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friendship,  
football

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### News briefs

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Romney's financial company, invested in a series of firms that specialized in relocating jobs done by American workers to new facilities in low-wage countries like China and India. A Washington Post investigation said the firms were "pioneers in the practice of shipping work from the United States to overseas call centers and factories making computer components."

**The U.S. Call Center Worker and Consumer Protection Bill** would end secrecy about call center locations, force companies that outsource abroad to return federal funding, and give U.S. customers the right to be transferred to a U.S.-based operator, reports the Communications Workers of America.

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union questions at:

[www.ibew1245.com](http://www.ibew1245.com)

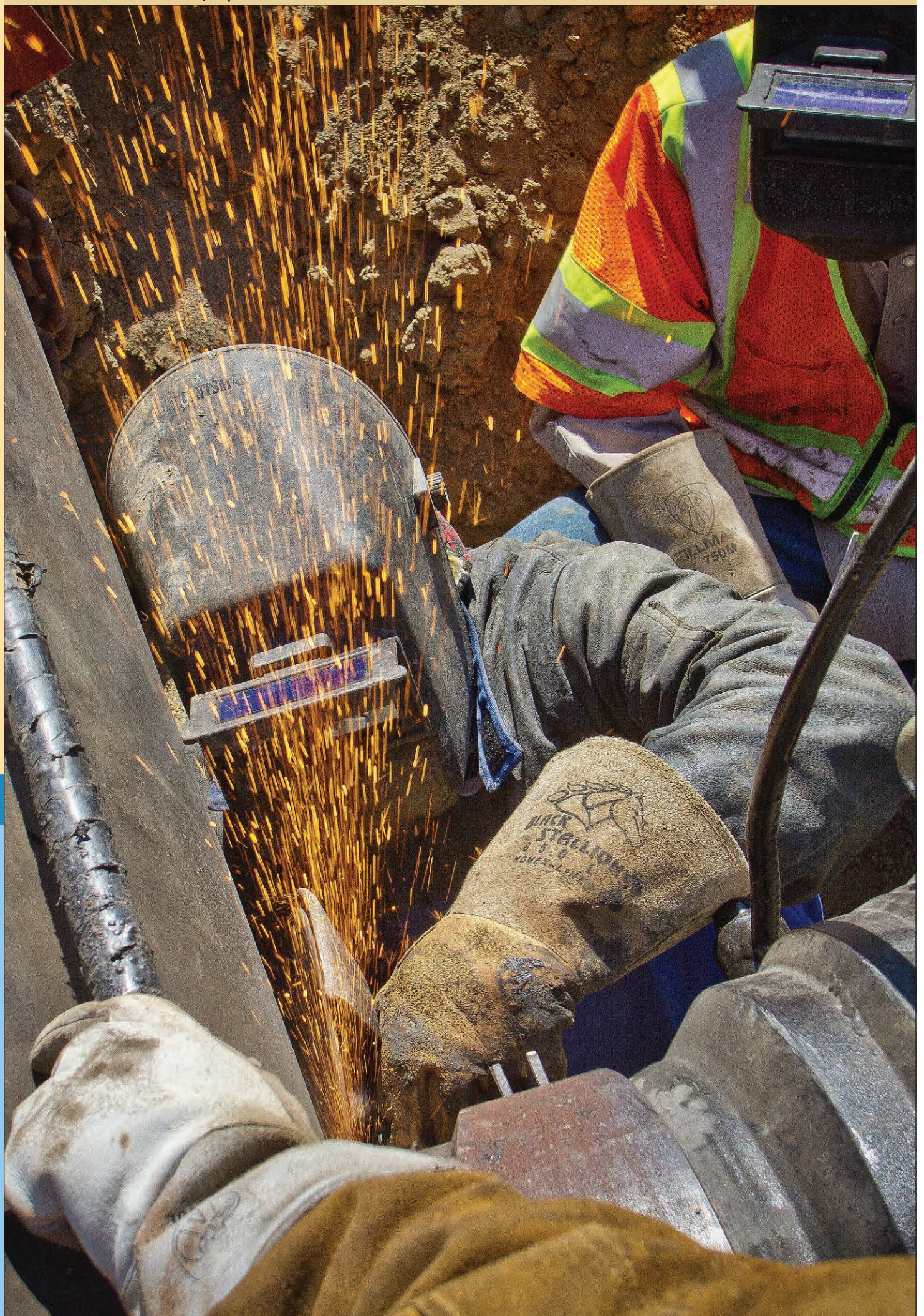
# Utility Reporter

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UNITY IS STRENGTH

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



**New Meter Run: PG&E General Construction—Gas** story starts on page 22

## Arcing and Sparking



**Tom Dalzell**  
BUSINESS MANAGER

## Danger

Everything that we have achieved over the last 60 years is in danger.

Take the misery that our retirees have seen in Nevada, take the furloughs and lay-offs and wage freezes that our public sector members have suffered over the last few years, take the changes that we have seen at PG&E, and take the bald corporate greed that we saw as we tried to organize CalPine workers at the Geysers. Add them up. And then multiple by 20. That is what is coming our way.

Hardcore, rightwing corporate interests have California workers in their sights.

Bolstered by a corporate-centric United States Supreme Court that believes that the founding fathers intended to have unlimited corporate money pouring into elections, they are now trying to silence completely California unions and workers. And they are lying all the way through it.

Twice in recent history California voters have rejected initiatives that would

have prohibited unions from using dues collected by payroll deduction for political purposes. A straightforward, honest attack didn't work, so now they are back with lies, claiming that the new initiative is campaign finance reform that also would apply to corporations, prohibiting them from using money collected by payroll deduction for political purposes. The thing is, of course, that corporations don't do that. They just spend billions not collected by payroll deduction, and this would not change.

If unions can't spend dues money on politics, politics will change quickly.

Corporate interests will run California in just a few years. Citizens

United money will buy a lot, and with unions silenced there is no counter voice.

Say goodbye to the eight-hour day, to OSHA, to minimum wage – say goodbye to unions.

We will enter the political arena to an extent that we never have before. We have an experienced core of campaign veterans who worked on union political battles in Ohio, Florida, and Wisconsin to lead us as we work to mobilize hundreds of our members to get involved in stopping this initiative.

We will ask you to fight with us. I can't think of a good reason for you not to help.

## Anthony Brown joins Advisory Council

**A**nthony Brown was sworn in as the newest member of the Local 1245 Advisory Council on April 29.

President Mike Davis administered the oath at Weakley Hall at the start of the Council's spring meeting.

Brown, assuming the seat vacated by the recent resignation of Ray King, will represent members in the East Bay Division of PG&E, Material Distribution Department, and Foster-Wheeler.

Brown has been active in the youth leadership development activities of the local union. He served on the most recent bargaining committee for the PG&E Physical Agreement. He was initi-



Anthony Brown, left, is congratulated by President Mike Davis.

ated into the local union in 2001.

Congratulations Brother Anthony!

## Unit meeting changes

**Unit 2510, Manteca**, has a new location. Starting July 18, meetings will be held at Round Table Pizza, 253 Spreckles Ave., in Manteca. Meetings are on the third Wednesday of the month and start at 5:00 p.m.

*Mike Saner, Business Representative*

**Unit 1115, Los Banos**, has a new meeting location. Effective immediately, meetings will be at Mountain Mike's Pizza, 509 Pacheco Blvd., Los Banos.

*Mike Grill, Business Representative*

## Utility Reporter

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Our phone number is (707) 452-2700.



# Perry Zimmerman's 25th Annual Golf Tournament

**WHEN: SATURDAY - OCT. 20, 2012**

**WHERE: GREEN TREE GOLF COURSE  
VACAVILLE, CA**

**8:00 A.M. SHOT GUN START**

**CONTESTS: LONGEST DRIVE! CLOSEST TO THE HOLE!**

**IBEW  
Local  
1245**

**Entry Fee: \$90.00  
Includes Cart,  
Green Fee & BBQ**

**1st Come, 1st Served  
Limited Tee Spaces  
Entry Deadline  
Oct 12, 2012**

Download the registration form at [www.ibew1245.com/news-Local1245/Golf\\_Flyer\\_6-18-12.pdf](http://www.ibew1245.com/news-Local1245/Golf_Flyer_6-18-12.pdf)



Jaycee Dean accepts a plaque after reading her prize-winning essay at the Advisory Council meeting on April 29. From left: Former Business Manager Jack McNally (who served as judge), Jaycee Dean, President Mike Davis, Cindy Dean, Bob Dean, and Business Manager Tom Dalzell.

## Sandoval Competitive Scholarship

# Tea Party vs. Occupy

Jaycee Dean, daughter of Assistant Business Manager Bob Dean, was named the winner of the Al Sandoval Scholarship for her essay. The assigned topic was to compare and contrast the Occupy and the Tea Party movements.

## “Teaing off on Wall Street”

By Jaycee Dean

Progress cannot be achieved without the efforts of individuals deemed to be radical or extreme. Passion and endurance can drive a nation into examining their problems and looking for solutions. The Occupy Wall Street and Tea Party movements are similar in that they each desire to spark a change in the United States leading to an outcome that is, in their opinion, better for American citizens. However, the beliefs that build the foundation for each of these movements are fundamentally opposite.

Moving toward their goals while claiming a sense of unity, is a tactic used by both organizations. The Tea Party movement’s most fundamental belief is “we the people’ preserving liberty and freedom in the United States of America”. The Occupy movement believes that “99%” of Americans should fight against the injustice of the 1% controlling the economy. Both parties utilize imagery of Americans banding together to fight an inequity done to them by the government of the United

States. This association with common man, that the movements employ, helps to draw in members who want everyday people to constitute a change.

To the Tea Party, the constitution is the umbrella under which all change must occur. They believe in “reforming all political parties and government so that the core principles of our Founding Fathers become, once again, the foundation upon which America stands.” Although the Tea Party advocates the 14th amendment and equal protection under the law, their affiliation with the GOP—which has a strong anti-collective bargaining stance—contradicts their endorsements of equal rights for all citizens. So though the people involved in the Tea Party claim to support the freedoms of individuals and limited power of federal government, they believe that abortion, collective bargaining, and gay marriage should be illegal in all cases regardless of any state decision.

Occupy Wall Street, in contrast, does not operate on a merely constitutional basis but on a deeper sense of morality and equality in the United States. Occupy

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Local 1245 members at Sacramento Regional Transit turned out in force for the union’s Clay Shoot in Dunnigan on June 16. Check the next issue of Utility Reporter for more photos from the event. SRT members, from left, are: Dwayne Dickerson, Joe Whitman, Eduardo Diolazo, Aser Tolentino, Jeff James, Travis Guetling, Business Rep. Sheila Lawton, Phil Hancock, James Caddick, Kert Hughes, Mark Greco, Dan Flavin, and Ray Cook.

Utility Reporter

focuses on the “99%” of American citizens whom they believe have been left behind; those who are struggling to meet bills, obtain medical care, and seek higher education. The movement recognizes the wealthiest 1% as corrupt and the economy as being in need of repair. The Occupy movement has not taken root in the Democratic Party as the Tea Party has in the GOP, though that kind of influence would strengthen their power in the government.

The two movements are diametrically opposed; in beliefs and in actions. The Tea Party, a movement that started growing in 2008, has gained serious momentum and control in the Republican Party. The Occupy movement established in 2011 has settled on a strategy of occupying locations in over 100 cities, and is gaining power across the nation. Ultimately, though radically different in their methods, both movements are trying to affect grass roots change.

