

Inside:

Rodeo 4

Victories: TID, SMUD, MID

Dalzell: 2

Safety Summit

Pete Tololi: 2

In Memoriam

Employee Free Choice 3

Group 3 Missed Meals 3

Retirees Speak Up: 7
Benefits Matter!

Inaccurate Maps 8
Pose Hazard

SMUD Powerhouse 9

Asplundh Tree: 10
No Room For Error

Outside Construction 13
report

Sacramento 14
Service Awards

Unit Meeting Schedule 16

Financial Statement 18
for 2008

Prysmian: The Big Splice 20



Utility Reporter

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UNITY IS STRENGTH

For up-to-the-minute news, see our website: www.ibew1245.com

Union offers deal on retiree medical

PG&E bargaining

IBEW Local 1245 on May 5 responded to PG&E's "comprehensive final offer" on retirement medical benefits. The union's counter proposal would ease the burden of medical costs for retired union members and establish Retirement Medical Savings Accounts (RMSAs) to help fund medical benefits for future retired union members.

"Our proposal would do what we've proposed to do all along—give some relief to current retirees while creating a mechanism to help future retirees reduce their medical costs at retirement," said Business Manager Tom Dalzell. "Unlike the company's proposal, however, we have found a way to achieve this without placing a substantial new burden on active employees."

Costs have been a major sticking point in the negotiations. Under PG&E's final offer, the company proposed contributing about \$16.9 million in improvements overall, including improvements for non-bargaining unit retirees.

The union's counter proposal removes the non-bargaining unit retirees from the equation on the grounds that the union is only responsible for bargaining for IBEW.

For existing employees (future retirees), the union proposal accepts the creation of RMSAs, which are basically cost neutral and impose no additional burden on current union members. For current retirees, the union proposes that the company and the bargaining unit split the cost of improvements for current retirees, which would require increasing the co-payment that members pay on their medical premiums to 5%. The current co-payment is 3.75%.

PG&E had originally called for a 15% employee co-payment; its "comprehensive final offer" called for a 7.5% employee co-payment.

Bargaining was continuing as the Utility Reporter went to press on May 5. Please visit the union website at www.ibew1245.com for continuing updates.

Member honored for overpass rescue



IBEW Local 1245 member Joe Heberline shares information with the California Highway Patrol at the scene of the overpass rescue. Photo courtesy of California Highway Patrol.

Merced Irrigation District

Reluctant hero

By Eric Wolfe

It was Joe Heberline's day to be a hero. Ready or not. To hear him tell it, the whole thing was over almost before it started.

Heberline's act of heroism began around 1 p.m. on Feb. 27 when a California Highway Patrol officer waved him down by an overpass on Martin Luther King Jr. Way in Merced. Heberline, on temporary upgrade as a truck driver for the Merced Irrigation District, pulled over.

"I knew something was going on. The CHP stopped me and asked what I had in the back of the truck," Heberline recalled. "He didn't tell me what was going on."

The officer told Heberline to bring the truck closer to the overpass. Heberline complied.

"I had no clue what was going on. I just felt the guy fall in the truck," he said.

What was going on was this: A 35-year-old man, Raul Munoz, had abandoned his wheel chair on the overpass and then climbed over a guardrail. He was hanging onto it, ready to drop into traffic when CHP officer Greg Houser arrived on the scene. Houser grabbed the man by his jacket to keep him from falling.

continued on page 13

Setting priorities at Sierra (NV Energy)

Local 1245 members at Sierra Pacific Power began setting priorities for bargaining at unit meetings in April.

The North Lake Tahoe unit, meeting in Kings Beach, approved proposals concerning post retirement medical and line-of-progression modifications. The unit also called for an extension of the existing contract.

Proposals were also taken at meetings in Reno, Yerington, Winnemucca, Elko, Fallon, Carson City and South Lake Tahoe. The current agreement terms out at the end of the year.



Discussing bargaining priorities at the unit meeting in North Lake Tahoe are Line General Foreman Paul Grunenwald (in hat) and Field Clerk Mike Ferry.

Members in the North and South Lake Tahoe areas find themselves in the spotlight as the utility prepares to sell its California assets. On April 23, Sierra's parent company—NV Energy—

announced it would sell its California electric assets to California Pacific Electric Co. (Calpeco), a newly-formed company jointly owned by Algonquin Power Income Fund and Emera Inc.

Algonquin said it will offer to employ all current operation and customer service employees at the California utility, according to a report by Reuters news service.

PG&E's new wage

schedules are now available on-line at www.ibew1245.com. Go to the "Agreements" folder.

Wall Street pay is expected to return this year to 2007 levels. They drove their companies into the ground, let taxpayers bail them out, so apparently there's nothing left to do but collect their reward. (If it was up to you, wouldn't you set some conditions on how our bailout funds are spent?)

Tax the Traders:

As long as we're looking for revenue to close the huge federal budget deficit, why not tax the Wall Street traders who brought on all this grief in the first place? Economist Dean Baker says a modest financial transaction tax on all that stock flipping could raise approximately \$150 billion a year—and discourage the casino mindset that helped bring on the current economic crisis.

Get answers to your union questions at: www.ibew1245.com

Arcing and Sparking



Tom Dalzell
BUSINESS MANAGER

Safety

There is no issue that is more important to IBEW Local 1245 than safety. The founders of the IBEW had safety, not wages and hours and benefits, as their primary goal. Wages and hours and benefits are of course very important, but they mean nothing if a member doesn't come home one day because of an accident on the job.

Over the last two years, we have experienced a series of terrible, alarming accidents involving young linemen and apprentice linemen. Two have died, and two others were seriously injured. One serious accident is too many, let alone the multiple accidents we have seen.

A month ago, I was approached by several journeymen linemen and foremen who felt that we should take the initiative on safety instead of letting the employers single-handedly come up with an action plan. One lineman wrote me: "We know the work best, and we are the best equipped to diagnose the problems that are leading to these accidents and to recommend fixes." I could not agree more.

In response to these concerns, Local 1245 convened a lineman meeting in Vacaville on April 30 in an attempt to figure out what is going wrong and how to fix it. Linemen from PG&E, Sierra Pacific, SMUD, Truckee-Donner PUD, the City of Redding, Lassen MUD, Santa Clara, Alameda, Modesto Irrigation District, Turlock Irrigation District, and others came together with a single goal-make line work safer.

Much discussion, a few disagreements, and many suggestions came out

of this meeting. The linemen raised some concerns about the attitudes and practices of management at some of our employers. I fully understand that there are some in management who indirectly foster unsafe work practices, and I know that we are spending a great deal of time trying to reel in one Director who we see as an advocate for rule-breaking in the name of quick service restoration.

But the point of meeting with our linemen on April 30 was not to lambaste individuals in supervision and management; we are seeking solutions for a problem that is literally depriving our members of life and limb. In some cases those solutions will involve looking at ourselves, and the linemen at our meeting had plenty to say on that subject as well.

Our discussion included topics like self-discipline on the job, the role of foremen, and the tension between rules and productivity. We discussed apprenticeship training, attitudes among younger workers, and apprentice-journeyman ratios. We discussed the role of personal protective gear, inappropriate cell phone use, and the need for prompt reporting of accidents and near-misses to the Local 1245 Safety Committee so that we can learn from each other's mistakes.

There was easily a thousand years' of work experience gathered in that meeting room. Although people expressed differing opinions on a few specific matters, there was a broad consensus that we can do better, that we must do better.

Many recommendations came out of our meeting. Already we have begun the important work of considering these recommendations in more detail and figuring out the best approaches for implementing them. I deeply appreciate the concern, the experience and the intelligence that our linemen brought to this meeting, and I thank them for their insights and their service to this union and its members.

It is my hope that April 30 will be remembered as the day we began a process of real change that helps all of our members come home safely, not just today but every day.



Local 1245 President Mike Davis, left, on April 25 administered the oath to new Advisory Council members, from left, Pete Ely, Lauren Bartlett, Michelle Ramsey and Justin Sights. Ely, an employee at Davey Tree and 24-year IBEW member, will represent Line Clearance Tree Trimmers on the Council. Bartlett, a 16-year member, will represent members at Sacramento Regional Transit. Ramsey, a 7-year member, will represent NV Energy, Truckee Donner PUD, Mt. Wheeler Power, Wells REA, and the City of Fallon. Sights, an 11-year member, will represent Coast Valley Division of PG&E.

Saner, Taylor begin service as reps

Local 1245 has two new business representatives: Mike Saner and Mark Taylor. Both appointments were effective March 2.

Mike Saner, 49, is returning to the staff after serving as a temporary business representative in 2008. Initiated in 1985, Saner worked as a lineman and subforeman in PG&E General Construction. He was elected to the General Construction seat on the Local 1245 Advisory Council in 2004, and served on the bargaining committee for PG&E wage re-opener bargaining in 2005. His General Construction staff assignment covers the San Jose area, the Central Area (roughly, Oakland to Stockton), and from Sacramento north.

Mark Taylor, 55, a Traveling Control Technician at Diablo Canyon Power Plant, was initiated into the IBEW in 1978. He has represented Diablo Canyon employees

on the Advisory Council since 2000. His staff assignment is Diablo Canyon and PG&E Los Padres Division.

We wish Mike and Mark the best of luck in their new assignments.



Mike Saner



Mark Taylor

APPOINTMENTS

PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC

EMF Committee
Andrew Thompson

CONFERENCES

Coalition Of Black Trade Unionists
38th International Convention

Donald Hurdle
Sonji Wade

IBEW 9th District Progress Meeting
Tom Cornell

CALENDAR

May 16: Service Awards, San Luis Obispo, CA

May 16: Tree Trimmer Stewards Conference, Vacaville, CA

May 29: Service Awards, Bakersfield, CA

May 30: Service Awards, Merced, CA

June 2: Retirees Club, Merced, CA

June 2: Retirees Club, Santa Rosa, CA

June 4: Retirees Club, San Jose, CA

June 10: Retirees Club, Vacaville, CA

June 11: Retirees Club, Dublin, CA

July 2: Retirees Club, San Jose, CA

July 7: Retirees Club, Merced, CA

July 7: Retirees Club, Santa Rosa, CA

July 8: Retirees Club, Vacaville, CA

July 9: Retirees Club, Dublin, CA

Oct 17: Local 1245/Perry Zimmerman Annual Golf Tournament, Vacaville, CA

In memoriam: Peter Tololi

Local 1245 member Peter (Pete) Tololi, 36, died March 24 in a workplace accident in Firebaugh, CA.

Brother Tololi, a member of IBEW Local 1245 since 2007, was a PG&E Apprentice Lineman in Area 5. He was fatally injured when he fell from a pole while maneuvering around a cross-arm. Related information can be found on Page 8.

Local 1245 extends its deepest condolences to the family, friends and co-workers of Brother Pete Tololi.



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Tom Dalzell

Communications Director & Managing Editor
Eric Wolfe

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Our Web Site can be viewed at www.IBEW1245.com.

Our phone number is (707) 452-2700.



Got something to share with your fellow union members? Send signed letters to: Utility Reporter Letters, IBEW 1245, POB 2547, Vacaville, CA 95696. Please note that we cannot 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.

Take nothing for granted

Editor's note: This letter arrived April 29 in the form of an e-mail to Business Manager Tom Dalzell concerning the April 30 gathering of linemen in Vacaville to discuss safety. The letter is published with the writer's permission.

I applaud the linemen for taking responsibility for their own safety. I believe this is going to become even more critical for them as the company continues towards the consolidation of

the Transmission Centers.

I work in Hydro operations at Rock Creek Power House, and we already have 4 former TO's in our work group. Table Mountain has already lost 3 TO's and a fourth will retire before going to Vacaville. The loss of knowledge is staggering. Safety of the crews in the field is our #1 job in Operations, and it is disheartening to see how the Transmission group has been disassembled.

So, to my brothers, all the line crews, double check everything, take nothing for granted, hang your grounds, and go home safely every night.

*Jim Burke
Rock Creek Power House*

President puts citizens first

For all the opposition about taxing the wealthy back to pre-Bush levels, it's interesting to take note that during the 1950's and '60s, it took one income in a family to provide home ownership, raise kids, send them to college, have affordable health care and even buy a new car once in awhile. Both corporations and individuals were paying more in taxes and with many less loopholes.

'Group 3' Missed Meals update

Local 1245 members have begun to sign and return the releases that will enable Pacific Gas & Electric to start distributing "missed meal" payments to "Group 3" employees.

This is the third group of employees and former employees to receive offers of compensation in PG&E's on-going effort to ensure compliance with California state labor laws in the wake of recent court decisions.

Group 3 consists of current or former bargaining unit employees who may be eligible for payment for missed meals between June 1, 2004 and Aug. 31, 2007. These employees are from classifications that are normally scheduled to take an unpaid meal period. More than 6300 current and former "Group 3" bargaining unit employees received offers of compensation.

Letter Agreement 09-10, which can be viewed under the PG&E Letter Agreements tab on the Local 1245 home page, lists the specific classifications included in the current round of compensation offers.

Acceptance of the offer is voluntary. Employees who sign the release are to receive the specified amount of money within 30 days. (The 30-day deadline for filing an appeal has passed.)

Employees who submitted a timely appeal will be provided copies of their timecards (schedule to be announced later) to be reviewed on their own time. They will need to determine the number of missed meals according to the rules—to be jointly established by the

union and company—and then calculate the requested amount.

If the subsequent appeal investigation indicates the proper amount is higher than the amount stated in the award letter, the employee will receive the higher amount. If the appeal investigation indicates the proper amount is lower than the initial award, the employee will receive the lower amount. Disputed amounts will be submitted to a joint committee consisting of both management and union representatives.

As of April 6, nearly three-quarters of those receiving letters have responded. Of those, nearly 90% have accepted the offer, and signed and returned the release.

This is not the end of the Missed Meal process. There is an additional group consisting of current and former employees in 230 classifications who may be eligible for Missed Meal payments. The committee working on this project believes that offers should be ready to send to these employees—informally known as "Group 3, Phase 2"—in the next few weeks.

