



The Real Deal 7

Dalzell: On-Line Organizing 3

Vucurovich: Sandoval Essay Winner 4

IBEW Convention Delegate Election 4

Retirees Sue NV Energy 6

NV Energy Customers are Furious 7

Leadership Training: Building the Union 8

Outside Report: Work Plentiful 9

Public Sector: LMUD, South Feather, Redding 10

Perry Zimmerman Golf Tournament 16

Unit Schedule Second Half 2011 20

Cupertino Electric: Harnessing Rays 22

Shareholder Showdown!

Retirees enlist NV Energy shareholders in drive for accountability

IBEW Local 1245 retirees and supporters picket the NV Energy shareholder meeting in Las Vegas. Lineman Samson Wilson, front, later attended the meeting as a shareholder and asked about CEO Michael Yackira's conduct in the scandal surrounding Senator John Ensign.



It was not a good day for NV Energy CEO Michael Yackira. About a hundred picketers paraded the sidewalk outside the company's annual shareholder meeting in Las Vegas on May 3, chanting "NV Energy,

shame on you!" Inside the meeting, where many attendees wore IBEW 1245 tee-shirts, it just got worse. Retirees presented a resolution urging the utility's Board of Directors to amend company bylaws to allow holders of 15% of outstanding shares of common stock to call a special meeting of stockholders. The resolution was a clear call for more accountability by management, and the Board of Directors opposed it.

The resolution passed with 60% of the vote. A second resolution presented by retirees, which took aim at executive compensation, gathered a respectable 25% of all shares voted—indicating a strong undercurrent of dissatisfaction with exorbitant CEO pay packages.

Rita Weisshaar, vice president of the Reno-Sparks Chapter of the IBEW Local 1245 Retirees Club, had this to say about

Bargaining begins

PG&E Physical and Benefits

Negotiators for IBEW Local 1245 and Pacific Gas & Electric exchanged opening proposals on June 7 as general bargaining got underway at Weakley Hall in Vacaville.

Opening remarks were delivered by Local 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell and PG&E President Chris Johns, both of whom paid tribute to the parties' long relationship and continuing

desire to resolve issues at the bargaining table.

"Our proposals are almost without exception not generated by the union staff, but rather are drawn from our members in the field, both on benefits and on the working conditions in the Physical contract," Dalzell said. He encouraged company negotiators to view the union's

Continued on page 15

News briefs

Million-Woman-Lawsuit against Wal-Mart for discrimination was rejected by the U.S. Supreme Court, which basically ruled that Wal-Mart was too big to be sued.

Advanced Manufacturing Initiative is proposed by President Obama, who wants to see America start "making things" again.

New nuclear reactors got a thumbs-down from Fresno County. Supervisors there unanimously rejected plans for two proposed reactors.

Mass Suicide: Disgusted over the delay in payment of compensation, former employees of defunct Sri Krishnarajendra Mills in India have threatened to commit suicide if their demands are not met by July 8, *The Times of India* reported.

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



Eight teams took the field for our First Annual Gold Cup Soccer Tournament. Story begins on page 11.

Hold the Pull

We need everyone to stand down for a moment and reflect. In June there were two IBEW 1245 fatalities on the job, and at least two serious injuries. See page 2 and page 3.

Our union has lost two brothers in just one week.

These are personal tragedies, but they are also an urgent wake-up call. Each of us must answer that call.

Each member of the IBEW is expected to work safely each and every day, speak up and “Hold the Pull” when unsafe actions are witnessed, and demand that safety is the top priority of everyone on the job.



**Pay attention.
Watch out for each other.
No short cuts.**



**LINEMAN TO LINEMAN
SAFETY
CAMPAIGN**



IBEW 1245 SAFETY CODE OF EXCELLENCE

- Follow all safety rules (no short cuts)
- Work in a safe & healthy manner
- Appropriate PPE is always necessary, never an option
- Know the hazards
- Communication is essential
- Review your safety manual regularly
- Promote an alcohol and drug-free work place
- Arrive to work on time, ready & willing to work
- Have tailboards & pay attention
- Job scope changes—need new tailboard
- Respect everyone’s opinions & ideas
- Work within your experience level
- “Hold the Pull” stops work until everyone is brought up to speed
- Perform personal business, including cell phone use, during authorized break periods only
- If you see something, “say something”
- S.L.A.P. “Stop, Listen, Assess, Proceed”
- Use the proper tool for the job
- Safety starts within



Arcing and Sparking

Tom Dalzell
BUSINESS MANAGER

Organizing On-Line

When I started working with the United Farm Workers of America in 1972, some of the old hands taught me a trick: Before you organize people, you have to meet them. To meet them, you have to know where they are.

Back then, that meant fields, parking lots where crews gather, their homes, and the occasional bar. Now, with more than 500 million people on social networks like Facebook, that means going online. We've started down this road, with some interesting results so far.

In early 2010, we launched the Shame on NV Energy campaign to shine a light on NV Energy's betrayal of its retirees. As most of you know by now, NV Energy broke its promise to take care of its retirees' medical needs,

and attacked other benefits as well. We responded first with rallies and picket-lines. We have continued the battle for nearly two years through newspaper, radio and television ads, shareholder resolutions, petitions, a lawsuit, intervention at the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada, and more rallies and picketlines.

Our on-line Shame on NV Energy campaign represented a new front in this effort. We wanted to try something new to reach young people who weren't hanging out in the same old places—people we hadn't met yet. The Shame on NV Energy campaign includes a website and a Facebook page. This gave us an online base to organize from, and a means to reach out to our members, their friends and families, and to the broader population who might share some of our concerns.

We created videos of our workers telling their stories and posted news coverage of NV Energy's shameful treatment of its elderly retirees. We thought these stories were compelling, and we hoped that others would share our concerns about this company's outrageous behavior.

The result: nearly 40,000 people joined our cause on Facebook, making it the largest political organizing page in the state of Nevada. The next largest

continued on page 18

Jon Christensen dies in jobsite accident

Jon Christensen, a lineman from PG&E's Tracy yard and a seven-year IBEW member, was fatally injured June 21 while working in Tracy.

He is survived by a son, and by his wife, who gave birth to their second son the day following the fatal accident.

According to a preliminary PG&E report, Brother Christensen was working in an elevated bucket truck when he apparently made contact with a secondary electric line. His onsite supervisor immediately lowered the bucket and called 911.

Local 1245 extends its condolences to the family, friends and co-workers of Jon Christensen.

One Last Car in the Yard

*Rules and policies, books and procedures,
They are made for a reason, please be a believer.
We fear the worst, and pray for the best,
I want you to go home tonight, like all the rest.
The work is hard and very dangerous,
We must be alert or it will injure us.
Our families are proud of the work we do,
We make it look easy, but don't let them fool you.
Take life for granted, if you will
God didn't make you a lineman,
You were trained with a skill
Yes we know, it's not for everyone
But those who are, can get it done
Be your brother's keeper, we heard it before
Because we have no idea what is in store
Zero Damage, Zero injuries
They tally up the sheet
I want you to go home and put your kids to sleep
A Safety BBQ, a Safety watch, or a Safety pin
If we don't follow the rules, no one will win
I love you like my brother, I love you as a friend
I want you to live your life full, right to the end

There was one last car in the yard last night.*

Written by Sam Gutierrez Jr. after the death of his friend, Jon Christensen

Mike Wigt

Accident claims TID apprentice

Mike Wigt, a top step apprentice at Turlock Irrigation District, died on June 14 while working in an electrical panel at his house.

Brother Wigt, 24, was found by his mother, whose efforts to revive him were unsuccessful.

Mike was born in Modesto on Jan. 12, 1987 and after high school attended Northwest Lineman College. Along with his brother John, Mike pursued a career as a lineman. He also served as a third generation fire fighter with the Westport Fire Department.

Local 1245 joins the line department at TID in mourning the loss of this young and active IBEW member.



Mike Wigt, left, participated in the recent bowling tournament in Modesto between IBEW members from Turlock Irrigation District and Modesto Irrigation District. With him is his brother John, a lineman at MID.

All the booms were in the air at the Turlock Irrigation District on June 15 to honor Mike Wigt.



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Our phone number is (707) 452-2700.

Al Sandoval Competitive Scholarship

Mandy Vucurovich's winning essay

Mandy Vucurovich is the winner of the 2011 Al Sandoval Memorial Scholarship. Her winning essay, below, addressed the topic: "Describe how life might be different for your family today if there had been no IBEW Local 1245." Mandy is the daughter of 25-year member Matthew Vucurovich, a PG&E Lineman in San Francisco.

When my sister and I were little the moment we heard the screen screech in opening, we jumped out of our seats. Dad was home! We ran to greet him as he walked through the door, rejoicing his return. Back then he'd commute to San Francisco for work five days a week, but he always came home the same. Always carrying his work bag, taking off his ball cap, and every day a long-sleeved shirt covered in stains. The most striking being that radiant orange contrasting with the black spots from work. Those stains told me that my dad worked hard everyday as a lineman and now I know it's due to IBEW Local 1245 that he was given what he deserved.

If the IBEW had not been around I can honestly say I have no idea what my life would be like. My family probably wouldn't still be living in the same house that I grew up in, without IBEW's



President Mike Davis, left, presents the 2011 Al Sandoval Award to Mandy Vucurovich, daughter of Local 1245 member Matthew Vucurovich. The contest was judged by former Business Manager Perry Zimmerman, right.

efforts for better wages. We wouldn't have been able to see our family as much, since they live so far away. With IBEW my dad was able to take time off to spend time with our family. We could afford to take trips to see my Grandmas Peggy and Julie in Montana, or the rest in Alaska, Connecticut, and Germany. Without IBEW I'd hardly know a majority of my family, not to mention my life would be very different. We may not have stayed in Windsor and I wouldn't

have been given the opportunities that I've had. I'm not saying anywhere else I wouldn't have done well, but the teachers I've had in Windsor make learning so much more fun and interesting. I feel like I've been thoroughly prepared for college and in my opinion IBEW has

given me that.

Another thing I appreciate is the fact that IBEW has made so much emphasis on safety. Without its regulations on proper safety procedures and machinery my dad may not have been here today—or for that matter, a majority of my life. I may not have had the dad to play basketball with me, or the dad to celebrate the Giant's 2010 World Series win with, or the dad in the bleachers cheering and yelling embarrassingly. Yes, my dad was that guy. But I loved that he was there all the same. I can't even remember a time that he wasn't at one of my games. And I can't imagine a family road trip without dad driving.

How would my life be different without IBEW Local 1245? As far as fate versus free will goes, I believe some of the most important portions of my family's life have been given to us due to the efforts and free will of IBEW. The brotherhood has given us our life and opportunities, our connection with the rest of our family, and made it so my dad can come through the door everyday Monday through Friday. And for that I am grateful.

2011 IBEW Convention Delegate Election Results (top 12 are elected)

DELEGATE	VOTES	DELEGATE	VOTES
1 Cecelia De La Torre	503	32 Dennis Thompson	148
2 Dorothy Fortier	498	33 Stu Neblett	147
3 Bob Choate	419	34 Mike Cottrell	141
4 Al Fortier	382	35 Tana Prince	139
5 Anna Bayless-Martinez	381	36 Steve Segale	118
6 Christine Habecker	369	37 Gary Peterson	115
7 Eric Wolfe	368	38 Robin Goff	114
8 Darryl Norris	339	39 Casey Kelley	113
9 Art Freitas	332	40 Adam Caballero	110
10 Hunter Stern	316	41 Lloyd Cargo	108
11 Elizabeth McInnis	309	42 Scott Barnes	107
12 Landis Marttila	275	43 Mike Jessen	105
13 Pete Sandoval	267	44 Jeff Mapes	101
14 Graciela Nunez	258	45 Mike Rapozo	100
15 John Mendoza	253	46 Pat Patterson	99
16 Veronica Rivera	236	47 Jim Hummel	91
17 Ralph Armstrong	227	48 Russell Pittman	91
18 Thelma Dixon	227	49 Ken Gross	90
19 Mickey Harrington	221	50 David Stout	89
20 Phil Baker	206	51 Lonnie Bolden	86
21 Ann Tims	204	52 Jay Greer	78
22 Bill Brill	193	53 Justin Heberlein	76
23 Dennis Torres	189	54 Carl Olguin	74
24 Donna Franklin	173	55 Bryan Lovio	73
25 Rich Gutierrez	172	56 Rick Berridge	65
26 Lorenzo Arciniega	168	57 Steve Peeples	65
27 Carla McAfee-Evans	163	58 George Payne	58
28 Sergio Munoz	151	59 Walter Carmier	57
29 Jim Findley	150	60 Jesse Kenney	53
30 Lee Thomas	149	61 Ward Hollesen	42
31 Scott Hudelson	148		

Drawing for Lineman's Rodeo

Local 1245 plans to send 18 apprentices to the 28th Annual International Lineman's Rodeo & Expo, scheduled for October 12-15, 2011 in Bonner Springs, Kansas.