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## CALENDAR

July 28 Advisory Council, Reno

Aug 11-12 IBEW 9th Dist. Softball, Manteca

Sept 8 Financial seminar, San Jose

Sept 11 Financial seminar, Foster City

Sept 12 Financial seminar, Walnut Creek

Sept 14 Financial seminar, Bakersfield

Sept 15 Financial seminar, Sacramento

Sept 15 Financial seminar, Fresno

Sept 18 Financial seminar, Oakland

Sept 19 Financial seminar, Stockton

Sept 20 Financial seminar, Monterey

Sept 22 Financial seminar, Redding

Sept 22 Financial seminar, Chico

Sept 22 Financial seminar, San Luis Obispo

Sept 29 Financial seminar, Santa Rosa

Sept 29 Financial seminar, Eureka

Oct 6 Last day to register to vote (Nevada) in Nov. 6 General Election

Oct 13 Lineman’s Rodeo, Overland Park, KS

Oct 20 1245 Golf Tournament

Oct 22 Last day to register to vote (California) in Nov. 6 General Election

## APPOINTMENTS

### CONFERENCES

**C. L. Dellums African American Union Leadership School**  
Ean Charles  
Steve Gallow

**Coalition of Black Trade Unionists 41st Annual Convention**  
Anthony Brown  
Bernard Smallwood

**IBEW BMT Conference**  
Kelly Steele  
Tyson Tipton

**IBEW Utility Conference**  
Anna Bayless  
Jim Brager  
Mike Davis  
Cecelia De La Torre  
Chris Habecker  
Mike Jacobson  
Mike Metrovich  
Ed VanDerHorst

**National Safety Council 2012 Spring Labor Division Meeting**  
Dan Boschee  
Sergio Munoz  
Art Torres

**Nevada State AFL-CIO Legislative Conference**  
Michelle Benuzzi  
Mike Davis  
Mike Grimm  
Denver Thomas

### PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC

**PG&E Exhibit XVI Committee**  
Kyle Whitman

### CITY OF WILLITS

**2012 Negotiating Committee**  
Thomas Bond  
Jerry Campbell

### MERCED IRRIGATION DISTRICT

**2012 Negotiating Committee**  
John G. Ellet

### SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT

**Negotiating Committee**  
Scott Barker  
Michael Gallagher  
John Moe  
Jim Notman  
Corey Smith  
Daniel White

### LINE CLEARANCE TREE TRIMMERS

**2012 Negotiating Committee**  
Juan Cervantes  
Josh Day  
Sergio Munoz  
Jose Luis Sanchez

### WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION

**2012 Negotiating Committee**  
Jamie Freeze

### YUBA COUNTY WATER AGENCY

**Negotiating Committee**  
Ron Knudson  
David Reed  
William Zoellin

# Point of Pride

For IBEW members at Modesto Irrigation District it's a point of pride: when it comes to substations, they can build it from the ground up.

"MID is unique in what our substation guys do. It's basically a turn-key operation," says Tony Moore, a Substation Electrician and six-year member of Local 1245.

MID crews build the ground grid, put in the conduits, and pull in the wire, Moore explains during a quick tour of a new substation site on a sunny morning in March.

"We don't sub any of this stuff out," chimes in Substation Electrician David Tremayne as he climbs into a forklift. Soon he's zipping around the site hauling stacks of wood for the forms used in setting the foundation.

"Inside the building we'll set our cabinets," continues Moore. "We'll wire up all the equipment, the two transformers—we need to do the AC/DC panels ourselves, too."

When everything has been installed, MID personnel will thoroughly test it.

"After that we'll energize," says Moore.

The new substation, scheduled for comple-

tion in June, will serve a new 25-megawatt solar generation project being installed by MID on 154 acres near Patterson Road and McHenry Ave. The substation will interconnect a new overhead 69-kV sub-transmission line and 12kV distribution line along McHenry Avenue.

For the customers who will ultimately use the power, the new substation is just another invisible piece of an electric system whose reliability can be taken for granted. But for IBEW members at Modesto Irrigation District, the substation is a point of pride and an enduring symbol of their craftsmanship.



Operating the backhoe is Ty Thatcher.



David Tremayne and Tony Moore at work building the forms for the foundation.



(Left) MID Substation Electricians at work on the new substation are, from left: Ty Thatcher, Tony Moore and David Tremayne. Not present at the time was the job's crew leader, Richard De Signori.



Building forms for the foundation are, from left, Ty Thatcher, Tony Moore and David Tremayne.

# Outside Construction

By Ron Cochran

Outside Line Construction work remains steady. There were 52 crews on board in early June and headed toward 70 by midyear for wood distribution. PG&E has added Asplundh as a contractor for 3rd and 4th quarter pole replacement work at which time there are over 1,000 poles scheduled.

Asplundh has been awarded some infrared patrol work that will employ at least one Journeyman Lineman to operate the equipment and one groundman or apprentice to drive the vehicle.

Number of hours of transmission overhead work has decreased as some work was returned to PG&E General Construction. Substation work, including the civil portion, has remained steady.

Cupertino Electric has been awarded another 20 MW solar project. Another contractor, Belco, is in the running for at least one of the remaining two projects.

Ralph Kenyon, who recently helped out as a temporary business representative to the Outside Line Construction group, has taken a lineman position with PG&E. Ralph did an outstanding job while on staff.

## Grievances

We previously reported that we had started three grievances at power plants. Two of these grievances pertain to work jurisdiction issues and one pertains to a contractor for failure to report hours. Since then we resolved all three, with the contractors and general contractor paying full restitution for the work jurisdiction issues.

More recently we had another work jurisdiction issue that has been resolved by the contractor paying full restitution for 50.5 hours of work that was subcontracted out to a non-IBEW signatory contractor.

## Other News

Recently both Ron Cochran and Ralph Armstrong have been appointed chairman to committees within the



Local 1245 members working for Wilson Construction are building the Robinson Substation on 90 acres about an hour's drive outside Ely, NV. Started in 2011, the sub is scheduled to be completed in late 2012. It will not become operational until 2014, due to delays in the SWIP Transmission Line it will connect to. General Foreman on the job is 45-year IBEW member Larry Paul. Photo by Ron Cochran

California State Association of Electrical Workers.

The balance in the Injured Worker Fund as of May 3 was \$440,347.20.

Local 1245, 47 and 396 recently started a new certification program that is being implemented by the California Nevada JATC. This 3-year program has taken its first group of candidates into the program. Candidates must take a knowledge test to see what year they would fit into the program. We will evaluate the program's success after this first group has completed it.

Any member interested in Crane training must submit an application through the Cal-Nevada JATC in Riverside. The local will no longer keep a list. Classes will be limited to 30 members and priority will be given to members of Local 396, 1245 & 47.

We are trying to offer OSHA ETD classes at least once a month over the next couple of months or until attendance drops. If interested, check with our dispatch office for class schedules and to add your name to the list of those wishing to attend.

First Aid & CPR is the second Saturday of every month at our Riverside and Sacramento facility.

## Special Events

The local sponsored a Sporting Clay Shoot on June 16 in Dunnigan, CA.

Despite the heat, members had a lot of fun and many people went home with terrific raffle prizes. See the photos on our website. They will also be featured in the next Utility Reporter.

The Sixteenth Annual IBEW Ninth District Softball Tournament will be Aug. 11-12 at Big League Dreams Park in Manteca, CA. To sign up, contact Ron Cochran at 707-718-3349, Mike Saner at 510-415-5500, or John Mendoza at 209-329-3449

The International Lineman's Rodeo will be Oct. 10-14 in Overland Park, KS.

## Apprentices

We currently have 297 Outside Line apprentices registered in our JATC program.

- 1 traveling apprentice working in our jurisdiction
- 72 apprentices working out of Local 1245
- 145 working out of Local 47
- 18 working out of Local 396
- 62 off work (two on disability, four on leave of absence)

Twenty apprentices graduated this year to journeyman lineman. Fourteen outside line apprentices were indentured this year.

We have 3 traffic signal maintenance apprentices registered:

- 1 working for Republic Electric in 1245's jurisdiction.
- 2 working for Republic Electric in 47's jurisdiction.
- 17 traffic signal apprentices have graduated this year

For information on number of people dispatched, the status of various negotiations, and other news please visit our website at [www.ibew1245.com](http://www.ibew1245.com) and go to the Outside Construction section of the home page.

Ron Cochran is Senior Assistant Business Manager, IBEW Local 1245

## Richard Ingle steps in as business rep

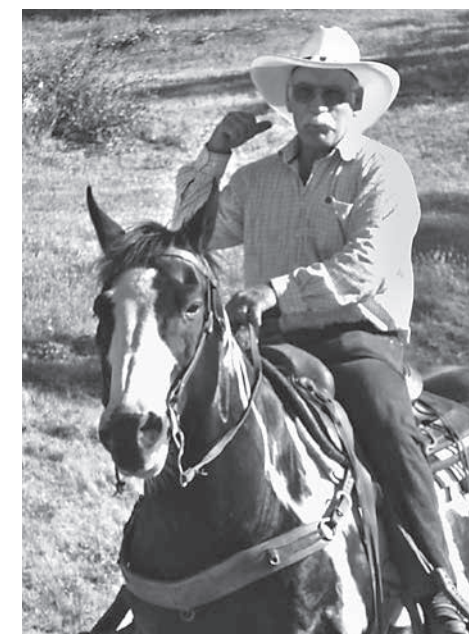
Forty-year IBEW member Richard Ingle has been hired as a temporary business representative for members working in Outside Construction.

"I'll be checking on crews, letting them know the union has forgotten about them," said Ingle, who initiated into the IBEW at Local 66 in Houston, but since 1984 has spent most of his time in California.

So far he has visited crews from PAR, Diversified, Wilson, and All Day, among others.

"We talk about safety and the quality of work," he said. "That's the only thing we have to sell is our work. So it's important we take pride in our union labor."

Welcome aboard, Brother Ingle!



Business Rep. Richard Ingle on his horse, Cloudy.



## Voltage Conversion

Intren crews at work in Oakland – see pages 10-11.

# New four-year MOU at South Feather



IBEW Local 1245 members on May 7 voted overwhelmingly to approve a new agreement with South Feather Water and Power.

The four-year pact provides cost-of-living adjustments tied to PG&E wages for the Hydro unit and tied to the Consumer Price Index for the Treatment/Distribution unit.

In another provision related to the CalPERS 3% at 60 retirement, the Agency will buy back 25% of the prior years of service (varies by employee) for employees who were hired prior to July 1, 2008.

The union's negotiating committee included Henry Reeson and Geno

Higgins from the Hydro Generation bargaining unit, and Rick McCullough and John Shipman from Water Treatment and Distribution. IBEW 1245 Assistant Business Manager Ray Thomas, along with Business Representatives Kit Stice (assisting in 2011), and Sheila Lawton, were the union representatives for the union committee.

More information on the agreement can be found at [www.ibew1245.com/news-PublicSector/South\\_Feather\\_Pact\\_5-8-12.html](http://www.ibew1245.com/news-PublicSector/South_Feather_Pact_5-8-12.html).



Members of the IBEW bargaining committee at the City of Roseville, from left: Mitch Prather, Brian Boyd, Jeff Beaubier, Assistant Business Manager Ray Thomas, Rick Thompson, and Business Representative Charley Souders.

## Roseville pact ratified

Local 1245 members on April 18 ratified a new one-year agreement with the City of Roseville after long and contentious negotiations.

Members had rejected an earlier offer, and the City offered several enhancements to secure ratification. The vote was 100-16.