Vacaville unit

Unit 3812, Vacaville, has a new meeting time: 4:30 p.m. Meetings will continue to be on the second Wednesday of the month. Location remains Pietro's #2, 679 Merchant St. in Vacaville. The unit also has a new chair: Pat Colip. The recorder is Joe Stockel.

Darryl Norris, Business Rep.

During those times, America was really on the top of the standard of living on almost all fronts. Schools and highways were built and maintained, education was basically free (tuition at Sacramento State for me in 1970 was roughly \$150 a semester), and jobs paid well with almost total benefits. There were periodic recessions, but it didn't bankrupt very many individuals or industries.

I remember the wealthy still seemed to be very wealthy, corporations were doing very well, and the American Dream was a true experience for the majority – a real majority were middle class. Wages weren't low-balled, part-time jobs were for those who only

wanted to work part time and everything we wore, drove, used and ate was made right here in the U.S.A.

What happened to change all that? Reaganomics and the de-regulation, trickle-down Neo-con theory of economics; sending jobs and entire industries overseas, union-busting legislation, and the quick-profit mentality without regard for future stability, whether on main street or Wall Street.

I am glad we finally have a President who is putting the country and it's citizens above the profit of a few. It's too bad that many workers don't view their own interests over those of the well-to-do.

*Greg Kestel
Santa Rosa, CA*



Joining a rally in Stockton last month in support of Employee Free Choice were, from left, Max Phillips, and Local 1245 members Denise Phillips, Dan Scroggins, Diane Tatu, and Cecelia De La Torre.

Photo by Arlene Edwards

Employee Free Choice Act

Let workers decide for themselves

Joining together in a union to bargain for health care, pensions, fair wages and better working conditions is the best opportunity working people have to get ahead.

Today, good jobs are vanishing and health care coverage and retirement security are slipping out of reach. Only 38% of the public says their families are getting ahead financially and less than a quarter believes the next generation will be better off.

But workers who belong to unions earn 28% more than nonunion workers. They are 52% more likely to have employer-provided health coverage and nearly three times more likely to have guaranteed pensions.

All workers should have the freedom to decide for themselves whether to

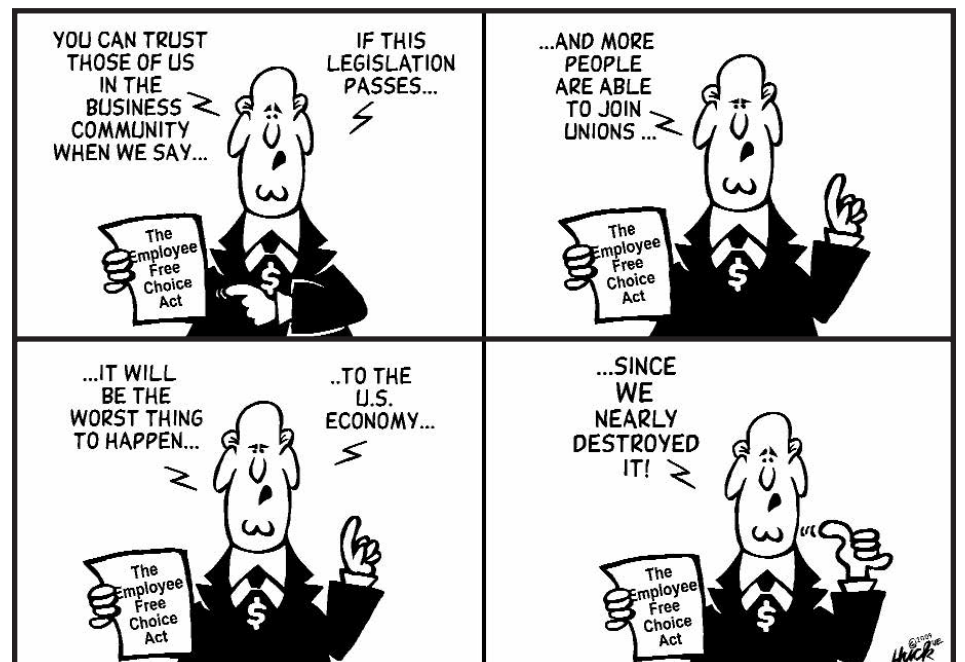
form unions to bargain for a better life.

Senator Dianne Feinstein of California has supported employee free choice in the past, but now she says she's on the fence. Dozens of Local 1245 members have already written Senator Feinstein this spring to urge her to support the Employee Free Choice Act.

Join the fight. Urge Feinstein to support Employee Free Choice. Call Senator Feinstein at (202) 224-3841. Tell her staff you want Feinstein to support Employee Free Choice. That's all you have to say.

Or write her at:

Senator Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

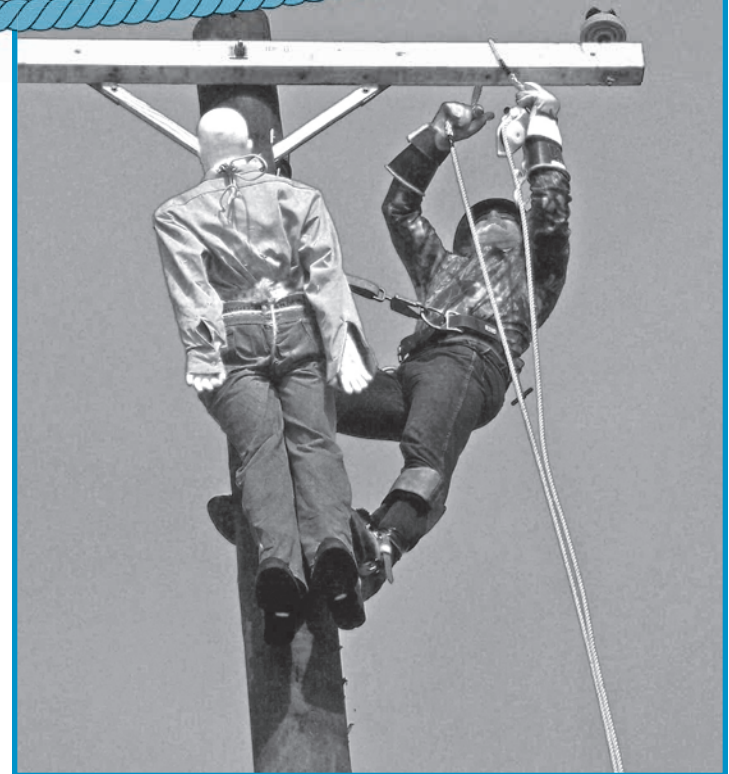


**Turlock Irrigation District
nabs top honor at
Lineman Rodeo**

'A Fine-Tuned Machine'



That fine-tuned TID machine, displaying its trophies, from left: Josh Klikna (Apprentice) and Journeymen Mark Pickens, Dustan Krieger, Bryan Lovio and Dennis Mattos.



Mark Pickens competes in the Hurt Man Rescue for Turlock Irrigation District, which took third place in the event.



Apprentice Klikna is presented his award as second-best apprentice in a field of 66.



Mark Pickens, left, and Dustin Kreiger compete in the Deadend Transfer for Turlock Irrigation District, finishing third.



TID photos by Bryan Lovio and Dennis Moon

Apprentice Josh Klikna competes in the Rope Toss for Turlock Irrigation District.

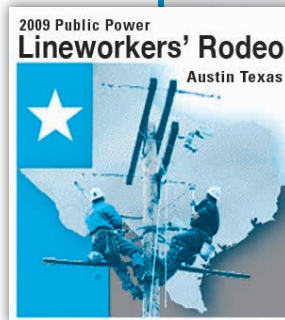


Dustin Kreiger, left, and Mark Pickens compete in the Transformer Change Out for Turlock Irrigation District, finishing third.



Dennis Mattos competes in the Transformer Change Out for Turlock Irrigation District.

Rodeo!



Modesto Irrigation District, SMUD also win prizes

Story by Eric Wolfe

Local 1245 members at Turlock Irrigation District proved themselves top dog at the ninth annual Public Power Lineworkers' Rodeo, held March 20-21 in Austin, Texas.

The Turlock team, consisting of Linemen Mark Pickens, Dustan Krieger, Bryan Lovio and Dennis Mattos, finished first out of 48 teams in the national competition. Turlock Apprentice Josh Klikna finished second in a field of 66 in the apprentice competition.

Local 1245 members at Modesto Irrigation District and Sacramento Municipal Utility District also captured some top prizes.

The rodeo, sponsored by the American Public Power Association, consisted of five timed events for journeyman linemen. The apprentices competed in four events and took a written test based on the 14th edition of the APPA Safety Manual. Line-

continued on following page

Mike Munn and Kyle Martin compete in the Overhead Transformer Change Out for SMUD.

Photo by Paul Coaxum



SMUD Apprentice Matthew Wilson with first-place trophy in the Obstacle Course competition.

Photo by Sarah Kerver



(ABOVE RIGHT) Taking first place in the Transformer Change Out competition for SMUD are Chris Fukui, Branden Carter and Todd Prangley.

Photo by Sarah Kerver



Chris Fukui competes in the Hurt Man Rescue competition for SMUD.

Photo by Paul Coaxum

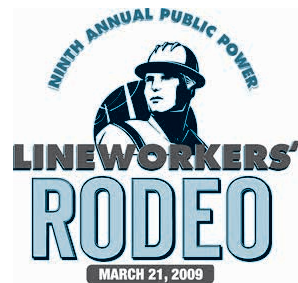


Branden Carter & Chris Fukui compete in the Cross Arm Change Out for SMUD. Photo by Crystal Candelaria



(LEFT) Scott Dutey of the Modesto Irrigation District leaps onto the pole during the Cross Arm Change-Out, an event his team went on to win.

(BELOW) Showing their first place trophies are Victor Madrigal, Sean Coulson, and Scott Dutey.



Victor Madrigal competes in the Hurt Man Rescue for Modesto Irrigation District.



The Modesto Irrigation District team competes in the Underground Bushing event.

continued from previous page

workers' performances were judged on safety, work practices, neatness, ability, equipment handling, and timely event completion.

"We practiced our routines to the point where we had a fine-tuned machine," said TID's Lovio, a five-year member of Local 1245. "We tried to avoid safety errors so we didn't get points deducted."

The scoring system reflects a fundamental reality faced by linemen on the job every day: You're expected to get the job done as promptly as possible, but to do so with maximum regard for safety. Points are deducted for safety breaches and time is used only as a tie-breaker. The TID "machine" was able to break a seven-way tie for first place by registering the fastest time.

On the way to capturing second place in the overall competition for apprentices, TID Apprentice Josh Klikna took first place in the Hurt Man Rescue and tied for first in Conductor Tie. But he had to settle for second place in the Obstacle Course competition, which was won by another Local 1245 member—SMUD Apprentice Matthew Wilson.

SMUD also turned in outstanding performances in the journeyman competition. The team of Gerald Mankins, Kyle Martin and Mike Munn placed fourth in the overall journeyman competition, while the team of Branden Carter, Chris Fukui, Todd Prangley won first place in the Transformer Change-Out competition.

Meanwhile, the Local 1245 team from Modesto Irrigation District also had its moment in the sun. The journeyman team of Sean Coulson, Scott Dutey, Jered Huntington and Victor Madrigal took first place in the Cross Arm Change Out competition.

TID's Lovio says the rivalry among Local 1245 teams was a friendly one.

"We had our tent next to MID, our sister utility. And we're close with SMUD—we have a lot of friends over there."

Lovio said the teams shared ideas on the events and in some cases borrowed tools from one another. It was a day of shared pride for the local union.

"IBEW 1245 took home a good bunch of the trophies in these events," Lovio said, who expressed his thanks to Business Rep. Sheila Lawton for her support of his team's rodeo effort.

In reality, the competition was a constructive experience for all of the teams, no matter where they were from or how well they scored.

"It's a really good tool for networking with individuals from other utilities," said Lovio. "You get to share information with people from other utilities. You can exchange information on near-misses and how to do things. When you're out there you can see how they're doing their event—see how you might be more efficient."

Learning how to work safer and improve your efficiency: who could argue with that?

Retirees' Corner



South Bay retirees advise members to think about the future

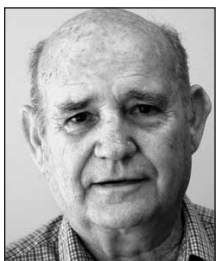
Benefits matter

Members of the San Jose Chapter of the Local 1245 Retirees Club spoke about the value of benefits at their April meeting. Whether they retired three years ago, or 23 years ago, they recognize that life isn't quite the same when your medical bills start going up but your benefits don't.

And they hope that IBEW members

still on the job will give the matter serious consideration if PG&E and Local 1245 reach agreement at the bargaining table on reining in medical costs. They know working members are the ones who will make the final decision when it comes to a vote.

These retirees spoke with the Utility Reporter during their April meeting in San Jose.



Watie Anthney

“We don't get to do much anymore—health premiums take so much out of your check. You can't do the things you'd like to do. We pay between \$400 and 500 a month on medical. We're fortunate, we had some savings. People with a lot of doctor bills are hurting. Get something done about the price we have to pay for medical insurance. It's killing a lot of people. Younger workers should go for benefits instead of the money. It's the same as money in the pocket—it'll help you when you get older.”

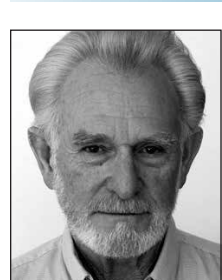
Watie Anthney, PG&E Dispatcher in Cupertino, 36 years on the job, retired 1990

“We live from paycheck to paycheck. We put no money away for emergencies. We were notified a couple months ago that we were getting a 5% raise. But I'm making \$50/month less because of the medical. A \$1300 pension was fine when I retired, but it's not enough now, not with medical costs going up. I retired at 62 but I wish now I had worked longer. People now are living longer. I suggest (to working members), 'Work as long as you can—all costs keep going up.' We may be in a recession but our living costs aren't going down, they're going up.”

