at age 46.

## News round-up

Recent developments at PG&E discussed by Business Manager Tom Dalzell at the Advisory Council include:

**Automated Metering Infrastructure (AMI)** won approval in July, clearing the way for Pacific Gas & Electric to install the new technology throughout its system. The company plans to begin in the Bakersfield area and work their way up the valley. PG&E and Local 1245 continue to hold talks over the impact on Local 1245 Meter Readers.

**PG&E Transformation** has been scaled back somewhat. Engagement in the process by IBEW-represented employees "has taken off some of the sharper edges of what they're trying to do," Dalzell reported.

**Front counters** at PG&E local offices have eased away from the brink of closure. Originally the company planned to close all 84 offices and lay off all 275 or so employees. PG&E later proposed keeping 13 offices open, preserving about 100 of the targeted jobs. Before the union could put that proposal out to a vote of the affected employees, however, various ratepayer groups put forward vigorous objections to any office closures, making any action unlikely for the immediate future.

**PG&E Fleet** will not be shut down, contrary to recent rumors. The company cannot get rid of Fleet during the term of

the current contract, Dalzell reported.

**Repographics** was the recent subject of a number of meetings with PG&E, during which the union and company clarified what PG&E's two "alliance partners" could and couldn't do in terms of copying and printing.

**Pension fund** contributions of \$250 million annually have been approved by the California Public Utilities Commission, helping to strengthen the fund.

**PG&E retirees** will continue to discuss retiree medical costs and pension benefits with management at an Oct. 11 meeting at Weakley Hall in Vacaville. Former Business Manager Perry Zimmerman will lead the union's efforts on behalf of retired members.

**South San Joaquin Irrigation District's** effort to annex PG&E assets failed to win approval by the Local Area Formation Committee in a June 16 vote. A municipalization campaign continues at the Sacramento Municipal Utility District, which is seeking to annex PG&E assets in Yolo County. A vote is scheduled for November. The union has opposed both takeover attempts based on the likely negative impact on Local 1245 members, Dalzell said.

Dalzell also reported on negotiations at numerous other employers, as reported in this and previous issues of the Utility Reporter.

## Forty-pole extension in Willow Creek Valley



Photo by Ray Thomas

### Lassen MUD

Line crews for Lassen Municipal Utility District were hard at it on the last day of August constructing a 40-pole extension in Willow Creek Valley approximately 20

miles north of Susanville, Ca. The extension is being built to serve a new customer.

This talented group of Journeymen Linemen and Apprentice Linemen work with distribution voltages ranging from 2400kv and 4160kv to 12 kv. Whether it's 100-plus degrees in August or below freezing in February with several

feet of snow on the ground, LMUD line crews do whatever it takes to keep the power on.

"This is the best damned group of

## Son of Tri-Dam member wins Sandoval Scholarship



Travis Wilson has won the 2006 Al Sandoval Competitive Scholarship Contest for his essay on the repeal of the Public Utilities Holding Company Act. The scholarship, worth \$2,000, is awarded each year to a son or daughter of a Local 1245 member. Wilson is the son of Debbie Wilson (second from right) and Jim Wilson, left, a 20-year Local 1245 member and Rov-ing Operator at Tri-Dam Project in Strawberry, Ca. Judging the essay contest was former Business Manager Jack McNally, right. Travis Wilson's essay appears below.

**Essay question:** With the passage of the new national energy bill and the repeal of the PUHCA (Public Utility Holding Company Act), what effect will it have on the utilities and union?

## Energy Act compromises service

By Travis Wilson

The signing of the new Energy Policy Act of 2005, on Aug. 8, 2005 is supposed to encourage energy efficiency and conservation, as well as promote renewable energy sources. In addition to this, the Energy Policy Act will reduce the United States' dependence on foreign energy sources, therefore increasing domestic production and expansion. All of those features probably sound great to most citizens, but one provision of this act is its repeal of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, which required utility holding companies to incorporate in the same state where they operated. When the new energy bill and the repeal of the PUHCA become effective on Feb. 8, 2006, geographic limitations on holding companies will be lifted and electric utilities could be bought by unrelated companies.

This new bill not only reduces some state regulation over utilities, but it compromises the service, safety, and reliability of the unions. With companies not in the business of electrical services suddenly seizing control of the utilities, the shift in interests will be easily seen. The well-being of the union and its workers, as well as the quality of services provided is no longer priority number one for the company. The number one interest now is simply turning a profit, regardless of the quality of the service provided, and most importantly, the safety of the electrical worker.

