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News briefs

Phony Measure:

The "Stop Special Interest Money Now Act," slated to appear on the November ballot in California, is a deceptive measure. Its true aim is to strip working people and their unions of political power so that corporations can have the field all to themselves. Check back for more info next issue of Utility Reporter.

Tortured and Killed: A labor organizer who helped expose dangerous working conditions at garment factories in Bangladesh was tortured and killed in early April, ABC News reported. "This depraved act signals the deterioration of an already grim labor rights situation in Bangladesh, which is now the fourth largest exporter of apparel to the U.S.," said Scott Nova, executive director of the Worker Rights Consortium.

Get Those Talks Moving:

The Papers union in Sweden has threatened to block the shipment of toilet paper from factories in a show of solidarity with the Commercial Employees' Union (Handels), which has not had much success getting wage negotiations moving with the Svensk Handel retail employers' association, Labor Start reported.

Get answers to your
union questions at:
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Utility Reporter



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UNITY IS STRENGTH

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



Calaveras Upgrade

Story begins on page 9.



Tom Dalzell
BUSINESS MANAGER

Paychecks and politics

In 1958, corporations declared war on unions in California by putting a “right-to-work” measure on the ballot. By making union dues optional, business leaders hoped to cut off the unions’ revenue stream. It was a power grab, pure and simple. The goal was to neuter unions at the bargaining table.

The Chamber of Commerce led the charge for the “right to work” measure. Unions called it “right to work for less” and launched one of the fiercest political campaigns in California history to oppose it. IBEW Local 1245 was in the thick of that fight.

This November, corporations are going at us again. In 1958 they tried to take away our bargaining power. This time they’re trying to take away our political power. It’s a switch in tactics, but the goal remains the same: business interests want to cripple unions. They call their ballot measure the “Stop Special Interest Money Now Act.” A more honest title would be, “Silence the Unions so that Corporations Can Run the Whole Show in Sacramento Act.”

Why should Local 1245 members care about this ballot initiative? Because our paychecks are the ultimate target.

Unions exercise power in two basic

ways. We use our members’ collective strength to negotiate economic improvements at the bargaining table, and to support legislation and legislators who help us protect these improvements.

Political battles over our rights and our standard of living go on all the time. But let’s just look at two major examples.

In the late 1980s, then-Gov. George Deukmejian abolished Cal-OSHA, the state’s highly-successful worker safety program. California’s unions, including IBEW Local 1245, waged a high-intensity campaign to restore Cal-OSHA through a ballot measure. We won that fight, and made it clear that protecting workers’ safety on the job must be a high priority.

In the mid-1990s, then-Gov. Pete Wilson took aim at the state’s overtime laws, which guaranteed that workers receive time-and-a-half when working

beyond 8 hours in a day. Unions mounted a major campaign to elect Gray Davis, who immediately restored those overtime protections when he became governor.

My point is this: politics matters.

This new corporate ballot initiative seeks to elbow unions out of the political process. Backers of the initiative claim it would rein in campaign contributions by both unions and corporations. But the wording of the initiative specifically targets union members, while creating a big loophole for corporate campaign contributions. That’s why unions are calling it the Corporate Deception Act.

In 1958, our union helped defeat a vicious assault on the power of working people and our unions. In 2012, we are being tested again. We will spare no effort to defeat the Corporate Deception Act.

PG&E “missed meals”

Union files legal complaint

IBEW Local 1245 filed a legal complaint on March 25 in an effort to resolve a dispute over missed meal provisions in the labor agreement.

Last year PG&E announced it would stop paying missed meals to certain employees. Since this time the union has had several discussions with PG&E, formally met with the company and, during general negotiations, proposed new language in the collective bargaining agreement to comply with A.B. 569, a bill enacted in 2010.

Unfortunately PG&E declined to

reverse its position on this matter, prompting the union’s decision to take legal action. The complaint filed by the union provides for PG&E to resolve this

matter without further litigation and we are hopeful the company will consider this opportunity.

Further details are available at www.ibew1245.com/news-PGE/missed_meals_3_29_12.html. New developments will be reported on the website as they become available.



PG&E bargaining updates on web

Negotiations with PG&E for a new contract were getting ready to resume as the Utility Reporter went to press. For the latest updates, please visit www.ibew1245.com.

New business reps hired

Several new business representatives have been hired to represent Local 1245 members.

Lloyd Cargo, 30, will be taking over most of the assignment held by retiring Business Rep Darryl Norris, 113. Cargo will represent PG&E Sacramento Division (except the Call Center and Payment Processing Center), and PG&E members in Roseville. Cargo, a PG&E Gas Service Representative, has been a leader in the union’s effort to mobilize young members. In 2011 he served on the bargaining committee for PG&E negotiations, and was one of eight Local 1245 members who gained campaign experience during last year’s recall election in Wisconsin.



Lloyd Cargo

Bob Gerstle, 51, is a PG&E electric crew foreman with 32 years of service to Local 1245. He served on the bargaining committee for the recent PG&E negotiations, and in 2009 participated in the “lineman safety summit,” among other union activities. He is slated to begin working for the union in May, representing PG&E members in Sierra Division/ Drum and Sierra Division/Colgate, including Hydro and Placerville.



Bob Gerstle

Dave Sankey, a 10-year member of Local 1245, is taking over the assignment formerly held by Bob Dean. Sankey, 37,



Dave Sankey

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Unit meeting changes

Unit 1313, Topock, will have no unit meeting in May. Going forward, meetings will be every other month on the first Thursday. Meeting dates for the remainder of the year are June 7, Aug. 2, Oct. 4 and Dec. 6. Meetings will continue to be at PSEA Clubhouse, Moabi Park, Topock, at 4:45 pm.

Dave Sankey, Business Representative

Unit 3417, Ukiah, has a new meeting time: 5 pm. Meetings will continue to be on Wednesday of the first full week of each month. Location remains Ukiah Garden Café, 1090 S. State, in Ukiah.

Ed Dwyer, Assistant Business Manager

Unit 2510, Manteca, is a new unit that will meet on the third Wednesday of the month, starting April 18. Meeting start time is 5 p.m. Meet location (for at least the next three months) will be the Manteca Moose Lodge, 1185 N. Main St. in Manteca.

Mike Saner, Business Representative

Unit 3813, Placerville, has changed its meeting date to the first Thursday of the month beginning May 3. Meetings will continue to be held at Spanky’s Pizza, 197 Placerville Dr., beginning at 3:45 p.m.


Bob Gerstle, Business Representative

Unit 1311, Hinkley, will have no unit meeting in May. Going forward, meetings will be every other month on the first Wednesday. Meeting dates for the remainder of the year are June 6, Aug. 1, Oct. 3 and Dec. 5. Meetings will continue to be at the Hinkley Compressor Station Clubhouse at 5:30 pm.

Dave Sankey, Business Representative

Unit 2311, Oakland Physical, has a new meeting location: The Moose Lodge Hall, 690 Hegenberger Road, in Oakland. The time remains 4:45 pm and the dates will remain the same. This is a permanent change.

Lou Mennel, Business Representative



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Tom Dalzell

Communications Director & Managing Editor
Eric Wolfe

President
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Executive Board
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Chris Habecker
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Frank Quadros – early PG&E union organizer

Frank Quadros, Jr., one of the early fighters for the union at PG&E, died Dec. 12, 2011 at the age of 86.

Quadros hired into the PG&E Gas Department in 1946 in San Francisco. At the time, the workers there were represented by a CIO union. After serving in the Marines during the Korean War (and winning a Silver Star), Quadros returned to PG&E in 1952.

"I found out that they had had an election and that it was all (represented by) IBEW," Quadros said in a 2007 interview.

Things were 'pretty raunchy' in those early days, Quadros said. "It was like there was no union at all, the company was doing whatever they wanted to do."

Quadros jumped into the fray, serving as a shop steward, on the grievance committee and then on the negotiating committee. It was there that he met Ron

Weakley, the union's founder and first business manager. He remembers telling Weakley, "The guys want to see some action."

"He came to a couple unit meetings in San Francisco while I was the shop steward there. I have to hand it to him, the reception was not that good," Quadros recalled.

"He handled himself very well. He took a lot of crap but he didn't respond to it. He answered questions but he didn't let it get to him."

At one point Quadros felt compelled to jump to Weakley's defense. After the meeting Weakley took him aside and said, "Quadros, you don't have to jump in like that, that's what I'm here for."

Eventually Weakley took Quadros off the job for 30 days to help organize in San Francisco. In those days, there was no automatic dues deduction from pay-

checks and union representatives had to personally collect dues from each member every month.

"I signed up quite a few people," Quadros recalled.

In 1955 Weakley asked Quadros to join the union staff. His first assignment was representing members in the North Bay. Later he was assigned to his old stomping grounds in San Francisco.

"I was back about 6 months and we had a big hullabaloo at 18th and Shotwell (the PG&E yard). Some guys refused to go to work. I said OK. I supported the walkout, which really pissed Weakley off," Quadros said.

But the walkout helped him sign up 560 new members, he said.

The 1950s were difficult years for the union. As new employees came into the company, they didn't understand the

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Frank Quadros, back row, far right, in a Local 1245 staff photo from about 1960.

IBEW 1245 Photo Archive

Members ratify Alameda pact

Local 1245 members ratified a tentative Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Alameda in February by a vote of 20-5.

The MOU was subsequently approved by the City Council after General Manager Girish Balachandran, Local 1245 Assistant Business Manager Ray Thomas and Business Representa-

tive Al Fortier spoke in favor of the pact.

The agreement calls for general wage increases of 5%, 3%, 2%, and 2% over a 4-year term. It also calls for the City to contribute full Kaiser and Blue Shield premiums in 2012.

In 2013, the City will pay for 85% of the increases in medical premiums, and in 2014 and thereafter, the city will pay

for 75% of the increases in premiums.

Effective Jan. 1, 2013, IBEW employees will pay a 1.868% cost-share toward the City's employer retirement contribution to Cal-PERS.

Serving on the union's bargaining committee were Mark Regan and Fernando Morales, along with Thomas and Fortier.



Local 1245 Shop Steward and Advisory Council member Michael Patterson (in orange shirt) addresses the City Council of Oakland at the Jan. 25 special meeting that was called to discuss the budget balancing proposal from City Administrator Deanna Santana.