All Local 1245 line apprentices in good standing, who have completed at least one full year, are eligible to apply. A blind draw will be held to select the 18 participants.

The event includes a Safety and Training Conference on Oct. 12-13, an Expo on Oct. 14-15, and the Rodeo itself on Oct. 15, followed in the evening by an awards banquet.

Apprentice events will include a

written test, hurtman rescue, pole climb and CPR with AED.

Applications are to be made on-line. Go to: www.ibew1245.com/rodeoKC2011.html.

The drawing will be held in early August.



Barker, Amaral sworn in

IBEW Local 1245 President Mike Davis, right, administered the oath to two new members of the Advisory Council on April 30. Ken Amaral, middle, will now represent the old Drum Division of PG&E, Plumas Sierra REC, and City of Roseville. Amaral is a 32-year IBEW member and Senior Hydro Clerk in Auburn. Now representing PG&E General Construction is Casey Barker, a lineman and 20-year member of IBEW.



IBEW 1245 wins "Superstar Award"

The North Valley Labor Federation presented IBEW Local 1245 with its "Superstar Award" for our local's action during the 2010 political season. Accepting on behalf of the union were, from left, Denise Miller, Modesto Irrigation District; Cecelia de la Torre, PG&E, and Local 1245 Treasurer; Local 1245 Business Rep. Hunter Stern; Aaron Baker, Turlock Irrigation District; Local 1245 Business Rep. Sheila Lawton; and Diane Tatu, PG&E. The award was presented April 27 in Stockton.

Souders hired

Charley Souders, a distribution system operator at Merced Irrigation District, has been hired to be a Local 1245 business representative.

Souders, 31, has served the union in several capacities: as show steward, bargaining committee member, and recording secretary for Unit 1122. He also was part of the Local 1245 team that traveled to Florida this spring to help mobilize opposition to anti-union legislation.



"I look forward to the challenges of the position and look forward to working with members and stewards to better the working conditions," Souders said.

His initial assignment area as business representative includes City of

Roseville, City of Lodi, South San Joaquin Irrigation District, TriDam, Modesto Irrigation District, Turlock Irrigation District and Merced Irrigation District.

Welcome aboard, Charley!

Unit updates

Unit 3000, Davis, has changed the monthly meeting day (from the 2nd Thursday of the month to the 2nd Wednesday) and time (from 4:00 PM to 4:30 PM). This change will be effective starting with the July 2011 meeting. The location will remain the same at Steve's Pizza in Davis. The new unit chair is Brother Richard Turk.

Brian Kapaun, Business Representative

Unit 4015, Burney (Frontier), has a new meeting location: Gepetto's Pizza, 37277 Main St., Burney. Meeting dates and time remain the same.

Sheila Lawton, Business Rep.

Unit 1111, Fresno, has a new meeting location effective June 7, 2011. The new meeting location is DiCicco's Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria, 408 Clovis Ave., Clovis, Ca.

Mike Grill, Business Representative

Unit 3212, Redding, has changed the start time from 4:00PM to 5:00PM starting in July. Dates and location remain the same.

Kit Stice, Business Representative

Showdown, from page 1

NV Energy: "We think they have a severe case of corporate greed."

As the meeting drew to a close, Board Chairman Philip Satre asked if there were any questions. NV Energy Lineman and stockholder Samson Wilson had this one:

"Senator Ensign—who asked Mr. Yackira to hire his former senior aide Doug Hampton as a lobbyist for NV Energy in violation of federal criminal law—has resigned. Mr. Hampton has been indicted. Has the independent Board of Directors investigated Mr. Yackira's conduct in this matter and concluded there are no concerns about his continuing service under these circumstances?"

It was a polite way of asking if the Board of Directors had noticed that Yackira has managed to taint the company's reputation by allowing it to become associated with one of the sleaziest political scandals of the modern era.

Satre affirmed the directors had looked into the matter and had no concerns. The meeting was then quickly adjourned.

Retiree Benefits Down, Executive Pay Up

NV Energy's retirees have a bone to pick with their former employer. Under Yackira the company has slashed retiree medical benefits, even as company profits rose 25% last year to \$227 million and Yackira's own compensation has gone up 42% in just three years.

Before going inside to present one of the shareholder resolutions, Rita Weisshaar spoke to about 100 workers demonstrating outside.

"As retirees we put a lot of our hard-earned money—and faith—into NV Energy," said Weisshaar, a retiree, shareholder, and vice president of the IBEW Local 1245 Reno-Sparks Retirees Club. Retirees, she said, had counted on the company to grow their investment in a responsible manner.

"We don't feel like they are being a responsible company. We think that they have a severe case of corporate greed," Weisshaar said. "We don't like some of the things their leadership is

doing so we came out (to present) shareholder resolutions to try to get things back on course."

Rod Thomas, a journeyman substation electrician, said that retirees took action at the shareholders meeting because they feel like they have been "lost in the shuffle."

"We wanted to make sure we have a voice in what happens with this corporation for the issues that directly affect us." Proposing a resolution to give shareholders the power to call special meetings, he said, "helped us get back in the spotlight a little bit."

Thomas said the cost of his medical insurance was \$48 a month when he retired in 2008. "Now I pay \$456 per month for my insurance," he said. "It has almost tripled every year since I retired."

Ron Borst, president of the Reno-Sparks chapter of the Retirees Club, said retirees had become involved in the shareholder meeting to show NV Energy "that we're really serious as retirees about what's going on with our medical benefits being reduced."

"It used to be a very very good place to work," said Weisshaar, echoing the sentiments of many of the retirees present. "I was very proud to be part of them. I was very proud to put my money behind them in order to make the company grow. And now I'm ashamed. Shame on NV Energy for what they've been doing."

About 20 retiree club members made the journey to Las Vegas for the shareholders meeting. Tom Bird, president of a Retiree Club chapter recently organized in Yerington, praised Vegas-area unions for joining the picket and rally outside the meeting, noting there were representatives from Culinary Workers Local 226, IBEW Local 396, IBEW Local 357, Sheet Metal Workers Local 88, the Sierra Club, and the Nevada Association of Retired Americans.

"We're always moving forward on this and I think we're going to take this to the bitter end," said Bird. "It feels good to see the solidarity and the unions come together. We're all in this fight together even though a lot of us may not think so, we're in a fight for survival nationwide."



NV Energy retirees celebrate passage of one of the shareholder resolutions they put forward at the company's annual meeting.

APPOINTMENTS

TRANS-CANADA

2011 Negotiating Committee

Neil Isley, Shaun O'Neill, Gary Withrow

PARADISE IRRIGATION DISTRICT

2011 Negotiating Committee

Laura Capra, Jeremy Gentry, Alan Wilson

FOSTER-WHEELER

2011 Bargaining Committee

Bryan Hewin, Devin Mun

CONFERENCES

International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans

Mike Davis

Grace Carroll Rocky Mountain Labor School

Sarah Stevenson, Denver Thomas, Bryce Twichell

Coalition of Labor Union Women National Executive Board Meeting

Anna Bayless-Martinez, Cecelia De La Torre, Linda Fernandez, Chris Habecker

CALENDAR

July 8: OSHA 10 ET&D Training, Vacaville

July 30: Advisory Council, Reno

Aug 5: Service Awards, Ukiah

Aug 6: Service Awards, Eureka

Aug 6-7: 9th Dist. Softball Tourney, Santee

Sep 14: PG&E Stewards Training, San Francisco

Sep 28: PG&E Stewards Training, Sacramento

Retirees' Corner



Utility took away benefits already agreed to Retirees file suit against NVE

A class of NV Energy retirees whose health benefits were reduced filed a lawsuit in federal court on May 19, 2011 against the utility.

Before retiring, the plaintiffs gave up additional pension benefits in exchange for the maintenance of their health benefits and premiums during retirement. NV Energy has reneged on that commitment by unilaterally cutting retiree benefits and increasing their premiums.

Despite reporting \$227 million in profits in 2010 – a nearly 25% increase from the year before – NV Energy has refused to negotiate with its 600 retirees in the last 19 months.

"This is not the company I once knew," said Ron Borst, a retired journey-

man lineman and President of the Reno/Sparks Retiree Club. "We gave so much to NV Energy – some gave life and limb – and they won't even negotiate with us while they take away our health care."

NV Energy has eliminated electric line crews throughout Nevada and closed all but one customer service office in the state. These cuts earned NV Energy the worst customer service rating in the West by J.D. Power and Associates.

"It would be easier to understand if NV Energy was going under. But it's not – it's making hundreds of millions of dollars and still forcing retirees to pay 100% of all increases in our health care premiums," said Rita Weisshaar, a retired NV Energy employee. "There's a real disconnect here between what's right – and what NV Energy is doing."

The "Shame on NV Energy" campaign has spotlighted the company's recent cuts in full-page newspaper, radio and television ads throughout Nevada. The campaign's Facebook group, Facebook.com/ShameOnNV Energy has gained over 38,000 supporters, becoming one of the largest online advocacy groups in the state of Nevada.



Retiree Club Meeting Schedule

You can find the specific dates for each month at www.ibew1245.com/unit_meetings.html

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.

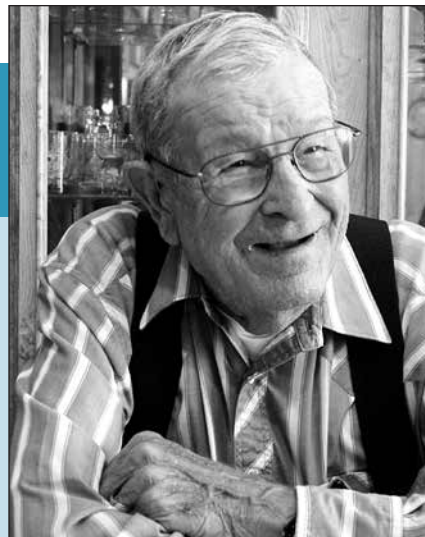
Vacaville/Sacramento Chapter: 2nd Wednesday every other month, 10 a.m., at IBEW Local 1245, 30 Orange Tree Circle, Vacaville, CA.

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.

Reno/Sparks Chapter: 3rd Wednesday each month, 8:30 a.m., Denny's Restaurant, 205 E. Nugget Ave., Sparks, NV.

Yerrington Chapter: 4th Tuesday each month, 11:30 a.m., Casino West, 11 Main Street, Yerrington, NV.



Sylvester Kelley, 1923-2011 The real deal

his part to keep the union strong. He was elected unit chair in the 1950s, and for eight years commuted from Carson to Reno to lead the meetings. Business Rep. Roy Murray appointed him to the union's grievance committee.

When a supervisor insisted on working his crew 15 minutes past quitting time every day without pay, Kelley filed a grievance.

"He got mad, man," he recalled, that smile flickering at the corner of his mouth again.

Into the Battle

He threw himself into the battle for retiree medical benefits with the determination of the lineman he's always been. Just like the battle to get the lights on, no matter the weather, he saw the current struggle over retiree medical benefits as a necessary job—something you just have to do.

He appeared in full-page newspaper ads sponsored by the union throughout the state of Nevada. He also told his story in a powerful 60-second television spot that aired in Nevada's major media markets.

He never asked for anything in return. He didn't ask, "What's the union done for me?" He knew, even in retirement, he was still part of the union and this was his fight, too.

Even 20 years into retirement, Kelley still thought of himself as a lineman, never begrudging anybody the hard work he performed.

"If I felt like it today I would go back to work, if I could," he said. "But I would probably tell some of these supervisors where to go to and stay put!"

Kelley struggled with many health problems in his later years. His left arm was badly injured on the job, and even after weeks of physical therapy remained misshapen the rest of his days. He suffered the usual ailments of old age after a life of hard work, but he was too much of a lineman to talk a lot about it or seek sympathy.

All he wanted was to live outside Silver Springs, NV in the well-maintained modular home with the American flag out front, secure in the knowledge that his growing medical needs would be taken care of.