Electrical utilities have always been a public service. The worry now falls to the fact that this service is no longer provided just for the public, but rather to ensure the corporation that now owns utilities to turn the biggest profit. The most frightening factor is what these corporations may be willing to cut in order to see that their profit is made. Unfortunately most of these cuts will probably occur within the unions, affecting the workers most severely. The safety regulations currently upheld by the unions may disappear as the new owners, not knowing safety protocol due to their inexperience in the field, take shortcuts to lower costs.

Repealing the PUHCA along with the passage of the Energy Policy Act may appeal to those who wish to get their hands on holdings in electrical utilities, but it is the union worker who pays most dearly for this action. The new bill is meant to benefit the country in this time of great uncertainty toward the future of energy production. While the benefits have yet to be entirely noticeable, one can already see how the unions and utilities will not benefit from this new act.

linemen I have ever worked with!" says General Foreman John "J.D." Deal, a 31-year IBEW 1245 member.

Pictured, from left, are: Raymond "Cory" Kindle, 3rd Step Apprentice and one-year Local 1245 member; Jeffery "Craig" Lima, Foreman and 29-year Local 1245 member, Arthur "Tator" Lohr, Journeyman and 8-year Local 1245 member; Cort Cortez, 3rd Step Appren-

tice and 2-year 1245 member; Kevin "Scotty" Merrill, Foreman and 29-year Local 1245 member; Patrick "Shawn" Norvell, Journeyman and 6-year Local 1245 member and Tim Riddle, Journeyman PAR Lineman traveling in from IBEW Local 304. Not pictured: General Foreman John "J.D." Deal and Foreman Jim Lovercheck, an 18-year Local 1245 member.



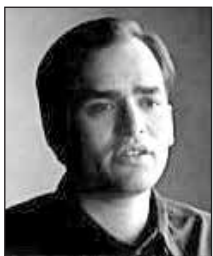
# Retirees' Corner



## Retirees to meet with PG&E Oct. 11

### Senate candidate addresses retiree concerns

Members of the Merced Chapter of the Local 1245 Retirees Club gave a warm reception on Sept. 5 to Wiley Nickel, Democratic candidate for state Senate in the 12th District.



State Senate candidate Wiley Nickel

Nearly 40 people were on hand to hear Nickel address a range of topics, focusing especially on the escalating cost of health care and the eroding effect of inflation on retiree pensions.

"This young man's view of our state needs is impressive, indeed," said Chapter President Gordon Borges, who extended the invitation to Nickel to address the club. "By day's end the vast majority of our IBEW retirees advocated the election of Wiley Nickel as State Senator of the 12th District."

Nickel's candidacy has been endorsed by Local 1245. In response to the union's survey of candidates, Nickel indicated his support for the union on a range of recent legislative issues, including hiking the minimum wage, public scrutiny of off-shore contracting,

preserving the right to take lunch breaks, and protecting public employee pensions.

### Meeting with PG&E

Retirees in Merced as well as the chapters in Vacaville, Santa Rosa, Dublin and San Jose are looking forward to meeting with PG&E officials Oct. 11 on the pressing issues of health care costs and pensions.

The meeting is a follow-up to a meeting last June, during which retirees discussed the hardships retirees are facing as medical costs go through the roof. PG&E officials promised to study the issue and present their findings in the fall.

The Oct. 11 meeting will be held at Weakley Hall in Vacaville.

### PERSONNEL



"There's an excellent pension plan, assuming we haven't figured out how to renege on it by the time you retire."

## Club membership is better deal than ever

### Restrictions removed on death benefit!

Good news for members of the Local 1245 Retirees Club! The age limit has been removed on the life insurance policy that all Retiree Club members automatically receive as a benefit of membership.

Now, regardless of your age, you and your spouse automatically qualify for the life insurance policy—also known as the death benefit—simply by maintaining your membership in the Retirees Club at an annual cost of just \$36. By the way, the spouse's membership is

included for free when the retired member pays the \$36 annual dues.