Utility Reporter

APPOINTMENTS

PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC

2012 Ballot Committee

Doug Girouard, Don Hendrix
Keith Hopp, Jose Leal, Joe Martinez
John Rapozo, Deborah Rose-Calilan
Pete Sandoval, Steven Segale
Lee Thomas

Alternates

Jeff Campodonico, Steve Semenero
Lem Stubblefield, Melinda Worstein

FRONTIER

2012 Ballot Committee

Walter Carmier

TRANSCANADA

2012 Bargaining Committee

Neil Isley, Darin Perna
Shaun O'Neill, Paul Weid

CITY OF SHASTA LAKE

2012 Bargaining Committee

Dave Vandermeer

NCPA

2012 Bargaining Committee

Hershel Allen, Clay Ames
James Holton, Jerry L. Pangle

CONVENTIONS AND CONFERENCES

Electrical Workers Minority Caucus

Convention and Conference

Donna Ambea, Jammi Angeles
Lorenzo Arciniega, Elisa Arteaga
Anjulant Dion Bailey
Anna Bayless-Martinez

Anthony Brown, Juan Cervantes

Mike Cottrell, Scott Cuellar

Mike Davis, Cecelia De La Torre

Thelma Dixon, Will Durinick

Al Estes, Art Freitas, Steve Gallow

Bernice Garcia, Jennifer Gray

Troy Green, Chris Habecker

Lonnie Hasty, Jorge Hernandez

Natalia Jonas, Vincent Jones

Francesca Keeney, Kevin Krummes

Salvador Languren, Jose Leal

Deckosy Leopold, Jennifer Maldonado

Clara McAfee-Evans

Fernando Morales, Michael Patterson

Tana Prince, Julius Ricard

Veronica Rivera, Pedro Sandoval

Keith Scott, Beverly Shirey

Donchele Soper, David Stewart

Chris Tillman, Thanh Trach

Gary Vigil, Sonji Wade

Sheryl White, Curtis Wilkins

CLUW National Executive Board

Anna Bayless-Martinez

Cecelia De La Torre

Jennifer Gray, Chris Habecker

Alliance for Retired Americans 2012

Western Regional Conference

Mike Davis, Ken Rawles

California Federation of Labor

Joint Legislative Conference

Jammi Angeles, Lorenzo Arciniega

Anna Bayless-Martinez

Benjamin Contreras, Mike Davis

Cecelia De La Torre, Steve Gallow

Jennifer Gray, Chris Habecker

Kirk Haugen, Estanislao Hurtado

Jose Leal, Donchele Soper

CALENDAR

Apr 28: IBEW Charity Bowl, Sacramento

Apr 28: Advisory Council, Vacaville

May 12: 1245 Soccer Tournament, Ripon

June 16: 1245 Sporting Clays Shoot, Dunnigan

June 16: 1245 Golf Tournament, Vacaville – Postponed to October 20

IBEW offers new service to community

First Responder Training

Police and firefighters are people we turn to for help in emergencies.

Most of the time, they are able to respond with the expertise needed to stop a crime or put out a fire. But if the emergency involves a downed power line or spewing gas, even these professional first responders may find themselves in over their heads.

Rich Lane thinks first responders could use a helping hand. And who better to provide it than IBEW Local 1245? After all, our members deal with electric and gas every day.

When Lane heard that Cal-OSHA and other organizations were getting ready to host a giant Pacific Coast Safety Fest, he decided it was the perfect time to test his idea. IBEW Local 1245 became a co-sponsor of the event, Lane set up a booth, and the Local 1245 First Responder Training Program was officially launched.

"A lot of people came to the Safety Fest to get training on how to comply with various state and federal safety regulations," said Lane, an Electrical

Lineworker and union leader at Turlock Irrigation District. "Between training sessions they visited the various booths set up by vendors with services to offer. We were one of those vendors and that's how we began making contacts."

A top supervisor for the U.S. Forest Service immediately saw the value of what the IBEW was offering.

"She had 8,000 employees," said Lane. "She said, 'You're going to hear from us.'"

Gas Hazards

As an Electrical Lineworker, Lane knows about electricity. But natural gas, not so much. So he was glad to be joined at the IBEW Local 1245 booth by Jerry DeBaca, a long-time PG&E Gas Crew Foreman now working as a Gas Coordinator.

DeBaca estimates that about 150 people visited the IBEW booth during the three-day conference.

"We talked to guys from the Army," DeBaca said. "We had a mail carrier come by, we had contractors working in subdivisions come by."

DeBaca said the contractor he talked to didn't see why he would need training on gas and electric hazards. It didn't take DeBaca long to point out why he might.

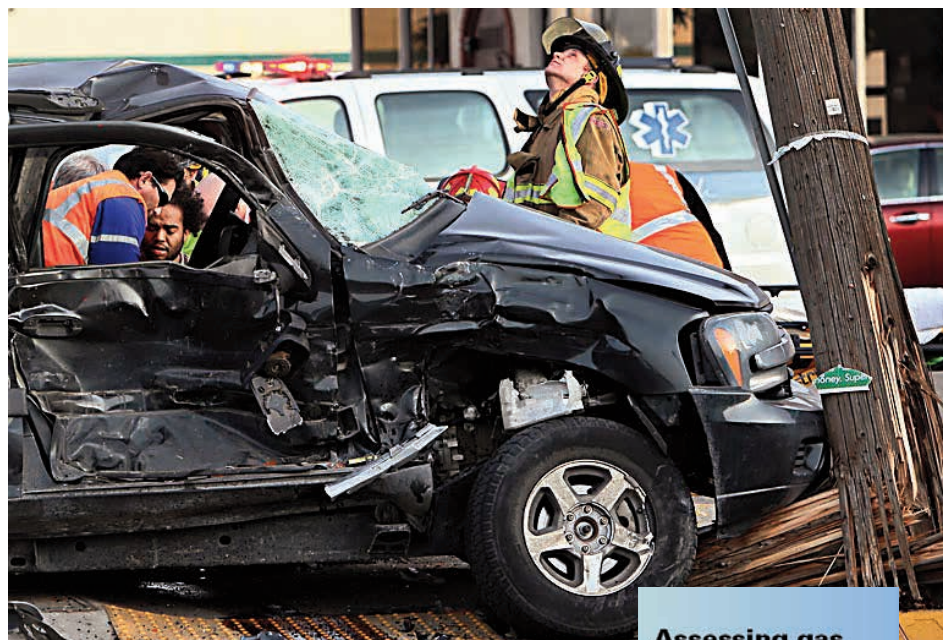
"When you're in a housing tract and you're lifting tiles with a big forklift to the roof of the house and suddenly you're encountering some temporary power lines, are you prepared to deal with that?"

Many of those visiting the booth watched the PowerPoint presentation Lane had prepared that illustrated some of the things that can go dramatically wrong when you're dealing with gas and electricity. Just about everyone took the full-color brochure describing the union's First Responder Training Program and how to get in touch with it.

"We also wanted people to know that we can tailor our safety presentation to community groups and schools. It's not just for first responders," said Lane.

Testing for Interest

The booth at the Safety Fest was a toe in the water for the new program.



Assessing gas and electric hazards on the scene



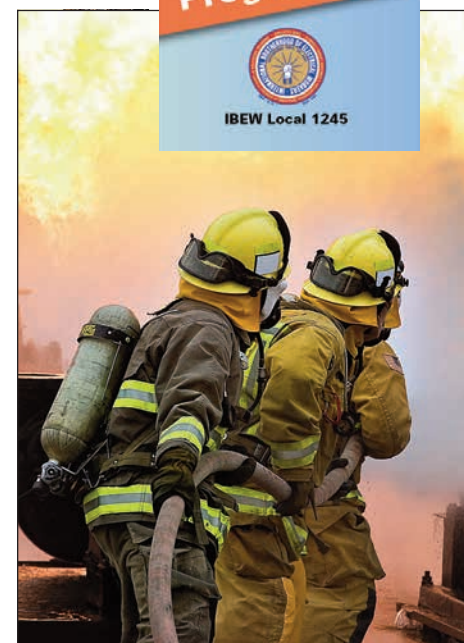
First Responder Training Program



Like the union they belong to, they are committed to the principle that all workers deserve to come home safe at night, and they are prepared to devote time and energy to turning that hope into a reality.

"We're testing for interest, trying to see if anybody is in need of this," says Lane. But he's pretty certain the interest is there. He previously put together a similar program with his employer, Turlock Irrigation District, and found there was a demand. He did trainings for the California Highway Patrol, local fire departments, and county sheriff departments, among others.

Lane and DeBaca work in dangerous occupations. They could just watch out for themselves and leave it at that. But like the union they belong to, they are committed to the principle that all workers deserve to come home safe at night, and they are prepared to devote time and energy to turning that hope into a reality.



Among the dozens of organizations, businesses and government agencies participating in Pacific Coast Safety Fest were:

- IBEW Local 1245
- Operating Engineers Local 3
- Pacific Gas and Electrical
- Sacramento Municipal Utility District
- U.S. Army
- U.S. Coast Guard
- California National Guard
- U.S. Forest Service
- Safeway



Jerry DeBaca, left, and Rich Lane staff the IBEW table at the Safety Fest.



Jerry DeBaca, left, explains the union's First Responder Training program to people attending the Safety Fest in Dublin.

Tragedy averted by quick-thinking apprentice

Journeyman Human Being



Jason Tucker

Photo by Nicholas Castle

Jason Tucker had been an apprentice electrician for exactly one day when he was confronted with his first journeyman test.

Cresting a small rise on a busy two-lane thoroughfare in Auburn, Tucker was surprised to see an elderly woman a short distance ahead of him, sprawled in the middle of road.

"I pulled over the shoulder about 20 yards in front of her and put on my flashers so other vehicles coming over the rise would see my vehicle prior to reaching her," said Tucker. The speed limit was 45 mph.

As Tucker hurried to the woman's aid, two vehicles sped by. They swerved to miss the woman but did not stop. When Tucker reached the woman he found her conscious but in great pain.

"She was really scared, very distraught. You can imagine how that would be for

an elderly person," said Tucker.

Tucker identified himself. The woman said her name was Linda, that she was 69 years old, and had fallen and injured herself. The pain was in her lower back.

Tucker decided it would be unwise to try to move her. He called 911 and focused on directing traffic until help arrived.

While they waited, two or three other motorists pulled over to offer assistance. This was a welcome change from the cars that had simply swerved around Linda earlier. But Tucker didn't see any value in having a bunch more people congregating in the roadway, so he advised them that help was on the way and encouraged them to keep moving.

"The first responder was the Auburn Police Department," said Tucker, although it's clear that Tucker himself was the actual "first responder."

never would have progressed like it did. He was smart, he knew how to handle himself, knew how to handle a big employer, he knew how to handle his staff and his membership. Knew what was going on. To me that union would not have survived without him," said Quadros.

Weakley once observed that, "You have to have someone to pilot the boat, but if you don't have anybody pulling the oars then you sink."

It was lucky for Weakley, and for union members today, that Frank Quadros was around in those early days to help pull the oars.

Two vehicles sped by. They swerved to miss the woman but did not stop. When Tucker reached the woman he found her conscious but in great pain.

Tucker stayed on the scene for a while to assist police with directing traffic.

"Then the American Medical Response arrived and they transported her to a hospital in Auburn," said Tucker.

Personal safety and the public's safety are the first responsibilities of an IBEW member. Jason Tucker—a certified Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)—certainly had the technical skills to assist the woman lying in the roadway in Auburn. But he had something more—he had the basic humanity to recognize a person in need and to respond as any decent person should.

In recognition of Brother Tucker's courageous action, the Local 1245 Executive Board on Feb. 24 nominated him for the IBEW Life Saving Award, which is granted by the international union to members who come to the aid of another human being in danger.

The excitement has passed. Tucker, who is 32 and a "single dad" with a one-year-old, has returned to his work as an apprentice electrician. The day after Valentine's Day, a week after his encounter with Linda, he was at the Vaca-Dixon substation, picking up materials needed for work at a sub in Placerville. He's working under a journeyman electrician who, as Tucker puts it, "is teaching me the ins and outs of the work, about the responsibilities and performance expectations of an apprentice electrician."

There's one performance expectation Tucker's already met in full: he's proved himself a journeyman human being.

Newly hired, from page 2

worked as a system operator for PG&E and served on the most recent PG&E bargaining committee. Effective May 1, he will represent members in PG&E portions of Fresno Division (Coalinga, Lemoore, Corcoran), Kern Division, and California Gas Transmission (Topock, Hinkley, Kettleman). He will also represent members at Frontier-Needles and Lindmore Irrigation District.

Bryan Carroll, 43, has been hired by Local 1245 as a benefits specialist. Carroll worked as a PG&E Corrosion Mechanic and is a 19-year IBEW member. In 2010 he served as a temporary business representative, and in 2011 he served on the bargaining committee for PG&E negotiations, providing valuable expertise on complex benefits issues.