In his last years, NV Energy took that security away.

Sylvester Kelley was the real deal: Lineman. Foreman. Troubleman.

And a union man to the core.

In the year before he died, on June 13, Kelley became the voice and the heart of the retirees' struggle for justice at NV Energy. He couldn't understand why the company was abandoning its promise to take care of his medical needs in retirement.

Kelley loved line work, and even as an oldtimer he'd flash an impish grin when he recalled his life in the trade. Like the time he and three others set 96 poles in 12 hours off Nevada Highway 40.

Or the time his leg plunged into eight feet of snow while his other leg shot out across the icy surface. His crew mates further up the hill, he recalled, watched in amusement as he searched for the bottom of the snowbank with his hot stick, trying to find a way to push himself out of the hole.

But as much as he liked to laugh with the retelling of old stories, there was plenty of steel left in Sylvester Kelley when he talked about NV Energy's broken promise to pay for his health care.

"I'm disappointed," he said in an interview last July. "Damned disappointed."

Like other retirees, Kelley saw the company's action as an act of betrayal. Betrayal doesn't sit well with a man who saw action on the frontlines of Europe during World War II. After the war he applied for a job at Sierra Pacific Power but the company turned him down because his bent finger wouldn't fit into the company's safety glove.

Kelley didn't complain about it. He just marched into the VA and had the finger amputated so the glove would fit.

He began as a grunt in 1948 and worked nearly 40 years in often rugged terrain and in every conceivable kind of weather, keeping our lights on.

He knew the value of having a union to watch your back, and did

Useful
links for
retirees

BLOG

Reno/Sparks IBEW 1245 retirees blog

<http://renosparksibew1245retireesclub.blogspot.com/>

IBEW Ninth District Blog

<http://ibewninthdistrictretirees.blogspot.com/>

GOP budget has big winners, and big losers

By Eric Wolfe

The Republican budget proposal sponsored by Rep. Paul Ryan and passed by the U.S. House in the spring would create big winners and big losers.

You can be pretty sure that you and almost everyone you know would not be among the winners if that budget ever becomes law.

For starters, it ends Medicare. Oh it might keep the name, but as a guaranteed program of health care for seniors, Medicare would be finished. Instead of guaranteed care when you're old and need it, you'd get a check to help you buy health insurance in the open market.

Good luck with that! Oh, and it turns out the amount of the subsidy is matched to general inflation, not medical inflation. So as medical costs continue to outpace general inflation, you will be invited to suck it up and pay more. A lot more.

But remember, I said there are winners, too.

For example, the House Republican budget keeps \$40 billion in tax loopholes for oil companies. Everyone knows the oil companies *sooo* need the help. Too bad about the funding for clean energy technologies—which the Republican budget completely elimi-

nates. But hey, somebody's got to pay so that the oil companies can be winners. The biggest oil companies together recorded \$35 billion in profits for the first quarter of 2011, according to recent Senate hearings.

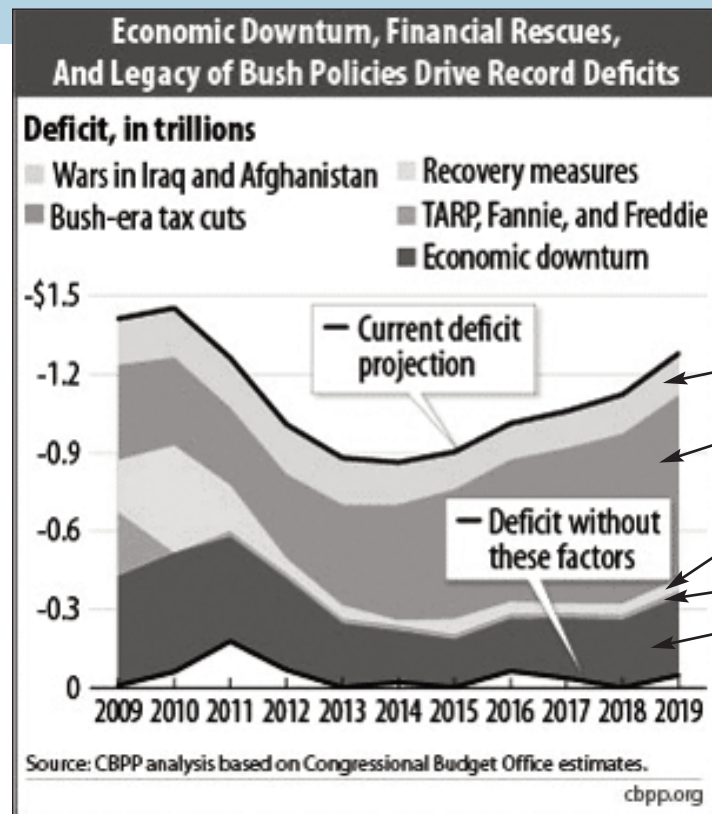
And there are other winners in the House budget, too. Remember those tax cuts for the wealthy that were supposed to be temporary? The Republicans voted to make them permanent. The Tax Policy Center found that the House budget plan would cut taxes on the richest 1 percent of the population *in half*.

At least there's a trickle-down benefit for the rest of us, right? Oops, sorry. Even as it slashes taxes for oil companies and the richest people on the planet, the House budget would raise taxes for 95% of the population. That's you and me, baby.

But how about that debt? Don't we have to do *something* about it? Duh. But what? It's so hard to figure out where all that debt came from.

Actually, no it isn't. Bush-era tax cuts for the rich are a huge part of the deficit, as the chart shown here makes clear. And those fat breaks for the fat cats already look to be the biggest and fastest-growing part of the debt going forward.

Under the House Republican budget



Tax cuts for the rich are driving the deficit problem, as illustrated by this chart based on estimates by the non-partisan Congressional Budget office.

plan, that situation would get worse. Much worse. The plan calls for \$2.9 trillion in *additional tax cuts*, mostly for the wealthy.

Republicans, as always, claim that tax cuts for the rich will stimulate the economy because the rich will go out and buy so many new yachts. That's the same argument they made 10 years ago when Bush slashed taxes on the rich as soon as he became president.

And how has *that* worked out for us? No net increase in jobs during Bush's entire presidency, a broken housing market, criminal enterprises operating

on Wall Street, the largest concentration of income in the hands of the wealthy since the Great Depression...

Fortunately the U.S. Senate, with a small Democratic majority, rejected the House Republican budget. But now Republicans are threatening to throw our nation into default if they don't get more cuts in programs and more tax breaks for the rich.

Economists warn that even the threat of a default could send our economy into a new tailspin. I suppose there will be winners and losers in that situation, too. Which group do you think *we'll* be in?

NV Energy snubs customers after transformer explosion

Getting the cold shoulder

Nearly a year after an NV Energy transformer exploded in Las Vegas, local business owners are still waiting for the utility to take responsibility for the blast and make restitution for the extensive property damage it caused.

"If I don't call them they won't call me," said Mayra Politis, owner of The Attic, a vintage clothing store that was damaged so extensively it will have to be rebuilt.

Politis began calling the company shortly after the July 11, 2010 explosion to inquire about restitution.

"I tried to reach them directly, but couldn't get anybody," she said. In desperation, she began picketing NV Energy headquarters in August.

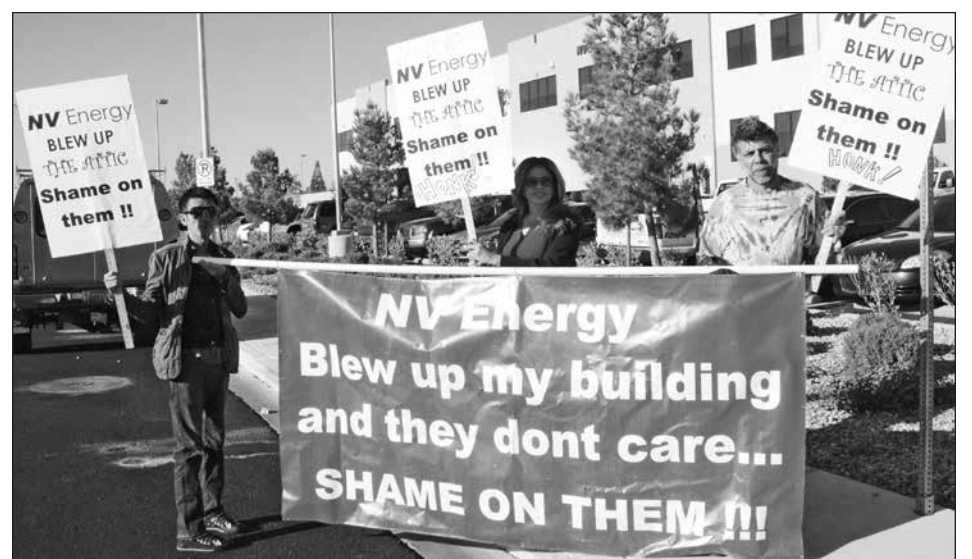
In January 2011, NV Energy finally spoke up—denying that the explosion was its fault. It pointed the finger at Southwest Gas, claiming that natural gas seeping from an underground gas pipeline triggered the explosion when it came into contact with a power conduit.

NV Energy said it intended to pay business owners for damages not covered by the owners' own insurance, but another five months later Politis is still running her business from temporary quarters—and hasn't seen a dime.

On May 3 she joined IBEW Local 1245 retirees and others picketing the NV Energy annual shareholders meeting. Though it was now nearly 10 months after the explosion, she still hadn't landed a meeting with anyone from the utility.

Finally, on May 6, she met with a company official.

"I put in my claim and haven't heard since," said Politis.



Mayra Politis, center, pickets NV Energy in Las Vegas on May 3, 2011, joining a protest at the company's shareholder meeting.

Justice Delayed, Justice Denied

For small business owners like Politis, justice delayed can amount to justice denied. She believes the company is intentionally putting her off.

"They're waiting me out, they know I will go under eventually and they will be out of it," Politis said. "NV Energy is all powerful and all mighty. We have no choice. They do whatever the hell they

want to do."

But Politis doesn't seem inclined to give up, despite the company's power. In fact, it seems to be the company's power and arrogance that fuels her quest for justice.

"I'm a capitalist and feel that everybody ought to make what they can make, but not off the skin and blood of everybody else," she said.

You can contact *The Attic*, Politis' business, at theattic@atticvintage.com.

Solidarity Action

Nevadans can help take a stand against NV Energy and other employers who are attacking our wages, benefits and bargaining rights. Join the Local 1245 Solidarity Action Network! Go to: www.ibew1245.com/news-NVE/SAN_Sign-Up_5-13-11.pdf

At the Leadership Training in Fresno, Gilbert Padilla, a co-founder of the United Farm Workers Union with Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta, told how young people flocked to southern California in the late 1960s and 1970s to help farmworkers battle for union recognition—including a very young Tom Dalzell, who is now Local 1245 Business Manager, and Fred Ross, Jr., now a Local 1245 organizer.

Though not as well known as Chavez, Padilla played a key role in the rise of the farm workers historic movement in the 1960s. According to Ross, Padilla was an organizer, negotiator, picket captain.

“He did it all,” said Ross.

Padilla said workers can accomplish much once they lose their fear. Farmworker activists, he said, weren’t afraid to be arrested when authorities made it difficult for them to picket.

“The strike in 1973, we had 1800 people arrested, sometimes three or four times a day,” he said, exaggerating only slightly. “Well, two times a day. They got arrested in the morning and arrested in the afternoon.”

He said an employer should be viewed as just another human being, not someone to fear but someone who is “taking advantage of you.”

Business Rep. Bob Dean, speaking about the history of IBEW, agreed that “fear is a huge enemy” because it gets in the way of people’s willingness to stand up for themselves and “fight and get what is yours and what is right.”

“But me personally, I believe our biggest enemy today is not fear. It’s complacency,” he said. “People think, ‘I make a pretty good living, I’ve got a pretty good retirement, I’ve got pretty good medical, I’m just going to sit in this chair.’”

The danger, he said, is that “We sit by and watch as our rights, what so many people fought so long to get, get slowly eroded.”

Dean cautioned about the danger of

(Below) Gilbert Padilla, seated front center, is joined by Local 1245 members at the Fresno training.



The future is coming. We’re getting ready.

Leadership

Local 1245 stepped up its program of leadership training this spring with activist sessions in Reno, Fresno and Stanford.