The enhanced version of the agreement included enhanced cumulative certification pay opportunities in water distribution and water collection, a premium for certified employees who are bilingual in Spanish, and a 15-year service bonus of 2.5% of base salary that also applies to every year

thereafter.

The parties agreed to continue meeting during the term of the MOU to determine revenue thresholds that would lead to future salary increases.

A detailed list of provisions in the agreement can be found at [www.ibew1245.com/news-PublicSector/City\\_of\\_Roseville\\_4-9-12.html](http://www.ibew1245.com/news-PublicSector/City_of_Roseville_4-9-12.html).

Serving on the bargaining committee for the union were Mitch Prather, Brian Boyd, Jeff Beaubier, Rick Thompson, and Jeff Holt, assisted by Local 1245 Business Representatives Charley Souders and Pat Waite, and Assistant Business Manager Ray Thomas.

**News, photos, videos:**  
[ibew1245.com](http://ibew1245.com) and [facebook.com/IBEWLocal1245](https://facebook.com/IBEWLocal1245)

## Turlock Irrigation District Board of Directors meeting

# Workers' wives testify about "emergency response"

It wasn't business as usual when the Turlock Irrigation District Board of Directors met on June 12. The wives of IBEW linemen made sure of that.

The District wants to reduce the premium pay that linemen receive when responding to emergencies. It's a matter of numbers, the number crunchers insist.

Not so, according to the wives. Emergency response is something up close and very personal to linemen's families.

"We have learned to accept many things about their trade," one wife testified to the Board.

"We have learned that the phone will ring at 2 a.m., that weekends and holidays aren't always going to be 'days off,' that our husbands may not be at the Thanksgiving Dinner table and that our

children may have to wait until 3 p.m. on Christmas afternoon to open their gifts from Santa because TID Power Control called for an 'emergency crew.'"

About a dozen linemen and their families showed up for the Board meeting. But only because the District denied 90% of the time-off requests submitted by linemen who wanted to attend. But the wives didn't need a huge audience to drive their point home.

"Imagine yourselves in their boots, imagine that it was your phone that rang at 2 a.m. or that it was you walking away from your family's 4th of July barbecue," this wife continued.

"Imagine going days without seeing your children or your wife because they were asleep when you were called to work and were asleep when you got

home. Now, imagine responding to those emergency calls at a 25% reduction in pay for a company that neither recognizes nor appreciates the sacrifice," she said.

"We depend on these men to keep our community safe and running efficiently and (under) the very worst conditions," another wife testified.

"I cannot accept that this Board believes the monetary gain TID will see is worth the loss the employees will experience. Without these men and their devotion, dedication and hard work, none of you would be sitting there today."

The commissioners probably wished they weren't sitting there at that moment. You rile up momma bear at your own peril.

"These men are specialists when it comes to their profession," a third wife told the Board, "just like all of you are specialists in your respective fields."

"The only difference is that when my husband and his fellow colleagues make a mistake, they die or are devastatingly

injured," she continued. "Every time the phone rings for my husband to go into work I have no choice but to worry, especially now that we have two babies at home."

IBEW Local 1245 Assistant Business Manager Ray Thomas told the Board that he was certain the union could not get a labor agreement ratified if the District continued to pursue its proposals concerning emergency response premiums and changes to the days and hours of work.

The wives made it clear that their husbands wouldn't be the only ones rejecting the District's ill-conceived proposals.

"If the district cannot appreciate the sacrifices these men are making and recognize the value of the service they are providing to TID customers," said one wife, voicing a sentiment that was clearly shared by many others, "we do not feel that we can continue to support our husbands' absence from home and family in order to respond to emergency calls."



TID members and families at the Board of Directors meeting. The Board denied 90% of the requests for time off to attend the meeting.

# 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 5

WOMEN ON THE ROAD. SECRETS AND DESIRES. WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE? 1954

She slept until seven and got dressed and helped the girls do the same. She went out and started the car after breakfast and got the girls settled in the back. She drove down the road and when she got to four pulled over tight by the bushes and shut off the motor. She walked up and knocked on the door. Hazel was ready and the little boy and girl sat on the couch looking out the window at the two girls in the LaSalle.

"I'm Aileen, Buddy's wife."

"I'm Hazel."

They helped the boy and girl into the back seat of the car and Hazel and Aileen joined them in the front seat and drove to town.

They drove down to the beach and let the children get acquainted and play in the sand. The fog chilled the children but did not halt the castle building.

They entered the store and bought groceries and finished at Woolworth's with a fountain soda and buying the pair of wool socks Buddy wanted.

"What do you think of all this traveling around the country and changing schools and going from pillar to post Hazel?"

"It's okay, but someday I want a home and one school. A big back yard and an apple tree like other people. But for now it's okay and fun to see the country."

"I want that too. A piece of land with some animals and a lawnmower."

"They work hard and make good money."

"Yeah."

"But for now all I know for sure is when Kenny heads the car into the trailer at night I start dinner and when he backs it into the trailer, I start packing."

"Hell Hazel I finished dinner more than once while Buddy was knocking' the blocks out from under ours and hooking it up, not knowing where we would be by midnight and sometimes so damn mad I wouldn't ask, just wake up and see where the hell we are by morning."

"Does Kenny go to the bar?"

"Yeah, he spends some time there after work. Don't they all?"

"I hadn't met too many of them that don't. Buddy does and it makes me pretty mad sometimes, but he makes it I guess he can spend it the way he wants too."

"Long as they don't come home and start a fight or get physical."

"Mine doesn't do that."

"Mine don't either and better not ever start it. I'd leave him if he ever started that."

"Me too, but where would one go? You leave and take the car and you just left your house behind."

"You could take it with you while he was at work. That would be funny, come home from the bar, and find your house and car gone, kids, everything, disappeared."

"That'd sober um' up fast wouldn't it?"

"I'll use that on him next time he comes in late smelling like whiskey."

"But they know we can't pull them big things."

"We got a car today; we could go home and practice."

"Too much work, I'll just take my chances at it when the time comes."

"If you change your mind, let me know. Practice makes perfect."

"You know, speaking of that one time Buddy's friend Ray came home drunk and Delma, his wife wouldn't let him in so after he hammered and cussed and woke everybody in the park up he went up there and cranked the handle up on their trailer and backed under it and hooked it up and pulled it right off the blocks."

"What did she do?"

"She went back to the back and checked the kids and then walked out to the

front window so he could see her and said,

"Raymond, you ain't coming' in here tonight and maybe not ever again, so just find you another place to sleep and you better have this trailer back on them blocks by morning!"

"What happened then Aileen?"

"Well he stayed out there and blocked the trailer back up, cause I watched him, and then he started over to our trailer and I ran and got back in the bed and told Buddy, Ray was on his way over and might need a place to sleep tonight. So Buddy went to the door and Ray told him Delma had locked him out for the night. So Buddy gave him a blanket and he slept on the floor till about five o'clock and got up and went to work. And I'll tell ya' it was quiet around that place after that for awhile and he was home every night."

"When did Kenny make lineman?"

"He just went and took his journeyman test a couple months ago. He's been learning the trade from his dad and we just follow him around everywhere and go everywhere he wants us to and now Kenny has his ticket and his little brother Pete is starting to work toward his. How long has Buddy been a lineman?"

"Three years. He learned his from his oldest sister's husband Curley and Fancy and Skyrocket and Pep. They're all good linemen and when Buddy was ready they took him to the hall in Hobbs, New Mexico and he got his ticket. And he was sure proud of getting it."

"So was Kenny."

"That Fancy, what a character. Buddy still has dreams about him. They call him Fancy 'cause every Saturday morning he dresses up in his suit and goes to town and gets drunk and by the end of the weekend that suit looks like a holy terror. Then he takes it back to the cleaners and gets it all ready for the next weekend. It had to be ready for Fancy and spotless or he wouldn't even come out of the hotel of a Saturday morning. I met Buddy in Hobbs, I was working in a café, and he was just out of the Navy and starting back in the trade after getting home. We went together for a long time and we partied and made love first, but he proposed and we had been having a relationship so we were used to it by the time we married so he stayed out on our wedding night and got drunk with Pep and Sky and Fancy and the rest of them. They sort of had the bachelor's party a day late so to speak and I waited for him and was madder than a hornet and had just gone to sleep at the hotel where we would finally be legal able to you know, then Pep brought him up the stairs and shoved the door opened, dropped him on the bed passed out and said 'Here's your bride' and left."

"That must have hurt a little bit."

"A little bit, but I just look at it like he spent one night extra as a bachelor and I got the son of a gun from now on out."

"I got a confession Aileen."

"What?"

"We did leave our son abandon one day a couple months ago. He was at school and Kenny and the neighbor down at the other trailer park, he wasn't a lineman or nothing, got into an argument and Kenny reached over the fence and jerked him into the yard and whipped his ass, so we had to move. We packed and got the trailer hooked up and came down here to get a space and while we were gone he came home from school and there he stood looking around and knowing that was his home when he left for school. He actually thought we had moved on and left him behind. He fretted over it till dinner time and then called me into the bathroom while he was bathing and asked me please don't ever move off and leave him behind again."



## PG&E's new "Nurse Report Line"

Goodbye pink slips

**P**G&E is creating a "Nurse Report Line" to provide immediate access to trained medical professionals for employees who experience work-related incidents.

If an employee has a work-related incident, he or she should notify his or her supervisor and then call the 24/7 Nurse Report Line at (888) 449-7787. An intake representative will confirm the basic contact information and incident details, and then transfer the employee to a nurse or doctor who will assess the situation and refer the employee to a network clinic or provide self-care recommendations.

The incident will be reported entirely over the phone, eliminating the need for the employee and supervisor to complete a "Pink Slip."

The employee and his or her supervisor will receive an email that documents the call, and will serve as the official incident report. If the employee is provided with self-care recommendations, WorkCare will follow up to ensure the employee's situation is resolved as expected. Following each phone interaction, WorkCare will send the employee and his or her supervisor an e-mail documenting the call.

No personal medical information will be shared with the supervisor or PG&E during this process.

## Promoting energized work

**P**G&E has made a push to try to perform as much work energized as possible, not only internally but with the contractors as well. It is a concern to a lot of Local 1245 members as well as to the union's Safety Committee to have members perform work hot that they would have normally done de-energized in the past.

In any event no worker should perform any task that they feel is unsafe. This push to do things energized should not cloud our judgment when it comes to unsafe conditions. The necessary steps should be taken when notifying the company of an unsafe condition. This applies to PG&E employees as well as contractors.

## Telecomm injury prompts question to Cal-OSHA

**T**he IBEW Local 1245 and PG&E Joint Safety Committee have been working to resolve discrepancies pertaining to the use of the term Qualified Persons (QP) and their application to work in the field.

One issue involves the use of the telecomm group to service the smart meter collector units mounted on various structures, apparatuses and underground facilities throughout the system. It was reported at the Joint Safety Committee that the PG&E Safety Department contacted Cal-OSHA for clarification to the applicability of the telecomm standard and the High Voltage Electrical Safety Orders (HVESO) when a telecomm worker performs work within the MAD of lines and equipment ener-

gized in excess of 600 volts.

As we wait for this clarification the union has expressed its concerns over allowing this work to continue and the company had sent out a notification to cease the work in question until we get a ruling from OSHA.

The union's position is that in cases where work that requires a worker to be in proximity to lines and equipment energized at 600v or more, all the requirements in the HVESO should be followed, such as a second person observer and first aid CPR requirement, just to name a couple.

In an accident earlier this year a telecom worker received an electric shock while working on a SCADA mate control box.