Bryan Carroll

Sonny Hollesen, 48, has been hired to take over the northern assignment formerly held by Ed Dwyer: PG&E North Coast Division, PG&E General Construction—North Coast, Resort



Sonny Hollesen

Improvement District, and City of Willits. Hollesen, a 28-year Local 1245 member, has been a steward since 1996, served as unit chair in Eureka since 2005, and participated in the 1995 protests against PG&E downsizing.

Dwyer, who became an assistant business manager last fall, will continue to represent members in western Fresno Division (Selma, Lemoore, Coalinga, Dinuba).

Two other business representatives have also recently become assistant business managers: Bob Dean and Joe Osterlund.

And just for the record, Darryl Norris is actually just 63.

Quadros, from page 3

hard work it had taken to organize the union.

"They said, 'This is what I want and you can't get it. You're a sell-out artist.' We used to have some pretty hairy unit meetings—a lot of yelling and screaming," Quadros recalled.

Quadros lived long enough to see the union grow into a mature organization with enormous influence with PG&E and other employers, with state agencies, and with elected officials. He said the union owed much of its success to Weakley's early leadership.

"Without Ron Weakley that union

Utility Reporter

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ARA conference

Seniors gear up to fight back in 2012

By Bill Wallace

Republicans demonstrated after their midterm win in 2010 elections that their goal is to legislatively strip away the right to vote, limit a union's ability to represent workers, and eliminate your pension and benefits. Additionally, the treatment of women and minorities is taking a major step backwards with recent laws and proposed laws.

This attack on workers was a major focus of the Alliance for Retired Americans conference held at the end of February in Las Vegas.

IBEW Local 1245 sent five retirees to the conference: Tom Bird, vice president of NARA (Nevada Alliance for Retired Americans) and president of the IBEW 1245 Yerrington retiree club; Rita Weisshaar, vice president of the IBEW 1245 Reno/Sparks retirees club; Mike Davis, IBEW 1245 president; and Ken Rawles, IBEW 1245 Ninth District vice president CARA (California Alliance for Retired Americans); and myself.

Conservative millionaires throughout the nation have funded numerous initiatives that would weaken unions. The right-wing American Legislative Exchange Council, funded in part by the billionaire Koch brothers, is working to restrict the number of people voting in order to increase the right-wing's leverage. The smaller the number of people voting, the greater the chance that a Republican will be elected. Restrictive voter registration laws have been passed since the midterm elections and seniors and minorities have been denied the right to vote for the most insignificant reasons.

Voter fraud amongst Latinos has been cited as the reason for these restrictive laws, but getting struck with lightning is more likely than voter fraud. The real reason is that the Latino vote has increased and these restrictions are meant to stop or reduce the Latino vote. What truly democratic country would want fewer citizens voting?

The current political reality is that elected officials across the United States are trying to destroy collective bargaining, pensions, and unions, as well as Social Security and Medicare. We need to get fired up about this election. Our way of life, which unions helped to create, is evaporating. The middle class is quickly becoming the have-not class and the class of the past.

Republicans want to privatize Social Security and turn over our contributions to private stock brokers. It is important for the future of working people to win this fight. The presidential election is crucial, and the 65+ vote will be crucial in the west. We cannot let our generation be the last generation that is able to retire with a livable income and health benefits.

The theme of the ARA conference emphasized that seniors need to take stock of the political reality and play an active role countering these attacks against workers, the union, pensions and healthcare benefits. It is imperative that we support candidates that reflect the core values of the American union worker.

Being elderly does not necessarily equate to being wiser. Seniors consistently vote against their own best interest. We need to pay attention to the forces that are working to destroy us. We need to ask ourselves: How can a politician's stance really affect our lives? What are the "unintended" consequences when we vote for someone without considering their stance on economic issues that affect our standard of living?

Our training emphasized opening up an offensive to defeat these attacks on unions, workers and seniors. Workshops emphasized online organizing, getting the facts, and organizing seniors locally. The schedule was intense in teaching us how to spread the truth by educating

seniors through personal contact and by the use of social media. The training helped us to better understand the positive impact of Medicare, Social Security and the Affordable Healthcare Act and respond more intelligently to criticism.

Sort through the "political dogma" of politicians who are going to "fix" Social Security or Medicare. If Social Security and Medicare are changed to something else, they will no longer be Social Security or Medicare. We don't have to destroy Social Security to save it; it can be by relatively minor adjustments to the contribution formula.

The first vote cast by young people is very important, because they will most likely continue to vote the same way the rest of their lives. For that reason reaching young people is extremely important so that they cast a more intelligent vote. We need to engage them in the political process, because decisions made today can affect them both positively and negatively the rest of their lives.

This year's political cycle has serious implications for retired IBEW 1245 members, but it is important for active members, too. We inherited a great union which has bargained for good wages and benefits. However, we sometimes take for granted those long-forgotten men and women who fought for what we have today. We can repay them for their sacrifice by standing with others today to resist this assault on the rights of working people and middle



class.

We cannot standby and allow "others" to be disenfranchised. We must stand by our sisters and fight the forces that are treating them as second-class citizens. Collectively we must remember that unions do not exist in a vacuum. When others are attacked and we do nothing, we are the next in line for an attack. An attack on one is an attack on all and success will depend on your involvement.

Bill Wallace is IBEW 1245's liaison to the national headquarters of the Alliance for Retired Americans and vice-president of the IBEW 1245 San Jose retiree club. On behalf of all five IBEW 1245 delegates, he wants to thank the union for sending them to the ARA convention.

Our way of life, which unions helped to create, is evaporating. The middle class is quickly becoming the have-not class.

Get the latest news at

www.ibew1245.com

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, CA.

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

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

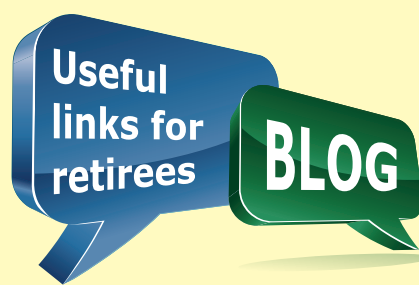
Yerrington Chapter (effective Feb. 2012): 4th Tuesday each month, 11:00 a.m. lunch, 11:30 a.m. meeting, Dini's Lucky Club, 45 N. Main St., Yerrington, NV.

Carson City Chapter: 4th Thursday each month, 9:00 a.m., Grandma Hattie's Restaurant, 2811 S. Carson St., Carson City, NV.

Winnemucca Chapter: 4th Wednesday each month, 11 a.m., Round Table Pizza, 1043 W. Fourth St., Winnemucca.



Representing Local 1245 at the ARA convention were, from left: Bill Wallace, Tom Bird, Rita Weisshaar, Mike Davis and Ken Rawles.



Reno/Sparks IBEW 1245 retirees blog

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

IBEW Ninth District Blog

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

Retirees form 1245 chapter in Winnemucca

Local 1245 retirees have organized a Winnemucca chapter of the union's Retirees Club.

The club will meet on the fourth Wednesday of every month at Round Table Pizza, 1043 W. Fourth St., in Winnemucca. The lunch meetings will start at 11:00 AM and last about two hours, with lots of socializing and pizza.

Local 1245 retirees in the Winnemucca area are invited and encouraged to join the fun. Meetings are open to all Local 1245 retirees,

regardless of who your employer was during your worklife.

The officers of the new chapter are Don Rogers, President; Ken Lutzow, Vice President; and Michael Dean, Recording Secretary.

This marks the fourth Nevada chapter of the Retirees Club, including Reno/Sparks, Yerington, and Carson City. There are five chapters in California. Local 1245 congratulates the Nevada retirees on their tremendous achievement.

IBEW 1245 The people behind the power

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PHOTO GALLERY LOCAL 1245 NEWS: SEARCH the Local 1245 website

Gov. Brown thanks IBEW members for their activism
Corporate Deception Act poses grave threat to working people
Topok Unit meeting schedule changes
Hinkley Unit meeting schedule changes
Pushing Back: unions use political process to defend members from attack

News, photos, videos:
ibew1245.com and facebook.com/IBEWLocal1245



Art Murray retires

Long-time IBEW International Representative Art Murray greeted his former colleagues at a recent IBEW Local 1245 staff meeting after announcing his retirement. Seated left is President Mike Davis; at right is Business Manager Tom Dalzell. Murray served as a Local 1245 Business Representative and Assistant Business Manager before joining the International's staff. Murray handled safety issues while he was at Local 1245 and went on to serve a term on the Cal-OSHA Standards Board. Best wishes for a happy retirement, Brother Art!



Congratulations newly-retired members

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

Billy Adams 41 years Modesto, CA	Lorrie Changaris 31 years Modesto, CA	Jimmie Diaz 37 years San Francisco, CA	Patrick Harl 19 years Livermore, CA
Rodinio Apolonio 17 years San Francisco, CA	Lily Chin 15 years Hayward, CA	Debra Encallado 14 years Arroyo Grande, CA	Barry Haueter 17 years Tollhouse, CA
Linda Balasis 36 years Bakersfield, CA	Wanda Chin 15 years San Leandro, CA	Edward Engeldinger 31 years Felton, CA	Randy Hauff 25 years Clearlake, CA
Frank Balcazar 1 year San Jose, CA	Lex Christensen 34 years Petaluma, CA	Francisco Espinosa 40 years Bakersfield, CA	Susan Heiman 30 years Antioch, CA
Roger Barnes 15 years Creston, CA	Rita Cornaggia 28 years Chowchilla, CA	Marsha Fagan 13 years Williamstown, NJ	Steven Henkel 30 years Camino, CA
Robert Bell 28 years Daly City, CA	Florence Cotton 36 years Dinuba, CA	Michael Francis 16 years Santa Maria, CA	Debbie Hicks 29 years Desoto, TX
Michael Belloli 39 years Atwater, CA	Michael Coyne 41 years Walnut Creek, CA	Raymond Gaeta 37 years San Jose, CA	Charles Holland 33 years Hanford, CA
Lynn, Blodgett 29 years Oroville, CA	John Criterio 26 years Brentwood, CA	Phillip Geck 34 years Vacaville, CA	Richard Holmes 13 years Fort Bragg, CA
Sharon Burnam 22 years Santa Cruz, CA	Eduardo Cruz 23 years Sacramento, CA	Lockey Gehring 41 years Placerville, CA	Brian Horio 27 years Mariposa, CA
William Caamano 33 years Vacaville, CA	Kenneth Cunningham 39 years Loleta, CA	Raymond Ghiotto 40 years Salida, CA	Emmahilda Imperial 37 years Stockton, CA
Jose Recto Cabatic 28 years W Sacramento, CA	Doyle Curtis 27 years Klamath Falls, OR	Harold Gordon 25 years Marion, MT	Kenneth Jackson 40 years Oakland, CA
Norman Casserly-Hollman 39 years Suisun City, CA	Marilyn Dahl 19 years Twain Harte, CA	Albert Gutierrez 26 years Galt, CA	Richard Kappler 16 years Palo Alto, CA
Carlos Castillo 40 years San Jose, CA	Edith Davis, 25 years Prescott, AZ	Robert Hanford, 17 years Chico, CA	Homer Knight 42 years Sacramento, CA
Matthew Challstrom 25 years Loomis, CA	Mary Demeo 36 years Half Moon Bay, CA	Raymond Hannan 37 years Roseville, CA	Ben La Pena 41 years Eureka, CA