The need for young leadership is clear: our union faces growing challenges even as many of our most stalwart activists approach retirement

age. A new generation must pick up the torch.

But where are they carrying it? How are they supposed to respond to a deeply troubled economy, the increasingly ferocious attacks on public employees, the disappearance of unions from the vast majority of

American workplaces?

Fortunately, working people have a long, rich tradition of banding together for greater strength, and guest speakers at all three training sessions offered inspiring accounts of ordinary people stepping forward to win extraordinary change.



Clay Carson, standing center, is joined by Local 1245 members at the Stanford training.

letting social issues divide us, as they have so often in the past.

“At the end of the day, we’re for social justice and labor: working conditions, fair wages, the right to retire,” he said.

Dean said his grandfathers came out of the labor camps in Depression-era California and learned how to draw a line in the sand.

“They said, ‘Every day when I go to work I know that if there’s any way (the boss) can figure out a way to pay me less, he will. He doesn’t care about my family, he doesn’t care about my medical care...All he cares about is how much less can he pay me.’”

There was plenty of interaction at the training session. Meeting in small groups, the members identified 52 people from across the Bakersfield/Fresno area who would be recruited to join the union’s Solidarity Action Network.

Stanford

At Stanford, 26 members participated in a session on the legacy of the Civil Rights movement and its significance for labor activists today.

Clay Carson, a Stanford history professor and Director of the Martin Luther King Institute for Research and Education, spoke about the 1963 March on Washington, where King delivered his famous “I Have a Dream Speech.”

Only 19 at the time, Carson joked he was more interested in the young women he met than the speeches he was hearing that day. But in fact he was keenly interested in listening to a charismatic young activist named John Lewis who shared that historic stage with King.



Elisa Arteaga, City of Gridley, engages in the discussion at the Stanford training.

“He gave this wonderful speech about the great revolution that was occurring, in the street—a grassroots revolution that was taking place in the south.”

For Lewis, Carson said, “the march was an expression of this enthusiasm that was spreading across the south, and it was spearheaded by young people. Young people who were not afraid to stand up to southern sheriffs and who were going into the most dangerous areas of the south to organize.”

Also addressing the Stanford session was Tho Do, International Vice President of UNITE-HERE, who gave an insider’s account of the campaign to organize hotel workers.

At day’s end, Local 1245 Organizer Eileen Purcell said the IBEW members visited the Martin Luther King Institute and received a copy of the newly-published book “All Labor Has Dignity,” a compilation of King’s speeches to labor

unions, or a copy of “The Autobiography of Martin Luther King.”

Although King is generally recognized for his leadership on civil rights, he was also a passionate supporter of labor rights, and in fact was in Memphis assisting a sanitation workers’ strike when he was assassinated in 1968.

Reno

In Reno, former Nevada State Archivist and long-time labor activist Guy Roche told IBEW members about times when working people in Nevada rose up to be a major political force.

In the late 19th and early 20th century, no candidate for political office could afford to ignore the Comstock miners’ unions, Roche said. In fact, union members went a step further and ran their own successful campaigns for county and district judge, district attorney,



Enders Gomez, NV Energy, standing left, engages in the discussion at the Reno training.

state legislator—even attorney general and member of Congress.

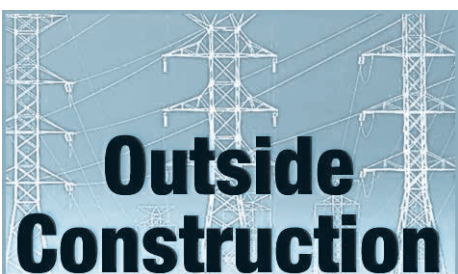
Although unions suffered through periods of decline, especially with the passage of Nevada’s right-to-work (for less) legislation in 1952, unions are baring their teeth again in the state. Roche noted the major gains made by the Culinary Workers union in Las Vegas,

and also gave a nod to Local 1245 members and retirees for their on-going campaign to resist NV Energy’s attack on benefits.

Members heard about the latest developments in that campaign, including the dramatic moment when IBEW Lineman Sampson Wilson confronted NV Energy Board Chairman Philip Satre

at the annual shareholders meeting in May and asked if the Board had investigated NV Energy CEO Michael Yackira’s role in the Ensign scandal.

As in Fresno, members broke into small groups and identified members from their work areas to be recruited to join the union’s Solidarity Action Network.



Organizing Takes Off

By Ron Cochran

Organizing in Outside Construction continues to accelerate at an amazing pace.

Our recent strides forward have been made possible by the organizing model adopted by Business Manager Tom Dalzell, who has blazed a trail negotiating Project Labor Agreements with several utilities.

Senior Business Rep. Ralph Armstrong

For a fuller report on Outside Construction activities, please check the Outside Construction section of our website at www.ibew1245.com.



The union’s staff in Vacaville has played a big role on the front lines and behind the scenes in support of the organizing drive in Outside Construction. From left: Mark Rolow, Ralph Armstrong, Muriel Moore, Ron Cochran, Gail Varner, Nancy Kendrick, Peggy Proschold, Austin Lea II, Gina Britt, Scott Kollman, Karen Kiley, and Elizabeth McInnis.

and Organizer Liz McInnis, along with Local 1245 field staff, have worked tirelessly in this on-going effort to bring new members into the brotherhood. They have received tremendous support by the union’s office staff working behind the scenes at Weakley Hall. Kudos to the whole team; they are all performing at an exceptional level.

Listed at right you will find the contractors we have signed this year to date, bringing the benefits of union wages and working conditions to over a hundred new members.

The work outlook for Outside Construction members is stronger than ever before. We have a large volume of work continuing from the California and Nevada utilities. We also have increasing amounts of trolley work, and private power line construction from Nevada mining companies.

The solar work is approaching full staffing and should be wrapped up in October for this year. We are currently advertising for the best Journeymen Linemen to travel in and help man this work. The biggest concern now is to complete the work safely with no injuries.

Contractors Signed:

- T&D Power
- E.C. Smith, Inc
- Abascus Construction, Inc.
- Lucchetti Excavating
- Tesla J. Construction Group
- Highway Technologies, Inc.
- Machado & Sons Construction, Inc.
- BGN Construction
- Valley Trenching, Inc
- Ray Gonzales Backhoe Service
- Atlas-Pellizzari Electric, Inc
- Pine Valley Power, Inc.
- J. Jackson Construction
- MJ Avila Company
- AJ Excavation Inc
- Milender White Construction
- Premier Power Professionals
- CORRPRO
- Tri-City Fencing Company
- Chain Link Fence & Supply
- MK Pipelines.- Inspection Work
- McKuin Pipelines.- Inspection Work
- 3 Phase Line Construction
- Splicing Testing & Terminating

continued on page 18

SOLAR WORK: See Cupertino Electric installing solar panels, pages 22-24.

Local 1245 aided organizing drive

TSA workers elect union

Loud voices are attacking public employees across the country, but federal security workers at 450 airports said to hell with all that noise and on June 23 elected the American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) as their union representative.

The fight to represent the 40,000 transportation security officers (TSOs) who screen people and baggage at the nation’s airports was the largest union organizing effort in the federal government’s history and the largest current labor organizing campaign in the country. George W. Bush, during his presidency, had opposed the TSOs right to organize, but that policy was reversed by President Obama, giving rise to the successful organizing drive.

IBEW Local 1245 deployed Lloyd Cargo, a PG&E gas service rep and IBEW activist, to assist with the organizing

campaign.

“Our days were mostly spent standing in the sun between the terminal and employee parking lot,” Cargo said. “Since the ballots had been sent out before I started, our work was mostly comprised of assessing if the workers voted and if so, did they vote AFGE.”



Lloyd Cargo

“I know by helping one union gain strength, we help every union member get stronger.”

Lloyd Cargo

After the day was done, Cargo would join other organizers at the Labor Council to continue the same task by

continued on page 19

Pact ratified unanimously

In August and September of 2010 the IBEW Local 1245 negotiating committee took proposals from the members within water treatment and distribution at South Feather Water and Power. The union committee met with the District's general manager in October and requested the agency to have Cal PERS perform an actuarial analysis regarding enhancements to the 3% @ 60 retirement plan negotiated in 2008.

Due to the time taken to receive the actuary from Cal PERS, the union and the agency agreed to extend the Dec. 31, 2010 agreement term.

Once the actuarial data was reviewed by the parties, it was determined that the timing was not right to make pension enhancements, and the union and

agency will address that issue in the next round of negotiations.

The board of directors approved the agency's general manager to offer the union a two-year agreement with a 1% general wage increase each year, and a dollar-for-dollar agency match in employee contributions to their deferred compensation plans.

The union countered a two-year agreement with a 4% general wage increase January 1 of each year, retroactive to Jan. 1, 2011.

On April 26 the agency's board of directors approved the union's counteroffer.

On the evening of April 28 the union water treatment and distribution unit membership unanimously ratified the new two-year agreement.



Serving on the SFWP bargaining committee were, from left: Ray Thomas, Local 1245 Assistant Business Manager; John Shipman, negotiating committee member, Shop Steward, and Unit Recorder; Richard Petty, Vote Judge; Rick McCullough, negotiating committee member, Shop Steward, and Unit Chair.



Members at the Lassen Municipal Utility District ratified a new agreement

Lassen MUD pact approved

After some 14-months of protracted contract negotiations, IBEW 1245 and Lassen Municipal Utility District negotiating committees were successful in reaching a tentative 5-year agreement on April 20, 2011.

On April 26 the Lassen Municipal Utility District Board of Directors approved the tentative agreement, and on April 27 the District and Union negotiating committees worked out final details of the new Memorandum of Understanding.

On May 3, IBEW 1245 Assistant Business Manager Ray Thomas gave our members at Lassen Municipal a detailed review of the new tentative agreement.

On May 9 IBEW 1245 Business Representatives Pat Waite and Randy Osborn held a membership vote. A

strong majority of the members approved the terms of the new agreement.

For over a year the District had been proposing two-tiered health and welfare plans for both new-hire active employees and also for new-hire future retirees.

The Union's negotiating committee worked diligently to convince the District that their second tier health and welfare plan would not only have a negative effect on new hires, it would also have an actuarially adverse impact to the District's unfunded liabilities. The Union also made a similar presentation to the District's Board of Directors on November 22, 2010.

The Union's 2010/2011 negotiating committee was comprised of Joann Villalovos, Cort Cortez, Jim Lovercheck, Assistant Business Manager Thomas, and Business Representative Waite.

Elements of the new agreement include:

- Increases in employee health and welfare out of pocket maximums and prescription co-pays
- No lesser second tier coverage for active new hires and new hire retiree medical
- Five-Year Term, beginning 7-01-10 through 6-30-15
- 401k Pension Enhancement, increasing District contribution from 12.5% to 14.5% brings District's contribution to 20.5% with current dollar for dollar 6% match on employee contribution

- General Wage Increases of 0% effective July 1, 2010, with increases of 3% on July 1, 2011 and July 1, 2012, and 3% plus a potential CPIU adjustment in 2013 and 2014

- Sick Leave Cash out Enhancement

- Stand-By Pay Enhancement

- Two additional holidays
- Health and Welfare premiums for active employees and retirees remain fully paid by District.

City of Redding

Charter City plan derailed

Local 1245 has won another round in the union's on-going battle to protect the rights and jobs of its members at the City of Redding.

The victory came on June 7, when the Redding City Council voted 3-2 to abandon efforts to establish Redding as a charter city. Some council members had focused on the charter option as a way to exempt the city from prevailing wage laws—just the latest in a series of attempts to weaken workers.

"The efforts of IBEW 1245, including those of our Business Manager, our Executive Board, our Solidarity Action Network and especially our members, are to be celebrated," said Assistant Business Manager Ray Thomas. "Once again we've shown that we can defend ourselves when we stick together."

Thomas challenged the charter concept in a radio program in March, and in the weeks leading up to the vote members of the union's Solidarity Action Network urged city officials to oppose the charter initiative.

The vote came after a city advisory panel studying the charter issue was unable to muster a majority vote in favor of recommending the charter

option to the City Council.

Blaming the Workers

Creating a charter city form of government is just the latest gambit by city councilors Rick Bosetti and Patrick Jones in an on-going effort to blame city workers for Redding's economic problems. Along with some members of the city's business community, Bosetti and Jones have championed the idea of privatizing city services—on the theory that private sector workers could get the work done cheaper.