The life insurance policy provides \$1,000 to the beneficiary upon the death of the Retiree Club member. In the event that the spouse dies first, a benefit of \$500 is paid to the beneficiary. If the member dies first and the spouse continues to pay dues to the Retirees Club, the spouse's beneficiary is entitled to the full \$1,000 benefit upon the death of the spouse.

Retiree Club membership is a great deal. You receive the Utility Reporter, which always includes a report on retiree activity—including recent efforts to fight the ever-rising cost of medical insurance.

The Retirees Club is a fantastic bargain for former members of Local 1245. Check it out. Contact Office Manager Tonya Alston at 707-452-2718 or tfa3@ibew1245.com.

# Congratulations newly-retired members

The Local 1245 Retirees Club congratulates these recently-retired members of the union. We invite you to participate in a Retiree Club chapter in the East Bay, San Jose, Sacramento/Vacaville, Santa Rosa or Merced. If you don't have a chapter nearby, call the union at 707-452-2718 and find out how you can help start one!

- |  |  |   |   |
|--|--|---|---|
| Daniel Avila<br>22 years<br>Bakersfield, CA      | Wayne Malaspina<br>32 years<br>Stockton, CA          | Jack S. Freeman<br>27 years<br>San Leandro, CA    | Frederick J. Paxton<br>30 years<br>Ukiah, CA      |
| Robert Fairbanks<br>36 years<br>Petaluma, CA     | Leonard Mattos<br>32 years<br>Atwater, CA            | Antonio B. Garcia<br>26 years<br>Daly City, CA    | Andrew J. Peterson<br>26 years<br>Dublin, CA      |
| Walter Janson<br>40 years<br>Lodi, CA            | Jose Rodriguez<br>31 years<br>Freemont, CA           | James Goforth<br>40 years<br>El Dorado Hills, CA  | Thomas A. Powell<br>27 years<br>Hayward, CA       |
| Lawrence Lancaster<br>35 years<br>Pacifica, CA   | Richard Silva<br>21 years<br>Santa Rosa, CA          | Salvador Gonzalez<br>31 years<br>Modesto, CA      | Adan F. Real<br>33 years<br>Fresno, CA            |
| Frank Lathrop<br>35 years<br>Clovis, CA          | Raymond Sinosky<br>36 years<br>Martinez, CA          | Fenwick Y. Hill<br>28 years<br>Oakland, CA        | Anthony A. Santos<br>33 years<br>Daly City, CA    |
| Pedro Lozano<br>36 years<br>Ukiah, CA            | Stephen Staat<br>27 years<br>Grover City, CA         | Ervin Hill, Jr.<br>31 years<br>Oakland, CA        | Alden L. Seid<br>30 years<br>Concord, CA          |
| Ramon Patricio<br>36 years<br>Stockton, CA       | Keith R. Vancil<br>3 years<br>Freemont, CA           | Danny R. Koehler<br>32 years<br>Nipomo, CA        | Stanley B. Simonds<br>22 years<br>Ridgefield, WA  |
| Alfredo Salinas<br>32 years<br>Fremont, CA       | Larry Warden<br>34 years<br>Yerington, NV            | Rudy M. Lopez<br>32 years<br>Vacaville, CA        | John A. Sunseri<br>32 years<br>Rohnert Park, CA   |
| Gordon Vallo<br>33 years<br>Medford, OR          | William Whitney<br>34 years<br>Willits, CA           | Barbara J. Martinelli<br>22 years<br>Millbrae, CA | Rocky W. Trujillo<br>34 years<br>San Leandro, CA  |
| Elnona Walker<br>32 years<br>Oakland, CA         | James A. Willis<br>34 years<br>Orofino, ID           | William M. Medina<br>26 years<br>Union City, CA   | Sandra D. Weaver<br>25 years<br>Burney, CA        |
| Alan Watson<br>34 years<br>Elk Grove, CA         | Robert Allbright<br>28 years<br>Cross Plains, IN     | Cesar Mendoza<br>33 years<br>Dinuba, CA           | Harold J. Young<br>34 years<br>Pacifica, CA       |
| Richard Wilson<br>26 years<br>Round Mountain, CA | Norman Babin<br>35 years<br>San Francisco, CA        | Ronald D. Niederbrach<br>41 years<br>Eureka, CA   | Douglas E. Bock<br>44 years<br>Angwin, CA         |
| Dwight Yocum<br>39 years<br>Fresno, CA           | Gerald Beasley<br>28 years<br>Jerome, ID             | Kenneth R. Oconnell<br>34 years<br>Modesto, CA    | James L. Butterfield<br>10 years<br>Antioch, CA   |
| Al Zazzeron<br>21 years<br>Alameda, CA           | William M. Bonds<br>30 years<br>Merced, CA           | David E. Owen<br>37 years<br>Chico, CA            | Rick B. Chadband<br>25 years<br>Sta Margarita, CA |
| David Albright<br>23 years<br>Colfax, CA         | Robert M. Budesilich<br>29 years<br>Danville, CA     | <i>continued on page 10</i>                       |   |
| Jay Benson<br>34 years<br>San Ramon, CA          | Peter E. Callaghan<br>39 years<br>San Jose, CA       |   |   |
| Lorenzo Cordova<br>35 years<br>Bakersfield, CA   | Leonardo H. Coronel<br>23 years<br>San Francisco, CA |   |   |
| Daniel Drouillard<br>33 years<br>Placerville, CA | Morris E. Cuartero<br>32 years<br>Pinole, CA         |   |   |
| Richard Eckhart<br>31 years<br>Gilroy, CA        | Myron K. Dong<br>31 years<br>San Francisco, CA       |   |   |
| Leslie Hallman<br>22 years<br>Alturas, CA        | Stephen N. Dutro<br>31 years<br>Cottonwood, CA       |   |   |
| Stanley Hatch<br>39 years<br>Fieldbrook, CA      | Philip A. Eaton<br>38 years<br>San Francisco, CA     |   |   |
| Jerry Hernandez<br>33 years<br>San Jose, CA      | Joseph A. Fillippelli<br>14 years<br>Ridgecrest, CA  |   |   |
| Gregory Ketchum<br>27 years<br>Bakersfield, CA   |  |   |   |