Chyrl Lafferty 23 years Turlock, CA	Lisa McKellar 28 years Piercy, CA	Gary Phillips 28 years Colorado Springs, CO	Joseph Soza 38 years Gilroy, CA
Byron Lagan 44 years Modesto, CA	Gilbert Medeiros 14 years Bangor, CA	Charles Pittman 38 years Vallejo, CA	Sharon Thomson 14 years Pemberton, CA
Richard Landucci 40 years Scottsdale, AZ	Adrienne Middlebrooks 35 years Shingle Springs, CA	Kirk Pittman 32 years Auburn, CA	Robert Vasquez 38 years Sanger, CA
Frank Lopez 29 years Roseville, CA	Ronald Moon 16 years Bakersfield, CA	James Polen 32 years San Pablo, CA	John Velasquez 23 years Sanger, CA
Richard Love 17 years Hayward, CA	Juan Morales 33 years Bakersfield, CA	Paul Randall 40 years Roseville, CA	Diane Verhines 4 years Sacramento, CA
Lloyd Madansky 22 years Grover Beach, CA	Linda Morita 40 years Selma, CA	Caroline Randazzo 9 years San Jose, CA	Ernie Wagoner 31 years Atwater, CA
Karen Magee Paradise, CA	Regina Murray 1 year Atlanta GA	Lance Rayner 38 years Antioch, CA	Manfred Waidtlow 27 years Auburn, CA
Richard Magill 34 years Cobb, CA	Paul Nepomuceno 35 years Daly City, CA	Cheryl Reed 30 years Bend, OR	David Walters 24 years Pacifica, CA
Kenneth Mahouski 27 years Fortuna, CA	Francis Nielsen 30 years Dixon, CA	Stephanie Renfer 27 years Ferndale, CA	Thomas Warner 16 years Richvale, CA
Chris Marcus 19 years Antioch, CA	Ronald Nishimoto 38 years Roseville, CA	Gary Romano 27 years Escalon, CA	Lori Wilcots 16 years Fresno, CA
Paul Markiewitz 39 years Vacaville, CA	Randy O'Brien 30 years Santa Rosa, CA	Joe Sanchez 34 years Bakersfield, CA	Douglas Williams 38 years Oroville, CA
Robert Martin 33 years Hollister, CA	Phil Olivas 34 years Dixon, CA	David Scoggins 34 years Valley Springs, CA	Joseph Zozom 29 years Oakley, CA
Richard Martinez 36 years Yuba City, CA	Wade Osburn 32 years Paso Robles, CA	Karl Smalling 34 years Farmington, CA	
Terry Marymee 22 years Redding, CA	Susan Otal 19 years San Jose, CA	Cathleen Smith 5 years Sonora, CA	
Kitty Mason 33 years Mariposa, CA	Robert Parks 40 years Yuba City, CA	Raymond Smith 24 years Mariposa, CA	
Chris Matson 23 years Cloverdale, CA	Larry Peralta 34 years Stockton, CA	Nathaniel Soileau Oroville, CA	
Dianne Matthews 32 years Stockton, CA		Cynthia Solomon 23 years Gualala, CA	

Congratulations Retirees!
We want you to STAY CONNECTED



to IBEW 1245.

Line Clearance Tree Trimming News

Wright Tree Service started operations in Humboldt County on March 1, 2012 where Davey Tree Surgery had been operating for over 20 years. Davey reported that it has kept eight of the 45 employees to do system reliability work. Wright picked up most of the rest; a few chose not to go with Wright.

Those employees laid off received notice that their medical benefits were cancelled Feb. 26, 2012 although they continued to work for Davey Tree Surgery through Feb. 29. The earlier cancellation caused problems with pharmacies at the end of February.

Working with the union, the company has agreed to cover those costs.

The upcoming transition at SMUD from Wright Tree Service to Asplundh Tree Expert is generating many calls from members formerly employed by Asplundh Tree Expert, Utility Tree Service and Trees Inc. as those terminated "for cause" from any Asplundh subsidiary may not be picked up by Asplundh. The awarding of the SMUD bid was protested by more than one contractor contending that now the entire SMUD tree trimming contract was being awarded to one company: Asplundh. The protests were rejected by SMUD.

Noticias de Podadores de Árboles para el Despeje de Líneas

Wright Tree Service comenzó sus operaciones en el Condado de Humboldt el 1o de marzo de 2012, donde Davey Tree Surgery había estado operando por más de 20 años. Davey informó que retuvo ocho de los 45 empleados debido a trabajos del sistema de confiabilidad. Wright contrató a la mayoría de los empleados restantes; unos pocos decidieron no trabajar con Wright.

Los empleados que fueron despedidos fueron notificados que sus beneficios médicos serían cancelados a partir del 26 de febrero de 2012 aunque continuaron trabajando para Davey Tree Surgery hasta el 29 de febrero inclusive. La cancelación temprana ocasionó problemas con las farmacias a finales de febrero. Trabajando en conjunto con el sindicato, la compañía accedió a cubrir estos costos.

La próxima transición en SMUD de Wright Tree Service a Asplundh Tree Expert está generando muchas llamadas de los miembros que previamente habían sido empleados por Asplundh Tree Expert, Utility Tree Service y Trees Inc. ya que aquellos despedidos "con causa" de cualquier subsidiaria de Asplundh no pueden ser contratados por Asplundh. Más de un contratista protestó la adjudicación de la licitación de SMUD, sosteniendo que ahora la totalidad de los contratos de despeje de líneas de SMUD habían sido adjudicados a una compañía: Asplundh. Las protestas fueron rechazadas por SMUD.

PG&E continua adjudicando directamente trabajos de proyectos a contratistas en North Valley que no pertenecen al sindicato. Estos contratistas pagan salarios y beneficios por debajo de los que paga la industria. Uno de ellos fue responsable directo por la caída de un

pino de gran tamaño sobre una línea de 230KV que produjo un incendio hace algunos meses; fueron temporalmente retirados de los terrenos, pero están participando actualmente en actividades de pre-licitación. Todos estos contratistas tienen problemas de seguridad.

Un operador de tierra de Family Tree Service fue despedido por la caída de un abeto que ocasionó un apagón en el área de Garberville. El operador sostiene que las medidas disciplinarias anteriores, utilizadas como etapas progresivas que llevaron a su despido, fueron inventadas por la compañía. El operador admite que ocasionó el apagón, pero sostiene que no fue entrenado para cortar árboles y que su capataz estaba escalando dos vanos más atrás cuando sucedió el accidente. Al solicitar la documentación sobre las medidas disciplinarias previas, la compañía suministró una lista de ellas pero no suministró ninguna copia de las advertencias.

El sindicato se reunió con Asplundh Tree Expert, Trees Inc., Utility Tree, y Wright Tree Service en las oficinas de Mediación Federal (Federal Mediation, FMCS por sus siglas en inglés) en Oakland el 7 de marzo de 2012. Llegamos a un acuerdo tentativo. Se llevarán a cabo reuniones de introducción en todos los patios para explicar la oferta. Las papeletas de votación ya fueron enviadas por correo a los miembros.

El 2o Torneo Anual Gold Cup de Fútbol del IBEW 1245 se llevará a cabo en el parque Mistlin Soccer Sports en Ripon, California. El evento fue ampliado a 14 equipos. El sindicato tendrá una reunión de Capitanes de Equipo el 16 de abril en Vacaville para hablar sobre las reglas y procedimientos del torneo.

PG&E continues to award project work directly to non-union contractors in the North Valley. These contractors have below-industry wages and benefits. One of them was directly responsible for felling a large pine through a 230KV resulting in a fire several months ago; they were temporarily removed from the property but are attending pre-bids now. All of them have safety issues.

A Family Tree Service groundman was terminated for felling a fir tree and causing an outage in the Garberville area. He maintains the previous discipline used as progressive steps leading to his termination was fabricated by the company. He admits he caused the outage but claims he was not trained to fell trees and his foreman was two spans away climbing when the accident happened.

When documentation of the past discipline was requested the company produced a list of the alleged discipline but no actual copies of the warnings.

The union met with Asplundh Tree Expert, Trees Inc., Utility Tree, and Wright Tree Service at the Federal Mediation (FMCS) office in Oakland on March 7, 2012. We reached a tentative agreement. Roll-out meetings will be conducted at all yards to explain the offer. Ballots have been mailed to the members.

The 2nd Annual IBEW 1245 Gold Cup Soccer Tournament will be held at Mistlin Soccer Sports Park in Ripon, CA. The event has been expanded to 14 teams. The union will have a Team Captain Meeting on April 16 at Weakley Hall in Vacaville to discuss the rules and procedures for the tournament.



Outside Line construction work remains steady with all aspect of our work being performed at some level. Indications are that total contract crews for wood pole replacement are close to the maximum numbers projected for the year with work steady for these crews. Transmission pole replacement and substation work which includes the civil work in the subs have also been somewhat steady given the recent wet weather. There will be some more work in the wind farms in Solano County towards the summer.

The current solar projects are nearly complete. We know that Cupertino Electric was awarded another 20 MW solar project and they plan to start mid-July.

Wellington recently laid off 30 exchangers / techs and 13 journeymen.

On March 26, we held an orientation for the new members at Deerpath Corp. They are installing Smart Meters for NV Energy. We had 46 members in attendance as well as few kids and spouses. The meeting was productive and very interactive.

Organizing

We signed the following contractors in the month of March:

California Outside Line Construction Agreement

- America Site Builders, LLC – Texas
- Shimmick Construction – Oakland, CA
- Atlas Civil dba MGE Energy – Paso Robles, CA
- Roadway Engineering – Ceres, CA

San Francisco Chapter of NECA Trolley Agreement:

- Shimmick Construction
- Substation, Communication, Relay Test Technician (Specialist) Agreement:
- KVA Electric

Dispatch

	March 2012	Year to Date
Lineman	76	299
Apprentice Lineman	9	71
Equipment Man	5	39
Groundman	23	175
Fabricator Tech	8	48
Cable Splicer	3	8
Total	124	640

Out of Work Books as of March 29, 2012

BOOK #					
L-1	33	CS-1	11	F-2	46
L-2	101	CS-2	9		
L-3	4	CS-3	3		
L-4	120				
		GM-1	15		
ES-1	6	GM-2	20		
ES-2	9	GM-3	372		
ES-3	16	GM-4	320		

Special Events

- Soccer Tournament -May 12, 2012, Mistlin Sports Park, Ripon, CA
- Clay Shoot – June 12, 2012, Dunnigan, CA
- International Lineman's Rodeo – October 10-14, 2012, Overland Park, KS
- The 16th Annual IBEW 9th District Softball Tournament will be hosted by Local 595/Dublin at Big League Dreams Park in Manteca, CA. It will be held August 11-12. We should be scouting for teams now.

An expanded version of this report can be found on the Local 1245 website at www.ibew1245.com.