But that theory was recently proved wrong when the city engaged in a "Request for Proposal" process for the maintenance of several parks. As the Redding Record Searchlight noted, "the city's costs are lower than the private sector's for this work, thanks in part of cost-cutting moves that the parks staff had been planning since last fall."

Did Bosetti and Jones heave a sigh of relief and show gratitude for what a good deal they are getting from their union workers? Not these guys. Jones, displaying a bit of sore-loser syndrome, suggested there had been a "conspiracy" to thwart the use of private sector

workers—as if the goal of city policy should be to promote the private sector whether it helps the city budget or not.

As the Record Searchlight noted in an editorial:

"The public needs skeptical and independent-minded councilors, but when cost cuts and union flexibility are met with conspiratorial accusations, it doesn't build trust or the can-do spirit that the city needs. Instead, it fosters a poisonous environment that will cost far more than the few thousand bucks the city ever might have saved from its lawn-mowing bill."

Thwarted in their effort to privatize IBEW jobs, Bosetti and Jones hoped to gain new leverage in their war with workers by pushing Redding to adopt charter city status. Now that effort, too, has failed.

Charter proponents could still put the matter on the ballot by gather signatures from 15 percent of voters. But if the ballot were to qualify, the city would be saddled with funding the vote.



Fút Fest 2011

**IBEW 1245
LINE CLEARANCE
TREE TRIMMERS**

**GOLD CUP
SOCCER
TOURNAMENT
& FAMILY PICNIC**



Eight teams took the field under sunny skies in Livermore for IBEW Local 1245's First Annual Gold Cup Soccer Tournament.

During the week, most of them are line clearance tree trimmers. But for about six hours on May 21 they scrimmaged like it was the World Cup, executing feints and foot traps, instep drives and

bicycle kicks. Cheering families kept the play inspired, while professional referees kept it honest.

When they weren't cheering on their dads, a swarm of kids competed on their own field—sending the ball flying between the traffic cones that served as goals.

By lunch time, irresistible smells were

blowing out across the field from the taco truck of Jesus Urena, a member at Asplundh Tree in Bakersfield. Beef, chicken and pork tacos—fresh, hot and delicious—came flying off the grill and onto the plates of nearly 400 players and family members. Eusebio Chavez of Martinez Tree volunteered his time as

continued on next page



See the action!

Watch video from the First Annual Gold Cup Soccer Tournament. Go to www.ibew1245.com/video-files/videos.html and scroll down to the soccer clips.

¡Siga la acción!

Veá videos del Primer Torneo Anual de Futbol "Gold Cup". Visite la página web www.ibew1245.com/video-files/videos.html y desplace la pantalla hacia abajo hasta llegar a los videos de futbol.



**IBEW Local 1245's
First Annual Gold Cup
Soccer Tournament**

Soccer *continued from previous page*
DJ and soloist, keeping the air filled with song.

There was plenty to do, even for the tiniest tykes. Wearing a blindfold, they took turns trying to knock the stuffing out of three piñatas. And each time, just

as it seemed hopeless, someone landed the lucky blow that sent candy flying out in all directions.

Fun's fun, but the players never lost their edge on the field. Maybe that just comes naturally to union members who make their living working at dangerous

heights with power tools.

The team wearing silver jerseys, sponsored by Trees Inc. (SMUD/San Joaquin), emerged the winner. Family and friends joined the players for the victory photo as Business Manager Tom Dalzell handed out medals.

Second place medals went to the Light Blue team sponsored by Davey Tree, Santa Rosa. Third place medals went to the Purple team, sponsored by Trees Inc., Fresno Division.

Better stay in shape everybody. Local 1245 plans to sponsor a second annual Gold Cup tournament next year!

Ocho equipos se apoderaron del campo bajo un sol resplandeciente en Livermore, para el Primer Torneo Anual de Futbol "Gold Cup" del Local 1245 del IBEW.

Durante la semana, la mayoría de los jugadores son podadores de árboles para el despeje de líneas. Pero por seis horas el 21 de mayo, ellos participaron en esta contienda como si fuera la Copa Mundial, ejecutando amagues, manejos y medias bofeas. Los vitoreos de las familias sirvieron de inspiración para los jugadores, al tiempo que los árbitros profesionales garantizaron un juego limpio.



The Teams

- Silver, sponsored by Trees Inc. , SMUD/San Joaquin
- Light Blue, sponsored by Davey Tree, Santa Rosa
- Purple, sponsored by Trees Inc., Fresno Division.
- Gold, sponsored by Davey Tree, Marin
- Dark Blue, sponsored by Asplundh, Bakersfield
- Red, sponsored by Davey Tree and Martinez Tree, Napa
- Green, sponsored by Davey Tree, East Bay and Concord Division
- Orange, sponsored by Utility Tree, Yolo/Solano



Si no estaban animando a sus padres, una multitud de niños competía en su propio campo—pateando al aire la pelota entre conos señalizadores que servían como porterías.

Al llegar la hora del almuerzo, flotaban en el aire aromas irresistibles provenientes del camión de tacos de Jesús Urena, miembro de Asplundh Tree en Bakersfield. Tacos de carne, pollo y puerco—recién hechos, calientes y deliciosos—volaban de la parrilla a los platos de casi 400 jugadores y sus familiares. Eusebio Chavez de Martinez Tree se ofreció como voluntario para actuar como DJ y solista, llenando el aire con canciones.

Había muchas actividades, inclusive para los más pequeños. Con los ojos vendados, se turnaron para tratar de tumbar tres piñatas. Y cada vez, justo

cuando parecía imposible, alguien daba el golpe de gracia que resultaba en una lluvia de caramelos.

Divertirse es divertido, pero los jugadores nunca perdieron su concentración en el campo de juego. Quizás esto es normal cuando se trata de miembros del sindicato que trabajan a alturas peligrosas utilizando herramientas eléctricas.

El equipo con las camisetas plateadas, patrocinado por Trees Inc. (SMUD/San Joaquin), resultó ganador. Los familiares y amigos se unieron a los jugadores para la foto de la victoria, y el Gerente de Negocios Tom Dalzell hizo entrega de las medallas.

Las medallas correspondientes al segundo lugar fueron para el equipo Azul Claro patrocinado por Davey Tree de Santa Rosa. El tercer lugar correspondió



al equipo Violeta, patrocinado por Trees Inc. de la División de Fresno.

Esperemos que todos se mantengan en buena forma. ¡El Local 1245 tiene planes de patrocinar un Segundo Torneo Anual “Gold Cup” el próximo año!



Competition and camaraderie

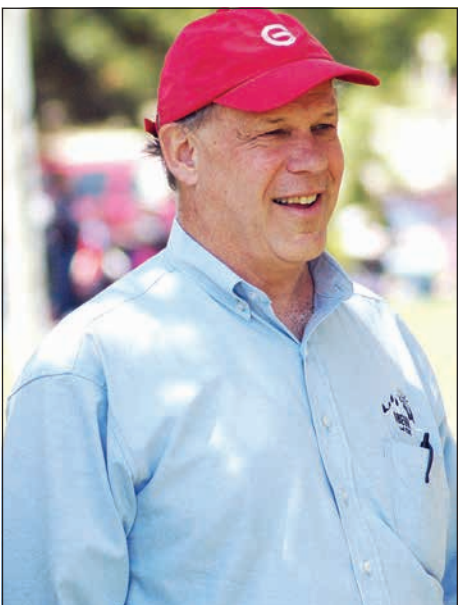


Los Equipos

- Plateado, patrocinado por Trees Inc. de SMUD/San Joaquin
- Azul Claro, patrocinado por Davey Tree de Santa Rosa
- Violeta, patrocinado por Trees Inc. de la División de Fresno.
- Dorado, patrocinado por Davey Tree de Marin
- Azul Oscuro, patrocinado por Asplundh de Bakersfield
- Rojo, patrocinado por Davey Tree y Martinez Tree de Napa
- Verde, patrocinado por Davey Tree de la División East Bay y Concord
- Anaranjado, patrocinado por Utility Tree de Yolo/Solano



Food and fun for all



"Congratulations to the winning teams, and to all the teams for making this tournament a success."

Tom Dalzell,
Business
Manager





IBEW members again cited for heroism

PG&E takes double hit on safety

PG&E came under fire on two fronts in June for safety practices in connection with gas explosions in San Bruno in 2010 and Rancho Cordova in 2008.

A report issued June 9 by a state panel investigating the 2010 natural gas transmission pipeline explosion in San Bruno scored PG&E for “excessive levels of management,” saying that the management that is “setting the direction” is distant from “those who know the business the best.”

It said the company has an “inconsistent presence” of subject matter experts in management ranks, impairing the effectiveness of the organization. Investigators say they found an “insular mindset” among company officials it interviewed, which threatened to breed “a corporate myopia.”

The report adopted a different tone in referring to the IBEW “field personnel” who responded to the disaster, referring to them as heroes:

“[W]e observed had it not been for the experience and quick reaction of the first responders from PG&E, the San Bruno Incident could have been even worse. The field personnel who returned to duty after hours to close the pipeline valves – apparently without being dispatched by PG&E– are among

the true heroes of this tragedy. These were tenured employees who had the training, experience, and mindset to take the initiative and respond.”

The report suggested that PG&E cared more about image than substance when it comes to carrying out its responsibilities. In a business where there is “no substitute for long-term planning and careful execution,” the report said, PG&E appears to have “an elevated concern about the company’s image.”

It dismissed PG&E’s recently announced “Pipeline 2020” plan as “grossly underdeveloped” and suggested that the timing of its release had more to do with media relations than actually addressing the problem. “Putting forth a major initiative without having done the necessary work underneath ultimately undermines the company’s credibility with its employees as well as the public,” the report said. It accused PG&E of engaging in “appearance-led strategy setting.”

The report was critical of PG&E’s “overemphasis on financial performance,” noting that it can “dampen the willingness” of others in the organization “to challenge the priorities or resources put in place by upper management.”

The report was also critical of the CPUC, saying the regulatory body does not have the staff to oversee California’s 11,000 miles of gas transmission pipelines. Furthermore, the staff it does have is not trained well enough to do the regulatory work with which the agency is entrusted, the report said.

division, that it violated safety laws in connection with the Rancho Cordova explosion, according to the CPUC.

The resolution has been agreed to by the Consumer Protection and Safety Division and PG&E. Under the agreement, PG&E would pay \$26 million fine in shareholder funds to the

“The field personnel who returned to duty after hours to close the pipeline valves – apparently without being dispatched by PG&E– are among the true heroes of this tragedy. These were tenured employees who had the training, experience, and mindset to take the initiative and respond.”

—State panel investigating San Bruno disaster

\$26 Million Fine

On another front, the California Public Utilities Commission’s Consumer Protection and Safety Division on June 20 proposed fining the utility \$26 million in shareholder funds for a 2008 gas leak and explosion in Rancho Cordova that killed one person and injured five others.

If approved by the CPUC’s commissioners, it would be the largest safety-related fine assessed by the commission in more than a decade. PG&E admits, in a resolution filed by the CPUC safety

state’s general fund and admits to violating pipeline safety regulations, including:

- The pipe that was installed at Paiute Way in September 2006 was not authorized for gas service;
- A pipe used in a repair at Paiute Way was not pressure tested in a manner required by law prior to reinstate gas service; and
- PG&E’s response to a resident’s Dec. 24, 2008, telephone call reporting an outdoor gas leak odor on Paiute Way was “unreasonably delayed and not effective.”

Bargaining, from page 1

proposals as reflecting concerns that are held by members in the workplace.

Dalzell highlighted three issues of special concern: distractions, reduced staffing levels, and the near collapse of the company’s system of positive discipline.

“Despite the body blows this company has taken over the past 10 years, I think there is a tremendously dedicated and devoted workforce that is proud to work for PG&E,” said Dalzell.

But there is great frustration over the seemingly endless series of “distractions” that take away attention from day-to-day work. Such distractions, Dalzell said, have included deregulation, the energy crisis, bankruptcy, the reorganization plan known as Transformation, the Smart Meter program, Proposition 16, and frequent turnover of officers.

“What our members want is to work

for a company that’s driven by operational concerns without distractions,” he said.

On the issue of staffing, Dalzell used a series of charts to show how staffing levels have been seriously reduced for both the gas and electric workforces.

“I cannot overemphasize the frustration that the bargaining unit is feeling with staffing levels,” he said. While staffing is not a subject of bargaining, he acknowledged, it is an issue of great concern to members and affects overall relations with the company.