## Retiree Club Meeting Schedule

**East Bay Chapter:** 2nd Thursday each month, 10 a.m., IBEW Local 595, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin, CA

**San Jose Chapter:** 1st Thursday each month, 10 a.m., at IBEW Local 332, 2125 Canoas Garden, San Jose, CA.

**Vacaville/Sacramento Chapter:** 2nd Wednesday each month, 10 a.m., at IBEW Local 1245, 30 Orange Tree Circle, Vacaville, CA.

**Santa Rosa Chapter:** 1st Tuesday each month, 10 a.m., at IBEW Local 551, 2525 Cleveland Ave., Suite B, Santa Rosa.

**Merced Chapter:** 1st Tuesday each month, 10 a.m., Merced Senior Community, 755 W. 15th Street., Merced. The October meeting has been changed to Oct. 16.

## Notice regarding agency fee payers objection plan

Any employee who is not a member of the IBEW and who pays agency fees to IBEW Local 1245 pursuant to a union security provision in Local 1245's collective bargaining agreement has the right to object to expenditures of fees for activities which are not reasonably related to collective bargaining or undertaken to advance the employment-related interests of employees represented by the Local. The agency fees paid by a fee payer who perfects an objection will be reduced by an amount reflecting the portion of the overall expenditures of the Local Union that are used for non-chargeable activities.

Objections must be made annually and will be effective for a single calendar year. Each fee payer who wishes to file an objection with Local 1245 must do so in writing, addressed to the Business Manager, Local 1245, Post Office Box 2547, Vacaville, California 95696, by certified mail. In registering their objections, objectors must state their name and address and that they pay fees to this Local, and provide their nonmember identification number, if known, and their social security number. Objections must be postmarked during the month of November preceding the calendar year for which the objection will be in effect, or during the first thirty days after the objector commences paying fees to the Local Union as required by a collective bargaining agreement. Objections must be renewed annually, during the month of November.