## Stolen bolts suspected in accident

**A** lineman working in the Stockton Area sustained serious injuries when a steel streamline power pole fell over, striking the boom and pinning him in the bucket he was working from.

The employee was hospitalized for a couple of days.

The accident is being investigated. Initial indications are that the bolts on the base of the tower were removed by someone and probably stolen.

The crew was in the process of installing grounds. When the last ground was installed it appears that the weight was just enough to bring the pole over, pinning the lineman in the bucket he was working from.

## Repeal the Affordable Care Act? No thanks!

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled on June 28 that the Affordable Care Act, sometimes called ObamaCare, is constitutional. Republicans in Congress now say they want to repeal it. Is the ARA really so bad? What does it do? What are the facts?

The ACA stops insurance companies from excluding people with pre-existing conditions. Before ACA, insurance companies routinely excluded people with serious illnesses.

The ACA bans insurers from setting lifetime limits on your coverage, and it restricts the ability of insurers to place annual limits on coverage.

The ACA provides money to states to review premium increases. Finally, there is a way to put the brakes on price-gouging by insurance companies.

The ACA requires insurers to spend at least 80% of premium dollars on direct medical care and efforts to improve quality of care. Finally, there are rules curbing administrative waste and huge executive bonuses.

The ACA allows children under 26 to stay on their parent's family policy, or be added to it.

The ACA prohibits insurance companies from terminating your coverage if you become sick, or if you or your employer makes an unintentional mistake on your paperwork.

The ACA prohibits the use of lifetime limits in all health plans and insurance policies issued or renewed on or after September 23, 2010.

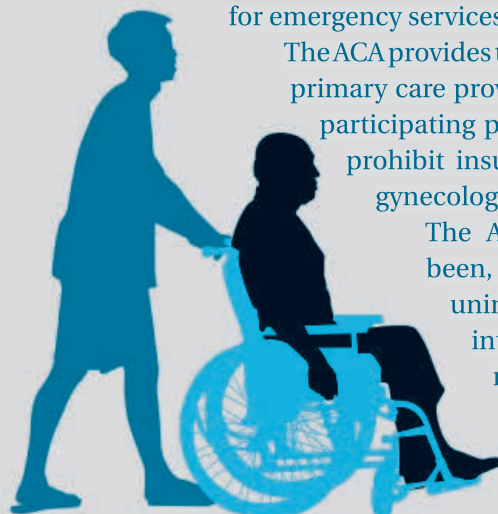
The ACA, starting in 2014, bans all annual dollar limits on coverage of essential health benefits.

The ACA prohibits health plans and insurers from charging higher cost-sharing (copayments or coinsurance) for emergency services that are obtained out of a plan's network.

The ACA provides that health plan members are free to designate any available participating primary care provider as their provider. The rules allow parents to choose any available participating pediatrician to be their children's primary care provider. And, the rules prohibit insurers and employer plans from requiring a referral for obstetrical or gynecological (OB-GYN) care.

The ACA reduces the "hidden tax" on insured Americans. The way it's been, taxes paid by insured Americans have been subsidizing care for the uninsured—every time they show up at an emergency room. Bringing them into the insurance system is more fair, and reduces the "hidden tax" on the rest of us.

The Affordable Care Act is government doing what it's supposed to be doing: fixing problems that the private sector can't, or won't, fix. When a political candidate talks about repealing ObamaCare, they're talking about repealing all the benefits listed above.





# Fork in the road

## Members now voting on PG&E Tentative Agreement

Local 1245 members are now voting on new Tentative Agreements with Pacific Gas & Electric. Ballots were mailed on June 20 and are due back on July 25.

The Physical Agreement will be voted on by regular and hiring hall employees in PG&E's Physical bargaining unit. The Benefits Agreement will be voted on by all regular Physical and Clerical members.

The agreement offers several important improvements over an earlier package that members rejected by a wide margin in February.

In the Physical Agreement there are major improvements in who is covered by the Commercial Driver's License premium. The company's overtime

meal proposals, which were widely resented among members in the Physical bargaining unit, have been taken off the table and will be addressed in a committee, where the union hopes a more rational discussion can take place.

Major improvements have been made to the company's proposal to transition to a Cash Balance Pension. The company agreed it will never attempt to force current employees into the new pension, and the company agreed to add a 10% band to the contribution bands for employees with age-plus-service of 80 or greater.

Although some members have voiced concern about creating a "two-tier" pension benefit—one for current employees and a different one for future hires—there isn't a significant difference between the two in monetary value. The union's own actuaries have determined that the proposed Cash Balance Pension is essentially equivalent in value to the existing pension. Depending on what age you retire you could be a little better or a little worse off, but overall it's a wash.

One feature of the Cash Balance Pen-

sion that may appeal to some members is that the employee has the option to gain control of the money at retirement by cashing out.

### MEDICAL: SIMPLIFIED

Changes to the medical plan have been simplified and improved over the earlier offer that was rejected last February. Significantly, the Healthcare Reimbursement Account has been increased to an amount that can effectively make this a no-deductible plan.

The union negotiated unprecedented nine-year guarantees in four areas of the medical plan:

- The deductible will not increase
- The coinsurance percentage will not increase
- The out-of-pocket maximum will not increase, and
- The health account contribution will not decrease.

The new Tentative Agreement also includes additional free medication, improves handling of mental health therapy, provides extra health account money for lower wage employees, and creates an appeals process for employees who reach the out-of-pocket maximum two years in a row.

### FORK IN THE ROAD

The stakes in this ratification vote are different than they were in the vote last winter—in two important ways.

First, the monetary value of the package is higher than the previous package.

Second, rejection of this Tentative Agreement means the union would be entering uncharted waters in its relationship with PG&E.

Members truly have arrived at a fork in the road. We have been working under an extension of the old Physical and Benefits agreements since they officially expired at the end of 2011. Although the agreements have been "evergreened" (automatically extended) through 2012, the company is not required to abide by



Matt Fritz, a Fitter from Eureka, discusses the Tentative Agreement with Business Manager Tom Dalzell at a meeting in Santa Rosa.

the agreements beyond this year, and could cancel the agreement rather than let it roll over for another year.

The union has allocated resources for fighting back if this were to occur. But it would be a big departure from our traditional approach of negotiating improvements through a stable, predictable relationship with the employer. The outcome of a make-or-break fight is impossible to predict. The stakes, obviously, would be very high.

While the bargaining committee remained neutral on the first TA that was rejected in February, the committee and Business Manager Tom Dalzell are urging a "yes" vote on the improved TA.

### SPECIAL MEETINGS

Local 1245 members and staff have been listening to members and trying to answer their questions at unit meetings and special meetings throughout the PG&E system. In addition, the union held 10 regional stewards meetings in June from Bakersfield in the south to Chico in the north.

Many of the questions have concerned health care. The TA calls for a new emphasis on preventative care, and creates new incentives in the form of free visits to the doctor. Improvements to the HRA also make it possible for members to have what in essence is a no-deductible plan.

Nevertheless, some members are concerned that their out-of-pocket expenses could end up being higher under certain circumstances, such as catastrophic injury.

But perhaps a more fundamental

question faced by all members is this: What happens to the medical benefit if this TA is rejected? Prior to the start of bargaining, members said they wanted to keep the employee's share of the premium at 7.5%. Rejection of the TA would open the door for PG&E to start pushing again for employees to pay a much larger share of medical premiums.

### MEMBERS WILL DECIDE

Even while acknowledging that there are improvements in the new TA, some members have questioned the company's motives in seeking such broad changes to both healthcare and pension.

"What are they up to?" is a question that has been raised more than once by members in discussing the TA.

Looking at motives, however, is an endless guessing game. Looking at the actual, legally-binding language of the agreement is what really matters. And the question that probably counts most is:

Do I want the security of this package and the future that it clearly defines, or do I want an open-ended future in which everything we have is back on the table—perhaps for better, perhaps for worse?

This is a question the members will decide in the ratification vote to be counted on July 25. Results of the vote will be posted on the Local 1245 website at [www.ibew1245.com](http://www.ibew1245.com).

Specific questions about the TA can be asked, and will be answered, on the website. Go to [www.ibew1245.com/news-PGE/QandA.html](http://www.ibew1245.com/news-PGE/QandA.html) and scroll to the bottom of the page to find the box where you can enter your question.



Business Manager Tom Dalzell discusses main provisions of the new Tentative Agreement with stewards in Oakland.





Foreman Doug Sparks.



Lineman Levi Rankin



Paul Smithberg frames an arm.



Randy Walters, left, and Levi Rankin get ready to put on the cross arm.

**INTREN**

# Voltage Conversion

**I**BEW members working in Outside Construction performed a 4-to-12 conversion for the Kaiser hospital in Oakland this spring.

"We have 68 poles to replace here, and we're stringing in all new wire," said IBEW member Jon Hicks, general foreman for Intren. "Then we're going to convert the voltage from 4,000 to 12,000."

The crews were two weeks into the job when the Utility Reporter visited the site near the intersection of Manila and Cavour on March 2.

Traffic is a particular challenge when performing this work in an urban setting.

"We've got 'sidewalk closed' signs, places where people can cross," Hicks said. "It's very tough with all the traffic, especially over here on the next street by the BART station. Lots of people come here to get on the BART."

Hicks said safety was his biggest concern as a general foreman. In his 31 years in the trade, he said he's not seen anything much worse than a sliver in the finger or a pulled back. "Knock on wood," he quickly added.

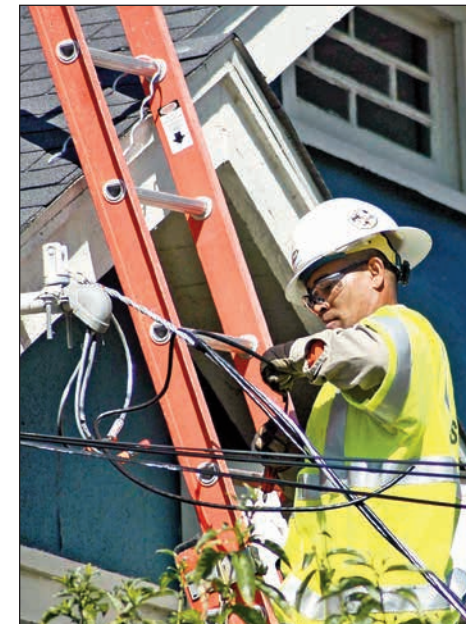
"We came here with 10 toes and 10 fingers and we want to go home to our families with 10 toes and 10 fingers," he said. "Safety comes first. If you do it safe the production will follow."



Working on the Oakland job are, from left: Levi Rankin, Tom Owen, Brett St. Clair, Randy Walters and Paul Smithberg.



Groundman Cornell Fechete control traffic while Jeremias Arevalo runs a service to a house.



Kimson Mao, a 5th step apprentice, connects a new service to a house.



Vlad Derevnyuk, left, and Lloyd Ratzaff work from the bucket.



Apprentice Tom Owen.

Photos by Michelle Frankfurter and Eric Wolfe



Lineman Vlad Derevnyuk operates the boom.