Bob Leal, PG&E Clerk II, 32 years on the job, retired 1986



Bob Leal



Bill Wallace

“I'm involved with a lot of retiree groups. I run into a lot of people who are really really feeling the pinch, people who are just barely able to make it. I'm looking at people who don't have a COLA, so they're not keeping up with increasing costs... Active employees don't realize now what it's going to cost them later.”

Bill Wallace, former Local 1245 Advisory Council representative from the South Bay, retired from City of Santa Clara



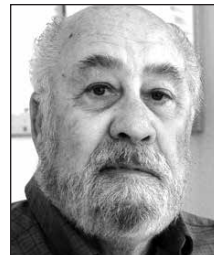
Members of the San Jose Chapter remain engaged in the issues, knowing that a united front is their best hope for constructive change.

“I'd like to see medical premiums come down. I'm looking at it from being four years retired. But I'm also looking at those guys been retired 15-20 years—they're making half what I am. When I was 21-22 I was thinking about myself and my family and taking care of them. So I have a difficult time asking active members to help now. I do hope the active employees can see the light, and help themselves and help us, too.”

Robert Smethurst, PG&E T-Man, 51 years on the job, retired 2005



Robert Smethurst



Ernie Amaral

“I got \$1600 a month pension in 1992. I got one raise of 2%. My pension has gone down to \$1100 because of the increase in the medical plan. That's the hardest thing to cope with—it goes up every year. I'm paying about \$500 a month. I'd like to see the company pick up more of the medical plan. I don't think it's fair the retiree pays all of the increase. I never even thought about retirement. When I retired everything I had was paid for and I had a few bucks saved. But when premiums went up every year it ate into my retirement. Benefits is money in the pocket. That's the bottom line, really.”

Ernie Amaral, PG&E Working Foreman—Electric, 37 years on the job, retired 1992

“Probably sooner than you realize, you'll be retired and it's not always easy to take a 50% cut in pay. I got one 3% raise since 1995, and that's not going to keep you on pace. When you're working you have a mortgage and you want the money, but when you retire you find the benefits are important—like the RPOA (Retirement Premium Offset Account). You give up your body physically (on the job), it's a cumulative thing. When you start to have operations after you retire you begin to see the value of the benefits.”

Al Randall, PG&E Inspector, Electric Dept., retired 1995



Al Randall

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 Dublin, San Jose, 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!

Dennis Blakley 36 years Morgan Hill, CA	Michael Gammel 30 years Fresno, CA	Marilyn Lynch 3 years Novato, CA	Cathleen Mazzacavallo 27 years Arroyo Grande, CA
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Allan Bomagat 31 years San Jose, CA	Felix Garza 35 years Fresno, CA	Richard Gauthier 45 years San Jose, CA	Dennis Glynn 43 years Santa Rosa, CA	Robert Goodyear 23 years Healdsburg, CA	William Hrnjak 6 years Nipomo, CA
Charles Cameron 35 years Oakland, CA	Thomas Cardoza 36 years Healdsburg, CA	Richard Cheney 36 years Shaver Lake, CA	Alan Clark 39 years Esparto, CA	Edward Conrado 33 years Angels Camp, CA	Herman Cox 39 years Rohnert Park, CA
Charles Crittenden 3 years Sonora, CA	Ronald De Silva 34 years Colfax, CA	William Fullmer 39 years Avenal, CA	Michael Johnson 35 years Fresno, CA	Reva Johnson 35 years Daly City, CA	Edward Jones 38 years Fort Bragg, CA
			Wayne Kingsley 31 years Santa Maria, CA	Earl Luther 6 years Taft, CA	

continued on page 17

Get involved!

Wouldn't this be a good time for you to attend a Retirees Club meeting in your area? Or how about this: if there isn't a meeting close to where you live, start one! For assistance in getting a chapter started you can call Tonya Alston at 707-452-2718.

Staying united is our only strength. Drop on by for any of the meetings scheduled below!

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 Coco's Restaurant, 1501 Farmers Lane, Santa Rosa.

Merced Chapter: 1st Tuesday each month, 10 a.m., Merced Senior Community, 755 W. 15th Street, Merced.



Units have important role

Accident reporting

One of the best ways to avoid accidents in the future is to learn from accidents that have occurred in the past.

But you can only learn from accidents that you know about, and in many cases the union will never hear about an accident unless someone reports it at their unit meeting.

"When there's an accident the company usually puts out a bulletin," says Al White, a member of the Local 1245 Safety Committee. But some companies provide more information than others, which means that the union sometimes has to become the conduit for getting the information out.

At the beginning of the year, the Local 1245 Executive Board approved a new policy requiring units to report on accidents, potential hazards and unsafe work practices at their places of work. (The form is available on the Internet at www.ibew1245.com/safety-section/Accident_Report_Form.pdf.)

"The responsibility is on members to report accidents (at the unit meetings)," says White. "And it is the responsibility of unit officers to report that it was reported."

Some unit officers might view the new form as just more bureaucratic paperwork. No denying it, the report form is another piece of paper. But then, so is the Declaration of Independence. The real question is, does this piece of paper have a purpose?

The answer is an emphatic "yes."

First, this piece of paper conveys news of an accident to the union Safety Committee and others who need to know about it, which could help prevent future accidents of the same sort.

Second, this piece of paper is a reminder to unit officers that the health and safety of our members is a fundamental priority for the union. When a unit officer calls for news of accidents or unsafe conditions, it is a reminder to members that they have a responsibility to be concerned about and pay attention

when fellow members are injured on the job.

It's not always easy, getting accident information.

"Units need access to accident reports," says Safety Committee member Bob Burkle. "If they are not getting reports from their companies, they should demand it."

Employers may try to hide behind the excuse that accident reports are confidential. It is true that some information, such as names and social security numbers, is confidential and must be deleted before reports are shared. But after confidentiality is protected, the employer has a moral obligation to share the information so that employees can learn from it.

"The need for information is greater than the privacy issues," says Burkle.

Some companies do a bare minimum of reporting because they fear involvement by Cal-OSHA. If your company is resistant to requests for information, advises committee member Art Torres, "You keep asking!"

Union business representatives also have an important role because some-

When a unit officer calls for news of accidents or unsafe conditions, it is a reminder to members that they have a responsibility to be concerned about and pay attention when fellow members are injured on the job.

times they are in a position to "ferret out" information. Achieving good rapport with company officials responsible for safety can be an important part of creating trust and opening lines of communication.

Some employers have an incentive to hide accidents, says committee member and line clearance tree trim-

mer Sergio Munoz. "It may endanger their ability to get future contracts, or a supervisor may be concerned about protecting his bonus."

Employers, though, aren't the only ones who sometimes hide accidents. Some union members may want to protect a "macho" self image. Or they may fear what will happen if they report. Or they may simply want to avoid any bureaucratic hassle.

But most members understand the importance of protecting their safety and the safety of their co-workers. And reporting accidents at unit meetings is one of the most effective ways they have of getting the information into the hands of people who can act on it.

Hear about an accident? REPORT IT.

Learn more

The full minutes of each Safety Committee meeting are posted on the Local 1245 website. Find out in detail the many issues that your Safety Committee is addressing each month. On the Internet, go to: www.ibew1245.com/safety-section/safety-news.html. On the PG&E Intranet, go to: www.hr/ibew/safety-section/safety-news.html.

Somber reflections on a fatality

Complacency can kill

The PG&E incident report on the accident that killed Apprentice Pete Tololi makes for grim reading.

Tololi died on March 24 while attempting to go above the cross arm of a pole he was climbing. He fell when he apparently leaned back, believing he was secured to the pole. But in fact he was not secured by his positioning strap nor his flip-line.

The report concludes: "Pete did not check to make sure his flip line was securely attached to both D-rings before removing the adjustable side of the positioning belt from the left D-ring."

Even before the investigation was concluded and the incident report issued, members of the Local 1245 Safety Committee suspected that human error was involved. At their regular meeting on March 26, just two days after the accident, they discussed

some of the things that can go wrong when you're climbing.

"As an apprentice you're more cut in because you're learning and you're afraid," says Art Torres. "But as we become more experienced there's a span where..."

"It's usually the little things that get you. It's attention to detail. You have to stay focused."

Art Torres

"You know just enough to get yourself killed," says Mike Gomes, completing Torres' thought. "They call it the 'cowboy phase.'"

"It's usually the little things that get you," Torres resumes. "It's attention to detail. You have to stay focused."

Al White, a Safety Committee member

continued on page 9



Darryl Rice displays the plastic gas pipe that was breached. Inaccurate maps indicated the pipe was steel.

Inaccurate maps pose danger

It's a nasty-looking section of plastic pipe that tells a disturbing story about inaccurate maps that could endanger PG&E gas crews.

Darryl Rice holds it up for inspection by the IBEW Local 1245 Safety Committee. The pipe is disfigured by holes and scorch marks.

A PG&E employee welding on a steel pipe was not aware that newer plastic pipe had been placed inside the steel. When the plastic was breached, gas escaped and began to travel. If it had found an ignition source, the consequences could have been serious.

How could the crew be unaware that there was plastic inside the steel pipe they were welding?

"The maps provided with the job were incorrect," explained Rice, a PG&E Work and Resource Coordinator and member of the Local 1245 Safety Committee. The maps, he said, indicated steel pipes—no plastic.

While "mark and locate" personnel have access to more accurate electronic maps, the paper maps available to PG&E gas crews are out-of-date and sometimes wrong.

"Wrong" should not be part of the

vocabulary when you're dealing with something as potentially dangerous as natural gas.

"Now there's a notice on the maps, saying 'for reference only,'" Rice tells the Safety Committee as they stare at the disfigured pipe on the table. "That's basically saying, 'Use at your own risk.'"

"I can't believe I'm hearing this," says Art Torres, a SMUD electrician and member of the committee.

It's not as if the problem was just discovered. The scorched pipe is from an accident in 2007.

The crews' lack of access to electronic maps has come up at Labor-Management meetings, according to Rice. The union wants gas workers to be allowed to call up electronic maps and print them.

Management's response?

"We're looking into it," is all they say, according to Rice.

The electronic map of the job with the melted plastic pipe did in fact show that plastic had replaced the steel.

The minutes of the Safety Committee meeting give the obvious conclusion: "This accident was 100% preventable."

Complacency, from page 8

ber and PG&E Troubleman, knows it is critical to clip in properly. “We were trained to visually check and tug on your d-ring when you clip in to make sure your safety is clipped in before you lean back.”

Gomes says complacency can be a great threat.

“When you do a task over and over the dangers don’t seem as great. You lose track of the inherent hazards.”

Bob Burkle, a Safety Committee member and lineman from City of Santa Clara, says being unbelted on a pole is a moment in which your mind is extremely focused...or should be.

“When you’re a lineman on a pole and you’re unbelted, everything else goes on hold. You say, I’m unbelted and if there’s another lineman on the pole he’s watching you,” says Burkle.

The reality is, when you’re a lineman working at heights, you have to maintain a high degree of focus at all times because there are many things that can go wrong when you’re up a pole. Pole steps could tear out, for example. Or you could grab onto some other structure on the pole that has bolts missing.

Safety awareness begin even before you go up, says Torres. “You test the pole, make sure it’s sound. Is there butt rot? Is it guyed? Are you going to be changing the strain on pole?”

Whenever there’s an accident, Safety Committee members say, there’s another issue you have to consider. Was someone trying to get work done in a hurry?

Managers sometimes turn up the pressure to get jobs done quickly. Linemen themselves have been known to put too much emphasis on speed.

“Multiple crews on a job can lead to competition,” says Gomes. “You race to the next pole.”

“The philosophy now is to slow down,” says Rice. “We’re trying to preach the safety factor of ‘Don’t worry how long it takes, get it done safely. Slow down.’”

White says people should take the attitude, “I’m in this local union, I’ve got a dangerous job.”

“It’s time to reflect on the small things again,” says Gomes.

“Stay cut in,” says Torres.

Safety Committee

Members of the IBEW Local 1245 Safety Committee are Al White, Pacific Gas & Electric; Bob Burkle, City of Santa Clara; Michael Gomes, Modesto Irrigation District; Art Torres, Sacramento Municipal Utility District; Sergio Munoz, Asplundh Tree; Tom Greer, Frontier; Darryl Rice, PG&E; and Business Rep. Ralph Armstrong.

Check out the safety information on our website at: www.ibew1245.com/safety-section/safety.html

Sacramento Municipal Utility District

White Rock leaks trigger major repair

Editor’s note: This story by Ann Cony was originally published by SMUD in January and is reprinted here with permission.

A water leak is annoying. It’s particularly annoying when it’s costing thousands of dollars a day. So SMUD is undertaking a major overhaul – the kind that occurs once in 30 to 40 years – at its White Rock Powerhouse.

Like many of the major fixes that take place in the Upper American River Project (UARP), there was no how-to manual for this one. It took a year and a half of detailed planning and custom fabrication work, among other things. But the \$3.5 million overhaul is now in full swing, with a dozen employees, mostly craftsmen from Fresh Pond, handling virtually all of the labor.

White Rock is the biggest workhorse in SMUD’s 688-megawatt hydroelectric system, with two generating units each capable of producing 100 MW of electricity. Finished in 1967, it is the lowest step in the District’s “stairway of power.” Any water that leaks through the turbines at White Rock without spinning a generating unit is lost to SMUD hydroelectric production for good.

“When we get our new operating license for the UARP, we’ll be required to release more water than we used to, upstream of the powerhouse,” said Bill Collins, principal mechanical engineer and project manager. “That’s water that won’t flow into the powerhouse, so we don’t want to lose even more water to leaks.”

The problem

For a few years now, when the generating units are off, water has been leaking around the 20 wicket gates that open and close to control the flow of water to the turbine wheel. Liner plates above and below the wicket gates of each unit were designed to help seal out water when the wicket gates are closed and the unit is shut down. The plates and the wicket gates have been eroded by decades of high-pressure water flow through the turbines.