## Retirees, continued from page 9

David B Chan 36 years Daly City, CA	James L Hankins 30 years Hercules, CA	Cecil E McLemore 27 years Brentwood, CA	Mike T Sharp 37 years Klamath Falls, OR
Edward Chin 33 years Petaluma, CA	Lee S Haring 31 years Bakersfield, CA	David D Meier 18 years Cloverdale, CA	Curt P Smith 34 years Manteca, CA
William M Culligan 15 years Salinas, CA	Arthur P Hein 40 years Pleasanton, CA	Michael J Nelson 27 years Newcastle, CA	Ernesto M Sotto 30 years Redwood City, CA
Dave C De Cloedt 27 years San Jose, CA	Donald G Hescocock 22 years Grass Valley, CA	Michael A Newsom ? years Atascadero, CA	L A Swisher 14 years San Luis Obispo, CA
James L Dean 40 years Chico, CA	Clyde Howe 39 years Placerville, CA	Wade C Null 10 years Clovis, CA	Joyce A Wallace 29 years Clearlake, CA
Raymond L Denson 42 years Bellingham, WA	Frederick L Hubbard 38 years Napa, CA	Richard A O'Connor 35 years Antioch, CA	Charles E Williams 9 years Stockton, CA
Donald T Ericksen 32 years Hayward, CA	Marcus W Hunzicker 30 years San Francisco, CA	Peter O'Driscoll 39 years S San Francisco, CA	Joseph V Wisner 30 years Martinez, CA
Anthony A Escalante 33 years Livermore, CA	Everet A Keller 17 years Eagle Point, OR	Pamela E Peltier 18 years Daly City, CA	Alan T Yoshikawa 15 years San Jose, CA
Henry S Garcia 38 years Placerville, CA	Paul A Leonardo 35 years Merced, CA	Annette C Primus 28 years San Francisco, CA	David R. Zoller 22 years Fall River Mills, CA
Patrick M Gleeson 32 years Sebastopol, CA	Mary Lombardo 26 years Aptos, CA	Jesse A Puente 31 years Fresno, CA	
Joseph D Green 35 years So. San Francisco, CA	Kenneth R Low 30 years So San Francisco, CA	Marion C Quitiquit 37 years Lucerne, CA	
		Robert F Reyes 31 years Bakersfield, CA	

**Congratulations Retirees!**  
We want you to stay connected



to IBEW 1245.

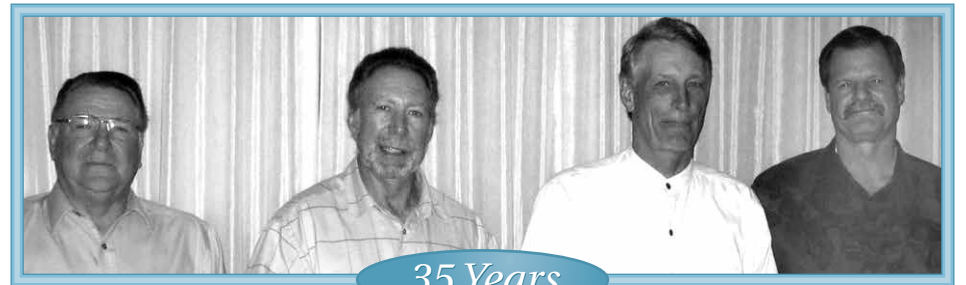


## Reno, NV

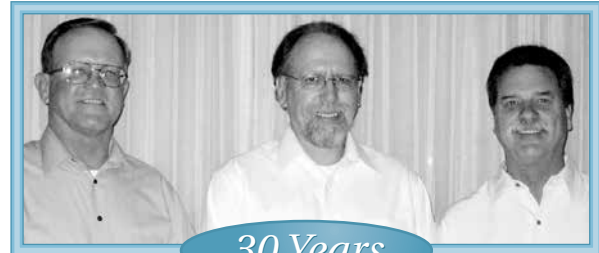
April 8, 2006



Edward Ahlf, left, receives award from Assistant Business Manager Dennis Seyfer.



35 Years



30 Years



25 Years

## THE HONOREES

**65 Years**  
Stanley Rhoads

**50 Years**  
Edward H. Ahlf

**45 Years**  
John Anderson

**40 Years**  
Dennis Berg  
Ronald Borst  
Kenneth Hawkins  
Darell "Tom" Heyl  
Robert Vieira  
James Walker

**35 Years**  
Daniel Clancy  
Joseph Gandolfo  
Joseph Martin  
William Mcmillen  
Gary Rials

**30 Years**  
Rodney Cragg  
Gregory Orr  
James Thomas

**25 Years**  
Darryl Abraham  
Arletta Abraham  
Margaret "Mickie" Baryol  
Robert Belles  
Vickie Borst  
Clarence Brooks, Jr.