Calaveras Upgrade

Story by Eric Wolfe Photos by John Storey

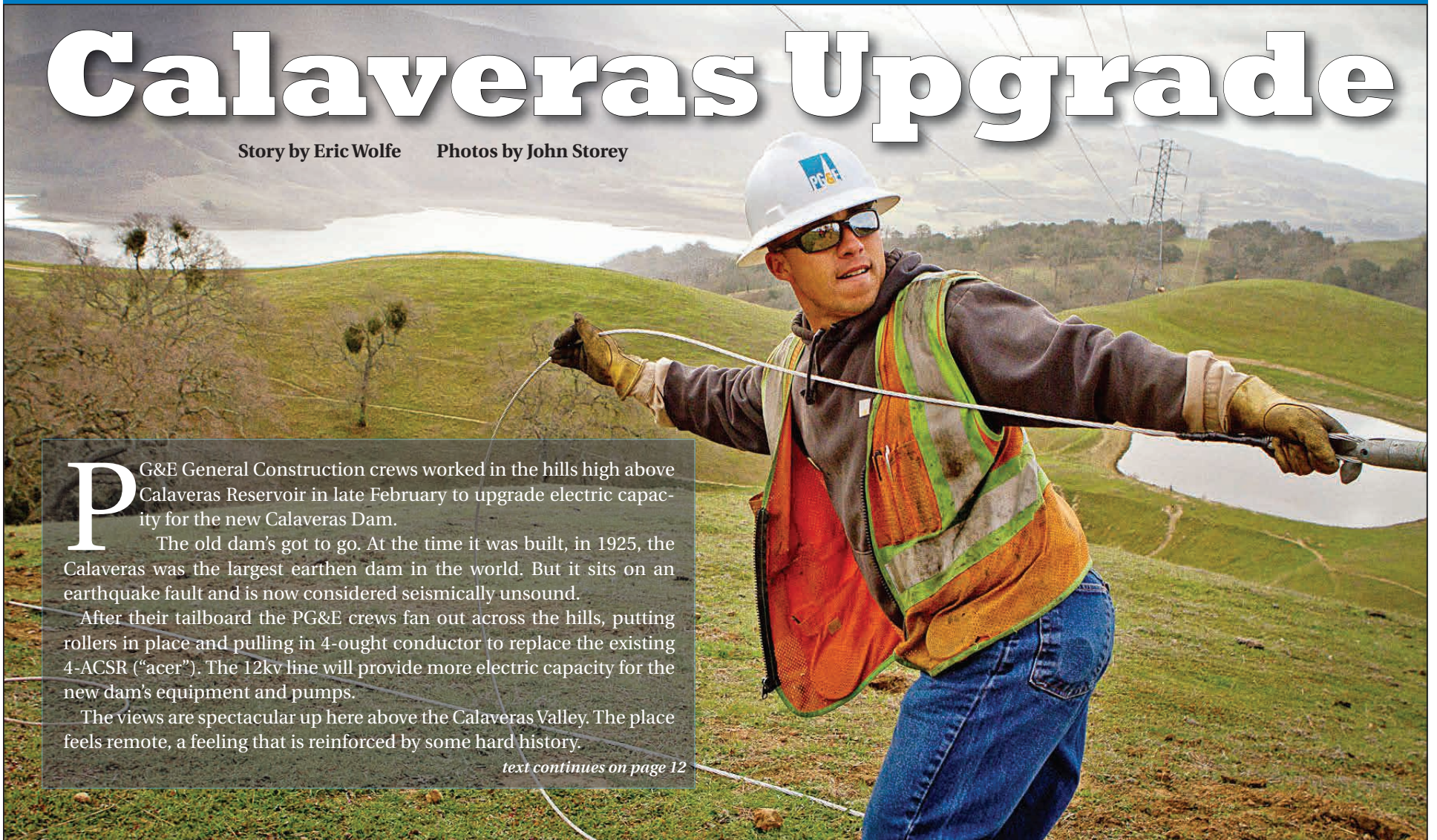
P G&E General Construction crews worked in the hills high above Calaveras Reservoir in late February to upgrade electric capacity for the new Calaveras Dam.

The old dam's got to go. At the time it was built, in 1925, the Calaveras was the largest earthen dam in the world. But it sits on an earthquake fault and is now considered seismically unsound.

After their tailboard the PG&E crews fan out across the hills, putting rollers in place and pulling in 4-ought conductor to replace the existing 4-ACSR ("acer"). The 12kv line will provide more electric capacity for the new dam's equipment and pumps.

The views are spectacular up here above the Calaveras Valley. The place feels remote, a feeling that is reinforced by some hard history.

text continues on page 12



ABOVE AND LEFT: Will Soria

BELOW: Crews gather for the tailboard before starting work.



Calaveras *continued from previous page*

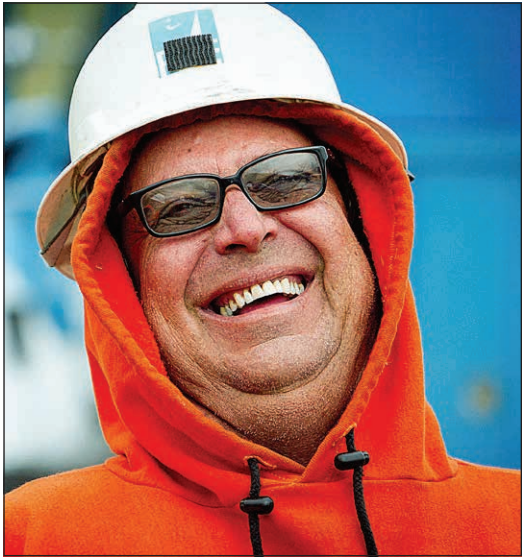


Eric Arnold



Tom Smithwick, left, and Ryan Rodriguez





Don Wamsley



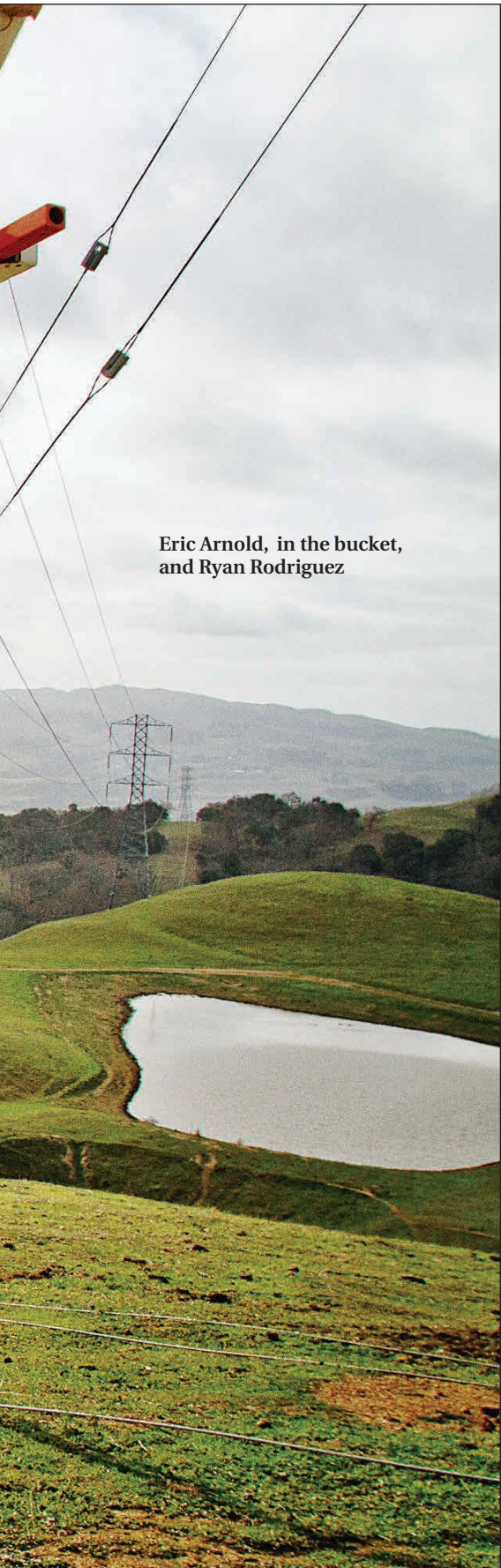
Todd Walker



Eric Arnold



Ryan Rodriguez



Eric Arnold, in the bucket, and Ryan Rodriguez



Will Soria



Eric Arnold, in the bucket, and Will Soria

continued on next page



Todd Walker

Calaveras text continued from page 9

The first effort to build a dam here ended in failure, when the structure collapsed before construction was completed. A worse tragedy struck on Father's Day 1963, when the reservoir swallowed two men out for a short flight in a single-engine Ercoupe. No one saw the plane go down, but suspicion fell on the Calaveras Reservoir and the children of one of the men returned several times over the years to cast red roses on the water's surface.

The bodies were recovered in the 1990s after a drought shrank the reservoir and uncovered the plane's wreckage.

But today this valley's troubled past seems to recede a little further as the sun streams through a break in the clouds and the IBEW members check the sag on the new lines they've pulled in.

To a lineman, perfect sag is a thing of beauty.

"It looks great," says Cisco Schaaf, a five-year member of IBEW Local 1245. "And you couldn't be in a finer place."

The new dam is expected to be operational in 2015.



Job over, heading back to the trucks.



John Marshall



Pat Windschitl, left, and Jason Fannon



Working the Calaveras job on Feb. 28 were, from left: Eric Arnold, Ryan Rodriguez, Alvin Knackstedt, Sabin Moreno, Pat Windschitl, Chad Nelson, Dave Garrity, Tom Smithwick, Phil Montoya, John Marshall, Howard Hancock, Cisco Schaaf, Don Wamsley, Will Soria, Alex Ellis, Jeff, Jason Fannon, Warren Recht, Todd Walker.

Pushing Back

By Eric Wolfe

Everything is connected.

Last year IBEW Local 1245 members traveled to Wisconsin, Florida and Ohio to help other unions fight back against Republican-led assaults on workers' rights. Now Republican legislators in some states are having second thoughts about continuing their attack on labor.

Take Minnesota. Republicans have majorities in both chambers of the state legislature, and were widely expected to pass "right-to-work" legislation this year. But it hasn't worked out that way. How come?

Right-to-work laws, as most union members know, forbid union security clauses in union contracts. In other words, a union cannot require employees to pay union dues, even though the union is required by law to represent those same employees.

Unions have a name for people who enjoy the benefits of having a union but skip out on paying their fair share: free riders. And we also have a name for these anti-union laws: right-to-work-for-less.

Supporters often claim that right-to-work laws attract business and improve a state's economy. But research does not bear this out.

Lonnie Stevans, Professor of Information Technology and Quantitative Methods at Hofstra University, compared the business formation and economic growth of right-to-work states with non-right-to-work states using recent data from the U.S. Small Business Administration. After controlling for several variables, Stevans found that a state's right-to-work law has *no influence* on economic growth, *no influence* on employment, and *no influence* on business capital formation.

Negative Impact on Wages, Benefits

But Stevans did find one point of influence: having a right-to-work law is correlated with a *decrease in wages*.

This finding is confirmed by Gordon Lafer of the Economic Policy Institute. His research found that right-to-work laws lower wages for union and non-union workers by an average of \$1,500 a year. Right-to-work laws also decrease the likelihood that employees will get health insurance or pensions through their jobs, Lafer's research shows.

Lower wages have the indirect effect

of undermining consumer spending, which in turn threatens economic growth. For every \$1 million in wage cuts to workers, \$850,000 less is spent in the economy, according to Lafer's research. And that drop in spending translates into a loss of six jobs.

But corporations are more concerned about their immediate bottom line than the long-term health of the economy. It's almost human nature: managers don't like to share power with workers, and top managers prefer to see company revenues go into executive bonuses rather than wages.

Politicians Having Second Thoughts

So what's going on in Minnesota? Why are Republicans there suddenly having second thoughts about pushing through a right-to-work (for less) law when they have the votes to do so? In a word: it's about survival.

They saw what happened next door when Gov. Scott Walker of Wisconsin tried to strip public workers of their collective bargaining rights. Two state senators have already lost their jobs in special elections, thanks to a vigorous recall campaign that was assisted by members of our union, Local 1245.

Other anti-union Wisconsin legislators are being targeted for recall this year.



Jennifer Gray, left, and Donchele Soper were among several Local 1245 members campaigning last year to recall anti-union legislators in Wisconsin. In 2012 our union may have to mobilize to fight a ballot measure in California that would undermine our union's strength and our ability to defend our members' standard of living.

And over one million voters have signed petitions calling for Gov. Walker's recall, too. A special election is set for June 5.

Similar story in Ohio. Thousands of union members, including a delegation from Local 1245, mounted a huge campaign to repeal a Republican-backed bill that stripped union members of their rights. The repeal effort was wildly successful—over 60% of the voters backed the unions.

What message has this sent to Minnesota legislators who've been considering a right-to-work (for less) bill?