“After 40 years of service, little tiny gaps in the seals have opened up further, and it’s gotten progressively worse,” said Karen Case, a mechanical engineer who has been assisting with the project.

The loss of water through these wicket gates has increased dramatically in the last two years, and this translates into lost “fuel” for generation and, in turn, lost revenue.

Energy Risk Management staff calculated in May 2008 that the water leaks were costing SMUD \$2,400 to \$6,000 a day. And that was when the water was leaking at a rate of 35 cubic feet per second (cfs), or 69.4 acre feet per day.

Now it’s leaking at a rate of 55 cfs.

“That’s a good chunk of the additional water the new operating license will require us to release upstream,” Collins said.

“We’ve got a really good crew of craftsmen with a variety of specialized skills who are also very capable of doing the more generalized work.”

*Dan Currier,
mechanical
maintenance foreman*

With the increase in minimum stream flows, any water the District can save will be very valuable, particularly because hydroelectric generation is SMUD’s most economical energy source and it does not emit carbon dioxide.

The solution

Aiming to reduce the leaks to 10 cfs, SMUD decided to replace all 16 liner plates and refurbish the 40 wicket gates from both generating units. That required going to custom manufacturers – the type that do work for companies in heavy industries such as oil refining – experienced in machining massive parts to very precise specifications.

Cast from stainless steel, a single wicket gate – resembling a boat rudder with a shaft extending at top and bottom – weighs 1,500 pounds.

In early November, employees from Fresh Pond disassembled Unit 2, a major task in itself.

Working 10-hour shifts six days a week, employees have performed a variety of tasks, including the not-so-fun cleaning of gunky grease that coated parts and surfaces in the turbine pit.

“We’ve got a really good crew of craftsmen with a variety of specialized skills who are also very capable of doing the more generalized work,” said Dan Currier, mechanical maintenance foreman.

Last week they were installing the refurbished wicket gates, with a goal of having Unit 2 back in operation by the end of this month [January 2009]. When they complete Unit 2, they’ll start taking apart Unit 1.

“We rarely dismantle the generating units, so we are taking advantage of this opportunity to repair and upgrade certain components that are normally inaccessible for years at a time,” Collins said.

No more grease

Along with refurbishing the wicket gates, SMUD is replacing the original bronzed, sleeve-like bushings that fit over the wicket gate shafts. The new bushings are made from a Teflon-like material that requires no grease.

“It’s a good thing to be doing because there is a potential for the grease to get into the river,” Case said. Although SMUD has been using a non-toxic, vegetable-based bushing grease, it’s not something you’d want to add to the aquatic environment.

“Plus, it builds up in the turbine pit and creates a mess for the maintenance staff. It’s really horrible to work with,” she added.

“We’ve eliminated nearly 130 grease-entry points from the turbine system, and the new bushings will be more durable than the old ones,” Collins said.

Other work includes measures that will better protect the generating units when they are running in “spinning reserve,” a standby mode that helps satisfy reliability requirements.

The project is scheduled to be completed mid-April.



Plant Mechanic Jeff Fuller at work beneath the turbine.



Senior Hydro Operator Dwayne Littlefield, left, and Plant Mechanic Jeff Fuller work on removing the turbine runner at Unit 2.

Working at heights of 100 feet and higher is part of the job when dealing with giant eucalyptus—making you nearly invisible from the ground.

Trabajar a 100 pies (30 m.) de altura o más es parte del oficio cuando hay que encargarse de los eucaliptos gigantes—los escaladores son casi invisibles desde abajo.



Wood dust showers down as Sandoval begins his cut.

El polvo de la madera se riega cuando Sandoval comienza a cortar.



Limbs must be expertly tied to control the fall.

Las ramas deben atarse con experticia para controlar su caída al suelo.

No Room for Error

Story and photos by Eric Wolfe

The eucalyptus grow tall along the coast of Monterey Bay, providing a secure habitat for Red-Shouldered Hawks and Ruby-Crowned Kinglets and scores of other creatures comfortable with the altitude. The tree's light bark and pungent aroma are well-known to coastal residents and its canopy has shaded area hiking trails and picnic spots for generations.

But when the rains come and the wind blows, the stately eucalyptus undergoes a personality change. It is capable of hurling down large limbs from lofty heights, with sometimes disastrous consequences for power lines waiting below. Fortunately, Local 1245 members are at work to keep that from happening.

In mid-March I found a crew of Line Clearance Tree Trimmers from Asplundh Tree Expert Co. giving haircuts to a stand of eucalyptus along Sumner Road near Rio Del Mar in Aptos.

When I arrive, Top Climber Juan Sandoval is already disappearing into the upper reaches of a giant eucalyptus. Down the road a short distance, Top Climber Roberto Ortiz rides a bucket to its full extension of 75 feet, and prepares to climb onto another eucalyptus, where he will continue his ascent by hand. Today these men are reaching heights of

100 feet or more.

It's hazardous work, with no room for error.

"Don't you guys get nervous working up so high?" I ask Eduardo Franco, the Crew Foreman.

Nerves, it turns out, aren't really the issue. The issue is focus. And it's a group effort from the moment the job begins.

"We talk to the climbers a lot to help them keep their focus," says Franco. In fact, he says, they talk a lot before the climbing even begins. To a passing motorist it might look like four guys just standing around shooting the breeze by an orange truck. But in fact it's an essential part of the job: who is going to do what and how are they going to do it.

Often this work involves taking down limbs that have grown into power lines. Today's assignment is a little tougher. The limbs aren't in the wire, they're over the wires. Way up there with the hawks and kinglets.

I watch as Ortiz methodically transfers from the bucket to the tree and I consider what the Line Clearance Tree Trimmer brings to the situation. Training. Experience. Teamwork.

The ability to ask the right questions. Like:

Do I carry tools with me as I climb or haul them up with the tip line? Is

continued on next page

No Hay Lugar Para Errores

Noticia y fotos por Eric Wolfe

Los eucaliptos a lo largo de la costa de la Bahía de Monterrey crecen a grandes alturas, ofreciendo así un hábitat seguro a los halcones de hombros rojos, y a los reyezuelos de corona roja y a muchas otras criaturas que habitan en las alturas. La clara corteza del árbol y su penetrante olor son bien conocidos por los residentes de la costa, y su frondosa sombra ha protegido del sol los senderos y lugares de comida campestre por muchas generaciones.

Pero cuando llegan las lluvias y sopla el viento, el majestuoso eucalipto cambia de personalidad. Es capaz de lanzar grandes ramas desde encumbradas alturas, lo cual a veces tiene consecuencias desastrosas para las líneas eléctricas que se encuentran debajo. Afortunadamente, los miembros del Local 1245 trabajan para prevenir que esto suceda.

A mediados de marzo me encontré con una cuadrilla de Podadores de Árboles para el Despeje de Líneas de la empresa Asplundh Tree Expert Co., podando un bosque de eucaliptos a lo largo de la carretera Sumner cerca de Rio Del Mar en Aptos.

Cuando llegué, el escalador principal Juan Sandoval estaba desapareciendo de mi vista en el tramo superior de un eucalipto gigante. A corta distancia en la carretera, el escalador principal Roberto

continuando la proxima pagina



Branches leaning over like this pose a significant risk of falling into power lines during a storm.

Cuando las ramas se inclinan así, existe un riesgo importante de que caigan sobre una línea eléctrica durante una tormenta.



Foreman Eduardo Franco does some minor trimming from the bucket.

El capataz Eduardo Franco realiza una pequeña poda desde la cubeta.



FAR LEFT: The bucket, at 75 feet, has carried Roberto Ortiz as high as it can.

LEJOS LA IZQUIERDA: La cubeta ha transportado a Roberto Ortiz a 75 pies (23 m.), lo más alto posible.

LEFT: Ortiz leaves the bucket to continue his ascent.

IZQUIERDA: Ortiz sale de la cubeta para continuar escalando.

ABOVE: Roberto Ortiz makes a cut at a height of some 100 feet.

ARRIBA: Roberto Ortiz realiza un corte a una altura de aproximadamente 100 pies (30 m.).



The crew, from left: Juan Sandoval, Eduardo Franco, Roberto Ortiz, and Juan Ramirez.

La cuadrilla, de izquierda a derecha: Juan Sandoval, Eduardo Franco, Roberto Ortiz, y Juan Ramírez.

continued from previous page

this rope going to be able to hold the weight of the overhang being cut? Is there enough room to maneuver the limb to the ground without hitting the power line? Which limbs can I get with the pruner, which ones need to feel the teeth of a chain saw?

Wood dust sprays out into the morning light when Sandoval makes the cut. The limb is guided down with the “bull rope”. Today Juan Ramirez, also a Top Climber, is waiting on the ground to haul the limb to the chipper. On another day the roles might be reversed—the crew rotates climbing and ground assignments.

Franco says part of his job as foreman is to make sure everyone stays “tied in.”

“Safety is the first order of the day—making sure (crew members) are keeping focused on the job, not getting distracted by cars or pedestrians.”

Once the wood is on the ground, Franco says, they “piece it up, chip it up, and move on to the next job.”

The trees keep growing. These IBEW members keep trimming. The lights stay on.



Foreman Eduardo Franco knows that regular communication helps keep his climbers focused and safe.

El capataz Eduardo Franco sabe que la comunicación frecuente ayuda a mantener a sus escaladores focalizados y seguros.



Eduardo Franco and Juan Ramirez carrying lines to the job.

Eduardo Franco y Juan Ramírez llevan las líneas al sitio de trabajo.

continuando de la pagina previo

Ortiz se transporta en una cubeta hasta la máxima altura de 75 pies (23 m.), y se prepara a escalar otro eucalipto, para luego continuar el ascenso a mano. Hoy, estos hombres alcanzan alturas de 100 pies (30 m.) o más.

Es un trabajo peligroso, sin lugar para errores.

“¿No se sienten nerviosos trabajando a esas alturas?” le pregunto a Eduardo Franco, el capataz de la cuadrilla.

Resulta que los nervios no son realmente el problema. El asunto es mantenerse focalizados. Y esto es un esfuerzo de equipo desde el momento en que comienza el trabajo.

“Hablamos mucho con los escaladores para ayudarlos a mantenerse focalizados,” dice Franco. Es más, continúa, hablan mucho inclusive antes de comenzar a escalar. Para un automovilista que pase cerca, pareciera que sólo son cuatro individuos conversando al lado de un camión color naranja. Pero en realidad es una parte esencial del trabajo: quién va a ejecutar cuál parte del trabajo, y cómo lo van a ejecutar.

Con frecuencia este trabajo incluye cortar ramas que han crecido entre las líneas eléctricas. La tarea de hoy es un poco más difícil. Las ramas no están en el cable, están por encima de los cables. Allá arriba, entre los halcones y los rey-zuelos.

Observo a Ortiz mientras se traslada metódicamente desde la cubeta al árbol y pienso en lo que los Podadores de Árboles para el Despeje de Líneas aportan a la situación. Entrenamiento. Expe-

riencia. Trabajo en equipo.

La habilidad de hacerse las preguntas adecuadas. Como por ejemplo:

¿Me llevo todas las herramientas conmigo al subir o las subo después con la línea auxiliar? ¿Podrá esta cuerda soportar el peso de las ramas que se van a cortar? ¿Hay suficiente espacio para manipular la rama hasta el suelo sin tocar la línea eléctrica? ¿Cuáles ramas puedo cortar con la podadora, cuáles necesitan el toque de los dientes de una sierra?

El polvo de la madera rocía la luz de la mañana cuando Sandoval realiza el corte. La rama es guiada hasta el suelo mediante una cuerda. Hoy, Juan Ramírez, también un escalador principal, espera abajo para transportar la rama al astil-

lador. Otro día las responsabilidades podrían revertirse—la cuadrilla hace una rotación en cuanto a las asignaciones de escalar y del trabajo en tierra.

Franco dice que parte de su trabajo como capataz es asegurarse que cada uno permanece “atado.”

“La seguridad es lo más importante—garantizar (que la cuadrilla) se mantengan focalizados en el trabajo, que no se distraigan con los carros o los peatones.”

Una vez que la madera está en tierra, dice Franco, se “cortan en pedazos, se astillan, y nos movemos al próximo sitio.”

Los árboles continúan creciendo. Los miembros del IBEW continúan podando. Las luces permanecen encendidas.



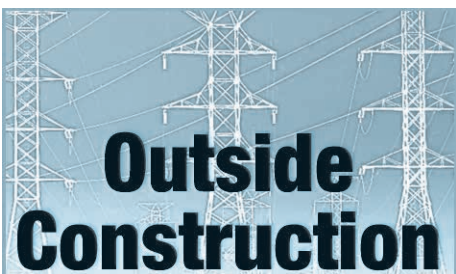
Taking a breather after a morning of high-altitude trimming are, from left, Roberto Ortiz, Juan Ramirez and Juan Sandoval.

Tomando un descanso después de pasar la mañana podando árboles a grandes alturas. De izquierda a derecha: Roberto Ortiz, Juan Ramírez y Juan Sandoval.



Juan Ramirez removes a limb lowered to the ground by Juan Sandoval.

Juan Ramirez retira una rama que Juan Sandoval ha bajado.



Tentative agreement bargained

Last month the negotiating committee met with Henkels & McCoy and NECA over the course of several days. As of now we have Tentative



Ron Cochran

Agreements with Henkels and McCoy as well as Black and Veatch and Asplundh, who are non-NECA contractors. BVC and Asplundh have asked for stand alone agreements. All three of these stand alone agreements will be the same, mirroring the H&M agreement.

The Tentative Agreement included:

- Wages: 3.75% increase each year for the next 3 years
- National Electrical Annuity Plan (NEAP): increase of \$0.25/year for the next 3 years
- Lineco – Agreed to add \$0.50 to wages to be used as needed in the third year of the contract.