Alan Draper  
Robert Ford  
Jeanne Gunnell  
Greg Irwin  
Kevin Kerr  
Karen Kostenbader  
Howard Landis  
James Lappin  
Danny Lyday  
Mike Mc Govern  
David Misanik  
Carmen Morley  
Darlene Moyle  
Betty Quinn  
Santiago Salazar  
Paris Shipley  
Nick Silva  
Brian Vaillancourt  
John Weller

## Save on Union-Made Clothing

Save 5%–10% when you buy union-made clothing. Find the union label on everything from jeans to dresses to socks from three providers of union-made apparel by visiting

[www.unionplus.org/Clothing](http://www.unionplus.org/Clothing)



# SERVICE AWARDS



## Pacifica, CA

July 28, 2006



Rennie Moniz, left, receives 40-year award from Business Rep. Hunter Stern.



25 Years



Photos: Landis Marttila



35 Years



30 Years



### THE HONOREES

#### 50 Years

William Atkins

#### 40 Years

Erik Larsen  
Renwicks Moniz

#### 35 Years

Norman Babin  
Edward Broussard  
Sharon Chan Ong  
Richard Colgate  
Theresa Dai  
Paul Davis  
Donald Garrett  
Joseph Green  
George Harrington  
Lawrence Lancaster  
Steve Lucido  
Larry Magee  
George Mathis  
James Ng  
Everlyn Parangan  
Robert Quinn  
John Sander  
Mark Sorich  
Roberto Torres  
Steve Walker  
Douglas Wolff  
Robert Young

#### 30 Years

William Bouzek, II

Mildred Cababaan

Vicky Carney  
Carolyn Collins  
Ronald Dere  
Erlinda Ferrando  
Brian Finlayson  
David Fong  
Donald Fujimoto  
James Hankins  
Marcus Hunzicker  
Carl Jackson  
Warren Jee  
Susan Lee  
Cheryl Lewis  
Michael Mentzer  
Thelma Moore  
Pacifco Panis  
Agridino Pautin  
Wing Quock  
Alden Seid  
Ernesto Sotto  
Richard Surina  
Noel Tamayo  
Richard Thurman  
Joseph Wisher, Jr.  
Ping Wong

#### 25 Years

John Adams, Jr.  
Alfredo Agorilla  
Donna Ashley  
Elisa Cabatic  
Gordon Callaghan  
Elena Campbell

Michael Chan  
Larry Cordova  
John Dianos  
Rochelle Flax  
Christina Fong  
F Galea  
Victoria Gonzalez  
Kenneth Hockaday  
John Katich  
Edwin Lanuza, Jr.  
Lyle Larson  
Susie Lee  
Cornell Lee  
Lana Lee  
Charles Lo  
George Louie  
Timothy Macaulay  
Larry Magnoli  
Raymond Mah  
Kyoko Mitchell  
Pati Nunemann  
James Orlando  
Michael Ouellette  
Laura Perez  
Robert Rael  
Gil-Soon Seo  
James Shanahan  
Margaret Singer  
William Tom  
Michael Velarde  
Edith Wan  
Sally Wong  
Wilma Wong

# LONG LINE

Story and photo by Russ Rylee



After inspecting the fiber optics line across Shasta Lake in Redding, Ca., PG&E Transmission Lineman Greg Garretson and Transmission Apprentice Lineman Wes Palade recently installed missing marker balls.

Over the years, several of the large marker balls have deteriorated to the point of falling off. With the long line procedure available, these two lineworkers were able to inspect and remove what was left of the old marker balls.

After the inspection was complete, the new marker balls were installed where needed. This fiber optic line across the lake is approximately 1600 ft. and is above a 60kv/115kv twin circuit.

Dangling 60 ft. below a helicopter from PJ's of Red Bluff, the Table Mountain transmission crew flew to the towers on both sides and grounded the conductor before accomplishing the work. Without this work method being available, the job would have been extremely time consuming and labor intensive. By using the helicopter, the job was completed safely in approximately five hours.



## CONVENTION

Representing Local 1245 at the 37th IBEW Convention, held Sept. 11-15 in Cleveland, are, standing from left: Al Fortier, Art Freitas, Anna Bayless-Martinez, Landis Marttila, Mickey Harrington, Chris Habecker, Bob Choate, Linda Jurado, Jim McCauley, and John Mendoza. Seated from left: Eric Wolfe, Cecelia De La Torre, Gloria Flores, Tom Dalzell, and Dorothy Fortier.