A third issue of great concern to members, Dalzell said, is “the escalation of positive discipline and the dysfunction of the grievance procedure.” He noted that in 2010, only 15% of grievances were processed in a timely fashion.

Dalzell expressed a firm belief that the current negotiations could produce constructive outcomes for both the union and the company. He noted suc-

cessful negotiations three years ago in Physical bargaining, two years ago for retiree medical, and last year for Clerical wages.

“In all those we came up with win-win solutions,” he said.

Following the exchange of proposals, the union’s Physical bargaining committee said it had begun studying the company’s proposals, which focused on emergency overtime provisions, meals, hours of work outside of the Monday/Friday workweek, commercial drivers license addendum changes, and job bidding. The union will convene sub-committees in July to help build the case for union proposals for inequity

increases for several classifications.


The union’s Benefits bargaining committee has also begun analyzing the company’s proposals. The company and union both indicated that proposals relating to medical benefits could be introduced at a later date in the negotiations.

The opening proposals submitted by both sides can be found on the Local 1245 website at www.ibew1245.com. The union will provide continuing updates on bargaining as the process moves forward. Look on the home page for the “PG&E Bargaining Update” icon.

Bargaining will begin around Labor Day.




IBEW Local 1245 and PG&E exchanged opening bargaining proposals on June 7 at Weakley Hall in Vacaville.



Falling behind financially?

Union SAFE may be able to help.

To find out how Union SAFE may be able to help, visit:
UnionPlus.org/UnionSAFE



Security. Assistance. Financial Education.

Tee-Off!



The 24th Annual Perry Zimmerman Golf Tournament wouldn't be complete without PZ himself, shown at far right, with teammates, from left, Jerry Huck, Business Rep. Sam Glero, and Ed Lenoir.



First place went to the team of Kyle Highfill, Terry Bates, Robert Turney and Nate Walkup.



Finishing second was the team of Charles Carney, Ezzard Carney, Terry Carney and Eric Wright.



Receiving the third place award was the PAR team of Richard Wright, Chris Hess, Garrett Kraus, and Doug King.

You can't let a beautiful summer day like this go to waste. And they didn't.

Under a beautiful blue sky on June 18, Local 1245 brought the game of golf to new heights in Vacaville, where about 27 teams competed in Perry Zimmerman's 24th Annual Local 1245 Golf Tournament. Zimmerman himself was on hand to lead the way down Vacaville's Green Tree Golf Course.

There were mighty tee-offs. There were expert approaches. There were some heart-stopping putts. (And some heart-breaking ones, too, you can be sure.)

At the end of play the teams decamped to

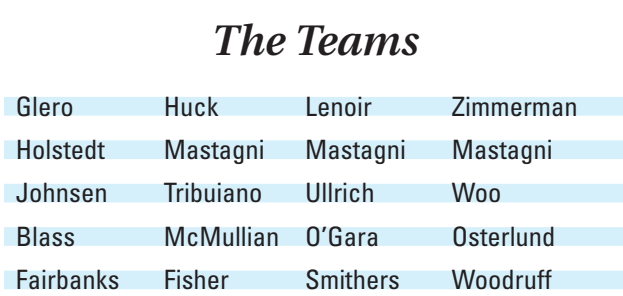
nearby Weakley Hall for a barbecue feast and the presentation of awards.

Top honors for the day went to the foursome comprised of Kyle Highfill, Terry Bates, Robert Turney and Nate Walkup. Second place went to the team of Charles Carney, Ezzard Carney, Terry Carney and Eric Wright, while third place went to Richard Wright, Chris Hess, Garrett Kraus, and Doug King.

Good weather. Good company. Good food. Good fun.

And then, a bit pooped, it was goodbye, until next year.





The Teams

Glero	Huck	Lenoir	Zimmerman
Holstedt	Mastagni	Mastagni	Mastagni
Johnsen	Tribuiano	Ullrich	Woo
Blass	McMullian	O'Gara	Osterlund
Fairbanks	Fisher	Smithers	Woodruff
Dauer	Jones	Mader	Thibault
Dau	Dyer	McKim	Youngblood
Boyce	Cassettari	Sanchez	Santos
Avery	Coleman	Cottrell	Pozycski
Carney	Carney	Carney	Wright
Dale	Grass	Monti	Whatley
Embree	Koehn	Pritchard	Walters
King	Olsen	Spellman	Wright
Abel	Cirigliano	Garman	Stephenson
Clark	Gerson	Kendrick	Lee
Nelson	Norris	Ryan	Shank
Connell	Peltz	Thomason	Waite
Agee	Bates	Turney	Walkup
Carlson	Cargo	De La Torre	Freitas
Boss	Hopp	Scratchfield	Simon
Bast	Carter	Clifton	Perry
Cadena	Kinlaw	Mendoza	VandenBerghe
Estrada	Estrada	Estrada	Estrada
Courtney	Fortier	Gracia	Kolberg
Lowrey	Lowrey	Fernandez	
Armstrong	Armstrong	Stephens	Tuttle

Peer-to-peer effort launched

Renewing the focus on safety in gas

On May 12, about 60 IBEW Local 1245 gas workers at PG&E and NV Energy, along with union staff, came to Weakley Hall to seek ways to make work safer for employees who deal with natural gas.

Local 1245 intends to create the same sort of focused peer-to-peer effort in gas that we are creating for line workers with the Hold the Pull program. The basic concept is that workers themselves have the most knowledge about

their work and are in the best position to help figure out how to make the work as safe as possible.

The group raised a large number of concerns, and began the process of dividing those concerns into issues that need to be addressed through the employer versus those that we have some control over ourselves.

On June 23 a small group drawn from the May meeting continued to identify issues that we have some control over



David Stout joins the discussion.



Business Rep. Dean Gurke is overseeing the creation of peer-to-peer safety programs for both gas and electric workers.

and took the first steps toward developing a Peer-to-Peer program for gas. Members from this committee were given assignments to work on before the next meeting in an effort to move this important effort forward.



(Above) Keith Hopp, left, who has previously served on the Local 1245 Safety Committee, speaks to the group.



Carey Mares speaks up.



(Left) Sal Mesa shares his views.

(Right) Jim Findley, a member of the Local 1245 Advisory Council, makes his view known.



(Left) Tom Brown offers his perspective.



(Right) Pat Fryer jumps into the discussion.



Dalzell, from page 3

in the state, Sen. Harry Reid's page, has around 18,000 members.

We've used Facebook to encourage thousands of NV Energy customers to sign petitions urging the company to honor its commitments. Going forward we will continue to use Facebook to keep the public informed of our efforts, and mobilize people to take action.

At the same time, as many members know, we have started developing a more general IBEW 1245 Facebook page that deals with union activities

throughout our union in both Nevada and California. We are currently facing significant attacks on our living standards and collective bargaining rights, especially in the public sector. Utilizing social media like Facebook will be an important part of our response to these challenges.

On-line organizing, it turns out, isn't that different from regular organizing. You have to reach out to people where they gather, and help them see that working people standing together have the power to shape the future.

Organizing, from page 9

- Porter & Sons Alternative Solutions
- Curtis and Sons Construction
- Community Builders
- Dave Christian Construction Co.

In Contract Talks With:

- ALB, Inc
- Alco Iron & Metal Company.- Inspection Work
- Petra Solar
- Transformer Life Cycle Services
- McDaniel Technical Services, Inc.- Inspection Work

- All Valley Engineering
- Ravenel Enterprises
- Clean Harbors
- Technical Electrical
- W. Bradley Electric
- Camblin Steel
- Green Energy
- Northern California Power Co.
- M.J Electric
- Aztech Construction D&M Construction
- CK Interiors, Inc
- Leit-Ramm



SERVICE AWARDS

San Jose, CA

April 22, 2011



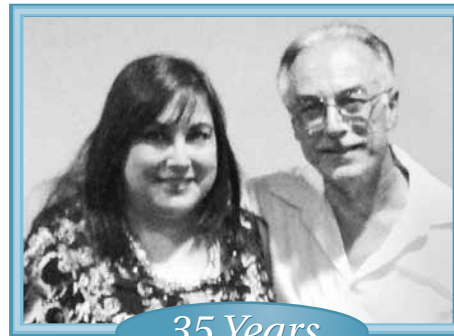
45 Years

J.D. Sotelo, center, was unable to attend the dinner, but was later presented with his 45-year award by Business Rep. Bill Brill, left, and Vice President Art Freitas, right.



40 Years

President Mike Davis, right, presents 40-year awards to, from left, Ruben Aguilera, Susan Chase and Fred Jones.



35 Years



25 Years



30 Years

THE HONOREES

45 Years

F. E. Hathcoat
J. D. Sotelo

40 Years

Ruben Aguilera
Susan Chase
Malcolm High
Fred Jones
Rick Kimes
Richard Periandri
Benjamin Valdez

35 Years

Richard Borba
Charles Grassi
Valori McCoy
Michael Minoggi
David Olvera
Debra Wibeto

30 Years

Jeffery Amaral
John Becerra
Richard Boyle
Heriberto Contreras
Edward Fleige
D. A. Gunnar
Darrell Hashimoto
Edward Silva
Cynthia Stewart
Robert Thompson
Michael Zimmnicki

25 Years

Michele Allen
David Baker
Isabelle Benevento
Eugene Boxley
Richard Burke
Mulie Coffland
Judith Conner
Eric Eberhardt
William Ernest
David Freeman
Jose Gonzales
Cindy Hayne
Philip Hernandez
Richard Hill
Shea Moore
Robert Morales
Richard Quiroz
Mark Renneke
Anthony Santos
Michael Soldano
John Waldron Jr.
Cheryl Webster

TSA, from page 9

phone, calling employees to assess their attitudes toward the election.

AFGE was one of two unions competing for the employees' support. AFGE, which is affiliated with the AFL-CIO, America's main labor federation, won an earlier round of voting, but failed to get an absolute majority, which forced the election into a run-off with the National Treasury Employees Union, an unaffiliated union.

"The other union's presence was very limited," Cargo said. "It was towards the

end that they would set up near us and hand out free sandwiches to workers. The great part was, the workers would take a sandwich, then pass by us and laugh, saying they voted for us."

Cargo said the experience was a good investment in building relationships with other unions, something Local 1245 has been doing a lot of lately. His team lead on the campaign is a delegate to the Sacramento Labor Council, and was present when Cargo was sworn in June 21 as a delegate.

"It's great to be able to build relationships with people and know that they

are now as willing to help us out as we are them."

Cargo praised the work of Vanessa Angeles, the daughter of Local 1245 activist Jammi Angeles. "She did a fantastic job, which shows what a great mother and teacher Jammi is," he said.

Will Local 1245 benefit from coming to the aid of another union? Cargo thinks yes.

"I feel very proud to have been a part of this, not only because of the victory, but I know by helping one union gain strength we help every union member get stronger."



Wellington Energy Call Center

Business Manager Tom Dalzell and Senior Assistant Business Manager Ron Cochran visited members working at the Wellington Energy Call Center in early May. From left, front row: Ashley Himes, Alexis Moore, Mark Popovich, Esmeralda Gaghan, and Rick Thompson. From left, back row: Marcelo Murillo, Samantha Higgins (Manager), Matthew Alabran, Tom Dalzell, Ron Cochran, and Gustavo Alonso.