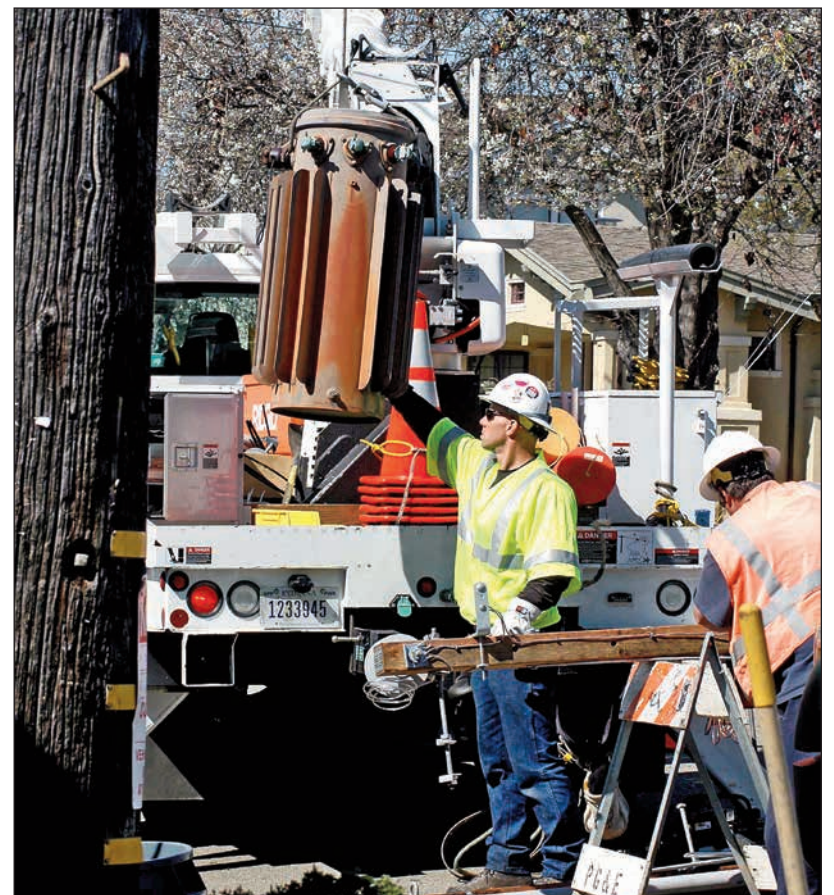
General Foreman Jon Hicks



Groundman Jeremias Arevalo



Apprentice Cornell Fehete controls traffic.



Tom Owen, 3rd step apprentice, assists with removal of old transformer.

# Family, friendship, football



The teams are greeted by Business Manager Tom Dalzell. El Gerente de Negocios Tom Dalzell da la bienvenida a los equipos.



Photos by Landis Marttila and Eric Wolfe

On most days the union is the outfit that protects your pay and defends your rights on the job.

But on some days, the union is where you go to just have some fun.

On May 12, nearly 500 IBEW Line Clearance Tree Trimmers, family members, and union staff came to Mistlin Field in Ripon, CA for the Second Annual IBEW Local 1245 Gold Cup Soccer Tournament.

Business Manager Tom Dalzell welcomed the players in English and Spanish and invited everyone “to enjoy a day of unity, friendship, soccer and union.”

Fourteen teams competed in the tournament, with participants from Davey Tree Surgery, Asplundh Tree Expert, Trees Inc. and Utility Tree.

But there was almost as much action off the field as on.

IBEW presented mothers with flowers, in recognition of Mothers Day. Kids competed in soccer games of their own. And a delicious hot taco lunch was provided by Las Casuelas, supplemented with hot dogs grilled on location by Local 1245 staff.

“I am very happy because I am here with my whole family, my sister, my husband, my children, and also with other friends,” said Alma Arellano, speaking in Spanish. She had some very definite ideas about the role of IBEW Local 1245 in her family’s life.

“The union is really good because it lends a lot of support to the workers. If they are not treated well or if the boss takes advantage of them, the union backs the workers, it always stands up for them,” said Arellano, whose husband Eduardo works for Asplundh in San Jose.

She noted that she had recently undergone a very expensive surgery.

“I only have to pay a minimal amount,” she said. “If I didn’t have this union or this insurance, the truth is that I wouldn’t be able to afford the expense.”

Following lunch, the union strung up the first of several piñatas. The kids didn’t need to be told what that was about and began lining up for a chance to whack it with a bat. Before long, candy was showering onto the grass and kids were scrambling to grab as much as they could.

There was a lot of scrambling on the soccer field as well, as players feinted, dribbled and advanced the ball toward the goal with headers and chip passes. The action was strenuous and the sun was hot—in other words, the same conditions these tree trimmers face on the job all the time.

But more fun. When they weren’t competing on the field, the players took time to learn more



The kids show some cool moves. Los jóvenes mostraron gran destreza en el campo.



Business Reps. John Mendoza, left, and Mike Saner prepare to grill some hot dogs. Los Representantes de Negocios John Mendoza (izquierda) y Mike Saner (derecha) se alistan para preparar unos perros calientes a la parrilla.



Francisco Ferreyra, left, won the award for most goals scored, with 15 for the day. Con 15 goles, Francisco Ferreyra ganó el premio por el mayor número de goles marcados ese día.



Soccer team captains and union staff meet at Weakley Hall to plan soccer tournament. Photo by Angela Jacobson Los capitanes de los equipos de fútbol y el personal del sindicato reunidos en Weakley Hall planificando el torneo de fútbol. Foto: Angela Jacobson

about each other and the challenges they face at work.

“Our brothers, we need to hook up with each other once in a while, get to know everybody else,” said Julio Garcia, who works for Trees Inc. in Stockton. “All the other companies have the same union. It’s good to know these people.”

“It helps to have information from other yards, too—how they’re doing, how they’re contract is,” said Juan Cervantes, also with Trees Inc. in Stockton. “Maybe it will help us, too—how we can do something different for our company, for our yard.”

Taking home medals for the day were Local 1245 teams from Davey Tree in *continued on next page*



**Soccer** *continued from previous page*

Placerville, Trees Inc. in Fresno, and Trees Inc. in Angels Camp. Francisco Ferreyra won the award for most goals scored, with 15 for the day.

Congratulations to all the line clearance tree trimmers and their families who helped make the tournament a success.



Flowers for Mothers' Day! ¡Flores por el Día de las Madres!



Several piñatas kept the little ones scrambling! ¡Varias piñatas mantuvieron a los pequeños muy entretenidos!



Delicious taco, prepared by Las Casuelas. Delicioso taco preparado por Las Casuelas.



**THE TEAMS**

- Davey Tree—Santa Rosa
- Davey Tree—San Rafael
- Asplundh Tree—SMUD
- Davey Tree—Napa
- Utility Tree—Yolo/Solano
- Davey Tree—Placerville
- Trees Inc.—Stockton
- Trees Inc.—Angels Camp
- Asplundh Tree—San Jose
- Trees Inc.—Fresno
- Asplundh Tree—Bakersfield
- Davey Tree—Santa Cruz
- Davey Tree—Mission
- Davey Tree—Concord



Senior Assistant Business Manager Ron Cochran helped organize the event. Ron Cochran, Gerente Asistente de Negocios Senior, ayudó a organizar este evento.

Celebrating a goal. Celebrando un gol.

# Familia, amistad, fútbol

## Segundo Torneo Anual de Fútbol "Gold Cup"

La mayor parte del tiempo, el sindicato es la organización que protege el salario y defiende los derechos del trabajador.

Pero algunos días, el sindicato es simplemente el lugar para ir a divertirse.

El pasado 12 de mayo, alrededor de 500 podadores de árboles para el despeje de líneas del IBEW, familiares y personal del sindicato se reunieron en Mistlin Field en Ripon, CA con ocasión del Segundo Torneo Anual de Fútbol "Gold Cup" del IBEW Local 1245.

Tom Dalzell, Gerente de Negocios, les dio la bienvenida a los jugadores en inglés y en español e invitó a todos a "disfrutar un día de unidad, amistad, fútbol y sindicato."

En el torneo compitieron catorce equipos con participantes de Davey Tree Surgery, Asplundh Tree Expert, Trees Inc. y Utility Tree.

Pero también hubo acción fuera del campo de juego.

El IBEW les regaló flores a las madres en reconocimiento por el Día de las Madres. Los niños compitieron en sus propios juegos de fútbol. Y Las Casuelas ofreció un delicioso almuerzo de tacos calientes para complementar los perros calientes que el personal del Local 1245 preparó a la parrilla en el propio lugar.

"Me siento muy contenta porque aquí estoy con toda mi familia, mi hermana, mi esposo, mis hijos y también con otras



amistades," dijo Alma Arellano, en español. Ella tenía muy claro el papel del IBEW Local 1245 en su vida familiar.

"El sindicato es muy bueno porque apoya mucho a los trabajadores. Si no los tratan bien o si los patrones abusan de ellos, el sindicato los apoya y siempre está defendiéndolos," dijo la Sra. Arellano, cuyo esposo Eduardo trabaja con Asplundh en San Jose.

Comentó que hace poco tuvo una operación muy costosa.

"Sólo tuve que pagar una mínima cantidad," dijo. "Si no tuviera este sindicato o este seguro, la verdad es que no hubiera podido cubrir esos gastos."

Después del almuerzo, el sindicato colgó la primera de varias piñatas. Nadie le tuvo que explicar a los niños lo que iban

a hacer a continuación. Rápidamente se pusieron en fila para tener una oportunidad de pegarle a la piñata con un bate. No pasó mucho tiempo antes de que una lluvia de caramelos cayera sobre la yerba y los niños se lanzaran a agarrar la mayor cantidad de caramelos posible.

También hubo mucha actividad en el campo de fútbol. Los jugadores finataban, driblaban y avanzaban la pelota hacia el arco con cabezazos y pases. La acción era agotadora y el sol estaba intenso – es decir, las mismas condiciones que estos podadores de árboles enfrentan todos los días en el trabajo.

Pero más divertido.

Cuando no estaban compitiendo, los jugadores conversaban entre sí, para conocerse mejor y hablar sobre los retos que enfrentan en el trabajo.

"Son nuestros hermanos, tenemos que conectarnos de vez en cuando, conocernos," dijo Julio Garcia quien trabaja para Trees Inc. en Stockton. "Todas las compañías tienen el mismo sindicato. Es bueno conocer a los demás."

"También es útil tener información sobre los otros patios—cómo les está



Taking home medals were Local 1245 teams from Trees Inc.—Fresno [top], Davey Tree —Placerville [middle], and Trees Inc. —Angels Camp [bottom]  
Recibieron medallas los equipos Trees Inc. —Fresno, Davey Tree —Placerville, y Trees Inc. —Angels Camp del Local 1245.

yendo, cómo es su contrato," dijo Juan Cervantes, quien también está con Trees Inc. en Stockton. "Quizás esto nos pueda ayudar también—cómo podemos hacer algo diferente por nuestra compañía, por nuestro patio."

Ese día, se llevaron medallas los equipos del Local 1245 de Davey Tree en

Placerville, Trees Inc. en Fresno y Trees Inc. en Angels Camp. Francisco Ferreyra ganó el premio por el mayor número de goles marcados ese día con 15 goles.

Felicitaciones a todos los podadores de árboles para el despeje de líneas y a sus familias, que ayudaron a que este torneo fuera un éxito.



A good snack for a hot day. Un buen refrigerio para un día caluroso.



Finding some shade on a hot sunny day. Buscando sombra en un caluroso y soleado día.



Fred Ross and Eileen Purcell helped organize the tournament. Fred Ross y Eileen Purcell ayudaron a organizar el torneo.

### THE SPONSORS

Davey Tree Surgery  
Asplundh Tree Expert  
Trees Inc.  
Mountain F. Enterprises  
BeneSys Inc.

# For the kids

IBEW Bowlers benefit Shriners' Hospital for Children



Photos by Jennifer Gray

More photos on-line at [www.ibew1245.com/news-Local1245/Bowling\\_Sacto\\_5-3-12.html](http://www.ibew1245.com/news-Local1245/Bowling_Sacto_5-3-12.html)

The union's lime green shirts lit up the alley.