The current agreement requires first aid and CPR cards. This will continue to be a requirement so we are encouraging the membership to keep their training cards current.

OSHA 10 Training will be a requirement in these contracts. We will not dispatch them as special skills calls until after Jan. 1, 2011. This will allow members ample time to get the training. We are looking at offering several classes this year and Henkels & McCoy and BVC have also offered to provide instructors to get this done.

We will take these contracts for a ratification vote before May 31, 2009.

NECA negotiations are strained at this point. When we last met we were still off on the wages and retirement numbers. We had an interim meeting April 28 and thought we had a workable solution to present to the membership. The talks collapsed in the last hour of the meeting. We will be going to the Council of Industrial Relations (CIR) on May 11 in Washington, D.C. to present

The Big Splice

Outside Construction members working for Prysmian splice cable for a loop connecting two substations northeast of Reno. See Page 20.

our case. We will have our answer within two weeks of the hearing. If you would like to learn more about how CIR works, check it out at www.thecir.org/.

While we are in Washington, we will make house calls on two new contractors that we are trying to organize to perform work on PG&E property.

Double Subsistence Letter

A memo is on file and will be issued to all our members when dispatched which clarifies two sections in the OSL Agreement: Article IV, Sections 4.4 and 4.9 as well as Article V, Section 5.4.

These sections in the agreement deal with pre-employment paperwork and drug testing when the member is required to show up at the contractor's office prior to reporting to the job site. It was agreed to by the IBEW & NECA that the employee will be paid double subsistence when not given at least 3 days notice as stated in the agreement under 5.4.

Therefore, when the employee reports to the office the first day and is required to report to the jobsite the next day they are due two days of double subsistence. All hours worked while completing the pre-hire requirements will be paid under the show-up pay provision of the agreement. It has been the norm that these employees do not take a full 8 hours to complete this pre-hire requirement and will be paid in 2-hour increments.

Injured Workers Fund

The Injured Worker Fund continues to increase. As of April 21 the current balance was \$41,517.61, which is up from last month's \$38,960. There was one payout in the month of March for \$1,000. The member was an apprentice that suffered a knee injury at climbing school and is expected to have a full recovery.

We have been working with the attorney to increase the Death Benefit from \$5,000 to \$10,000 as well as the filing with the IRS. It's our vision to someday get that fund increased to \$25,000.

We also are making one trustee change, as one trustee is now working permanently for SPPC.

Flagger Training

We are trying to schedule to have a flagger class here in Vacaville. There also may be a way to take an approved course on-line and be reimbursed through the JATC after successfully completing the course.

OSHA 10 Training

We have scheduled OSHA 10 training at the Vacaville Hall for June 27-28, 2009. This is offered free to the member. Bag lunches will be provided on Saturday the 27th. The 28th will only be a half day.

We will to continue to schedule classes each month as long as the classes fill up. The class is limited to the first 25 members in good standing that sign up. After, Jan. 1, 2010 OSHA 10 training will be considered a special



Picture of the Black & Veatch crew work on the final phase of the 115kv cable project between Hunter's point and Martin sub. These guys are pulling the cable in and splicing the cable in the conduit the Underground Construction installed early this year.

skill, for referral purposes.

Safety Book

The Safety Book (red book) used by Outside Construction has been under revision. The draft modifications are now complete. The amendments have been circulated to the committee members and will be voted on at the next committee meeting.

Work Picture

Work continues to be steady, but there are reports it will slow as the year progresses.

We are working on 60 new linemen positions for some upcoming PG&E project work. This work will be outside the normal scope of work and will

continued on page 19

Hero, from page 1

Next on the scene, only moments later, was Merced County Sheriff Mark Pazin, who grabbed Munoz's arm. Their grip on Munoz was tenuous, which made Heberline's arrival a great stroke of luck.

Heroism, Heberline can tell you, is really just a matter of timing.

Heberline still didn't have a clear idea what was going on, although the officer might have mentioned something about a guy needing to fall into his truck. When a cop tells you something like that, it's not the time to start asking a lot of questions.

Heberline got the truck moved pronto, and almost immediately felt a bump. The officers had lost their grip when Munoz's t-shirt tore and he had fallen. Heberline got out of the truck and walked around to have a look.

"I climbed into the back of the truck and he was lying on his back," recalls Heberline. Munoz was conscious. Conscious and extraordinarily lucky to be alive. Without the truck to shorten his fall, Munoz would have traveled another six or seven feet—a critical distance when you're talking about the rapid acceleration any object experiences with each additional moment of free fall.

Heberline remembers a fireman and an ambulance being on the scene immediately. Houser and Pazin had bought Munoz some valuable time by delaying his fall as long as they could. Emergency personnel climbed into the back of the truck to administer aid.

"They worked on him in the back of

the truck, put him on the board, made sure his vitals were good and all that," says Heberline. "They made sure he was good to move and then slipped him out through the back."

Meanwhile, Heberline was just trying to "stay out of the way. And making sure the truck was working all right."

An account in the Merced Sun-Star says that Munoz was transported to Doctors Medical Center in Modesto. Later that evening a nurse told the newspaper that Munoz had been evaluated and that there were no plans to admit him to the hospital.

Whatever had led Munoz to the overpass that afternoon, Heberline and the law enforcement officers had given him a second chance at life.

Heberline faced some new challenges of his own. The 22-year-old "hero" had to go back and face his co-workers.

"They just did what could be expected, they're going to joke around," he says. "Something like that doesn't happen every day."

A week after the incident Heberline was honored by the California Highway Patrol in a special ceremony. He thinks he might also have received some kind of acknowledgement from the governor, but he's not sure about that. Actually, Heberline is more than ready to just let the whole thing go.

"To tell you the truth I didn't feel like I did anything. I hope anybody else would have done the same. It just kind of all happened," he says.

Hero, ready or not.



Joe Heberline, center, and Merced County Sheriff Mark Pazin, left, are recognized for their heroics by CHP Commissioner Joe Farrow in a special awards ceremony on March 6. Sun-Star photo by George MacDonald.

SERVICE AWARDS



Sacramento, CA February 28, 2009

THE 2008 HONOREES

55 Years

Bauske, Douglas F

40 Years

Baugh, Sam W
Boelman, Loren
Mai, Gary C
Morgan, Aubrey E
Rye, William E

35 Years

Adams, Ignacio S
Brannon, William D
Carner, Ricky L
Corry, Dennis
Cox, Floyd
Fletcher, Jerry L
Gonzales, Terry R
Gutierrez, Richard
Gutierrez, Valentine
Harrington, William L
Hogg, John
Ibarra, Victor I
Irwin, Bonnie L
Jaquez, Richard
Kingsley, Terry A
Loer, James
Logan, Gary L
Manzo, Gilbert
Markiewitz, Paul S
Martinez, John
Mcclain, William J
Meadows, Paul
Mendoza, Stephen
Miller, Mark
Miller, Robert L
Perez, Michael
Perry, Richard C
Ramirez, John M
Ricardy, Richard H
Salvatorelli, Nick
Sanders, Alfred L
Searcy, Robert L
Shirley, Paul J
Sims, George M
Slawson, Randall D
Smith, Richard L
Sullivan Jr., Robert T
Tanaka, Eric T
Tassone, David
Teal, Jennifer
Turk, Michael L
Vitan, J
Wilhelm, James
Williams, Douglas
Williams, Ike

30 Years

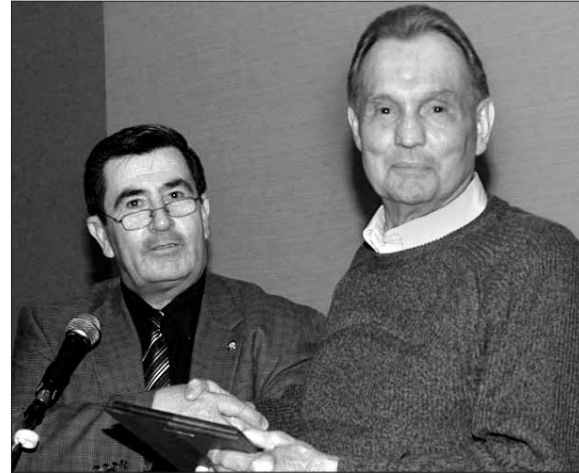
Amburgey, Phyllis A
Bakkie, Terry L
Bazil, William E
Black, William
Boyle, Steve R
Burns, Michael W
Cain, Robert
Carrasco, Richard A
Chin, Donald Hk
Clark, Robert
Connelly, James J
Constant, Susan
Cox, Gordon J
Day, Michelle
Devlin, Dennis L
Deyo, Charles R
Dunham, Jeffrey E
Economou, Gloria B
Falk, David E
Fancher, Bruce M
Fetzer, William
Fowler, Steven D
Galvan, Mario
Geck, Phillip J
Gee, Stanley
Giesser, Richard L
Glero, Samuel A
Gumataotao, Francisco
Hinegardner, William A
Holley-Dansby,
Yolanda R
Holley, Earl D
Hutcheson, Mike G
Hutchison, Charles G
Jimenez, Alfred
Jones, Kevin C
Kopriva, John J
Kuehnau, James K
Lancieri, Michael J
Maldonado, Kathleen
Martinez, John G
Mccarthy, Sean M
Mckee, Fred W
Miller, Guy M
Mulock Jr., Charles D
Murillo, George J
Ofedal, Annette V
Olivas, Phil L
Perry, James S
Poore, Susan
Raines, Kathleen
Raley, Marshall
Rios, Josue R
Risso, Randy
Rodriguez, William P
Russo, Victor J
Rutledge, Janice C

Samaniego, Steven H
Satterlee, Michael A
Schroeder, C F
Smith, Andrew J
Sutherlin, David E
Tims, A
Vigil, Robert D
Warner, Richard C
Warren, Richard R
Wright, Andre I
Ybarra, Frank S

25 Years

Alves Jr., John
Arias, Eddie
Arsic, Ellen E
Bailey, Ruth E
Bimson, Richard B
Braun, Eric V
Burrus, Richard D
Campos- Ayala, Alice A
Compani, Ed D
Creighton, G Mark
Crosby, Julia A
Cruzat, Cesario A
Fulton, Robert G
Haeberle, Michael H
Heimlich, Gary L
Henley, Paula R
Hopp, Keith W
Howard, Pamela R
Jarvis, Gregory L
Johnson, Ronald M
Kauano, Ronald
Kincade, Rebecca A
Kraft, Rex W
Langley, Jonathan
Leon, Esther G
Lian, Peter S
Lifto, Kevin
Logan, Roy C
Lopez, Frank H
Martinez, Virginia
O'malley, Mary E
Potts, Denis W
Pugh, Nicholas
Rogers, Russell G
Saldivar, Eloy E
Sciarrotta, Janice S
Sheeley, Richard L
Simon, Ron J
Southerland, Scott F
Stubbs, Edward J
Tavares Ii, Edward L
Wilkins, Armando D
Wink, Steve C
Wong, Donald
Young, Thomas A

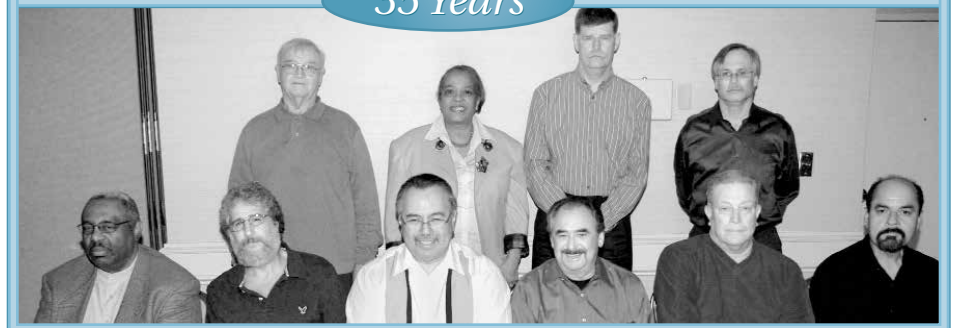
Former Business
Manager Perry
Zimmerman receives
his 45-year award
from Business Rep.
Darryl Norris.



Ed Lenoir receives
his 45-year award
from Business Rep.
Darryl Norris.



35 Years



25 Years

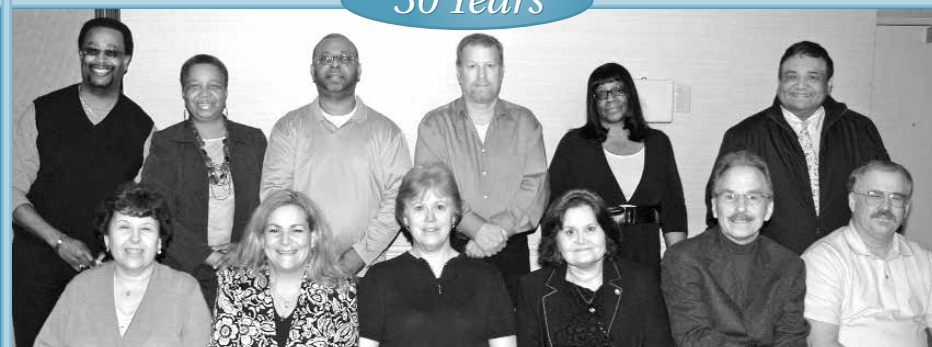


25 Years





30 Years



25 Years



A full house for the Sacramento Pin Dinner.