"There is a tremendous fear of the political ramifications — it boils down to that, nothing more or less," Minnesota State Senator Dave Thompson told the New York Times.

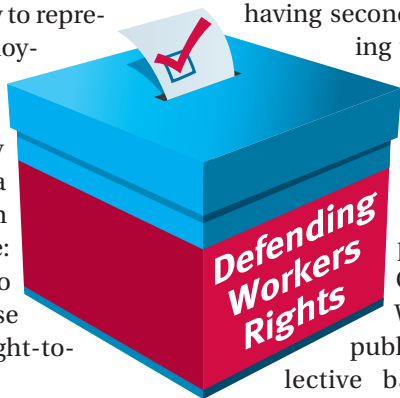
Some Republican lawmakers in Michigan wanted to push right-to-work legislation in their state, but Gov. Rick Snyder, also a Republican, wants no

part of it. In Utah, where Republicans control the state Legislature, an anti-union proposal to restrict collective bargaining never made its way out of a committee.

Here's the take-home lesson: everything is connected. What we do matters. We fought back, and the union bashers have been forced to reconsider their attacks.

But the threat is far from over. In California, anti-worker forces have put a measure on the November ballot to restrict the rights of unions to engage in political activity. (See "Paychecks and politics," page 2).

Local 1245 will be providing more information on this threat as election season approaches. We've sent small delegations to fight for union rights in other states. Now the time has come to mobilize to defend our rights right here in California.



Gov. Jerry Brown shared a dinner table with IBEW Local 1245 members and staff at the recent meeting of the California State Association of Electrical Workers. From left: Fred Ross, Steven Gallow, Tom Dalzell, (Gov. Brown), Ron Cochran, Jammi Angeles, Ralph Armstrong, Lloyd Cargo, Carl Lamers, Donchele Soper, and Junior Ornelas.

Brown thanks members for their activism

IBEW 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell and other staff and members welcomed Gov. Jerry Brown at a reception in Sacramento's Citizen Hotel on March 30, part of a two-day state-wide meeting hosted by the California State Association of Electrical Workers. Brown joined the IBEW 1245 table for dinner and congratulated the young members present for their activism.

In remarks to the gathering of over 100 IBEW leaders,

Brown renewed his commitment to invest in California's infrastructure. He recognized IBEW 1245 Business Manager Tom Dalzell for his vision and hard work, and appealed for IBEW's help in passing a ballot initiative this November to increase revenues for the state budget. He also pledged to fight back against the anti-union attacks sweeping the country, including the upcoming "Corporate Deception Act" in California's November election.

THE TOKEN BEARERS

By Mike Cottrell

The Utility Reporter is proud to bring you the next installment in this lineman's novel by Local 1245 Executive Board member Mike Cottrell.

Chapter 4

EUREKA, CALIFORNIA 1954. AND A DREAM OF FANCY IN HOUSTON DURING THE GREAT DEPRESSION.

It was six in the morning as he rolled the unit to a stop in front of the hall in Eureka. Aileen and the girls were asleep and he gazed over at her and then to the back seat at the girls. I will have a job tomorrow and a place to park the trailer today girls. He lit the cigarette and waited for someone to come in and he would get on the books and have a clearance to go to work and he dozed off and dreamed. Fancy was walking down the street in Houston. The place looked warm and inviting so he sat his grip down and blew into his hands and re-gripped his suitcase and tramp bag and walked over and sat one down then turned the knob and pushed the door open. She was filling the salt and pepper shakers and already knew he was broke by the look in his eye and wasn't in the mood to tell him yes or no, just exhausted to see all the people without during this depression. He sensed she knew he was broke and wondered how to get something out of her in fair trade.

"I can do anything you want me to do and better than most."

She just stared and kept filling the shakers

"My name is Fancy and I'm a lineman by trade, but things are slow."

She still did not reply. He sat his things down on the floor by the counter and looked at the pie case.

"I can peel and cut apples for you, or I can kill, pluck, gut, and butcher chickens, too."

She did not answer.

"Well then how about I borrow some hot water and a few crackers from ya' and that bottle of catsup over there and I'll just sit down here and make myself some tomato soup."

"That's funny."

"Yeah and the truth of the matter is that usually when you come in a place and buy a meal you get all that stuff free, but since I can't afford the meal I wonder how that works."

"You mean how it works that you would get catsup, crackers and hot water free without buying a meal?"

"Yeah. That's what I'm wondering."

"I can answer that."

"You can?"

"The answer is, no, that stuff is not free."

"Well how 'bout a cup of coffee then until my brother in St. Louis straightens up, and he's

a hunchback."

"Why don't you just say you can make wisecracks till I either feed you or call a cop?"

"I can do that, too. That way it'll be either a free meal or a warm place to sleep tonight and if I'm lucky, maybe both."

"How long since you ate?"

"I'm not sure, but long enough my stomach thinks my throat's been cut."

"I'll feed you. But you will have to work it off. I've got some dishes in the back and other things to do around here."

"Where's them dishes or that food, I'm dyin' to get to one of 'em so I can start on the next."

"I'll feed you first, and then put you to work."

"Yessss ma'am!"

When the hall opened, Buddy went in and signed the books and was given his choices to work. He asked about the overtime jobs and took the wood pole high line that was paying the most money. There were jobs left on the days calls and getting out on the job of choice was no problem.

She asked him did he get one and he said yes a good money job. She asked him where the trailer parks were and he told her the ones on the end of town sounded like the best and that is where most of the linemen and their families were staying. They went and found them and moved in the best looking one and he started setting up the trailer and she found a swing set for the girls to play on and the little one asked her if this was their new place and she said yes honey until we move again, this is home. Then while the girls played on the swing set she went to check out the laundry room to see how it was laid out and thought



The job was almost always with them on or off, just the way they are. Hard and competitive, callused and conniving against each other to pull stunts and tricks was part of it all. It was just the way of the tramp lineman.

it was a little dingy and decided it would have to do and went back and started cleaning the house once he had taken all the blocks out to get the trailer level.

Late in the day, the men started coming in from work and some came by to see whom the new trailer belonged to and some knew Buddy and he knew some of them and it always seemed to be that way. An old friend would call and tell of a new job with better money and time and it always seemed to be the same. No matter where you might be, the grass was always greener on the other side of the fence, so just quit where you are now and go for the gold. Tramps and boomers taking everything they owned and moving to more money. Never mind the kids or buying land or saving a hell of a lot. It was as much about seeing the country as any of that as long as the money was better than the last job. That was the central view of all of them, having more money on your paycheck than the other lineman and making sure you got as much overtime as anybody else got. It was the competitive way of the lot of them, out doing each other and beating the other one to the books to get on the money faster than somebody else. Then laughing and tee-heeing all the while waiting on the others to show up just to discover you were already there and way ahead of them in money. Friends would call friends when the books were clear and not call the enemies they had made in the trade—many job problems handled at the bar after work or in the trailer park. The job was almost always with them on or off, just the way they are. Hard and competitive, callused and conniving against each other to pull stunts and tricks was part of it all. It was just the way of the tramp lineman. They wanted nothing else in the world but this freedom to roam and make money and build and destroy reputations unwillingly and willingly. In hatred or good humor whatever one's nature or convictions tendered him in the course of chasing the work and making one's way.

Fried potatoes and onions smelled in the evening air and kids played and dogs from different states mingled and annoyed each other's yards and invaded the landlord's rose bushes and rummaged in the garbage cans to be stoned and kicked and cussed and no leash law prevailed to stop their freedom and times were good here for linemen and their families.

After dinner and talking with the other men on the job about some of the conditions and equipment, ranging from mules to 'A' frames Buddy sat in the yard with his girls and played until dark. The game was jacks and he was winning

No matter where you might be, the grass was always greener on the other side of the fence, so just quit where you are now and go for the gold. Tramps and boomers taking everything they owned and moving to more money. Never mind the kids or buying land or saving a hell of a lot.

and he was glad to have gotten them all there from Kansas City safe and sound and he turned in to get up early and show-up on the new job.

"Buddy, Buddy wake up, I've got the coffee ready and your eggs are on, get up it's time to go to work".

"Huh, okay okay, I'm awake. I'll be right out."

He came out and sat at the table and she slid the toast and jelly and eggs under his nose and poured the coffee and handed him a spoon for the sugar.

"You can have the car today."

"I can?"

"Yeah, I'm riding with Kenny and his wife's name is Hazel, they live in number four. See if she needs to go anywhere and stop and get a quart of oil and put in it. We ran out on the road and it needs one. Get me some woolies, mine all have holes in them and just get one pair until pay day."

He dressed and put his line boots on by the door, gave her a kiss and hug and she said to be careful and he said he would and unlatched the door and she handed him his lunch box.

"I'll leave the key under the seat after I get my tools out of the turtle hull."

"Okay, love you", she said and drew her head back from the crack in the door and closed it and went back to bed after she checked the girls.

When he got down to four they were warming up the car and the others were showing up and starting to pile in. Kenny opened the trunk and they put their lunches in and Buddy put his tools in one side. He shook hands with Mickey and Kenny and his little brother Pete.

They sped off and Kenny started hauling ass like there was no tomorrow.

"Gotta hurry the hell up and get the hell out there so the boss won't fire one of his own kids," joked Mickey.

Kenny pulled the car to the side of the road and reached over the seat and grabbed Mickey by the shirt.

"I've about heard all that kidding about me and my dad I'm gonna' hear, Mickey." Nothing more was said and he drove them on to the job.



continued in next issue

Rekindling the Fire



Local 1245 members are under attack. The only question is, what are we going to do about it?

Local 1245 unit leaders, meeting in Vacaville on March 14-15, made it clear they don't intend to back down in the face of anti-union hostility.

Some people try to portray union members as "a bunch of communists" because we stand up for our rights, said Bill Trathen, a 10-year IBEW member at the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

"But you look around you can see guys walking around with American eagles on their shirts. I got a flag on my truck. I'm a veteran. I'm damn proud to be an American, but I'm going to stand up for my rights, too. And everybody else's," said Trathen.

Business Manager Tom Dalzell summoned the unit leaders to Weakley Hall to help the union respond to what he called "the toughest challenges that this local has ever face."

Those challenges include withering assaults on our members at the bargaining table, and a political climate that has become increasingly "anti-worker, anti-middle class, anti-pension, anti-benefit, and anti-wage."

Local 1245 is not simply fighting back on particular issues, Dalzell said, but preparing to build a union strong enough to carry that fight into the future. Local 1245 has mobilized retirees to defend their medical benefits, deployed young members to other states to gain campaign skills, helped linemen, gas workers and tree trimmers organize peer-to-peer campaigns to improve worksite safety.

The union has also worked to strengthen ties between members by organizing soccer tournaments, golf

tournaments, bowling competitions, and clay shoots, among other events.

"We've tried many things that we've not tried before—trying to rekindle some of the early fire that started this union in the 1940s and 1950s," said Dalzell.

Dalzell puts unit leaders at the heart of this new effort. At the conference, he set out three broad goals for them in 2012:

- Create bigger and better unit meetings. How do we make them better attended and more relevant?
- Find new ways to connect with members who will never attend a unit meeting. The union hall used to be the place where members connected. Can we find additional options in the era of social media?
- Make our union relevant in the community. Can we counter negative propaganda about unions by being a

more prominent and positive presence in the places where we work and live?

Something in the Air

Conferences can be boring affairs, where someone pontificates up front and people nod off in the back row after the coffee wears off.

This conference felt different. There was something in the air besides the smell of lunch. People bought into the idea that these issues really matter.

The agenda, crafted by union activist Lorenzo Arciniega, barreled forward from one topic to the next. Unit leaders were seated around a dozen small tables where everyone's ideas could find an audience. The best of those ideas were then shared with the whole group in plenary sessions deftly guided by Turlock Irrigation District Unit Chair Aaron Baker.