Children with medical problems got a helping hand this spring from the first-ever IBEW 1245 Sacramento Regional Charity Bowl.

Dozens of union members and supporters came to Country Club Lanes on April 28 to raise a little hell – and a nice chunk of change for the Shriners Hospital for Children.

Ray Padilla, Troy Hearne, Elo Whatley and Jeff Hill took home trophies for the top team score, but everyone shared in the day's real victory: raising \$1,013 to help children with medical needs.

"People felt good that it was for charity. I had people who weren't able to show up but gave money to me for the charity anyway," said Eric Sunderland, an IBEW member at the Sacramento Municipal Utility District. "The guys have all gotten back to me that they had a great time and they're wondering when it's going to happen again."

The event was the brainchild of the IBEW 1245 Sacramento Regional Orga-

nizing Committee which, in addition to Sunderland, includes Jennifer Gray, Jammi Angeles, Donchele Soper, Ean Charles and Steve Gallow.

"We had 47 registered bowlers and others folks who came out to support," said Gray. Players came from PG&E and SMUD, but many teams sported players from both.

"You're all sitting there together so there was a chance for people to mingle and talk. From the pictures you can tell people had a great time," said Gray, who served as photographer.

Steve Gallow circulated voter registration cards during the event, signing up about a half-dozen voters.

"We know the Corporate Deception Act [also known as the Special Exemptions Act] is going to be a big issue for unions this year," said Gray. "We want to educate members about this issue. We've started to spread the word at unit meetings and we figured this would be a good place to do it as well."

Donchele Soper played the lead role in organizing a raffle for the event, soliciting prizes from an auto service, a tax professional, a nail salon and a taqueria. Country Club Lanes chipped in with laser tag passes and free games of bowling.

The IBEW Local 1245 Executive Board provided prizes for the winning team—gift certificates to a restaurant, a gas station, and a moviehouse. Everyone who signed up for the event received a t-shirt and a raffle ticket.

No one would mistake the IBEW bowlers for professionals, but that didn't seem to dampen anyone's spirits.

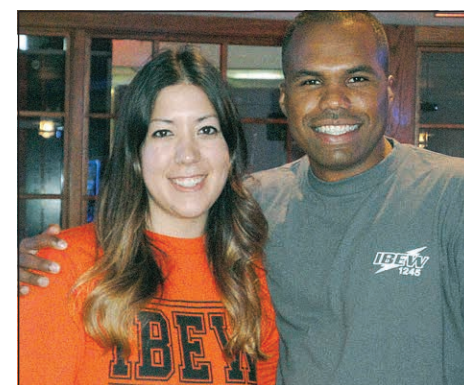
"I bowled right around a hundred," acknowledged Sunderland. "Or below, maybe."

He said some of the other SMUD bowlers had scores that were probably double his own.

"I'm a horrible bowler, but I had a good time."



Angie Rarey and Roland Rubio having fun.



Jennifer Gray and Steve Gallow served on the organizing committee.



Ean Charles, a member of the organizing committee, with his son Ean.



The winning team, from left: Ray Padilla, Troy Hearne, Greg Baynard (non-playing coach), Elo Whatley and Jeff Hill.



I.B.E.W. Local 1245 and Merrill Lynch Present:

# 2012 Retirement Planning Seminars

Seminars will be available to IBEW / PG&E employees that are considering retirement or those that are on LTD. You Spouse or significant other is also welcome to attend. These seminars are provided to you free of charge or obligation. Please call Merrill Lynch in Walnut Creek, CA at 800-234-3858 and ask for Yi Seeman if you have any questions.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Speaker</b>
Saturday, September 8 <sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM	<b>San Jose Hilton</b> 300 Almaden Blvd. San Jose, CA 95110	Dave Brantley
Tuesday, September 11 <sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM	<b>San Mateo Crowne Plaza</b> 1221 Chess Dr. Foster City, CA 94123	Dave Brantley
Wednesday, September 12 <sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM	<b>Concord Hilton</b> 1970 Diamond Blvd. Walnut Creek, CA 94520	Bob Gallo
Friday, September 14 <sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM	<b>Bakersfield Doubletree</b> 3100 Camino Del Rio Ct. Bakersfield, CA 93308	Dave Brantley
Saturday, September 15 <sup>th</sup> 8:30 AM – 10:30 AM	<b>Sacramento Holiday Inn</b> 300 J. Street Sacramento, CA 95814	Bob Gallo
Saturday, September 15 <sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM	<b>Fresno Radisson Hotel</b> 2233 Ventura Street Fresno, CA 93721	Dave Brantley
Tuesday, September 18 <sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM	<b>Hilton Oakland Airport</b> One Hegenberger Rd. Oakland, CA 94621	Dave Brantley
Wednesday, September 19 <sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM	<b>Stockton Hilton</b> 2323 Grand Canal Blvd. Stockton, CA 95207	Bob Gallo
Thursday, September 20 <sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM	<b>Monterey Hyatt Regency</b> 1 Old Golf Course Road Monterey, CA 93940	Dave Brantley
Saturday, September 22 <sup>nd</sup> 8:30 AM – 10:30 AM	<b>Redding Best Western – Hilltop Inn</b> 2300 Hilltop Drive Redding, CA 96002	Bob Gallo
Saturday, September 22 <sup>nd</sup> 12:30 PM – 2:30 PM	<b>Chico Holiday Inn</b> 685 Manzanita Ct. Chico, CA 95926	Bob Gallo
Saturday, September 22 <sup>nd</sup> 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM	<b>SLO - Madonna Inn</b> 100 Madonna Rd. San Luis Obispo, CA 93403	Dave Brantley
Saturday, September 29 <sup>th</sup> 8:30 AM – 10:30 AM	<b>Santa Rosa Hilton</b> 3555 Round Barn Blvd. Santa Rosa, CA 95403	Bob Gallo
Saturday, September 29 <sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM	<b>Eureka Best Western – Bayshore Inn</b> 3500 Broadway Eureka, CA 95503	Dave Brantley



Bank of America Corporation



# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

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

We have audited the accompanying statement of Financial Position arising from cash transactions as of December 31, 2011 and the related Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local No. 1245 for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Local's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

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

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

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the cash basis transactions of Local No. 1245 for the year ended DECEMBER 31, 2011 and the financial position—cash basis at DECEMBER 31, 2011 in accordance with the basis of accounting as noted above.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The accompanying supplemental information (shown on pages 9 to 22) is presented for the purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

DALMAS ACCOUNTANCY CORPORATION  
San Bruno, California  
March 12, 2012

## INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL NO. 1245 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION ARISING FROM CASH TRANSACTIONS December 31, 2011

<b>Assets</b>							
<b>General Fund:</b>							
Bank of the West - checking accounts		419,620					
Bank of the West - money market	5,942,138	6,361,758					
Cash funds		5,350					
<b>Investments:</b>							
Merrill Lynch B of A Preferred Deposit (Bus)	1,255,458						
Merrill Lynch-BBIF Money Fund	489,249						
-Mutual Funds	3,637,872						
-Common Stocks	1,691,740						
Franklin Income Fund	1,121,343						
Total General Fund	14,562,770						
Political Donation Fund- checking account	71,967						
Total Current Assets		14,634,737					
200 shares PG&E common stock - at cost		3,388					
Loan receivables-Energy Workers Center, Inc.		577,031					
<b>Fixed assets, (Note 1):</b>							
Automobiles (45) at cost	1,274,869						
Less: allowance for depreciation	660,594	614,275					
Furniture and office equipment - at cost	602,106						
Less: Allowance for depreciation	383,816	218,290					
Total Assets		16,047,721					
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>							
<b>Liabilities:</b>							
IBEW per capita portion of December receipts to forward	281,954						
Vacation payable	908,659						
Current Liabilities		1,190,613					
<b>Net Assets:</b>							
Unrestricted	14,785,141						
Temporarily restricted- Political Donation Fund	71,967	14,857,108					
Total Liabilities and Net Assets		16,047,721					
<i>The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.</i>							
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL NO. 1245 STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS POLITICAL DONATION FUND TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED For the Year Ended December 31, 2011							
Cash and investments balance, beginning December 31, 2010		12,159,020					
<b>Receipts:</b>							
Local Union portion of receipts:							
"A" members' dues	434,459						
"BA" members' dues	15,707,821						
Initiation fees	43,182						
Reinstatement fees	1,535						
Agency fees	163,299						
Working dues	4,149,625						
Hiring hall dues	821,794						
Retiree's club dues	23,138	21,344,853					
<b>Disbursements:</b>							
Jean Quan for Oakland Mayor	700						
<b>Reimbursements to General Fund:</b>							
Interest and investment income	64,193						
<b>Refunds and reimbursements:</b>							
Union Shopper	18,280						
Other receipts	9,988						
<b>Energy Workers Inc. improvement loan payments:</b>							
Principal	171,774						
Interest	38,722						
Grievance settlements	135,549						
Automobiles sales	6,011	444,51					
<b>International portion of receipts:</b>							
"A" members' per capita	578,204						
"BA" members' per capita	2,530,511						
Initiation fees	51,410						
D.B.A.F. fees	1,208						
Reinstatement fees	10,048						
Agency fees	23,937	3,195,318					
Total receipts	24,984,688						
Total balance and receipts		37,143,708					
Disbursements, per Page 15 of Schedule of Disbursements						22,580,938	
Cash and investments balance, December 31, 2010, Details in Statement of Financial Position arising from cash transactions						14,562,770	
<b>Affiliation fees:</b>							
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers						3,110,000	
Santa Clara C.L.C.						9,594	
Alameda C.L.C.						12,480	
Kern / Inyo / Mono						1,350	
Nevada State Electrical Association						840	
Sacramento C.L.C.						12,300	
San Francisco C.L.C.						19,072	
Contra Costa C.L.C.						12,150	
Marin County C.L.C.						7,164	
San Joaquin and Calaveras C.L.C.						5,801	
Butte-Glenn C.L.C.						1,500	
Napa-Solano C.L.C.						2,568	
Fresno-Madera C.L.C.						5,400	
Merced-Mariposa C.L.C.						1,688	
Stanislaus-Tuolumne C.L.C.						1,860	
Marysville C.L.C.						1,200	
Humboldt-Del Norte C.L.C.						603	
Five Counties C.L.C.						852	
Monterey County C.L.C.						3,630	
Government Coordinating Council						600	
San Mateo C.L.C.						3,600	
Joint Executive Conference- N.C. Electrical Workers						100	
Tri Counties C.L.C.						4,080	
Maritime Trades Post Council						600	
Northern Nevada C.L.C.						1,650	
Forum - Alameda Retired Members						60	
NV Alliance Retired Americans						200	

California State Association of Electrical Workers	715,481
CARA	50
Congress of Ca - Seniors	155
TCC-4	383
	<u>3,937,011</u>

**Staff expenses:**

Salaries	7,088,132
Expenses	435,230
Automobile expenses	110,413
Auto Purchases	311,581
Fitness plan	575
	<u>7,945,931</u>

**Research and Education:**

Subscriptions and publications	21,721
Scholarship fund	1,500
	<u>23,221</u>

**Office salaries:**

Administration office salaries	295,696
Bargaining unit salaries	694,356
	<u>990,052</u>