THE 2009 HONOREES

45 Years

Frisch, Ronald L
 Lenoir, Edward C
 Shelton, James M
 Zimmerman, Perry

40 Years

Gindt, James R
 Stetler, Edward C
 Wright Jr., Chester A

35 Years

Alvey, Kenneth L
 Bell, Max
 Belmont Jr., Jack
 Bishop, Clifford
 Bloomdale Jr., Harry
 Bumgarner, Thomas
 Chico, Pete A
 Cole, Raymond S
 Crews, Gary A
 Eggett, William R
 Flippo, Tom
 Garcia, George
 Garcia, Manuel
 Gregorich, Margaret
 Grenier, Susan
 Huggett, Trenton D
 Le Masters, G R
 Leon, George
 Llapitan, Jacinto
 Mc Donald, Randell L

Molina, Carlos A
 Moore, Allan B
 Moore, Kay
 Nedved, Ronald
 Nesmith, William
 Nishimoto, Ronald
 Noe, Paul
 Piercy, Paul D
 Rodriguez, Larry M
 Scott, Michael G
 Scott, Neil P
 Sherman, Steve S
 Siordia, Edward
 Snyder, Andy M
 Terry, Donald S
 Valencia Jr., Benjamin
 Wallace, Billy D
 Worthington, Howard R

30 Years

Abella, Dennis F
 Abney, Charlotte
 Andersen, Kim H
 Anderson, Mark A
 Blair, Joseph A
 Borrayo, Sergio M
 Buck, Byron T
 Burrell, Gloria J
 Campbell, Dennis E
 Carrion, Charles R
 Chadwick, Jerry W
 Chatioan, Andrew L
 Corwin, Douglas L

Cummings, Winston E
 Daly, Michael P
 Delgado, Michael P
 Dion, Michael D
 Duane, David
 Estensen, Richard H
 Ferguson, Dennis E
 Fonley, Douglas E
 Fox, Ray E
 French, Walter
 Gomes, David A
 Gonzalez, Chris J
 Good, Arthur R
 Goody, Kenneth E
 Graybill, James M
 Habe, James R
 Harbison, Darlene M
 Hayden, Diana L
 Hayes, Michael R
 Hernandez, Daniel A
 Horning, Phil M
 Hurdle, Donald A
 Ingoglia, James D
 Kaiser, Ross S
 Karle, Robert A
 Krebs, John A
 Kuntz Jr., James F
 Lapenna, Joseph N
 Licon, George L
 Lizarraga, Armando
 Mack, Kenneth W
 Maher, Keith W
 Markiewitz, Linda L

Mcguire, Debra L
 Moe, John D
 Nelson, Thomas A
 Nepper, Terry
 Pierce, Craig K
 Pirtz, Brian W
 Renfree, Sam M
 Reyes, Secundino
 Roberts, Diane L
 Rogers, Matt W
 Sheppard, Steve K
 Simmons, H.Gene
 Sisemore, Greg K
 Snellings, Daniel Y
 Spiller, Mike F
 Storanski, Richard J
 Suhar, William A
 Thompson, James L
 Torres, Arthur A
 Uyeda, Stanley K
 Walters, Michael T
 Weinholdt, Russell J
 Willis, Charles R
 Woolgar, R J
 Woolridge, Don W
 Worden, Steven G

25 Years

Allee, Clifford
 Arnold, Ricky J
 Avilla, Nancy S
 Azevedo, Delbert C
 Barker, Patrick A

Bautista, Frarino L
 Bendure, Thomas L
 Bloomdale, Maureen
 Boyes, Reese J
 Bryans, Mitch A
 Byfield, Luana M
 Byrne, William P
 Carbullido, Dennis R
 Colip, Pat W
 Davis, Tracy E
 De Biase, David
 Diamond, Michael B
 Edwards, Arlene F
 Elledge, Melody D
 Flanders, Mark A
 Flecklin, Paul R
 Fletcher, Wade
 Fong, Terry L
 Forrette, Dirk E
 Gannon, George
 Gonzales, Larry
 Goodwin, Glenda J
 Hancock, Jeanette
 Hart, Emmett M
 Hilliker, James G
 Hughes, Joseph A
 Johnston, Martin J
 Justice, Donna M
 Klotek, Allen J
 Lawson, Richard J
 Lowe, Vernon D
 Lynn, Jeffrey C
 Maier, Ronald W

Martin, Fredrick R
 Martinez, Thomas
 Mccartin, David
 Morrison, Michael J
 Murchison, Robert W
 Neuburger Jr., Joseph B
 Notman, Jim
 Olson, William J
 Otterson, Allan L
 Palmer Jr., Harry E
 Pitts, Stephen M
 Riley, Michael J
 Rodger, Mitchell
 Rose, Lisa L
 Royce, Donald L
 Russ, Gary A
 Salazar, Abraham
 Sanders, Brian J
 Schindel, Byron W
 Schmeck, Mark L
 Silva, Shawn L
 Silveira Jr., Edward L
 Simms, Barbara J
 Snyder, Chris D
 South, Jack E
 Stoner, Gregory D
 Suman, Fred L
 Toth, Renee I
 Vetter, Susan L
 Weiser, Michele M
 Whitley, Marvin E
 Williams, Jeff A
 Worley, Michael R

IBEW 1245 UNIT MEETING SCHEDULE: JULY—DECEMBER 2009

CITY	UNIT	LOCATION	UNIT CHAIR	DAY	TIME	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Alturas (Frontier)	4013	The Brass Rail, Hwy 395	T. Bagwell	Weds	5:30pm	8	12	9	14	11	9
Angels Camp	2512	Mike's Pizza, Hwy 49/Murphy Grade Rd.	G. Day	Thurs	4:00pm	16	20	17	15	19	17
Antioch	2317	Aladino's Pizza, 1324 Sunset Dr.	D. Tucker	Weds	5:00pm	8	12	9	14	11	9
Auberry	1129	Daddy Joe's Java, Auberry Road	C. Riggs/J. Kenney	Tuesday	5:45pm	14	11	8	13	10	8
Auburn	3511	Round Table Pizza @ Auburn-Folsom Road	K. Davis	Tues	5:00pm	7	4	1	6	3	1
Bakersfield	1112	Labor Hall, 200 W. Jeffrey	M. Rolow	Weds	6:00pm	8	12	9	14	11	9
Buellton	1221	Firestone Walker Brewing Co., 620 McMurray Rd*	B. Swanson	Mon	4:00pm	13	10	14	12	9	14
Burlingame/Peninsula	1512	TWU Local 505, 1521 Rollins Rd., Burlingame	B. Quinn	Weds	5:30pm	8	12	9	14	11	9
Burney	3213	Sam's Pizza, Hwy 299, Johnson Park	P. Baker	Tues	6:00pm	7	4	1	6	3	1
Burney (Frontier)	4015	Sam's Pizza, 38077 Hwy 299 East	D. Washburn	Weds	6:00pm	1	5	2	7	4	2
Carson City	3312	Round Table Pizza, 3325 Retail Drive	E. Gomez*	Thurs	5:30pm	16	20	17	15	19	17
Chilcoot (rotates mtg location)**	3514	Sierra Valley Grange Hwy 70, Vinton CA*	T. Wolf	Tues*	6:00pm	**	X	15	X	**	X
Chilcoot (rotates mtg location)**	3514	Gas House, Herlong CA, County Rd A 26*	T. Wolf	Tues*	6:00pm	21	X	**	X	17	X
Cobb Mountain/NCPA	3710	South Lake Fire Station	TBD	Weds	4:30pm	22	19	23	21	18	23
Concord/Davey Tree	4716	Round Table , 3393 Port Chicago Hwy	J. Sims*	Thurs	3:30pm	16	20	17	15	19	17
Concord/Walnut Creek	2316	Round Table Pizza, 2960 Treat Boulevard	R. Lassus	Thurs	5:00pm	9	13	10	8	12	10
Davey/Willits	4421	Old Mission Pizza, 1708 S. Main	G. Cowan	Tues	4:00pm	X	12	X	7	X	9
Davis General Construction	3000	Steve's Pizza	B. Wallace	Thurs	4:00pm	9	13	10	8	12	12
Donner	3309	Best Western Hotel, Hwy. 267, Truckee	S. Camara	Thurs	5:30pm	X	6	X	1	X	3
Elk Grove (Frontier)	4014	Round Table Pizza, 5110 Laguna Blvd.	D. Sanders	Tues	5:00pm	21	18	15	20	17	15
Elko, NV	3318	Stockman's Casino	B. Brunson	Thurs	5:30pm	X	13	X	8	X	10
Ely, NV/Mt. Wheeler	3315	Ely Fire Dept, Meeting Hall	M. Venturino	Tues	4:30pm	X	11	X	13	X	8
Eureka/Tree Trimmers	3111	Babe's Pizza & Pasta, 4015 Walnut*	W. Hollesen*	Tues	6:00pm	*15	11	15	13	10	15
Fallon, Nevada	3316	Fallon Country Club, 2655 Country Club Drive	C. Robertson	Tues	5:30pm	X	11	X	13	X	8
Fort Bragg/Pt. Arena	3717	PG&E Yard, 3539 Walnut Street	G. Fernandez	Thurs	5:00pm	23	20	24	22	19	24
Fresno	1111	Jimenez Mexican Grill Rest., 6561 N. Blackstone Ave	P. Sandoval	Tuesday	5:00pm	7	4	1	6	3	1
Fresno - Trees Inc.	4712	Round Table Pizza, First & Bullard	R. Ramos	Weds	5:30pm	1	5	2	7	4	2
Grass Valley	3513	The Grey Goose, 10100 Alta Sierra Drive*	M. Fitting	Weds	5:00pm	14	11	8	13	10	8
Gridley, City of	4017	Round Table Pizza, Hwy 99	S. Taylor	Thurs	5:00pm	2	6	3	8	5	3
Hayward/Fremont	2314	Bronco Billy's Pizza, 3940 Smith St., Union City	R. King*	Weds	5:30pm	15	19	16	21	18	16
Hinkley	1311	Clubhouse, Hinkley Compressor Station	P. Earl	Weds	5:30pm	X	5	X	7	X	2
Hollister	1219	Paine's Restaurant, 421 East St.	J. Schlegel	Weds	5:00pm	1	5	2	7	4	2
Jackson	2513	Mountain Mike's Pizza, 11974 Hwy. 88, Martell	B. Boitano	Tues	4:00pm	7	4	1	6	3	1
Klamath Falls	3022	Mia's and Pia's Pizza, 3545 Summers Lane	J. Rojas	Mon	5:45pm	20	17	21	19	16	21
Lakeport	3715	Senior Center, 527 Konocti Ave.	S. Mayfield	Tues	5:00pm	7	4	8	6	3	8
Lemoore	1128	230 Fox St.	M. Aguirre	Thurs	5:45pm	9	13	10	15	12	10
Livermore	2315	Round Table Pizza, 1024 Stanley Blvd.	J. Pruet	Weds	4:00pm	22	26	23	28	25	23
Lodi, City of	2516	Cheezer's Pizza, Kettleman Lane	D. Schulz	Thurs	5:00pm	9	13	10	8	12	10
Loomis	3510	Round Table Pizza, Horseshoe Bend	C. Lavezzo	Tues	6:15pm	21	18	22	20	17	22
Los Banos	1115	Dutra's Towing Club House, 830 "I" Street	P. Danieli	Tuesday	4:00pm	21	18	15	20	17	15
Madera	1113	Madera Valley Inn, 317 "G" Street	R. Danieli/D. Camarena	Wednesday	4:30pm	15	12	9	14	18	9
Marysville	3611	Stassi's, Fourth Street	M. Anderson	Weds	5:00pm	1	5	2	7	4	2
Merced	1123	Branding Iron, 640 W. 16th St., Merced	M. Jameson	Wednesday	5:30pm	8	5	2	7	4	2
Merced ID	1122	Branding Iron, 640 W. 16th St.	C. Tatum	Thursday	5:00pm	9	6	3	8	5	3
Mirant	2319	Skipolini's Pizza, Fitzhuren Drive, Antioch	J. Ricard	Weds	4:00pm	22	26	23	28	25	23
Modesto	2515	Round Table Pizza, 1515 Mitche Rd., Ceres	T. Fortune	Weds	5:30pm	8	12	9	14	11	9
Modesto/Modesto Irr. Dist.	2518	Hero's Sports Lounge, 821 "L" Street	M. Gomes	Weds	5:00pm	1	5	2	7	4	2
Napa	3716	Round Table Pizza, 3331 Solano Ave.	J. Kent	Thurs	6:00pm	9	6	10	8	5	10
Napa/Davey Tree-Tree Inc.	4710	Round Table Pizza, 3331 Solano Ave.	E. Hurtado	Tues	4:00pm	21	18	15	20	17	15
North Lake Tahoe/Kings Beach	3320	Carpenter's Hall, Kings Beach (Deer Street)	B. Warmuth	Weds	5:30pm	15	19	16	21	18	16
Novato/Marin County	3711	Round Table Pizza, S. Novato Blvd., Novato	I. Snyder	Weds	5:30pm	8	12	9	14	4	9
Oakland Physical	2311	Francesco's, Hegenberger & Pardee	M. Swain*	Tues	4:45pm	7	4	1	6	3	1
Oakland/City of	2211	Francesco's, Hegenberger & Pardee	A. Fortier	Thurs	4:00pm	16	20	17	15	19	17
Paradise	3417	Round Table Pizza, 6038 (B) Clark Rd	R. Manley	Weds	5:30pm	15	12	9	14	11	9
Placerville	3813	Spanky's Pizza, 197 Placerville Dr.	G. McNamara	Tues	3:45pm	7	4	1	6	3	1
Placerville - Davey Tree	4714	Round Table Pizza, 512 Main Street	S. Speak	Tues	4:00pm	7	4	1	6	3	1
Portland, OR	3026	TC Headquarters - Portland	C. Mollenshott	Thurs	12:00pm	16	20	17	15	19	17
Red Bluff	3214	Casa Ramos, 2001 Main Street	J. Johnstone	Thurs	5:45pm	9	6	3	8	5	3
Red Bluff/Davey Tree	4720	Round Table Pizza, 116 Belle Mill Rd	P. Ely	Thurs	3:30pm	23	27	24	22	*19	*22
Redding	3212	Round Table Pizza, 2808 McMurry Dr., Anderson	R. Rylee	Weds	5:15pm	8	5	2	7	4	2
Redding, City of	3217	Round Table Pizza, 900 Dana Drive	P. Snyder	Tues	5:00pm*	7	4	1	6	3	1
Redding/Davey Utility	4419	Round Table Pizza, 900 Dana Drive	R. Bodner	Weds	5:00pm	22	26	23	21	*16	23
Redmond, OR	3028	TC Headquarters - Redmond	D. Trueax	Thurs	5:00pm	9	13	10	8	12	10
Redwood City - Asplundh Tree	4711	Mountain Mike's Pizza, 120 El Camino Real	D. Urbina	Tues	6:00pm	21	18	15	20	17	15
Reno, NV	3311	IBEW LU 401, 2713 E. 4th St.	D. Moler	Weds	6:00pm	1	5	2	7	4	2
Richmond	2318	La Strada Rest., 2215 Church Lane, San Pablo	T. Verndon	Weds	4:00pm*	1	5	2	6	4	2