Baker's unit is a story in itself. Attendance at Turlock unit meetings is routinely over half of the membership. At one recent meeting, attendance was two-thirds. This stand-out performance may be due in part to the unit's newness. Organized just a decade ago, many members in Turlock still have fresh memories of the effort it took to gain union representation.

Forged in Struggle

Read about the hard-fought campaign to organize a union at Turlock Irrigation District at www.ibew1245.com/Group_Profiles/Turlock_Irrigation_District.pdf

But the unit also made a conscious decision to tap younger members for positions of authority. Baker, who just turned 33, was recruited for the unit leadership post by previous unit chair Rich Lane, 55, who continues to play a mentoring role.

Baker's experience showed at the conference. He didn't work from a script, just paced around the room, nudging the conversation forward with questions, keeping the focus on the challenges ahead, at times referring to his unit's bitter battle with management at TID.

"They're trying to take everything away—our pay scale, retirement, medical. They're hitting everything they can think of," Baker said. "They don't understand what we do, they don't understand the sacrifice we make when we go out on Christmas Day to put the power back on or the clerks answer the phones after hours. This is a major fight."

Baker was speaking from his own experience, but to make a larger point.

"It's important to get your members not only to the meetings but getting



(Left) Lorenzo Arciniega, left, and Assistant Business Manager Bob Dean helped plan the conference, along with Senior Assistant Business Manager Dorothy Fortier and Organizers Fred Ross Jr. and Eileen Purcell.

them involved in other areas, too. Politics, community—it's all going to make a difference," he said.

Organization in Transition

At times the unit leader conference seemed like an advertisement for an organization in transition. Young unit leaders, including a contingent of youthful-looking line clearance tree trimmers, were mixed together with old-guard union stalwarts like Novato Unit Chair Ione Snyder, East Bay Clerical Chair Donna Ambeau, Reno Chair Dana Moler and Tahoe Chair Smiley Stahl.

The conference's invited speakers put many different faces on the transition now underway at the union.

- Political media guru Eric Jaye described how unions will increasingly rely on social media to communicate with our members and recruit public support for our campaigns.
- Retiree activists Ron Borst, Rita Weisshaar and Tom Bird gave first person accounts of their protracted battle to defend retiree medical benefits at NV Energy.
- Kim Oaxaca talked about the highly personal journey that led her to create the Facebook support network called PG&E Wives. (See an excerpt of her presentation at www.ibew1245.com/video-files/videos.html.)
- IBEW lobbyist Scott Wetch described a hostile ballot measure that will



Local 1245 Recorder Chris Habecker.



Tom Bird, president of the IBEW Retirees Club in Yerington, discusses the union's campaign to mobilize retirees in NV Energy campaign.



Juan Cervantes, Trees Inc., Stockton



Chad Zumstein, Turlock Irrigation District

strangle unions in red tape if members do not mobilize now to defeat it in November.

In the closing plenary session, the unit leaders were clearly jazzed by the things they had heard. But there was also a clear-eyed recognition that hard work will be required to build the union of the future.

"This has been great, but the proof's in the pudding," said Placerville Unit Chair Jeff Campodonico. "We've got to implement these ideas and get our name out there as a union, let the public know who we are and what we do."

"If we don't do it nobody's going to do it for us," said Gary Moeckli, Redding Unit Recorder. Others fought in the past to create a union that delivers the good wages and benefits we enjoy today, he said. "We've got to get out and fight and keep it going."

Educating Our Own

Educating our own members about the union's role in their lives is a major part of the challenge that unit leaders face.

If members don't start paying attention and getting involved, said Diablo Canyon Unit Chair Ron Greenlee, then five years from now IBEW members will be wondering what happened to their wages and benefits, and will ask why the union didn't do anything about it.

"Well, we're the union, they're the union," said Greenlee.

Don't be intimidated, start with something small, suggested Michelle

Media consultant Eric Jaye describes how social media can be harnessed to increase the union's power to organize and mobilize.



Kim Oaxaca describes using Facebook to organize PG&E Wives for mutual support.



BREAKOUT!

Meeting in small groups created an opportunity to generate more ideas, and for everyone to be heard.



Rekindling, from page 17

side the union hall, the unit leaders began to pack up. There would be a lot to think about on the trip home.

“There is always something new and fresh out there that never even crosses our minds,” said Sacramento Regional Transit Chair Connie Bibbs, who took careful note of Benuzzi’s suggestion. Members can start by doing something small. Sometimes those small things catch fire and become big things.

“It’s about us taking it forward now and getting people involved,” said Lorenzo Arciniega. The union isn’t just about going to meetings, it’s about “organizing our communities and building a future for our kids.”

“I think a lot of people got engaged,” he said. “The fire’s been relit.”

Building a Stronger Union

By Lauren Bartlett

Remember: There is a “U” in Union!

What can U do?

U can get involved

U can attend your local meetings

U can read your *collective bargaining agreement*

U can read the *IBEW Bylaws* and *IBEW Constitution*

U can read your Union Boards. Get knowledge and stay informed!

U can vote in elections of officers

U can vote during contract negotiations. Voting is your Voice!

U can write proposals during negotiations. Your ideas are important!

U can volunteer, and dedicate your time

U can become a shop steward or officer

U can get to know the people who represent you

SHOW THE UNION WHO U ARE AND REMEMBER: THERE IS A U IN UNION!



Lauren Bartlett

Lauren Bartlett is a steward, Advisory Council member, and Unit Recorder for Unit 3011 (Sacramento Regional Transit).

Huge turnout

The following unit officers and special guests attended the unit officer conference, along with much of the Local 1245 staff.

NAME	UNIT	UNIT NAME	NAME	UNIT	UNIT NAME	NAME	UNIT	UNIT NAME
Alberts, Rita	1411	City of Santa Clara	Frasu, Mike	3510	Loomis	Neblett, Stuart	3214	Red Bluff
Ambeau, Donna	2301	East Bay Clerical	Gallegos, Ricardo	4710	Davey Napa	Nelli, Bruce	2317	Antioch
Arroyo, Jose Manuel	4712	Trees Inc. - Fresno	Garcia, Henry	3213	PGE - Burney	Noonkester, James	2510	Manteca
Atkins, Edward	3309	Truckee Donner PUD	Garcia, Robert		Guest - Lompoc	Ortega, Juan	4721	Davey Tree - Fremont
Baker, Aaron	1126	Turlock ID	Garcia, Rosario A.	4718	Trees Inc. - Stockton	Osborne, Todd	1217	Templeton
Bartlett, Lauren	3011	Sacramento RTD	Gomez, Marcelino	4711	Asplundh-Mtn. View	Pence, Lewis	2519	Tiger Creek Powerhouse
Beede, Craig	3309	Truckee Donner PUD	Gray, Jennifer	3801	Sacramento Clerical	Petersen, Gary	1220	Diablo Canyon
Bennuzi, Michelle	3311	Reno	Greenlee, Ronald	1220	Diablo Canyon	Pimentel, Margaret	1112	Bakersfield
Bibbs, Constance	3011	Sacramento RTD	Hall, Brian	1221	Buellton	Pirie, John	2316	Concord
Bird, Tom		Reno Retirees	Hasten, Joseph	2551	SSJID	Prince, Tana	1111	Fresno
Blanton, Judith	1511	San Jose Physical/Clerical	Holt, Jeffrey	3512	Roseville	Rawles, Ken		Santa Rosa Retirees
Borst, Ron		Reno Retirees	Hopp, Keith	3611	Marysville	Ricard, Julius	2319	Mirant
Brown, Ashley	4717	Wright Tree - SMUD	Hurtado, Estanislao	4710	Davey Napa	Roberts, Paul	3313	Yerington
Camacho, Jerry	1217	Templeton	Janisse, Murray	3218	USBR - Keswick	Sakaguchi, Maria	2515	Modesto
Campodonico, Jeff	3813	Placerville	Jessen, Michael	3417	Paradise - Chico	Sala, Charles	5231	Cal Peco
Casey, Justin	4423	Davey Auburn	Johnson, Douglas R.	1511	San Jose Physical/Clerical	Sandoval, Pedro	1111	Fresno
Casey, Kelley	5231	Cal Peco	Johnstone, Jim	3214	Red Bluff	Sandy, Angelo	1216	Santa Maria
Cervantes, Juan	4718	Trees Inc. - Stockton	Jones, Earl	3316	Fallon	Sawyer, Christina	3315	MT. Wheeler - Ely
Cook, Kenneth	4716	Davey Tree - Concord	Jones, Vincent	2412	San Francisco	Scherer, Mark	1223	Dynegy
Crow, Tracy	2515	Modesto	Kilgore, Wayne	3313	Yerington	Sharp, Dean	3218	USBR - Keswick
Cuevas, Ricardo	4711	Asplundh-Mtn. View	Krummes, Kevin	3801	Sacramento Clerical	Simms, John	4716	Davey Tree - Concord
Curtis, Raymond	3912	Fresh Pond (SMUD)	Laird, Joel	3317	Winnemucca	Skillern, Tim	3314	South Lake Tahoe
Danieli, Richard	1113	Madera	Lancaster, Kevin	3813	Placerville	Snyder, Ione	3711	Marin County
Daves, Karri	2518	Modesto ID	Langelier, David	2519	Tiger Creek Powerhouse	Snyder, Paul	3217	City of Redding
Davis, Kevin	3511	Auburn	Languren, Salvador	4721	Davey Tree - Fremont	Stahl, Percy	3314	South Lake Tahoe
Day, Josh	4717	Wright Tree - SMUD	Lassus, Randall	2316	Concord	Stockel, Joseph	3812	Vacaville
De La Torre, Cecelia	2511	Stockton	Lay, Christine	3811	Sacramento	Stubblefield, Lem	3712	Santa Rosa
DeBaca, Jerry	2317	Antioch	Lewis, Jim	4714	Davey Tree - Placerville	Swanson, Brennen	1221	Buellton
Del Grande, Dennis		Santa Rosa Retirees	Marquardsen, Susan	2511	Stockton	Thomas, Robert	3716	Napa-Vallejo
Earl, Patrick	1311	Hinkley	Mayo, Daniel	1123	Merced	Tinoco, Jaimie		Guest - Lompoc
Eaves, Mike	3812	Vacaville	McDonald, Andrew	2551	SSJID	Trathen, William	3012	USBR - CVO/Folsom
Ely, Peter	4720	Davey Tree - Red Bluff	McNutt, Caleb	1223	Dynegy	Wallace, Robert	3613	Oroville
Estes, Alfonso	2318	Richmond	Middleton, Zach	4423	Davey Auburn	Washburn, Dan	4015	Burney - Frontier
Felicich, David	1216	Santa Maria	Miranda, Roman	1219	Hollister	Weisshaar, Rita		Reno Retirees
Flores, Rodrigo	1122	Merced ID	Moeckli, Gary	3217	City of Redding	Williams, John	1411	City of Santa Clara
Fowler, Cheril	3512	Roseville	Moler, Dana	3311	Reno	Zumstein, Chad	1126	Turlock ID
Franks, Adrienne	2301	East Bay Clerical	Moore, Dane	2318	Richmond			

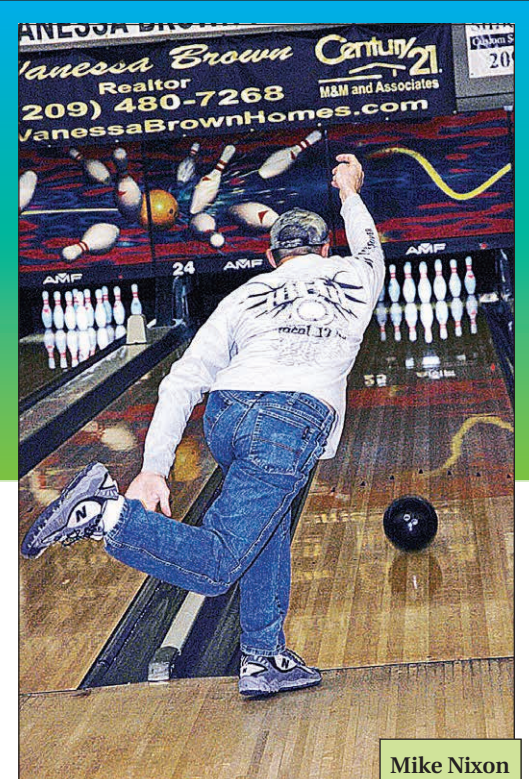
2nd Annual
**IBEW Local 1245
 Bowling Tournament**
 March 10th, 2012



TID tops MID in annual showdown on the lanes

Bowling brotherhood

Story and photos by Eric Wolfe



Mike Nixon

The competitive juices were running high when the black limo pulled up to Yosemite Lanes in Modesto and disgorged a raucous party of IBEW 1245 members from the Turlock Irrigation District.