IBEW 1245 UNIT MEETING SCHEDULE: July–December 2011

CITY	UNIT	LOCATION	UNIT CHAIR	DAY	TIME	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Alturas (Frontier)	4013	The Brass Rail, Hwy 395	T. Bagwell	Tues	5:30pm	12	9	13	11	8	13
Angels Camp	2512	Mike's Pizza, Hwy 49/Murphy Grade Rd.	G. Day	Thurs	4:00pm	X	18	X	20	X	15
Antioch	2317	Aladino's Pizza, 1324 Sunset Dr.	J. DeBaca*	Weds	5:00pm	13	10	14	12	9	14
Auberry	1129	Pizza Factory, 2924 Auberry Rd., Prather, CA 93561	C. Riggs/J. Kenney	Tues	5:45pm	12	9	13	11	15	13
Auburn	3511	Pizza Express @ Auburn-Folsom Road	K. Davis	Tues	5:00pm	5	2	6	4	1	6
Bakersfield	1112	200 w. Jeffery Bakersfield Ca	D. Pyle	Weds	6:00pm	13	10	14	12	9	14
Buellton	1221	Firestone Walker Brewing Co., 620 McMurray Road*	B. Swanson	Mon	4:00pm	11	15	12	10	14	12
Burlingame/Peninsula	1512	TWU Local 505, 1521 Rollins Rd., Burlingame	B. Shuback	Weds	5:30pm	13	10	14	12	9	14
Burney	3213	Gepetto's Pizza, 37227 Main Street Burney*	H. Garcia*	Tues	6:00pm	5	2	6	4	1	6
Burney (Frontier)	4015	Gepetto's Pizza 37227 Main Street*	D. Washburn	Weds	5:30pm	13	10	14	12	9	14
Carson City	3312	Round Table Pizza, 3325 Retail Drive	E. Gomez	Thurs	5:30pm	21	18	15	20	17	15
Colusa Power Plant	3415	Maxwell Inn, Maxwell	Karl Parker	Tues	4:00pm	12	9	13	11	8	13
Concord/Davey Tree	4716	Round Table , 3393 Port Chicago Hwy, Concord, CA	J. Simms	Thurs	5:30pm	21	18	15	20	17	15
Concord/Walnut Creek	2316	Round Table Pizza, 2960 Treat Boulevard	R. Lassus	Thurs	5:00pm	14	11	15	13	10	15
Davey Tree/Auburn	4423	Round Table Pizza, 370 Elm, Auburn	J. Casey	Weds	4:00pm	6	10	7	5	9	7
Davey/Willits	4421	Old Mission Pizza, 1708 S. Main, Willits	G. Cowan	Thurs	4:00pm	21	X	22	X	29	X
Davis General Construction	3000	Steve's Pizza, Davis	R. Turk	Weds	4:30pm	13	10	14	12	9	14
Donner	3309	TDPUD Board Room, Truckee	C. Beede*	Thurs	5:30pm	X	4	X	6	X	1
Dynegy	1223	IBEW 234 Hall, 10300 Castroville Ca 95012	TBD	Tues	4:00pm	19	23	27	25	22	27
Elk Grove (Frontier)	4014	Round Table Pizza, 5110 Laguna Blvd.	D. Sanders	Tues	5:00pm	19	16	20	18	15	20
Elko	3318	Stockman's Casino, Elko	B. Brunson	Thurs	5:30pm	X	11	X	13	X	8
Ely, NV/Mt. Wheeler	3315	Ely Fire Dept, Meeting Hall	M. Venturino	Tues	4:30pm	X	9	X	11	X	13
Eureka/Tree Trimmers	3111	Babe's Pizza & Pasta, 4015 Walnut*	W. Hollesen*	Tues	6:00pm	12	9	13	11	15	13
Fallon	3316	Fallon Country Club, 2655 Country Club Drive, Fallon	C. Robertson	Tues	5:30pm	X	9	X	11	X	13
Fort Bragg/Pt. Arena	3717	No Coast Brew & Rest, 455 Main Street, Ft Bragg	G. Fernandez	Thurs	5:00pm	7	4	8	6	10	8
Fresno	1111	DiCicco's Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria, 408 Clovis Ave*	P. Sandoval	Tues	5:00pm	5	2	6	4	8	6
Fresno/Trees Inc.	4712	Round Table Pizza, First & Bullard, Fresno, CA	B. Contreras	Weds	5:30pm	6	3	7	5	2	7
GenON*	2319	Aldino's Pizza, 1324 Sunset Dr., Antioch CA	R. Ricard	Weds	4:00pm	27	24	28	26	23	28
Gridley, City of	4017	Round Table Pizza, Hwy 99	S. Taylor	Tues	5:00pm	12	9	13	11	8	13
Hayward/Fremont	2314	Bronco Billy's Pizza, 3940 Smith St., Union City	Brendan Murphy	Weds	5:00pm	20	17	21	19	16	21
Hinkley	1311	Clubhouse, Hinkley Compressor Station	P. Earl	Weds	5:30pm	X	3	X	5	X	7
Hollister	1219	Paine's Restaurant, 421 East St., Hollister	J. Schlegel	Weds	5:00pm	6	3	7	5	2	7
Jackson	2513	Mountain Mike's Pizza, 11974 Hwy. 88, Martell	B. Boitano	Tues	4:00pm	5	2	6	4	1	6
Klamath Falls	3022	Mia's and Pia's Pizza, 3545 Summers Lane, Kfalls	S. O'Neill	Mon	5:45pm	18	15	19	17	21	19
Lakeport	3715	Senior Center, 527 Konocti Ave.	S. Mayfield	Tues	5:00pm	5	2	6	4	8	6
Livermore	2315	Round Table Pizza, 1024 Stanley Blvd., Livermore	Ed Thompson	Weds	4:00pm	27	24	28	26	23	28
Lodi, City of	2516	Round Table Pizza, Kettleman Ln., Lodi, Ca	D. Schultz	Thurs	5:00pm*	14	11	8	13	10	8
Loomis	3510	Round Table Pizza, Horseshoe Bar Road, Loomis	M. Hatch	Tues	6:15pm	19	16	20	18	15	20
Los Banos	1115	Work Net 800 7th Street, Los Banos	P. Danieli	Tues	4:00pm	19	16	20	18	22	20
Madera	1113	Madera Valley Inn, 317 "G" Street	R. Danieli/D. Camarena	Weds	4:30pm	13	10	14	12	16	14
Marysville	3611	Gary's Place, 130 9th Street, Marysville*	K. Hopp	Weds	5:00pm	6	3	7	5	2	7
Merced	1123	Branding Iron, 640 W. 16th St., Merced	M. Jameson	Weds	5:30pm	6	3	7	5	9	7
Merced ID	1122	Branding Iron, 640 W. 16th St., Merced	R. Flores*	Thurs	5:00pm	7	4	8	6	10	8
Modesto	2515	Round Table Pizza, 1515 Mitche Rd., Ceres	M. Sakaguchi	Weds	5:30pm	13	10	14	12	9	14
Modesto/Modesto Irr. Dist.	2518	Hero's Sports Lounge, 821 "L" Street	M. Gomes	Weds	5:00pm	6	3	7	5	2	7
Napa	3716	Round Table Pizza, 3331 Solano Ave. Napa	Rob Thomas	Thurs	6:00pm	7	4	8	6	10	8
Napa/Davey Tree-Tree Inc.	4710	Round Table Pizza, 3331 Solano Ave. Napa	E. Hurtado	Tues	4:00pm	5	9	6	4	8	6
NCPA	3710	Fire Station, 21095 Hwy 175, Middletown	D. Green	Weds	4:30pm	20	17	21	19	16	21
Newark/Davey	4721	Round Table Pizza, 5544 Thornton Ave., Newark	S. Languren	Weds	5:30pm	20	17	21	19	16	21
North Lake Tahoe	3320	La Casona, 930 Tahoe Blvd. #601, Incline Village		Thurs	5:30pm	7	X	1	X	3	X
Novato/Marin County	3711	Round Table Pizza, 1565 S. Novato Blvd., Novato	I. Snyder	Weds	5:30pm	13	10	14	12	9	14
Oakland/City of	2211	Francesco's, Hegenberger & Pardee, Oakland CA	E. Courtney	Thurs	4:00pm	21	18	15	20	17	15
Oakland Physical	2311	Francesco's, Hegenberger & Pardee	M. Swain	Tues	4:45pm	5	2	6	4	1	6
Oroville	3613	2580 Feather River Blvd, Oroville	R. Wallace*	Weds	4:30pm	13	10	14	12	9	14
Paradise (Chico)	3417	Round Table Pizza, 6038 (B) Clark Road, Paradise	Richard Bentler	Weds	5:30pm	13	10	14	12	9	14
Placerville	3813	Spanky's Pizza, 197 Placerville Dr.	J. Campodonico	Tues	3:45pm	5	2	6	4	1	6
Placerville/Davey Tree	4714	Round Table Pizza, 512 Main Street, Placerville, CA	S. Speak	Tues	4:00pm	7	11	8	6	10	8
Plumas Sierra Doyle	3514	Herlong CA County Rd A 26	T. Wolf	Tues	6:00pm	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
Plumas Sierra Vinton	3514	Sierra Valley Grange Hwy 70 Vinton CA	T. Wolf	Tues	6:00pm	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
Red Bluff	3214	Casa Ramos, 2001 Main Street, Red Bluff	J. Johnstone	Thurs	5:45pm	7	4	8	6	3	8
Red Bluff/Davey Tree	4720	Round Table Pizza, 116 Belle Mill Rd, Red Bluff	P. Ely	Thurs	3:30pm	19	23	20	18	22	20
Redding	3212	Round Table Pizza, 2808 McMurry Dr., Anderson	A. Teuscher*	Weds	5:00pm*	6	3	7	5	2	7
Redding, City of	3217	Round Table Pizza, 900 Dana Drive, Redding	P. Snyder	Tues	4:30pm*	5	2	6	4	1	6
Redding/Davey Utility	4419	Round Table Pizza, 900 Dana Drive, Redding	V. Oneil	Weds	5:00pm	20	24	21	19	23	21
Redmond, OR	3028	TC Headquarters - Redmond	D. Trueax	Thurs	5:00pm	14	11	10	13	10	8
Redwood City - ATE	4711	Mountain Mike's Pizza, 120 El Camino Blvd., Redwood City, CA	D. Urbina	Tues	4:00pm	19	16	20	18	15	20
Reno	3311	IBEW LU 401, 2713 E. 4th St.	D. Moler	Weds	6:00pm	6	3	7	5	2	7