**Office expenses:**

Rent	480,000
Telephone	145,751
Postage mail service and meter expense	69,770
Print room/printing	50,783
Supplies	24,838
Equipment maintenance	5,424
Data processing	16,268
Equipment rental	31,662
Utility reporter	115,715
Miscellaneous	60,345
Bank charges	10,385
Furniture and equipment purchases	162,012
Storage	4,546
	<u>1,181,880</u>

	Salaries Paid or Reimbursed	Expenses	Total
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**Committee salaries and expenses:**

Executive Board meetings	78,545	41,085	119,630
Advisory Council	22,997	48,002	70,999
Trustee Committee	12,905	5,725	18,630
Review Committee	4,858	2,943	7,801
Safety Committee	11,860	4,747	16,607
Shop Steward expenses	88,845	110,574	199,419
Other conferences	29,384	152,728	182,112
Labor Management	350	9,360	9,710
Organizing		14,546	14,546
Grievance/FF/LIC	2,062	14,474	16,536
	<u>251,806</u>	<u>404,184</u>	<u>655,990</u>

**Various Other Committees:**

Lineman Safety	39,588	2,027	41,615
Outside Line		2,325	2,325
Davey Tree	1,228	624	1,852
Retirees		4,154	4,154
Central Labor		721	721
City of Healdsburg	401	414	815
SMUD		161	161
Membership development	107,308	79,769	187,077
Youth Council	73,166	51,541	124,707
Regional Transit	482	517	999
Peer to peer	27,995	26,929	54,924
Utility Trees		92	92
Frontier committee	225	14,425	14,650
Plumas-Sierra Rural	4,427	410	4,837
Joint Apprenticeship		193	193
City of Alameda	2,453	621	3,074
City of Roseville		1,238	1,238
Leadership	9,436	6,134	15,570
SF Muni		359	359
City of Willets		141	141
Family Trees		227	227
Dynegy	58,500	35,348	93,848
Bella Vista		474	474
Apprenticeship committee		32	32
I/O convention	13,202	63,328	76,530
Lassen MUD Neg		151	151
Safety Steward	1,601	7,108	8,709
Foster Wheeler	5,595	957	6,552
Trees Inc.		1,700	1,700
City of Oakland		841	841
Merced ID		4,376	4,376
Wells Rural Elect		213	213
NV Energy	75,697	283,033	358,730

A.C. Transit	389	389	
No. Calif. Power Agency	216	216	
Truckee Meadows	419	419	
Peer Volunteer program	640	640	
Asplund	3,433	3,064	6,497
Modesto I.D.	27,368	9,807	37,175
Truckee Donner	7,805	498	8,303
City of Shasta	354	354	
Turlock I.D.	29,537	6,686	36,223
City of Redding	19,213	5,112	24,325
City of Ukiah	129	129	
Trans Canada	44	44	
City of Fenley	98	98	
Members training / education	1,707	1,707	
Grievance training	5,310	4,484	9,794
Hold The Pull	50,427	90,796	141,223
Gas safety	1,808	1,808	
Facebook development	1,669	19,623	21,292
PUC	199	199	
Solar project	324	324	
Liberty / Calpeco	20,271	1,057	21,328
Mt. Wheeler	1,017	138	1,155
Paradise I.D.	742	1,771	2,513
Wright Tree		150	150
	<u>588,450</u>	<u>739,742</u>	<u>1,328,192</u>

**PG&E Negotiation Committees:**

Departmental:			
Arbitration	10,585	56,244	66,829
Meal Committee		1,102	1,102
Negotiations	218,852	266,328	485,180
Ad Hoc	4,235	892	5,127
PSEA		24	24
Exhibit XVI	3,686	686	4,372
Benefits negotiations	90,779	84,417	175,196
T & R	1,201	1,679	2,880
Clerical negotiations		122,741	122,741
EDT		1,722	1,722
Substation		3,107	3,107
Pipeline 2020	2,797	2,254	5,051
Misc. Physical		404	404
Barehand		472	472
Diablo Canyon	2,511	197	2,708
Employee orientation	9,998	6,713	16,711
Call Center		1,093	1,093
Gas compliance		748	748
Misc. Clerical mtg	5,136	184	5,320
Smart meter		195	195
Dispatcher		1,016	1,016
Helicopter		597	597
Rubber glove		32	32
Hydro/Sys Op.		2,155	2,155
Misc. General office clerical		180	180
	<u>349,780</u>	<u>555,182</u>	<u>904,962</u>

**Membership expenses:**

Supplies - Intl.	3,252
Supplies - Local	13,464
Membership fees	3,030
Labor Day Picnic	900
Union Shopper	34,783

Lineman Rodeo	42,129
Clay Shoot EB	5,875
Soccer tournament	6,570
Softball tournament	7,218
Golf tournament	2,256
	<u>119,477</u>

**Membership benefits:**

Group life insurance	88,231
Unit drawing award	650
Individual drawing award	600
Service award dinners	43,056
Flowers/donations/bibles	1,186
Social fund	14,700
	<u>148,423</u>

**Payroll taxes:**

Employee portion:	
U.U.S. income tax withheld	(1,262,090)
FICA withheld	(366,189)
California income tax withheld	(455,957)
SDI withheld	(61,153)
U.S. income tax forward	1,262,090
FICA forward	366,189
California income tax forward	455,957
SDI forward	61,153
Local Union's portion:	
FICA	484,079
California Unemployment	29,037
U.S. Unemployment	4,090
	<u>517,206</u>

**Employee benefits:**

Health and Welfare plans	1,855,281
Group life insurance	204,567
Pension plan	1,239,694
Other costs, pension plans	27,889
	<u>3,327,431</u>

**Other disbursements:**

Legal fees	527,249
Hall rentals	100,668
Workmen's compensation insurance	140,530
Refunds	4,725
PRD fees	19,447
401K Plan	(7,354)
Local 1 dues	(20)
Miscellaneous taxes	796
Insurance - auto	53,039
Insurance -pension and 401K bond	17,266
Insurance - travel	1,000
Insurance - professional liability	20,423
Audit fees	38,300
Charitable donations	38,550
Miscellaneous fees	30,031
Sales tax	12,990
Injured workers fund	135,642
Consulting fees	367,880
	<u>1,501,162</u>
Total Disbursements	22,580,938

**Get Involved in the fight to protect our rights.**

**Contact Jennifer Gray at [j2g8@ibew1245.com](mailto:j2g8@ibew1245.com) to find out what you can do.**





## Robin Hood in reverse Medicare at risk

Republicans in Congress call it "Medicare reform."

In March the House of Representatives passed a budget bill that makes dramatic changes to the Medicare program. Robert Greenstein, President of the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, calls the Republican budget bill "Robin Hood in reverse."

The original idea behind Medicare, passed in 1965, was to help us afford medical care in our old age. The sight of old people unable to get medical care

touched something in the nation's conscience and our government took action to help.

But that was then. Today, Republicans in Congress want to turn Medicare into a voucher program. Instead of guaranteed medical coverage, old people would get a small chunk of money to buy insurance on their own. That's going to be great for insurance companies. But what happens to seniors when their voucher money runs out?

The threat to Medicare comes just as seniors are starting to see some progress on the healthcare front. What is that progress?

The Affordable Healthcare Act—Obama's healthcare reform passed in 2010—has several features that directly help seniors. It closes the Part D prescription drug "donut hole," it eliminates co-insurance and deductibles for most preventative services, and prohibits Medicare Advantage plans from charging more than traditional Medicare for costly services.

Republicans have vowed to repeal these reforms. They say a voucher sys-

tem will save money. And what do they propose to do with the money that is saved? Their budget proposes more tax reductions targeted to help the richest Americans.

Like the man says, Robin Hood in reverse.

Oh, and one more thing. The Republican budget bill raises the Medicare eligibility age to 67, so be sure not to get sick or injured before then.

Better yet, help make sure the Republican budget bill never becomes law—vote for candidates who will defend our Medicare benefits.

Useful links for retirees

BLOG

**Reno/Sparks IBEW 1245 retirees blog**  
<http://renosparksbew1245retireesclub.blogspot.com/>

**IBEW Ninth District Blog** <http://ibewninthdistrictretirees.blogspot.com/>

## Congratulations newly-retired members

The Local 1245 Retirees Club congratulates these recently-retired members of the union. We invite you to participate in a Retiree Club chapter in 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!

Frank Agtang 19 years Sacramento, CA	David Falk 33 years Granite Bay, CA	Sonia Magana 36 years Vallejo, CA	Harmon Rider 35 years Templeton, CA
Frank Anderson 32 years Red Bluff, CA	Michael Ferguson 28 years Antioch, CA	Janet Martin 30 years Antioch, CA	Joseph Romeo 29 years MacDoel, CA
Julie Andrews 13 years Castle Rock, CO	Steven Fisher 36 years Redding, CA	Lonnie Martin 41 years Hollister, CA	Vicki Rosario 24 years Las Cruces, NM
Paul Arruabarrena 32 years San Francisco, CA	Sarah Fong 39 years San Francisco, CA	Sharon Mascherini 21 years Auberry, CA	Rodney Shaeffer 35 years Anderson, CA
Margaret Bailey 8 years Hohenwald, TN	David Fortner 38 years Oceano, CA	Paul Mazzotti 38 years Santa Rosa, CA	Ed Shelton 41 years Placerville, CA
John Banuelos 44 years San Pablo, CA	Gloria Garibay 38 years Fresno, CA	Robert McCain 19 years Salinas, CA	Nick Sparacino 37 years Paradise, CA
Brenda Beeson 34 years Stockton, CA	John Hastie 33 years Oroville, CA	Ray McDonnell 26 years Marina, CA	Pete Tafoya 38 years Pittsburg, CA
Virginia Birchfield 23 years Lake Almanor, CA	Alan Hines 41 years Auburn, CA	Harold Mehrer 41 years Winnemucca, NV	William Trowsdale 27 years Antioch, CA
Marilyn Buckhorn 15 years Lincoln, CA	Vincent Hogan 30 years Fresno, CA	Adam Mendolla 32 years Hollister, CA	Willie Ureta 34 years Stockton, CA
Danny Burns 32 years Eureka, CA	John Holstein 32 years Fremont, CA	Leslie Meredith 39 years Rio Vista, CA	Daniel Watts 6 years Scottsdale, AZ
Marilyn Caragher 28 years Morgan Hill, CA	Edward Irons 35 years La Pine, OR	Ivory Mitchell 6 years Richmond, CA	Steve West 39 years Hercules, CA
Andrew Conner 27 years Eureka, CA	Steven James 31 years Las Cruces, NM	John Norris 32 years Fresno, CA	David White 19 years Spreckels, CA
Michael Cooper 33 years Livermore, CA	Steven Johnson 28 years Bethel Island, CA	Mark Obermann 31 years Fresno, CA	Sharon Whitman 10 years San Jose, CA
Richard Culbertson 44 years San Jose, CA	Linda Jurado 30 years McKinleyville, CA	Victor Roy Okumura 10 years Fremont, CA	Ken Willard 17 years San Luis Obispo, CA
Kuldip Dhesi 27 years Dublin, CA	Ed Kane 36 years Angels Camp, CA	William Olson 28 years Lodi, CA	Alvin Wolf 42 years Kapaa, HI
Kathy Donohue 32 years Desert Hot Springs, CA	Kurt Kendall 34 years Cassel, CA	Frank Orosco 24 years Stockton, CA	Michael Woloshansky 25 years Santa Maria, CA
Carolyn Dorsey 27 years Manteca, CA	Richard Lewis 16 years Medford, OR	Gazaway Patrick 32 years Richmond, CA	
Freddie Eason 20 years Fresno, CA	Antonio Longueira 40 years Chico, CA	Amor Payawal 34 years Fairfield, CA	
William Eldridge 39 years Oakhurst, CA	Edward Loupy 1 year Bullhead, AZ	Lamont Payton 29 years Fremont, CA	
Mark Engel 31 years Sutter, CA	Larry Lucero 19 years Salinas, CA	Andy Peak 34 years Atascadero, CA	



## Retiree Club Meeting Schedule

You can find the specific dates for each month at [www.ibew1245.com/unit\\_meetings.html](http://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:** *New meeting date* 1st Tuesday each month, 11:00 a.m. lunch, 11:30 a.m. meeting, Dini's Lucky Club, 45 N. Main St., Yerington, 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.