IBEW 1245 UNIT MEETING SCHEDULE: JULY—DECEMBER 2009

CITY	UNIT	LOCATION	UNIT CHAIR	DAY	TIME	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Richmond/E. Bay Clerical	2301	La Strada Rest., 2215 Church Lane, San Pablo	D. Ambeau	Weds	6:00pm	1	5	2	7	4	2
Roseville, City of	3512	Fast Freddie's Pizza, 130 Main Street	D. Willford	Weds	4:15pm	1	5	2	7	4	2
Sacramento	3811	Florin Rebecca Hall, 8360 Florin Rd.	L. Mennel	Weds	5:15pm	1	5	2	7	4	2
Sacramento - Trees & Davey	4717	Pizza Bell, 8591 Elk Grove Blvd. Elk Grove, CA	J. Ferralis	Tues	4:00pm	14	11	8	13	10	8
Sacramento Clerical	3801	Round Table Pizza, 4680 Natomas, Ste. 170*	K. Krummes*	Tues*	4:30pm*	7	4	1	6	3	1
Sacramento Muni Utility Dist	3911	Dante Club	J. Basil	Weds	4:30pm	8	12	9	14	11	9
Sacto MUD/Fresh Pond	3912	50 Grand Club, Pollock Pines	R. Curtis	Weds	5:00pm	1	5	2	7	4	2
Sacramento Regional Transit	3011	Espanol Restaurant	C. Bibbs*	Weds	4:30pm	15	19	16	21	18	16
Salinas	1211	Mountain Mikes Pizza, E. Alisal	D. Montanez	Tues	5:00pm	7	4	1	6	3	1
San Francisco	2412	Ship Clerks Union Local 34 Hall, 4 Berry St.	V. Jones	Weds	4:30pm	1	5	2	7	4	2
San Jose	1511	Straw Hat Pizza, 1535 Meridian Ave.	D. Johnson	Weds	5:15pm	8	12	9	14	18	9
San Jose - Asplundh Tree	4713	Mountain Mike's, 1289 S. 1st. St.	E. Arellano	Thurs	4:00pm	9	13	10	8	12	10
San Luis Obis./Pismo Beach	1215	Vallarta's Mexican Food, 1761 Monterey Street, SLO	S. Weaver	Thurs	4:00pm	9	6	10	8	5	10
San Luis Obispo/DCPP	1220	Margie's Diner, 1575 Calle Joaquin	L. Moon	Weds	5:30pm	8	5	9	7	4	9
San Rafael Davey Tree	4722	Round Table Pizza, 915 Sir Francis Drake, San Anselmo	L. Maltez	Thurs	4:00pm	7	4	1	6	3	1
Sandpoint	3021	Sandpoint Headquarters	D. Christman	Weds	5:00pm	8	12	9	14	11	9
Santa Clara, City of	1411	Vesuvios Resturant, 3044 El Camino	B. Burkle	Weds	4:30pm	8	12	9	14	11	9
Santa Cruz	1513	VFW Post #7263, 2259 7th Ave.	G. Bargas	Tues	4:30pm	14	11	8	13	10	8
Santa Maria	1216	Round Table Pizza, 2508 S. Broadway	S. Armstrong	Weds	4:00pm	15	12	16	14	18	16
Santa Rosa	3712	Round Table, Steele & Cleaveland	L. Stubblefield	Tues	6:00pm	7	4	1	6	3	1
Santa Rosa/Davey Tree	4719	Round Table Pizza, Marlow & Guerneville	D. Rathe	Weds	4:00pm	15	19	16	14	18	16
Selma	1120	Sal's Mexican Restaurant, 2163 Park St.	A. Lomas*	Thursday	4:30pm	16	13	10	15	12	10
Shasta - USBR	3218	Market Street Pizza, 871 N. Market St., Redding*	P. Mastan	Tues	5:15pm	21	18	15	20	17	15
Sonora	2517	Round Table Pizza, 13769 Mono Way	D. Alcorn	Tues	4:00pm	14	11	8	13	10	8
South Feather Water & Power	4016	Round Table Pizza, Oro Dam Blvd. E., Oroville	R. McCullough	Weds*	6:00pm*	22	26	23	28	25	23
South Lake Tahoe	3314	Round Table Pizza, 1062 Emerald Bay Rd	P. Stahl	Thurs	5:00pm	2	X	3	X	5	X
Spankel, WA/Rosalia	3027	TC Headquarters - Rosalia	P. Brown	Thurs	5:00pm	9	13	10	8	12	10
Spokane, WA	3025	TC Headquarters - Spokane	vacant	Thurs	12:00pm	16	20	17	15	19	17
Stockton	2511	Ed Stewart American Legion Post #803, 3110 N. West Ln.	C. DeLaTorre	Thurs	6:30pm	9	13	10	8	12	10
Stockton - Trees Inc.	4718	Eddie's Pizza, 1048 Waterloo Road	J. Ferrufino	Weds	6:30pm	8	12	9	14	11	9
Stockton Clerical	2509	8110 Holman Road, Ste. #1	Diane Tatu	Thurs	4:00pm	9	13	10	8	12	10
Susanville (LMUD/Frontier)	4012	The Pizza Factory	K. Merrill	Thurs	5:30pm	9	13	10	15	12	10
Templeton	1217	The Pizza Place 105 Main St.	J. Comancho	Tues	4:00pm	14	11	15	13	10	15
Tiger Creek/Pine Grove	2519	Pine Grove Pizza, 19724 St. Hwy 88, Pine Grove	L. Pence	Tues	6:00pm	21	18	15	20	17	15
Topock	1313	PSEA Clubhouse, Moabi Park	K. Feil	Thurs	4:45pm	X	6	X	8	X	3
Truckee Meadows Water Auth	3310	Round Table Pizza, Mira Loma & McCarren, Sparks	F. Chadwick	Tues	4:30pm	X	4	X	6	X	1
Turlock	1126	Turlock Chamber of Commerce, 115 S. Golden State Blvd	A. Baker*	Thurs	4:00pm	2	6	3	1	5	3
Ukiah	3714	Ukiah Garden Café, 1090 S. State Street	C. Spaletta	Weds	5:30pm	8	5	9	7	4	9
USBR/CVO	3012	Round Table Pizza, 7943 Greenback Lane, Citrus Hts.	P. Pipis	Tues	5:00pm	14	11	8	13	10	8
Vacaville	3812	Pietro's #2 679 Merchant St.	P. Colip*	Weds	4:30pm	8	12	9	14	11	9
Vacaville/Outside Line	4911	Ron Weakley Hall, IBEW 1245, 30 Orange Tree Circle	C. Kelly	Weds	7:00pm	8	12	9	14	11	9
Walla Walla	3023	TC Headquarters - Wallula	M. Prior	Thurs	5:00pm	9	13	10	8	12	10
Wells R.E.C.	3319	Silver Sage Senior Citizens Center, 1st St., Wells NV	A. Reusch	Weds	5:00pm	X	12	X	14	X	9
Winnemucca	3317	Los Marguerits, 47 E. Winnemucca Blvd	J. Henriod*	Weds	7:00pm	X	12	X	14	X	9
Yerington	3313	Round Table Pizza*	P. Roberts*	Tues*	6:00pm	X	4	X	6	X	1
RETIREEES CLUB											
Retirees - Dublin		IBEW Local 595, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin	M. Silva	Thurs	10:00am	9	13	10	8	12	10
Retirees - Merced		Merced Senior Community Ctr., 755 W. 15th St., Merced	M. Bonds	Tues	10:00am	7	4	1	6	3	1
Retirees - San Jose		IBEW Local 332, 2125 Canoas Garden, San Jose	J. Hill	Thurs	10:00am	2	6	3	1	5	3
Retirees - Santa Rosa		Coco's Restaurant, 1501 Farmers Lane, Santa Rosa	L. Mead	Tues	10:00am	7	4	1	6	3	1
Retirees - Vacaville		IBEW Local 1245, 30 Orange Tree Circle, Vacaville	R. Renoude	Weds	10:00am	8	12	9	14	11	9

Newly Retired, from page 7

Arthur Moniz 12 years Pleasanton, CA	John Nelson 16 years Redding, CA	John Prehn 18 years Paradis, CA	Larry Simpson 28 years Unavailable	Leticia Viray 36 years Dublin, CA
Robert Morante 35 years Riverbank, CA	David Olivieri 31 years Eureka, CA	John Rogers 41 years Kerman, CA	Jonathan Smiga 35 years Dublin, CA	Wesley Wild 29 years Folsom, CA
Steve Morgan 24 years Vallejo, CA	Rosemary Paz 28 years Santa Maria, CA	Joseph Sigala 38 years Salinas, CA	Leo Starnes 42 years Elk Grove, CA	
Andrew Munoz 35 years Manteca, CA	John Perry 40 years Tracy, CA	Sheryl Silva 25 years Eureka, CA	James Sullivan 35 years Antioch, CA	
Lawrence Murtha 37 years Queen Creek, AZ	Robert Phillips 25 years Paso Robles, CA	Milton Silver 37 years Ben Lomond, CA	Lawrence Velasquez 41 years Visalia, CA	



The Auburn Unit meeting in April included, standing from left: Jim Elsie (retiree), Kevin Davis, Donna Uyeda, Steve Cole and Russ Weinholdt. Seated, from left: Jack Maslov, John Martinez and Gene Lemaster. Among the hot topics discussed: Operator work being added to the duties of Substation Maintenance Electricians. The Electricians say they should be upgraded to Operator pay when performing Operator duties.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Officers and Members of the
International Brotherhood of Electrical
Workers, Local No. 1245
Vacaville, California

We have audited the accompanying statement of Financial Position arising from cash transactions as of December 31, 2008 and the related Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local No. 1245 for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Local's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these

financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note 1, these financial statements are prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Accordingly, the accompanying statements are not intended to present financial position and results of operations in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the cash basis transactions of Local No. 1245 for the year ended DECEMBER 31, 2008 and the financial position- cash basis at DECEMBER 31, 2008 in accordance with the basis of accounting as noted above.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The accompanying supplemental information (shown on pages 8 to 21) is presented for the purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

San Bruno, California
March 16, 2009
DALMAS ACCOUNTANCY CORP.

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL NO. 1245 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION ARISING FROM CASH TRANSACTIONS December 31, 2008

Assets

General Fund:

Bank of the West - checking accounts	204,774	
Bank of the West - money market	571,444	776,218
Cash funds		5,350

Investments:

Merrill Lynch Institutional Money Fund	14,242	
Merrill Lynch-CMA Money Fund	859,093	
-Corporate Bonds	164,617	
-U.S. Government Securities	595,235	
-Mutual Funds	106,510	
-Common Stocks	215,678	
-Preferred Stocks	252,151	
Bank of the West-Short term Treasury Portfolio	1,065,967	
Franklin Income Fund	715,398	
Total General Fund		4,770,459

Political Donation Fund- checking account	6,391	
Total Current Assets	4,776,850	
200 shares PG&E common stock - at cost	3,388	
Loan receivables-Energy Workers Center, Inc.	654,605	

Fixed assets, (Note 1):

Automobiles (41) at cost	926,754	
Less: allowance for depreciation	706,936	219,818
Furniture and office equipment - at cost	578,590	
Less: Allowance for depreciation	354,227	224,363
Total Assets		<u>5,879,024</u>

Liabilities and Net Assets

Liabilities:

IBEW per capita portion of December receipts to forward	228,228	
Vacation payable	560,797	
Current Liabilities		789,025

Net Assets:

Unrestricted	5,083,608	
Temporarily restricted- Political Donation Fund	6,391	5,089,999
Total Liabilities and Net Assets		<u>5,879,024</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL NO. 1245 STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS POLITICAL DONATION FUND TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED For the Year Ended December 31, 2008

Cash balance, December 31, 2007	838
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Receipts:

Portion of Local Union dues directly deposited to this fund	35,538
Total receipts and balance	<u>36,376</u>

Disbursements:

Re-elect Carole Midgen	2,000
Capital Web Works filing fees	260
Dues refunded	1
Labor Leader Committee	140
San Mateo Central Labor Council - Cope	300
Hunter Stern - Sperling Initiative expense & other reimbursements	1,252
Landis Martilla - Cope dinner / Noon expense reimbursements	873
Committee to re-elect Tom Collins	2,000
Committee to re-elect John Ocegueda	2,000
Committee to re-elect David Parks	500
Committee to re-elect Debbie Smith	500
April Mastroluca for Assembly	500
Committee to re-elect John Lee	1,000
Committee to re-elect Valerie Wiener	1,000
Committee to re-elect Steven Horsford	1,000
Friends for Marilyn Kirkpatrick	500
Committee to re-elect Tick Segerblom	500
Friends of David Bobzen	500
Committee to re-elect Bonnie Parnell	500
Committee to re-elect Moise Denis	500
Committee to re-elect Sheila Leslie	500
Committee to re-elect Marcus Conklin	1,000
Committee to re-elect Barbara Buckley for Assembly	500
HH Imagining- No on H door hangers	8,240
Arlene Edwards- CLC dinner	125
Phil Carter- CLC dinner	125
Lula Washington- CLC dinner	125
Friends of Nancy Bui	1,000
Ken Murray	999
Yee for State Senate	500
Bill Thomason for Truckee PUD Board	275
Howard Bowden for LMUD Board	250
Matthew Lavacot for LMUD Board	250
North Bay Cope Banquet	270
Total disbursements	<u>29,985</u>