IBEW 1245 UNIT MEETING SCHEDULE: July–December 2011

CITY	UNIT	LOCATION	UNIT CHAIR	DAY	TIME	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Richmond	2318	La Strada Rest., 2215 Church Lane, San Pablo	D. Moore	Weds	4:00pm*	6	3	7	5	2	7
Richmond/E. Bay Clerical	2301	La Strada Rest., 2215 Church Lane, San Pablo	D. Ambeau	Weds	6:00pm	6	3	7	5	2	7
Roseville, City of	3512	Fast Freddie's Pizza, 130 Main Street, Roseville	J. Holt*	Thurs*	4:15pm	5	2	6	4	1	6
Sacramento	3811	Florin Rebecca Hall, 8360 Florin Rd., Sacramento	L. Mennel	Weds	5:15pm	6	3	7	5	2	7
Sacramento Clerical	3801	Round Table Pizza, 4680 Natomas Blvd, Ste #170, Sacto	K. Krummes	Tues	4:30pm	5	2	6	4	1	6
Sacto. Muni Utility District	3911	Dante Club, Sacramento	J. Basil	Weds	4:30pm	13	10	14	12	9	14
Sacto. Regional Transit	3011	Espanol Restaurant, Sacramento	C. Bibbs	Weds	4:30pm	20	17	21	19	16	21
Salinas	1211	Mountain Mikes Pizza E. Alisal, Salinas	D. Montanez	Tues	5:00pm	5	2	6	4	1	6
San Francisco	2412	Double Play Bar and Grill 2401 16th San Francisco*	V. Jones	Weds	4:30pm	6	3	7	5	2	7
San Jose	1511	Sherwood Inn & Restaurant, 2988 Almaden Expressway	D. Johnson	Weds	5:15pm	13	10	14	12	9	14
San Jose/Asplundh Tree	4713	Mountain Mike's, 1289 S. 1st. St. San Jose, CA	E. Arellano	Thurs	4:00pm	14	11	8	13	10	8
San Luis Obispo/DCPP	1220	Margie's Diner, 1575 Calle Joaquin	R. Greenlee	Weds	5:30pm	6	10	7	5	9	7
San Luis Obispo/Pismo Beach	1215	Pappy McGregors, 1865 Monterey st.	S. Weaver	Thurs	4:00pm	7	11	8	6	10	8
San Rafael Davey Tree	4722	Round Table Pizza, 915 Sir Francis Drake, San Anselmo	L. Maltez	Thurs	4:00pm	14	18	15	13	17	21
Sandpoint	3021	Sandpoint Headquarters	D. Christman	Weds	5:00pm	6	10	14	5	9	14
Santa Clara, City of	1411	Vesuvios Resturant, 3044 El Camino Real	J. Sanders	Weds	4:30pm	20	17	21	19	16	21
Santa Cruz	1513	VFW Post #7263, 2259 7th Ave., Santa Cruz	G. Bargas	Tues	4:30pm	12	9	13	11	8	13
Santa Maria	1216	Giavanni's Pizza, 1108 E. Clark, Orcutt, Ca.	J. Sights	Weds	4:00pm	13	17	14	12	16	14
Santa Rosa	3712	Round Table, Steele & Cleaveland, Santa Rosa	L. Stubblefield	Tues	6:00pm	5	2	6	4	1	6
Santa Rosa/Davey Tree	4719	Round Table Pizza, Marlow & Guerneville	F. Naranjo	Weds	4:00pm	13	17	14	12	16	14
Selma	1120	High Street Grill, 2000 Hye Street, Selma	A. Lomas	Thurs	4:30pm	14	11	15	13	17	15
Shasta - USBR	3218	Round Table, Lake Blvd (Redding)	M. Janesse	Tues	5:15pm	19	16	20	18	15	20
SMUD/Fresh Pond	3912	50 Grand Club, Pollock Pines	R. Curtis	Weds	5:00pm	6	3	7	5	2	7
SMUD/Wright Tree	4717	Godfather's Pizza, 6716 Madison Ave, Fair Oaks, CA	D. Sandoval	Tues	5:30pm	12	9	13	11	8	13
Sonora	2517	Round Table Pizza, 13769 Mono Way	D. Alcorn	Tues	4:00pm	12	9	13	11	8	13
South Feather Water & Power	4016	Round Table Pizza, Oro Dam Blvd. E.	R. McCullough	Thurs	6:00pm	14	11	15	13	10	15
South Lake Tahoe	3314	Round Table Pizza, 1062 Emerald Bay Road	P. Stahl	Thurs	5:30pm	X	4	X	6	X	1
Spankel, WA/Rosalia	3027	TC Headquarters - Rosalia	P. Brown	Thurs	5:00pm	14	11	8	13	10	8
Spokane, WA	3025	TC Headquarters - Spokane	vacant	Thurs	12:00 noon	21	18	15	20	17	15
Stockton	2511	Ed Stewart American Legion Post #803, 3110 N. West Ln.	C. DeLaTorre	Thurs	6:30pm	14	11	8	13	10	8
Stockton - Trees Inc.	4718	Mountain Mike's Pizza, 1000 Robin Hood Ave., Stockton	J. Ferrufino	Weds	6:30pm	13	10	14	12	9	14
Stockton Clerical	2509	8110 Holman Road, Ste. #1, Stockton	D. Tatu	Thurs	4:00pm	14	11	8	13	10	8
Susanville (LMUD/Frontier)	4012	The Pizza Factory	K. Merrill	Mon	5:30pm	11	8	12	10	14	12
Templeton	1217	Griff's Pizzeria, 105 S. Main Street	J. Comancho	Tues	4:00pm	12	16	13	11	15	13
Tiger Creek/Pine Grove	2519	Pine Grove Pizza, 19724 St. Hwy 88, Pine Grove	L. Pence	Tues	6:00pm	19	16	20	18	15	20
Topock	1313	PSEA Clubhouse, Moabi Park, Topock	D. Andrews	Thurs	4:45pm	X	4	X	6	X	8
Truckee Meadows Water Auth	3310	IBEW LU 401, 2713 E. 4th St.	G. Bates*	Weds	4:30pm	X	3	X	5	X	7
Turlock	1126	Turlock Chamber of Commerce, 115 S. Golden State Blvd	A. Baker	Thurs	4:00pm	7	4	1	6	3	1
Ukiah	3714	Ukiah Garden Café, 1090 S State, Ukiah	G. Spaletta	Weds	5:30pm	6	3	7	5	9	7
USBR/CVO*	3012	Round Table Pizza, 7943 Greenback Ln, Citrus Hts.	P. Pipis	Tues	5:00pm	12	9	13	11	8	13
Vacaville	3812	Pietro's #2 679 Merchant St., Vacaville	Joe Stockel	Weds	4:30pm	6	10	14	5	9	14
Vacaville/Outside Line	4911	Ron Weakley Hall, IBEW 1245, 30 Orange Tree Circle	J. Greer	Weds	7:00pm	13	10	14	12	9	14
Walla Walla	3023	TC Headquarters - Wallula	M. Prior	Thurs	5:00pm	14	11	8	13	10	8
Watsonville - Davey	4723	Mountain Mike's Pizza, 1417 Freedom Blvd., Watsonville	J. Gonzalez	Mon	5:30pm	11	8	12	10	14	12
Wells R.E.C.	3319	Silver Sage Senior Citizens Center, 1st St., Wells NV	A. Reusch	Weds	5:00pm	X	10	X	12	X	14
Winnemucca	3317	Los Marguerits, 47 E. Winnemucca Boulevard	J. Henriod	Weds	7:00pm	X	10	X	12	X	14
Yerington	3313	Round Table Pizza	P. Roberts	Mon	6:00pm	X	1	X	3	X	5
Retirees - Dublin		IBEW Local 595, 6250 Village Parkway, Dublin	M. Silva	Thurs	10:00am	14	11	8	13	10	8
Retirees - Merced		Merced Senior Community Ctr., 755 W. 15th St., Merced	M. Bonds	Tues	10:00am	5	2	6	4	8	6
Retirees - Reno		Denny's, 205 E. Nugget Avenue, Sparks	R. Borst	Weds	8:30am	20	17	14	19	16	14
Retirees - San Jose		IBEW Local 332, 2125 Canoas Garden, San Jose	J. Hill	Thurs	10:00am	7	4	1	6	3	1
Retirees - Santa Rosa		Coco's Restaurant, 1501 Farmers Lane, Santa Rosa	Art Farhner	Tues	10:00am	5	2	6	4	1	6
Retirees - Vacaville		IBEW Local 1245, 30 Orange Tree Circle, Vacaville	R. Renoude	Weds	10:00am	6	X	14	X	9	X
Retirees - Yerington		Casino West, 11 Main Street, Yerington	T. Bird	Tues	11:30 am	26	23	27	25	22	27

News, photos, videos

www.ibew1245.com and

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Carbon-free capacity

Story and photos by Eric Wolfe

In the vast sun-baked expanses of the San Joaquin Valley west of Fresno, IBEW Local 1245 members are pioneering the way to an alternate future.

As carbon continues to build in the atmosphere—and threatens devastating climate change—some 200 Local 1245 members are installing about 35 megawatts of new carbon-free photovoltaic electric capacity for PG&E.

The project, roughly 25% complete, is being run by Cupertino Electric, an IBEW contractor since 1954. IBEW Foreman Randy Cohea calls it “one of the best jobs I’ve ever been on, as far as the way people get along,” as well as the quality and quantity of work getting done.

About 100,000 panels, supported by some 15,000 posts, are being installed at two sites. To get some idea of the amount of labor involved: even after the posts and panels are installed, every single bolt and clip has to be torqued. That’s 18 bolts on 15,000 posts, and four

clips on 100,000 panels—over 700,000 torques just to tighten everything up.

A new substation is being installed at the 20 megawatt Stroud site, while an existing sub is getting a makeover at the 15 megawatt Westside site.

The jobs have been a shot in the arm for a local economy where work has been in short supply. Cupertino Electric is justifiably proud of the employment opportunities it is providing for people who have been out of work for six or more months in some cases.

Another source of pride: the 25,000 man-hours of work that have been performed so far without a single injury. Cupertino Electric threw a barbecue for its workers on June 21 to celebrate this accomplishment.

Heat is a major safety concern in the valley, where temperatures can top 100 degrees. Cupertino Electric encourages its employees to drink about a quart of

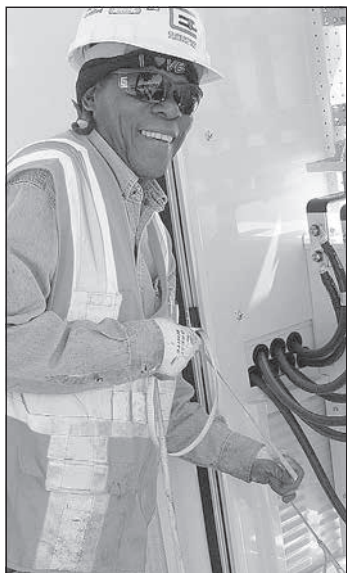
water per hour. The port-o-potties even have color-coded charts to help employees monitor their hydration level. An emergency medical technician is stationed at the site for the duration of the job.

Although the panels take up a lot of land, they will help Californians meet our need for electricity without spewing more carbon into the atmosphere. Plus, they just look cool. A rich maritime blue, they resemble ocean waves spreading across the arid valley floor. Well, very disciplined ocean waves, sculpted into perfect right angles. Those carefully measured rows reflect precision craftsmanship made possible by the skill, training and attention that IBEW members bring to their work.

Or as Foreman Randy Cohea put it: “It’s a pretty dang good-looking job, in my opinion.”



Journeyman Wireman Marcel Chavez terminating cables at an inverter.



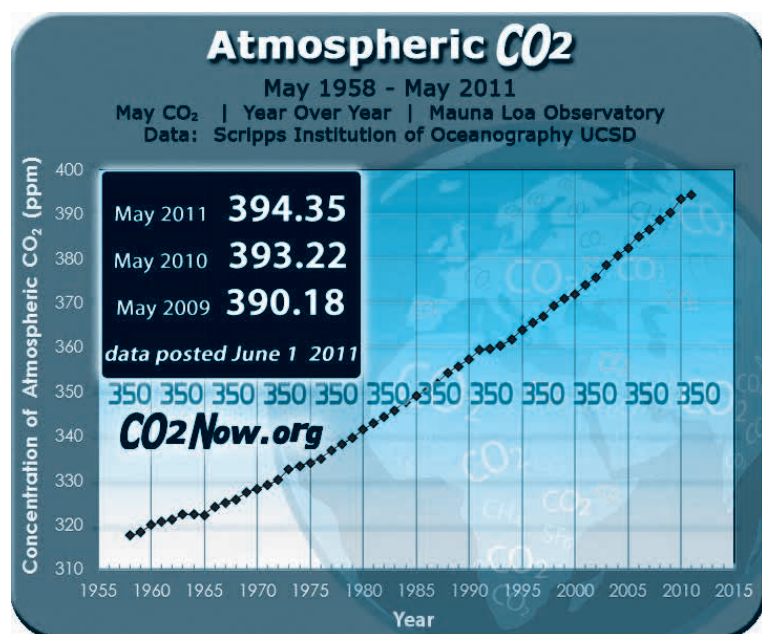
Franklin Rawlins, groundman, pulls an inverter feed.

“It’s a pretty dang good-looking job, in my opinion.”

—Foreman Randy Cohea



Local 1245 Business Rep. Elizabeth McInnis discusses a union issue with Foreman Robert Paulk.



CO₂now.org

Pssst: It’s getting hotter

Climate change has faded from the headlines, but it is not fading from our lives.

Carbon in the atmosphere traps sunlight, which heats the planet. Carbon concentrations are rising as a result of our modern lifestyle, especially the use of automobiles and coal-fired power plants. As the planet heats up, the sun-reflecting polar ice caps are melting, causing even more heat to be absorbed by the oceans rather than being radiated back into space. Increased heat also causes tundra to melt, which releases another heat-trapping gas—methane—into the atmosphere.

As of May 2011, carbon concentrations have reached about 395 parts per million, compared to under 320 ppm a half-century ago. Many scientists now target 450 ppm as the level beyond which catastrophic effects are inevitable.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, an organization of the world’s leading climate scientists, warns that warming the earth will disrupt food production and cause radical displacement of human populations as the oceans rise. An increase in major fires, species extinctions, and disease is also predicted.

But in a report released in May 2011, the IPCC estimates that renewable energy could account for nearly 80% of our energy use by 2050—if the nations of the world adopt policies to encourage it. It’s possible to preserve the planet’s beauty and resources for future generations, but only if we try.



Jayson Beyer (left) and Mitchell Devenny (right) prepare to lift a panel onto the rack.



Scott Vines and Adam Konglo work as part of a feeder-pulling crew.



Tim Chavira pulls feeders off of spools.



Charles Bynom, Jr. is one of seven Line Equipment men who are responsible for site logistics at the 20 MW site.



Cupertino Electric honored employees for their excellent safety record at a company barbecue on June 21.

continued on next page

Carbon-free capacity

Story begins on page 18



The project will use about 100,000 panels to generate 35 megawatts of electricity.



Cable Splicer Arthur Hamrick terminating a medium voltage transformer.



Cupertino Electric encourages workers to drink a quart of water every hour to protect against dehydration.



Foreman Randy Cohea: "...One of the best jobs I've ever been on."