Congratulations Retirees!

We want you to STAY CONNECTED

to IBEW 1245.

The late Jim McCauley is honored for service to Local 1245

# A Place at the top of the Wall



The late Jim McCauley, assistant business manager and long-serving vice president, was honored by his union on April 28 with a place on the Memorial Wall at Weakley Hall.

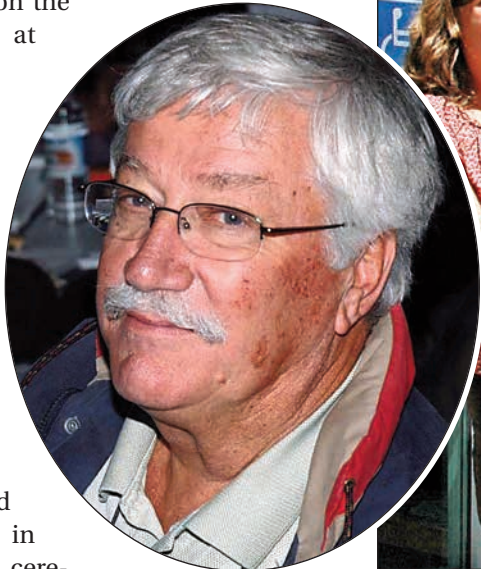
Not just on the wall, but at the top of the wall, next to his long-time brother in leadership, former union president Howard Steifer.

Jim's wife, Marjorie, traveled from her home in Phoenix for the ceremony, held under sunny

skies outside the main entrance to Weakley Hall. Many members of the family were on hand for the ceremony, including Local 1245 member and PG&E gas crew lead welder Will McCauley.

Business Manager Tom Dalzell, praising McCauley's generosity of spirit and his commitment to the union, presented Marj with a framed photo montage of McCauley's years as a union leader. McCauley's service was also lauded by former Business Managers Jack McNally and Perry Zimmerman, and President Mike Davis.

Farewell Brother Jim. You will be long—and well—remembered.



(Left) Jim McCauley. (Above) The McCauley family, proud of Jim.

Marj McCauley captures the attention of the day's speakers: President Mike Davis, former Business Manager Perry Zimmerman, Business Manager Tom Dalzell, and former Business Manager Jack McNally.



Members of the McCauley family are joined by Local 1245 staff and members of the Advisory Council in remembering Jim.

# New Meter Run

Local 1245 members were upgrading PG&E's metering capacity this summer on a job near Suisun City in California's Central Valley.

"We're putting on a hot tap off of Line 210A to run a new meter run," says Foreman David Cooper, a 27-year IBEW member. "There's quite a bit of piping involved and a lot of fitting."

The crew taps into the 32-inch transmission line with a 16-inch line, which is used to divert the gas through the new meter.

"It's real routine, it's stuff we do pretty much every day," says Cooper.

Routine or not, safety is always the top consideration when performing this kind of work, he says.

"It's all about communicating with each other and watching out for each other daily. That's just the way you get by here, that's the way you stay safe. If you look out for each other, you're going to be fine."



The grinder sends sparks flying.



Art Hernandez, welder

(Below) Tapping into the 32-inch line.

(Right) Pat Ming, right, tightens the sleeve with a chain-style sleeve jack. At left is Donovan Odle.



Photos by John Storey



# PG&E GENERAL CONSTRUCTION – GAS



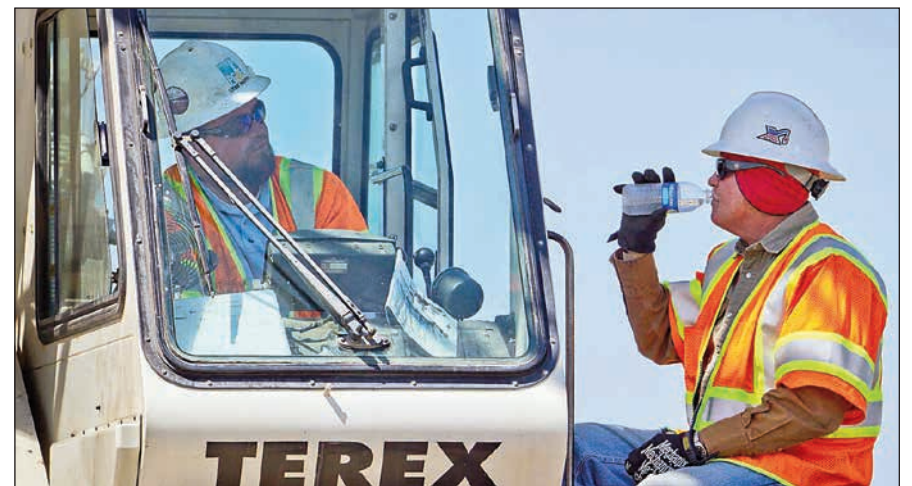
The crew, from left: Art Hernandez, Pat Ming, Luke Maffei, Jeff Dawson, Donovan Odle, David Cooper, Steve Sustsman, Ron Barnes, and Mauro Cortes.



From left: Pat Ming, Ron Barnes, and David Cooper.



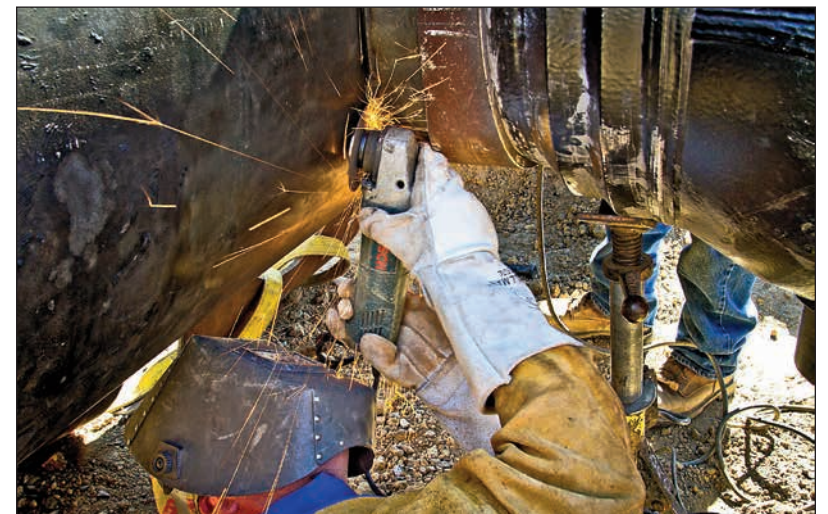
Donovan Odle, left, and Mauro Cortes.



Luke Maffei, left, and Ron Barnes: Gotta stay hydrated.



Mauro Cortes, welding.



Mauro Cortes, grinding.

# After Wisconsin

The battle over worker rights moves to California

**W**isconsin Gov. Scott Walker survived the recall election on June 5. What does this mean for members of IBEW Local 1245?

First, we should recognize that the current wave of attacks on workers is not limited to Wisconsin, or Ohio, or Indiana, or Florida. Those who want to weaken or destroy unions are operating on a national scale.

Second, the attacks are not limited to public sector unions. The anti-union campaign is targeting all workers—in the private sector and public sector alike.

Third, the anti-union forces are extremely well-financed. In Wisconsin, Walker outspent his opponents by more than seven to one. The Supreme Court's Citizens United decision means that there is no limit to what the rich and powerful can spend in their jihad against workers.

We know the war against workers is already underway in California. IBEW Local 1245's public sector workers have faced several years of concessionary bargaining, and it's been no picnic at some of our other employers either. But all of that is just a warm-up to the main event.

This November, the anti-union forces have placed a measure on the California ballot that would make it nearly impossible for unions to spend money in the political arena. If we lose our political influence, who will stand up to the corporate big boys in Sacramento when they go after our overtime pay? Wages, benefits, working conditions and labor standards, even the rules under which

Kevin Krummes, Donchele Soper and Rick Thompson represent Local 1245 on the ground in Wisconsin during the recall campaign.

**Wages, benefits, working conditions and labor standards, even the rules under which we bargain, are all determined through the political process. If we lose our political influence, we will face the same sort of assault that workers in Wisconsin suffered.**



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Corporate crusaders like the Koch brothers make no secret of their desire to destroy unions. With all their billions, you'd think they could relax a little bit and let working people negotiate to get a cost-of-living increase or to hang onto our medical benefits. But they are not relaxing. The Koch brothers and others like them spent a lot of money to put Scott Walker in office and to keep him there, and their blood money is coming to California this fall.

Despite Walker's survival in Wisconsin, there are reasons to take heart from

that long, ugly battle.

First, in spite of all the money that was spent by corporations to save Scott Walker's ass, he came very close to being recalled in a massive popular mobilization powered by unions. That campaign ousted two anti-union state senators last year, and another one was tossed out on June 4 (subject to a recount now underway). In any case, unions have deprived Walker of his control over the state senate, and have shown that people can neutralize big money when they are willing to stand up together for their rights.

Second, California is not Wisconsin. We've beaten back anti-union ballot measures in the past, and we can do it again. But nobody's going to do it for us. California workers, and union members

in particular, will have to stand up and fight if we want to protect what we have: decent wages, health care benefits, retirement security, the right to have a voice.

Local 1245 had eight members on the ground in Wisconsin in last year's senate recall elections, and five members helping with this year's recall campaign. We didn't do this just to help Wisconsin—we did it to help prepare ourselves for the battle here.

And now that battle is beginning. We all have something to protect, and we all have something to lose. Ask your Local 1245 business representative how you can get involved in protecting our rights, or contact Local 1245's campaign coordinator Jennifer Gray at [j2g8@ibew1245.com](mailto:j2g8@ibew1245.com).

## Anti-union ballot measure is serious threat

**T**he anti-union ballot measure headed for the ballot in California this November goes by a variety of deceptive names, such as "Paycheck Protection" and "Stop Special Interest Money Now."

But its real purpose is to prevent unions from having any political influence. Unions call it the "Special Exemptions Act." Why? Because it claims to be about "stopping special interests" but it actually gives special exemptions to corporate special interests and Super PACs.

The ballot measure would do nothing to fix what's broken in Sacramento. In-

stead, it would give even more power to the wealthy and well-connected to influence elections, control government and weaken our state's middle class.

The millionaire backers of this proposition claim it would rein in campaign contributions by both unions and corporations. In fact, the deceptive wording of the initiative specifically limits the voice of union members like teachers, nurses, firefighters, police—and utility workers who keep the power on.

This one-sided measure would make our system even more imbalanced and it does nothing to stop the flow of money from the wealthy in politics.

Here's what leading newspapers say about the deceptive measure:

*"...dripping with cynicism"*

— Sacramento Bee

*"...a phony veneer of fairness...one-sided and biased"*

— Long Beach Press Telegram

*"...would harm their union opponents more than it would harm business interests"*

— OC Register

*"...would just expand unaccountable independent expenditure committees, the super-PACs"*

— LA Times