They'd come to Modesto for the Second Annual Local 1245 Bowling Tournament, and more specifically to avenge last year's defeat at the hands of Modesto Irrigation District.

Mike Gomes, a member of last year's winning team, offered this succinct prediction of who would come out on top this year: "MID, of course."

To the victors there would be spoils: a bottle of Jack Daniels, a set of IBEW-monogrammed poker chips and, most importantly, a full year of bragging rights.

The tournament consisted of three rounds, followed by a championship round between the top team from each company.

The play was a little ragged to start. There were gutter balls. There were faults. There were gap-toothed splits.

But amidst all the cat-calling, high-fiving, fist-pumping, and war whooping, a serious number of bowling pens

got knocked down. Is it possible that people's aim improved with the arrival of each new pitcher of beer?

No one's aim was better than TID's Ken Gross, who threw a spectacular turkey—three straight strikes—in the 10th frame of the final game, putting his team in the championship round against MID's Ken McHale, Wade Wilkinson, Rick Turner and Victor Madrigal.

After that, there was no stopping the TID avengers. Although the lead saw-sawed back and forth in the middle frames, emerging victorious in the end was the TID team of Ken Gross,



Troy Borges, Rick Brenes, Aaron Baker and Jeff Campodónico, who had been drafted from PG&E for the occasion. (Campodónico's brother Gregg is a lineman—and bowler—for TID.)

TID members took some ribbing for turning to PG&E for talent. But attracting participation from other Local 1245-represented groups has been part of the plan from the very start. Besides Campodónico, this year's new recruits included City of Lodi members Josh Raymos and Cody Ellis.

The MID victory predicted by Gomes

earlier in the day didn't materialize. But when you're enjoying beers together, the line between victor and vanquished gets a little fuzzy.

As Gomes put it, "We're just trying to build relations, keep the different companies together and keep good relations going."

Rick Brenes, Aaron Baker, Ken Gross and Jeff Campodónico.

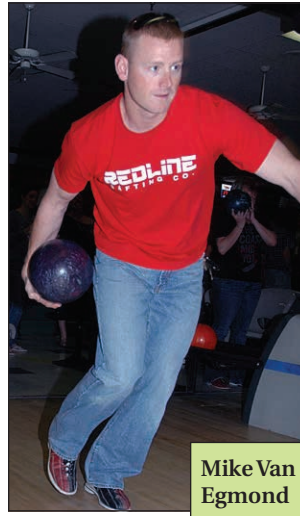
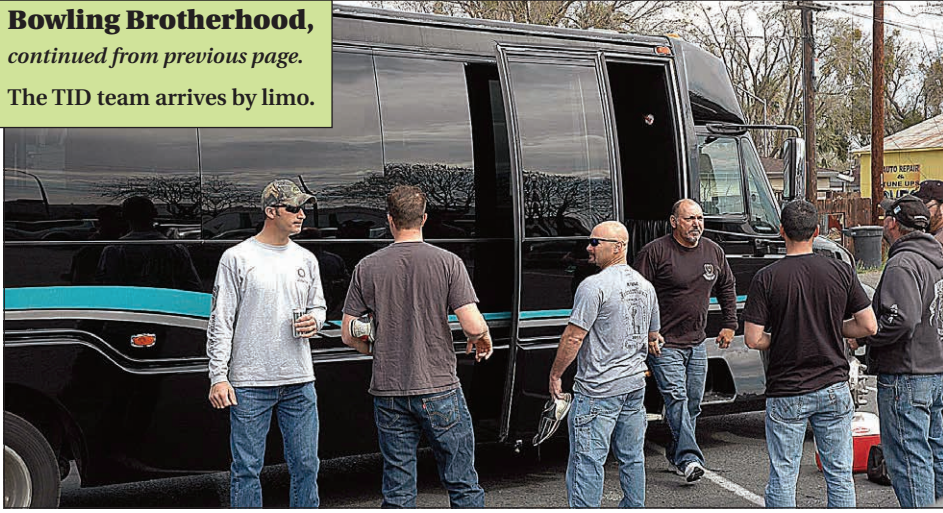


The players. More photos on the next page

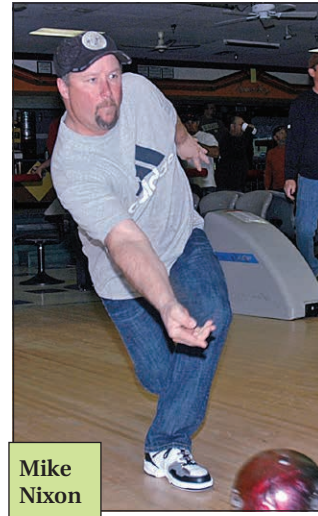
Bowling Brotherhood,

continued from previous page.

The TID team arrives by limo.



Mike Van Egmond



Mike Nixon



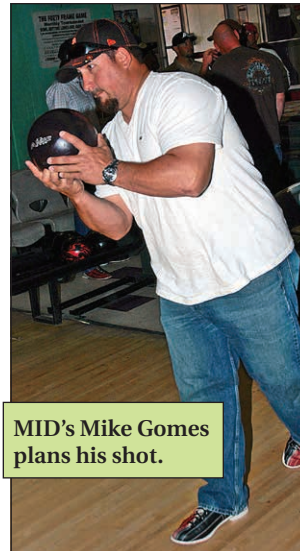
Sean Coulson



Sean Coulson, Ken McHale, Wade Wilkinson, Rick Turner, Jim Boere



Local 1245 Business Rep Sheila Lawton nailed one.



MID's Mike Gomes plans his shot.



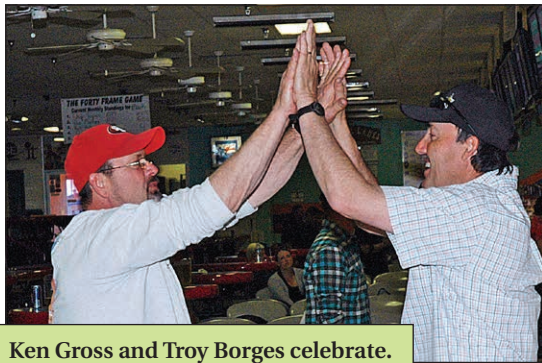
Mike Van Egmond and Anthony Ormonde.



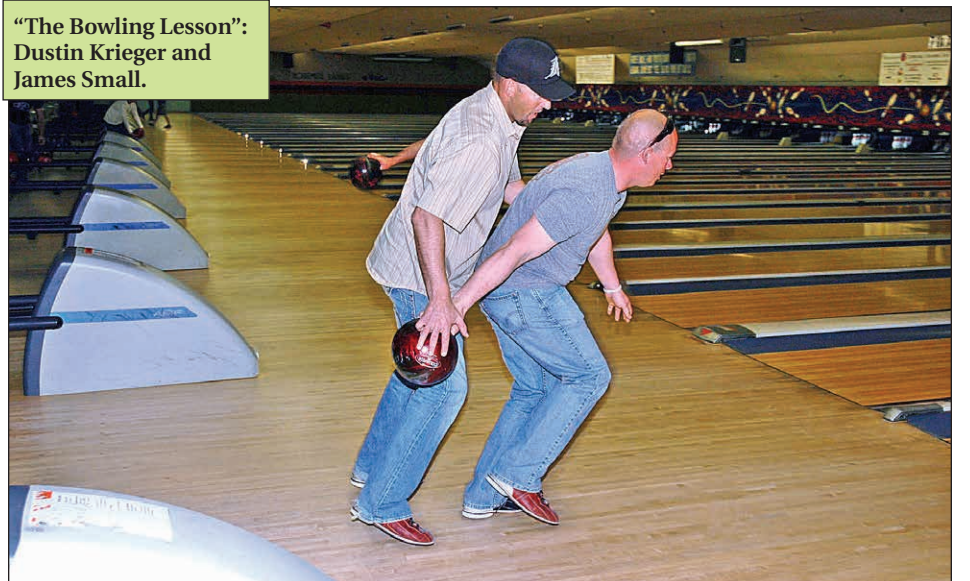
Cody Ellis nails one.



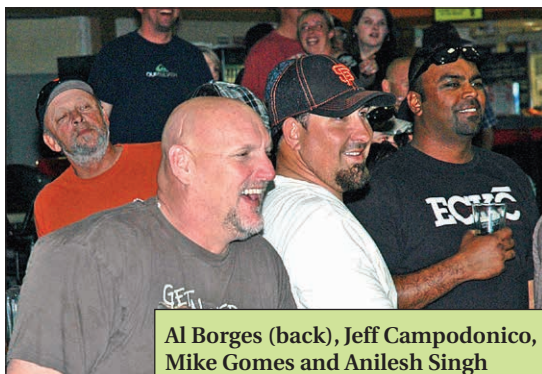
Best over-all individual score prize went to Cody Sanders.



Ken Gross and Troy Borges celebrate.



"The Bowling Lesson": Dustin Krieger and James Small.



Al Borges (back), Jeff Campodónico, Mike Gomes and Anilesh Singh

TID Teams

Jeff Campodónico (PG&E)
Ken Gross
Troy Borges
Rick Brenes

Sheila Lawton (IBEW 1245 staff)
Gregg Campodónico
Al Borges
Bryan Lovio

Steve Johnson
Anthony Ormonde
Jordan Lellhame
Mike Van Egmond

Cody Sanders
J Daniels
Anilesh Singh
Rafael Battig
Yolanda Battig

MID Teams

Mike Gomes
Dave Ferreira
Brian Houser
Dave Quaresma

Sean Coulson
Sara Coulson
Roby Higgins
Amanda Higgins

Josh Raymos (Lodi)
Cody Ellis (Lodi)
Jeremy Christensen
Shane Haran

Ken McHale
Wade Wilkinson
Rick Turner
Vic Madrigal

Bob Jones
Jim Boere
Brandon Frazier
Johnny Wigt



Anilesh Singh



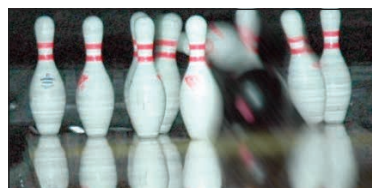
Jim Boere



Anthony Ormonde



Victor Madrigal, Wade Wilkinson, Rick Turner



But amidst all the cat-calling, high-fiving, fist-pumping, and war whooping, a serious number of bowling pens got knocked down. Is it possible that people's aim improved with the arrival of each new pitcher of beer?