Cash balance, December 31, 2008	<u>6,391</u>
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

EXHIBIT C. INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL NO. 1245 STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS For the Year Ended December 31, 2008

Cash and investments balance, beginning December 31, 2007	<u>3,833,908</u>
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Receipts:

Local Union portion of receipts:	
"A" members' dues	192,300
"BA" members' dues	10,913,707
Initiation fees	32,788
Reinstatement fees	859
Agency fees	93,260
Working dues	1,663,825
Hiring hall dues	901,229
Retiree's club dues	<u>24,815</u>
	13,822,783

Reimbursements to General Fund:

Interest and investment income	(407,363)
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Refunds and reimbursements:

Union Shopper	16,578
Other receipts	57,787

Energy Workers Inc. improvement loan payments:

Principal	89,498
Interest	52,675
Arbitration settlement	36,260
Automobiles sales	<u>8,705</u>
	(145,860)

International portion of receipts:

"A" members' per capita	364,869
"BA" members' per capita	2,121,752
Initiation fees	37,276
D.B.A.F. fees	260
Reinstatement fees	4,352
Agency fees	<u>18,238</u>
	2,546,747

Total receipts	<u>16,223,670</u>
Total balance and receipts	20,057,578

Disbursements, per Page 14 of Schedule of Disbursements	<u>15,287,119</u>
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Cash and investments balance, December 31, 2008, Details in Statement of Financial Position arising from cash transactions	<u>4,770,459</u>
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Affiliation fees:

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers	2,675,000
Santa Clara C.L.C.	8,580
Alameda C.L.C.	11,520
Nevada State AFL-CIO	1,050
Nevada State Electrical Association	840
Sacramento C.L.C.	9,600
San Francisco C.L.C.	15,085
State Association of Electrical Workers	683,106
Contra Costa C.L.C.	9,900
Marin County C.L.C.	4,776
San Joaquin and Calaveras C.L.C.	4,119
Butte-Glenn C.L.C.	1,500
Napa-Solano C.L.C.	1,926
Fresno-Madera C.L.C.	5,400
Merced-Mariposa C.L.C.	1,350
Stanislaus-Tuolumne C.L.C.	1,116
Marysville C.L.C.	1,200
Humboldt-Del Norte C.L.C.	603
Five Counties C.L.C.	852
Monterey County C.L.C.	3,630
Government Coordinating Council	600
San Mateo C.L.C.	3,600
Joint Executive Conference-N.C. Electrical Workers	100
Tri Counties C.L.C.	2,520
Maritime Trades Post Council	600
Northern Nevada C.L.C.	1,650
Forum - Alameda Retired Members	35
TCC-4	<u>383</u>
	3,450,641

Staff expenses:

Salaries	5,188,611
Expenses	274,371
Automobile expenses	123,468

Auto Purchases	109,130
Fitness plan	499
	<u>5,696,079</u>

Research and Education:

Subscriptions and publications	18,637
Scholarship fund	1,500
	<u>20,137</u>

Office salaries:

Administration office salaries	303,730
Bargaining unit salaries	600,787
	<u>904,517</u>

Office expenses:

Rent	300,000
Telephone	86,672
Postage mail service and meter expense	57,348
Print room/printing	55,488
Supplies	14,530
Equipment maintenance	5,335
Data processing	13,199
Equipment rental	30,421
Utility reporter	117,571
Miscellaneous	7,214
Bank charges	3,721
Furniture and equipment purchases	59,552
Storage	3,035
	<u>754,086</u>

	Salaries Paid or Reimbursed	Expenses	Total
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Committee salaries and expenses:

Executive Board meetings	11,052	33,426	44,478
Executive Board Trial		3,116	3,116
Advisory Council	6,994	22,464	29,458
Trustee Committee	6,150	6,038	12,188
Review Committee	484	980	1,464
Safety Committee	14,682	8,082	22,764
Shop Steward expenses	272	9,480	9,752
Other conferences	5,144	43,797	48,941
Labor Management	377	3,854	4,231
Organizing		10,105	10,105
Grievance/FF/LIC	755	3,332	4,087
	<u>45,910</u>	<u>144,674</u>	<u>190,584</u>

Various Other Committees:

Sierra Pacific Power	26,563	105,526	132,089
Outside Line	1,054	4,797	5,851
Davey Tree	15,937	2,625	18,562
Retirees		698	698
Central Labor		418	418
So. San Joaquin		101	101
SMUD	732	128	860
Apprenticeship committee		70	70
Joint Grievance		40	40
Regional Transit	1,160	1,518	2,678
No. Calif. Port Authority	18,442	8,944	27,386
Utility Trees		66	66
Frontier committee		7,129	7,129
WAPA		446	446
City of Yerlington		95	95
Joint Apprenticeship		903	903
City of Alameda		51	51
City of Roseville		23	23
Training Membership		1,301	1,301
SF Muni		35	35
Merced ID		54	54
Outside Line Conference		389	389
Wells Rural Elect.		159	159
USBR	2,932	1,245	4,177
Tri Dam		327	327
Dynegy		468	468
Yuba Co Water		49	49
Foster Wheeler		59	59
Bella Vista	1,275	807	2,082
Ely MWP		126	126
Trees Inc.		9,269	9,269
City of Oakland	1,144	190	1,334
2008 Dues Ballot	2,486	10,380	12,866
Mirant Power Plant	140	797	937
MT. Wheeler		50	50
Truckee Meadows		516	516
Peer Volunteer program		2,518	2,518
Asplund		866	866
City of Santa Clara	4,421	1,338	5,759
Modesto I.D.	1,399	2,754	4,153

Utility Reporter

Truckee Donner	544	544	
So. Feather River	350	350	
City of Berkeley	576	576	
Turlock I.D.	511	357	868
City of Redding	4,562	4,562	
Plumas Sierra Rural	6,681	375	7,056
City of Ukiah		86	86
Trans Canada		3,407	3,407
City of Fenley		245	245
City of Gridley		134	134
	<u>84,877</u>	<u>177,911</u>	<u>262,788</u>

PG&E Negotiation Committees:

Departmental:			
Arbitration	805	63,143	63,948
Meal Committee		33	33
Clerical		1,036	1,036
Hiring Hall		318	318
CGT		499	499
Contract Center Future		49	49
EFC	731	1,123	1,854
Exhibit XVI	1,112	3,316	4,428
Benefits		2,294	2,294
Negotiations		130,972	130,972
Neg. Gen. Contract Committee		261	261
Service crew		1,395	1,395
Gas T&D		791	791
CRP		757	757
Dispatch		40	40
Helicopter		198	198
Misc. General Office Clerical		311	311
Misc. Physical		110	110
Barehand		436	436
Diablo Canyon		1,066	1,066
Transformation		1,789	1,789
Comet		18	18
System Operator	<u>1,974</u>	<u>137</u>	<u>2,111</u>
	<u>4,622</u>	<u>210,092</u>	<u>214,714</u>

Membership expenses:

Supplies - Intl.		1,833
Supplies - Local		2,147
Membership fees		6,495
Flowers/donations		258
Union Shopper		13,616
Lineman Rodeo		1,248
Golf tournament		183
		<u>25,780</u>

Membership benefits:

Group life insurance	87,124
Unit drawing award	600
Individual drawing award	600
Service award dinners	1,729
Social fund	12,500
	<u>102,553</u>

Payroll taxes:

Employee portion:	
U.S. income tax withheld	(888,609)
FICA withheld	(397,198)
California income tax withheld	(300,543)
SDI withheld	(34,233)
U.S. income tax forward	888,609
FICA forward	397,198
California income tax forward	300,543
SDI forward	34,233

Local Union's portion:

FICA	397,198
California Unemployment	20,251
U.S. Unemployment	2,960
	<u>420,409</u>

Employee benefits:

Health and Welfare plans	1,454,810
Group life insurance	159,495
Pension plan	928,467
Other costs, pension plans	36,686
	<u>2,579,458</u>

Other disbursements:

Legal fees	352,523
Hall rentals	87,278
Workmen's compensation insurance	51,848
Refunds	17,182
PRD fees	17,440
Payroll Deduction	813
Miscellaneous taxes	10,468
Insurance - auto	35,442
Insurance - bond - pension plans	17,131
Insurance - travel	1,000
Insurance - professional liability	18,314
Audit fees	31,100
Charitable donations	2,250
Miscellaneous fees	305
Consulting fees	22,279
	<u>665,373</u>
Total Disbursements	15,287,119

Agreement, from page 13

require special training. We will share more information as we get it.

We met with the contractors bidding on the Ely to Las Vegas 500kv line project. The bids go in on May 13. The project is scheduled for 2010.

There is also a report of a lot of work in Local 57, Transmission and Substation work. We met with BVCI at the Colusa Power Plant Project on April 29; this project should start in June with about one year of work for 30 members. There is also some associated T-line work to intertie this project onto PG&E's grid. There also is a WAPA T-line project in Trinity County that is in progress that will call for more members in the next few weeks.

Apprentice News

We currently have less than 300 Outside Line apprentices in the Cal-Nev JATC program. We are not planning to interview again until September of 2009, if needed.

We made an offer on a small piece of land in Woodland, CA, for a future site to be used as a Saturday school facility. This is bare land and would need all improvements made to it. If the purchase was successful it would take some time to improve the property to a useful condition.

Compliance Issues

Ongoing issues, and are working to run compliance where we are aware of non-union workers performing work in our jurisdiction. Two more of these compliance inquiries have led to settlements that were stated above.

Union Shopper

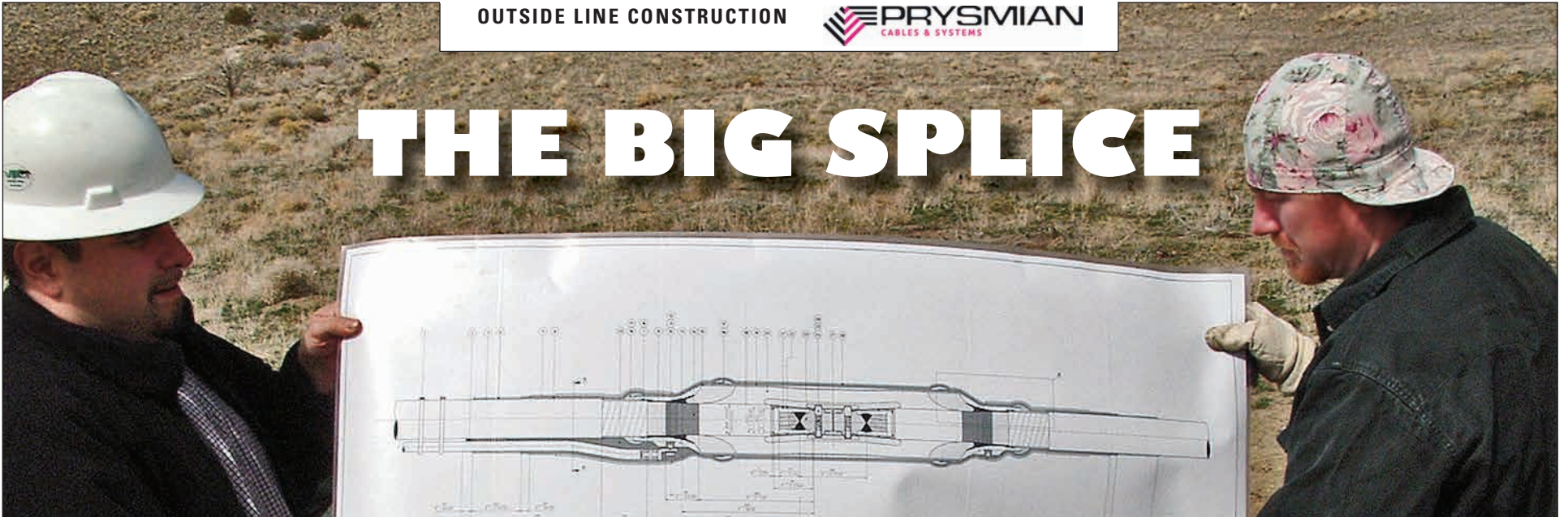
Gas Workers:
Show Your
Pride



Hat shown here with the IBEW 1245 gas logo. Navy blue brushed cotton with a low profile, unstructured front and fabric strap. Product ID: 1010 Price: \$12.00 Order from:

<http://store.imagepointe.com/ibew/>

THE BIG SPLICE



Photos by Ron Cochran

Joshua Rivera (left) and Jeffery Bonnett hold a blueprint showing a cross-section of the splice: the lead sheath, semi-conductor, insulation, and the mechanical part of the connector, which snaps into place to make a permanent connection.

IBEW Outside Line crews for Prysmian have been at work northeast of Reno this spring splicing cable for a loop connecting two Sierra Pacific Power substations.

The project includes overhead as well as Prysmian's 4-1/2 mile stretch of 115k underground transmission line.

"It takes between five and six days to complete the vault, including opening it up, doing the splicing, and cleaning up," says Assistant Business Manager Ron Cochran, who visited the site in March. "As splices go, these are very big splices," he notes.

The Prysmian crew's part of the job consists of 14 vaults. They are also installing risers and potheads. IBEW members at Par Electric are pulling the cable into the vaults.

Prysmian will play a role in upcoming construction of a trans-bay cable under San Francisco Bay, and hopefully providing good-paying union jobs in the years ahead.



Joshua Rivera, project manager.



The Prysmian crew, from left: Darren Carter, foreman and cable splicer; Joshua Rivera, project manager; Michael Bastian, cable splicer; and Jeffery Bonnett, operator/welder.



As cable splices go, it's a big one.



Working in the desert northeast of Reno. Left-over cable is stacked at right.



RIGHT: Michael Bastian and Darren Carter in the vault. Keeping your hands clean is a challenge.